



Doctoral study in Law at the Auckland Law School

The Auckland Law School is New Zealand's leading law school, ranked 55th in the world by subject¹, testifying to its high quality of teaching, learning and research, alongside some of the best worldwide.

The PhD in Law Programme

The PhD degree is a thesis-only research degree. A doctorate is normally carried out over a minimum of 3 years full-time or 6 years part-time. The degree is undertaken under supervision by senior academics, usually by a lead supervisor and a co-supervisor. PhD candidates must complete a sustained course of research at the University of Auckland, resulting in the production of a substantial original thesis that meets internationally recognised academic standards.

You will be part of a fully engaged PhD cohort of high quality PhD candidates from around the world who you will get to know and share ideas and research with. Stimulating and rewarding, a PhD at Auckland Law School provides an exciting opportunity to engage in independent, cutting-edge research.

Auckland Law School is home to a number of renowned research centres led by accomplished eminent researchers.

We cater to different interests, strengths and qualifications, you will be guided by experienced scholars in most legal fields.

The faculty's core research areas:

- Constitutional, Administrative and Public Law
- Contract, Torts, Equity and Private Law
- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Criminal Law and Justice
- Human Rights Law
- Indigenous Peoples and the Law
- Intellectual Property
- International and Comparative Law
- Land and Environmental Law
- Law and IT
- Legal History and Theory
- Litigation, Dispute Resolution, Family and Relationships Law

Future Opportunities

The Doctor of Philosophy is the highest degree in the field of law. Graduates of the Programme often go on to pursue careers in academia and in legal practice.

There are opportunities where you can present your PhD findings at international conferences.

We host a wide range of seminars and public lectures at the faculty from international, well renowned academic visitors, which PhD students have the opportunity to be apart of.

No. 1
Law School
in New Zealand

No. 55
worldwide¹

*The Davis Law
Library is the*
**Largest Law
Library**
in New Zealand

No.1
in New Zealand and
Top 100
worldwide for
graduate employability²

8,000+
international students
from 100+
different
countries



**AUCKLAND
LAW SCHOOL**

Come and study with world-leading researchers

Janet McLean is a Professor of Law who specialises and supervises in Public Law.

She is the author of *Searching for the State in British Legal Thought* (2012), *This Realm of New Zealand 2017* (with Dame Alison Quentin-Baxter) and *The Legal Framework for Emergencies in New Zealand Law Commission Study Paper 23* (2022).

She recently acted as advisor to the Parliamentary Privileges Committee on the amendment to s 7 of the NZ Bill of Rights Act. She is currently the recipient of a Marsden grant to study the constitutional role of the public service in Westminster systems.

Professor Janet McLean KC FRSNZ



Scholarships

There are a variety of scholarships available to students, to find out more, scan the QR code.



Post study work opportunities

New Zealand has a progressive and generous work-rights policy. Eligible international students who wish to gain relevant work experience and transferable skills may be able to work here for up to three years on a post-study work visa after graduating. Please refer to current New Zealand immigration laws.



Where to from here?

For information on fees, accommodation and any other relevant information, scan the QR code. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at lawphd@auckland.ac.nz.



Submitting your application

Applications to the PhD Programme are submitted online. You will find there a link to the Application for Admission system as well as additional relevant information.

Join an outstanding cohort of PhD candidates

PhD topic: I have always been fascinated by how the society works and its complex interaction with other variables like gender, culture and religion. This has guided my passion into human rights and family law.

“My experience at the University of Auckland has been rewarding in several ways. Apart from a rich academic experience, I have had the opportunity to meet peers from diverse backgrounds and learn about their stories. Auckland is home to a very diverse population and the way it embraces all of this diversity is its highlight for me. There are always so many opportunities to attend events and activities and its truly heart-warming to be a part of them.”

Divya Rathore,
India



PhD topic: My doctoral study focuses on international tax dispute resolution. My research emphasizes on the necessity of foundational principles as a requirement for the establishment of an efficient international tax dispute resolution system, which simultaneously promotes justice, and is well-adapted in the challenges of the 21st century.

“The University of Auckland provides a multicultural environment, hence the perfect opportunity to expand my horizons and meet people with diverse cultural backgrounds who can share their diverse insights. At the same time, the law PhD cohort is ready to offer support and inspiring conversations that lead to a genuine exchange of ideas. Feeling that I am part of a truly intellectual community is highly beneficial for my doctoral experience.”

Maria Eleni Pouliasi,
Greece

