

Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga

Summer Internship Projects 2025/26

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25-26 INTPROJ 01: Te Rere o te Pīwakawaka: Modelling a maramataka-guided, strengths-based, lived-experience ADHD framework through Kaupapa Māori creative practice

Project Supervisor(s): Assoc. Prof. Byron Rangiwai

Institution: Ngā Wai a te Tūi, Unitec

Email: brangiwai@unitec.ac.nz

Project location: online/remotely

Project summary:

This 10-week internship supports a Māori doctoral student, in the arts, with lived experience of ADHD and strong knowledge of atua Māori and maramataka. Drawing on pūrākau, hapū and iwi narratives, lived insights, and the literature, the intern will develop a creative model based on the pīwakawaka metaphor. This metaphor reframes ADHD as an intuitive, energetic, and wairua-aligned way of being (Rangiwai, 2024). The pīwakawaka, known for its alertness, responsiveness, and relational agility, becomes a symbol through which ADHD is interpreted as strength rather than disorder. The intern will express this metaphor using visual, digital, or material creative forms, guided by the rhythms of the maramataka and kaupapa Māori research values. Throughout the internship, the student will maintain an artist-research journal documenting their process, including reflections on maramataka, creative development, pūrākau, and personal experience. This journal will also incorporate academic commentary, drawing connections between Indigenous knowledge and neurodivergence. As part of the kaupapa, the intern will engage in a community validation hui with ADHD whānau and maramataka practitioners to present and refine their model. They will also support the initial development of a co-authored academic publication based on the internship outputs. This internship will appeal to a Māori artist with strong cultural knowledge and a desire to reframe ADHD through Indigenous creativity, narrative, and timekeeping systems. The project contributes to Māori-led research on neurodivergence, identity, and flourishing futures.

Project team:

The intern will work with Associate Professor Byron Rangiwai. The internship will be based remotely. The intern may be located anywhere in Aotearoa New Zealand, provided they have access to a device, stable internet, and creative tools suitable to their chosen medium (e.g. drawing tablet, graphic software, or materials for visual or digital design). Optional in-person hui may be offered depending on location and funding availability, but participation can be fully online.

Ideal applicants:

Māori Masters or doctoral student preferably in the Arts with lived experience of ADHD whether diagnosed or self-identified. Strong knowledge of Atua Māori and maramataka. Confident in visual, digital or material creative practice. Reflective and comfortable engaging with Indigenous knowledge and academic writing. Able to work independently and meet deadlines in a flexible self-paced environment.

Programme of work to be carried out:

- Establish a culturally guided research process using karakia, maramataka-based reflection, and kaupapa Māori protocols.
- Explore and prototype visual, digital, or material representations of the pīwakawaka ADHD metaphor.

- Maintain an artist-research journal that documents lived ADHD experience, maramataka observations, and cultural references.
- Engage with pūrākau, whakataukī, and atua Māori narratives that relate to energy, rhythm, and creative thinking.
- Attend (virtually or physically if funding allows) a community validation hui with ADHD whānau, including maramataka practitioners, to present the developing model and gather feedback.
- Finalise the creative model and assist supervisor with initial development and drafting of a paper for publication (post-internship).

Day to day nature of the work:

- Begin each week with karakia and planning aligned with maramataka phases.
- Engage in visual or digital design and creative experimentation.
- Journal reflections daily or weekly on creative process, cultural ideas, and energy cycles.
- Attend one-on-one mentoring sessions with supervisor (online).
- Prepare content and present at community hui.
- Organise and finalise outputs in final weeks.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Visual and metaphorical knowledge translation.
- Maramataka-informed time management and self-awareness.
- Artist-research journalling and reflective practice.
- Application of kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori in creative research.
- Academic writing preparation and co-authorship skills.
- Community validation and integration of feedback.

25-26 INTPROJ 02: Ngā Pou Māreikura: Mapping Literature to Wāhine Māori Wellbeing and Belonging

Project Supervisor(s): Assoc Prof Deborah Heke

Institution: Ngā Wai a te Tūi, Unitec

Email: dheke@unitec.ac.nz

Project location: Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland. The internship will be based at Ngā Wai a Te Tūi Māori and Indigenous research centre at Unitec (Mt Albert campus) – Auckland. The intern will be expected to attend some in-person gatherings with the PI and research team, but most work can be conducted virtually.

Project summary:

This internship offers a unique opportunity to contribute to a Māori-led research project exploring wāhine Māori wellbeing through Ngā Pou Māreikura—a developing model grounded in te taiao and mātauranga wāhine. The intern will conduct a literature review to identify and analyse existing research that aligns with five pou (pillars) of wellbeing and belonging. This work will support the development of a culturally relevant model for hauora and contribute to creative and community-based dissemination. Ideal for students passionate about Indigenous research, Māori health, and Kaupapa Māori methodologies.

Project team:

Supervising researcher is Associate Professor Deb Heke (PI) of the broader project, and limited contact with some of the existing research team: Shivani Karan (Lane 25) – Audiovisual designer, Dr Melissa Vera (Washington State University) – Transnational Indigenous research partner, Jordan Tane (AUT) – Communication and Design expert.

Ideal applicants:

Māori students in health, Indigenous studies, education, or social sciences. Strong interest in Kaupapa Māori research, literature analysis, and creative dissemination. Basic skills in academic writing and referencing preferred. An aspiring Mana Wahine researcher is desired.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The intern will explore literature related to Indigenous wellbeing, mātauranga wāhine, and relational environmental practices. They will identify key themes aligned with Ngā Pou Māreikura, contribute to a literature matrix, and draft a narrative review. Outputs will support the broader HRC-funded project and potential projects that seek to expand the application of this model. Outputs will include a literature review or report for publication and a possible collaboration with a creative design member of the team to incorporate aspects of review finding into the existing model.

Day to day nature of the work:

- Literature searching and reading
- Annotating and summarising key texts
- Group discussions with PI and team
- Drafting and revising review sections
- Participating in wānanga or feedback sessions

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Kaupapa Māori research methods
- Literature review and thematic analysis
- Academic writing and referencing
- Critical thinking and synthesis
- Collaborative research and feedback integration

25-26 INTPROJ 03: Whare Tangata Ora: A Whakapapa Informed Review of Mātauranga Māori and Literature

Project Supervisor(s): Miss Deanna Haami

Institution: Massey University

Email: D.Haami@massey.ac.nz

Project location: online/remotely

Project summary:

This project aims to compile an extensive review of the literature and Mātauranga Māori regarding the role of wairua in Whare Tangata Ora. This will not only help to highlight the gaps in the research, but also lay the foundation for future research addressing the high prevalence rates of Wāhine Māori experiencing issues and illness related to the Whare Tangata. This internship will be fully online/remote, and will be supervised by Miss Deanna Haami, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow based in the School of People, Environment and Planning at Massey University. The chosen intern will be required to systematically examine both academic and non-academic databases (including historical, visual and audio archives and oral traditions) to explore the role of wairua in the intergenerational transmission of Whare Tangata trauma and Whare Tangata healing; conduct a thematic analysis; and produce a report summarising the findings and future recommendations. The ideal applicants will be wāhine Māori who have an interest in wairua-informed research and intergenerational wellbeing. Some experience in academic research, literature reviews and thematic analysis would be advantageous but is not required. During this internship, the intern will develop proficiency in conducting academic literature reviews; skills in thematic analysis; experience in writing comprehensive research reports; enhanced understanding of Wairua and Whare Tangata Ora; experience in conducting independent research; and experience in research writing.

Project team:

The intern will be supervised by Miss Deanna Haami, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow based in the School of People, Environment and Planning at Massey University.

Ideal applicants:

The ideal applicants will be wāhine Māori who have an interest in wairua-informed research and intergenerational wellbeing. Some experience in academic research, literature reviews and thematic analysis would be advantageous but is not required. As the supervisor I will provide guidance where needed.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The intern will engage in the following research activities across the duration of the internship:

- Conducting systematic searches of academic and non-academic databases (including historical, audio and visual archives and oral traditions) for mātauranga identifying the role of wairua in Whare Tangata Ora.
- Collating, reviewing and summarising the literature and mātauranga.
- Performing a thematic analysis to identify patterns across the literature and mātauranga.
- Identifying gaps and areas requiring further research.
- Compiling a comprehensive report of the findings.

Day to day nature of the work:

- Researching various databases of knowledge to identify the role of wairua in Whare Tangata Ora.

- Compiling, summarising and analysing the knowledge identified during the search.
- Completing a comprehensive report of findings.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Proficiency in academic literature reviews.
- Skills in thematic analysis.
- Experience in writing comprehensive research reports.
- Enhanced understanding of Wairua and Whare Tangata Ora.
- Experience in conducting independent research.
- Experience in academic/research writing.
- Knowledge of Indigenous research.

25-26 INTPROJ 04: Exploring Neurodivergence and Māori Wellbeing through Indigenous-Informed Technology

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. Hazel Abraham

Institution: AUT

Email: hazel.abraham@aut.ac.nz

Project location: Department of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, School of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences (AUT). Remote or online supervision will be considered for students based outside Auckland.

Project summary:

This internship offers a transformative opportunity for an intern to explore Māori perspectives on neurodivergence and contribute to flourishing futures in Indigenous innovation. Grounded in Kaupapa Māori research principles, the project begins with an in-person hui focused on ethics and Indigenous data sovereignty. The intern will conduct a systematic literature review across education, health, technology, and Indigenous studies, using tools like Zotero and NVivo to identify culturally grounded, non-pathologising approaches to neurodivergent wellbeing. As an intern you will also gain experience with collaborative writing platforms such as Overleaf and create a digital story or YouTube video using CapCut to reflect on their learning journey. This internship fosters Te Tiriti-honouring pathways into postgraduate research and empowers Māori leadership in STEAM, immersive technologies, and beyond.

Project team:

Research whānau in AUT's School of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences, led by Te Kaiwhakatere (Research) Dr Hazel Abraham and supported by experts in Computer Science and AI (Prof Minh Nguyen), XR and wellbeing design (Dr Kien Tran), health and ethical technologies (Assoc Prof Sam Madanian), and Indigenous education (Dr Jessica Worchel).

Ideal applicants:

This project is ideal for students interested in Indigenous research, digital innovation, and inclusive wellbeing. It offers hands-on experience in academic research, cultural frameworks, and creative communication, making it a rich and rewarding opportunity to contribute to meaningful, Indigenous-led research.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The intern will conduct a systematic literature review on Māori understandings of neurodivergence, apply kaupapa Māori research principles, use tools like NVivo, Zotero, and Overleaf, and create a digital story. Outputs will inform culturally grounded, inclusive technology design and contribute to Māori-led innovation in wellbeing and digital futures.

Day to day nature of the work:

As an intern in the School of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences, you'll work closely with Dr Hazel Abraham in a tuakana-teina partnership, supported by a *kaupapa whānau* of researchers. Your daily mahi includes literature scoping, database searching, and thematic coding using Zotero and NVivo, focused on Māori perspectives of neurodivergence, wellbeing, and technology. You'll participate in regular *wānanga* and shared kai, draft and refine your review with feedback, and create a CapCut video reflecting your

journey. This hands-on experience builds your skills in Indigenous-led research and ethical innovation in digital and immersive technologies.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Conducting systematic literature reviews using academic databases and coding tools like NVivo/Zotero.
- Applying Kaupapa Māori principles and Indigenous frameworks to guide ethical, culturally grounded research.
- Synthesizing findings into structured, peer-reviewed literature with annotated summaries.
- Using CapCut for video creation and qualitative research software for thematic analysis.

25-26 INTPROJ 05: Hāpai te hauora: Breathing your ancestors into life

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. Teah Carlson

Institution: Massey University

Email: t.a.carlson@massey.ac.nz

Project location: online, option to travel to Te Tairāwhiti

Project summary:

This summer internship offers a unique opportunity to join a kaupapa Māori research project focused on supporting rangatahi and whānau in Te Tairāwhiti as they confront profound environmental challenges. The internship is led by Dr Teah Carlson, an established kaupapa Māori researcher with expertise in participatory, creative, and co-design methods, in collaboration with a dedicated research team including Dr Naomi Simmonds, Dr Octavia Calder-Dawe and community researchers from Ahikaa Associates from Tokomaru Akau and partner organisations across the region. Together, this multidisciplinary team brings a wealth of knowledge spanning Māori health, environmental research, wairua methodologies, and youth wellbeing. Interns may be based anywhere in Aotearoa, as all engagement and most research activities will be facilitated online. Travel to Te Tairāwhiti for local events or wānanga is optional. Throughout the internship, the student will collaborate with the research roopū to analyse kōrero collected from up to 30 rangatahi and whānau participants. The intern will be directly involved in the co-design and development of “climate impact pūrākau” (narratives), applying Pūrākau and Most Significant Change methodologies to craft up to six creative stories that reflect lived experiences of climate impacts. The student will also help develop artistic responses—such as digital, painting, uku, whatu, or whakairo- and support preparations for sharing findings with local communities, including input into a creative documentary series. Ideal applicants will have an interest in kaupapa Māori research, basic skills in qualitative analysis, and curiosity about creative or community-led inquiry. Throughout the programme, the intern will develop practical research skills, experience in Māori-led co-design, and an understanding of how mātauranga Māori can drive meaningful social and environmental change, positioning them as an emerging leader in Indigenous research and community engagement.

Project team:

The internship is led by Dr Teah Carlson, in collaboration with a dedicated research team including Dr Naomi Simmonds, Dr Octavia Calder-Dawe and community researchers from Ahikaa Associates and partner organisations across the region.

Ideal applicants:

We seek an adaptable, curious student who is comfortable with iterative, community-led processes and interested in developing expertise in kaupapa Māori research methodologies, collaborative analysis techniques, and creative outputs such as pūrākau development and co-creation making this internship particularly valuable for those pursuing careers in community development, Indigenous health research, or environmental advocacy.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The key research activities involve collaborating with the research roopū and community kairangahau to analyse whitiwhiti kōrero, co-creating climate impact pūrākau through pūrākau methodologies, and contributing to creative artistic responses. The internship will produce up to six co-designed pūrākau that authentically represent rangatahi and whānau experiences of climate impacts in Te Tairāwhiti, while building

the student's methodological analysis skills grounded in mātauranga Māori through hands-on participation in kaupapa Māori research processes.

Day to day nature of the work:

Involves regular online collaboration with Dr Teah Carlson and the research roopū through video calls and supervision hui, where students participate in collaborative analysis sessions with community researchers and rangatahi to review whitiwhiti kōrero data. Students also engage with community voices across Te Tairāwhiti through virtual wānanga sessions.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Develop foundational expertise in pūrākau methodologies by receiving comprehensive training in pūrākau and Most Significant Change (MSC) approaches.
- Learn how to ethically handle and analyse participant data through kaupapa Māori coding processes.
- Participating in collaborative story selection and narrative development with rangatahi and community researchers.
- Gain practical qualitative research skills including transcript analysis, collaborative interpretation processes, and documentation methods.
- Develop creative research competencies by participating in artistic responses through various media (digital work, painting, uku, whatu, whakairo).
- Contributing to documentary preparation and community presentation materials and learning how to integrate creative methodologies with kaupapa Māori research practices while respecting community leadership and mana throughout the collaborative process.

25-26 INTPROJ 06: Te mana o te reo Māori: Analysing word choice in assessments written in Māori

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. Julia Wilson

Institution: The University of Otago

Email: julia.wilson@otago.ac.nz

Project location: This work can be completed online/remotely or at Dunedin campus of the University of Otago. Meetings are likely to be held via Zoom.

Project summary:

We are interested in assessments submitted in te reo Māori outside of language learning and traditional domains. As part of the broader research project, higher level students have produced (mock) answers in te reo Māori to selected health sciences first year assessments. To mimic actual assessments, these answers were produced under exam conditions and without the use of a Māori dictionary. As such, there is an interesting mixture of different translations used, as well as the inclusion of English-language terms. We would like to conduct a deeper analysis of the different word choices, to ultimately contribute to the development and sharing of translations for discipline specific terms. The supervising researcher will be Dr Julia Wilson, who is based in the Social Anthropology Programme at the University of Otago. The intern will also be working with other Māori researchers involved in the project, including Tautemaria Silva (Waikato/Tainui, fluent te reo speaker), Peter Williamson (Kāi Tahu, cultural advisor), Te Ngaru Wehi (Ngāti Te Wehi, fluent te reo speaker and studied linguistics), Alana Alexander (Ngāpuhi, te reo speaker and kaupūtaiao), Wahineata Smith (Ngāti Korokī Kahukura, fluent te reo speaker and te reo reseracher) and other summer students. The ideal candidate will be fluent in te reo Māori, although the project might also suit someone learning te reo. An understanding of health science terms would also be an advantage, but is not vital. All work can be conducted remotely. The internship will begin by considering different analysis methods and how kaupapa Māori principles should be integrated into this work. The intern will then use this knowledge to compare and analyse two different answers written in te reo Māori. Finally, a deeper understanding of word selection will be gained through a review of academic and other sources. This internship will develop skills in academic reading and note taking, qualitative analysis methods, and academic writing skills.

Project team:

The supervising researcher will be Dr Julia Wilson, who is based in the Social Anthropology Programme at the University of Otago. The intern will also be working with other Māori researchers involved in the project, including Tautemaria Silva (Waikato/Tainui, fluent te reo speaker), Peter Williamson (Kāi Tahu, cultural advisor), Te Ngaru Wehi (Ngāti Te Wehi, fluent te reo speaker and studied linguistics), Alana Alexander (Ngāpuhi, te reo speaker and kaupūtaiao), Wahineata Smith (Ngāti Korokī Kahukura, fluent te reo speaker and te reo reseracher) and other summer students.

Ideal applicants:

The ideal candidate will be fluent in te reo Māori, although the project might also suit someone learning te reo. An understanding of health science terms would also be an advantage, but is not vital.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The internship will begin by considering different analysis methods and how kaupapa Māori principles should be integrated into this work. The intern will then use this knowledge to compare and analyse two different

answers written in te reo Māori. Finally, a deeper understanding of word selection will be gained through a review of academic and other sources.

Day to day nature of the work:

- Reading academic articles and other sources on kaupapa Māori and qualitative research methods.
- Conducting text analysis, taking a word-by-word approach to reading and comparing (handwritten) answers written in te reo Māori.
- Keeping accurate notes on both readings completed and analysis steps.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Academic reading and note taking
- Qualitative analysis methods
- Academic writing skills

25-26 INTPROJ 07: Ko te Hua o te Rengarenga: He Maumaharatanga - Supporting the Archiving and Analysis of Māori Women's Leadership Histories

Project Supervisor(s): Ass. Prof. Mere Skerret

Institution: Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington

Email: mere.skerrett@vuw.ac.nz

Project location: Ideally the student would be in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, for most of the duration of the internship, though remote/online supervision would be considered for those in other locations over Christmas. The intern will need computer/laptop, have access to Zoom (camera) and have stable WIFI to complete the project work and engage in shared meetings.

Project summary:

He Maumaharatanga: Tātau Tātau – Te Hua o te Rengarenga: 75 Years On: Stories from Founding and Current Leaders and Members of the Māori Women's Welfare League

Tātau Tātau: Māori Women's Voices from the Twenty-first Century is a kaupapa Māori research project that celebrates and honours 75 years of Māori women's leadership, activism, and service through the Māori Women's Welfare League. As part of this national commemorative effort, a rich archive of interviews has already been gathered from League members, life members, and key partners, capturing their experiences, insights, and aspirations from 1951 through to the present day. This summer internship offers a unique opportunity for a student to support the next phase of the project: synthesising and making sense of this powerful collection of oral histories. The intern will work closely with Associate Professor Dr Mere Skerrett and a skilled research team to transcribe audio, (many of which are in te reo Māori), organise interview data, identify key themes using qualitative coding tools (such as NVivo—with support provided should the intern not be familiar with this tool), and contribute to a literature review that supports the development of a major publication and documentary. Rather than collecting new data, the intern will engage with stories that have already been recorded and focus on analysing and presenting these narratives in a meaningful and culturally respectful way. This work will support the production of a book and video documentary, the video which will premiere in 2026 at the Māori Women's Welfare League's 75th anniversary celebrations at Te Papa Tongarewa and promote the book which will follow. This is an ideal opportunity for a student passionate about te reo Māori, wāhine Māori leadership, kaupapa Māori research, and Indigenous knowledge systems. The internship offers valuable experience in research synthesis, cultural archiving, and Indigenous storytelling—helping to ensure that the voices of Māori women continue to inform and inspire future generations.

Project team:

The internship will be supervised by Associate Professor Mere Skerrett with support from the National Operations Office, Burnell Avenue, Thorndon, Te Whanganui-a-tara.

Ideal applicants:

This research would suit a student studying Māori Studies, History, or Indigenous Studies, though students with experience or strong interest in areas such as oral history, archives, decolonial theory, or cultural heritage would also be well-suited. Some knowledge of te reo Māori and tikanga is important, as the project engages with Māori narratives, mātauranga, and kaupapa Māori research principles.

Ideal applicants will have an interest in Indigenous storying and wāhine Māori leadership. Familiarity with transcription, thematic coding (e.g. NVivo), or literature reviews is an advantage, but not essential—training and guidance will be provided.

Programme of work to be carried out:

Working alongside AP Mere Skerrett and the research support team, the internship will focus on developing skills in qualitative data management and analysis grounded in kaupapa Māori approaches. The student will also gain experience in academic referencing and contribute to the preparation of presentation materials for sharing key findings with stakeholders and community partners.

Day to day nature of the work:

With guidance from the supervisor, the intern will:

- Summarise individual participant contributions by listening to pre-recorded audio interviews
- Review and clean transcripts to ensure data accuracy and consistency
- Conduct qualitative data analysis using thematic analysis within a kaupapa Māori framework
- Identify and summarise key themes emerging across the data set for reporting and presentation
- Compare project findings with relevant existing literature to draw out key insights
- Compile and format a reference list according to APA 7 guidelines

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Developing deeper expertise in Kaupapa Māori research
- Cleaning files (data accuracy -listening to audios against transcripts)
- Using academic databases to search for literature
- Organise literature
- Completing an annotated biblio
- Writing a reference list using APA 7
- Using IT tools to prepare a presentation
- Qualitative data analysis using thematic analysis and kaupapa Māori
- Academic writing

25-26 INTPROJ 08: Equity and the built environment: Towards a spatial justice scoring system

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. James Berghan

Institution: Te Whare Wānanga o Aotearoa

Email: james.berghan@twoa.ac.nz

Project location: Ideally the student would be located in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, though remote/online supervision would be considered for students based elsewhere.

Project summary:

How do our towns and cities support, or undermine, justice for tangata whenua? This internship is part of the Spatial Justice Lab, a Māori-led research collective exploring how cities reflect, reinforce, or resist injustice.

The intern will help develop the foundations of a spatial justice assessment tool: a practical framework for evaluating how real-world spaces (like streets, suburbs, or housing developments) support just, equitable, and mana-enhancing outcomes for Māori communities.

Building on an existing literature review, the intern will:

- Identify key themes and principles from spatial justice literature (with a focus on Aotearoa);
- Analyse existing urban assessment tools;
- Help shape a draft set of indicators; and
- Test these ideas on a small number of urban case studies.

Project team:

The internship will be supervised by Dr James Berghan (Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri), Kairangahau Matua (Senior Research Fellow) at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa and co-lead of the Spatial Justice Lab.

The successful applicant will also be supported by the wider Spatial Justice Lab team, including co-lead Dr Rebecca Kiddle (Ngāti Porou, Ngāpuhi).

As a host organisation, Te Wānanga o Aotearoa offers a uniquely Māori learning environment grounded in our values of Te Aroha (respect and kindness), Te Whakapono (trust and beliefs), Ngā Ture (fairness) and Kotahitanga (unity). Interns will benefit from being part of a kaupapa Māori institution that prioritises the development of Māori rangahau capability.

Ideal applicants:

The internship would suit a student with an interest in cities, equity, justice, and Indigenous futures. Strong reading and synthesis skills are key, and the student should enjoy making conceptual ideas feel useful and applicable.

Students from a range of disciplines (e.g. architecture, urban design, planning, landscape architecture, human geography, geosciences, surveying, Māori studies, psychology, science communication) are encouraged to apply.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The project will involve contributing to the design and conceptual structure of a future spatial justice assessment tool. This includes:

- Working from an existing literature base to identify common themes, principles, and criteria associated with spatial justice.
- Synthesising these criteria into a set of draft indicators.
- Testing these ideas against a small set of real-world urban case studies.
- Co-authoring a short report, working paper, or public explainer on the process and outcomes.

Day to day nature of the work:

- Review and code existing literature.
- Summarise findings and draft key principles/metrics to form the assessment tool.
- Test draft principles against urban cases (e.g. housing development, park, street, suburb).
- Attend hui with the Spatial Justice Lab team.
- Write short summary outputs.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Introduction to kaupapa Māori research and critical spatial research
- How to move from literature to applied frameworks
- Thematic analysis
- Co-authoring academic and public-facing research outputs
- Exposure to team-based research processes

25-26 INTPROJ 09: He aha te utu mo te kai? Exploring the economic benefits of kai sovereignty

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. Kenneth Taiapa

Institution: The University of Otago

Email: ken.taiapa@otago.ac.nz

Project location: The internship project will be located remotely.

Project summary:

There has been a slow but steady increase in Māori and community-led kai sovereignty initiatives that seek to reconnect people to local food systems. Mārakai are one example where collective action is being harnessed within a te ao Māori context to produce a range of social, ecological, cultural, and nutritional outcomes, but less is known about the economic benefits of such approaches. As a result, these initiatives sit outside of the concept of 'economic benefit' – a key yardstick by which merit and government funding is currently determined. Beyond 'Return on Investment', there are no clear definitions on what 'economic benefits' actually means, especially when applied to holistic initiatives designed with relational outcomes in mind. This project is interested in ways literature might support the articulation of how community-led kai sovereignty initiatives produce economic benefits in te ao Māori terms and through improving whānau equity and access to healthy kai.

Project team:

The research will be co-supervised by Dr Ken Taiapa and Dr Christina McKerchar, with support of their research team working on their HRC-funded project.

Ideal applicants:

The research would suit someone working towards a Masters-in public health or indigenous development with an interest in decolonisation and kai sovereignty. The applicant will have an interest in building skills in searching, evaluating, analysing, and reporting on literature related to the economic benefits of kai sovereignty. Ideally the applicant will whakapapa to Ngāti Porou, where the co-supervisors HRC-funded research is based.

Programme of work to be carried out:

The programme of work will support building skills in searching, evaluating, and analysing and reporting on literature in both an economic and Indigenous health and wellbeing context. This will include developing skills in referencing and report writing to ensure dissemination of findings to key stakeholders.

Day to day nature of the work:

- Researching community-led kai sovereignty initiatives.
- Evaluating literature in an economic context, then summarising and synthesising literature into themes.
- Drafting a final literature review with support from internship supervisors.
- Completion of a final literature review

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Developing fields of inquiry
- Searching and analysing literature

- Critically appraising literature
- Creating themes from literature
- Literature review writing skills
- Introduction to public health research
- Introduction to Indigenous development
- Introduction to understanding different metrics on kai sovereignty

25-26 INTPROJ 11: Pharmacist Precepting for Cultural Safety in Aotearoa New Zealand

Project Supervisor(s): Dr. Lisa Kremer

Institution: The University of Otago

Email: lisa.kremer@otago.ac.nz

Project location: The successful taura will be able to complete the summer internship where best suits them, in a 'learn in place' option, where they can reconnect back with their whānau at home while carrying out research. If the taura would like to stay in Ōtepoti Dunedin, there is a taura space in close proximity to Dr Kremer's office.

Project summary:

Interested in how and what pharmacy students learn from pharmacist preceptors around cultural safety, specifically for Māori?

Pharmacist preceptors are mentors and play an important role in providing experiential learning for third- and fourth-year pharmacy students. At He Rau Kawakawa (School of Pharmacy) we are dedicated to ensuring that pharmacy students have a good experience on placement, and that we provide support to pharmacist preceptors in their mentoring role. For us to be proactive in providing support to pharmacist preceptors, we need to learn from them about their skills and knowledge of cultural safety, specifically regarding working alongside Māori.

The purpose of this research is to analyse survey data from pharmacist preceptors of Otago students. This will form an important first step in our understanding of preceptor cultural safety for Māori, and will inform subsequent research activities for the development of preceptor cultural safety training.

Project team:

Supervisor: Dr Lisa Kremer (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Māmoe, Waitaha) is an academic pharmacist at He Rau Kawakawa ki Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka (School of Pharmacy, University of Otago), where she works as the Associate Dean Māori and a Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacy. Research she is involved in is able to be implemented by health care professionals to contribute to improved clinical practice and improved whānau Māori experience of healthcare.

Supervisor: Jaime Tutbury (Whakatohea) is a Lecturer in Hauora Māori at He Rau Kawakawa (School of Pharmacy) ki Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka (University of Otago). Jaime is completing her PhD in hauora Māori curriculum development and has a keen interest in how taura learn to make a difference for Māori health.

Advisor: Professor Ronny Bell (Lumbee tribe of eastern North Carolina) is a Professor at Eshelman School of Pharmacy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA. Ronny's research focuses on understanding and addressing chronic disease disparities in underserved populations, with a focus on cancer research.

Ideal applicant:

This project would suit a pharmacy student who is interested in learning about research and finding out if research is something they enjoy.

This project would suit a student who wants to make a positive difference to health equity for Māori, is interested in developing foundational skills in survey analysis and developing transferable research skills into their future career as a health professional.

No prior research experience is required.

Programme of work:

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Submit ethics	x									
Ethics and Approvals		x								
Disseminate survey			x							
Analysis of results				x	x	x				
Write up of Summer Internship report							x			
Drafting of manuscript								x	x	
Dissemination of results									x	x

Green: Summer Student tasks, working in collaboration with members of the research team

Blue: Members of the research team, with or without the student, depending on availability. The student will be offered authorship and attend all dissemination events. Research group will look for funding to support the student to attend such events as the Summer Internship funding will have completed by then.

Please also refer to the 10-week research plan.

The main outcome is for the student to have a good experience with research and to know that research is a door they can walk through if they choose.

Day to day nature of work:

During the 10-week internship, you will be working closely with Dr Kremer and Ms Tutbury on analysing and interpreting survey data, and meeting Professor Bell online to discuss findings. You will be responsible for completing research tasks which will require being proactive and organised. It is our intention for this research to be submitted for publication, and therefore completing a first draft has been included in the 10-week internship timetable.

There will also be an opportunity to meet online with the USA based pharmacy student to talk through the results and the experience of carrying out research.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Learn how to carry out a literature search (which will be transferrable skills for medicines information activities when working as a healthcare professional).
- Be part of a research team, work collaboratively, and communicate wins and challenges.
- Develop analytical skills for survey data
- Learn to write and present research data

25-26 INTPROJ 12: Articulations of honourable kāwanatanga from submissions opposed to the defeated Treaty of Waitangi Principles Bill 2025

Project Supervisor(s): Assoc. Prof. Clive Aspin & Dr Heather Came

Institution: Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington

Email: clive.aspin@vuw.ac.nz

Project location: The internship is part of a nationwide project and can be completed online.

Project summary:

A record 300,000+ submissions were submitted on the defeated Treaty of Waitangi Principles Bill 2025. The explanatory note from the Bill explains the Bill sought to define what Treaty principles are in statute to greater certainty and clarity, promote a national conversation and their place in constitutional arrangements and build consensus and social cohesion.

From an official information request we know 17,633 submitters requested to make an oral submission – some 13, 685 of those were opposed to the Bill.

Our intention is to analyse unique organisational submissions (rather than template submissions) of those opposed to the Bill.

We will sort the submissions into sector groupings for analysis potentially: union, education, health, youth, local government, social services, hapū and iwi to enable reflective thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2021).

This stand-alone study will support a wider Te Aparangi – Royal Society Marsden study looking into Honourable Kāwanatanga – preparing for a Tiriti-based future.

Project team:

Clive Aspin will be co-supervising with Dr Heather Came (Tāngata Tiriti Pākehā) an Adjunct Professor at Te Herenga Waka with a background in Tiriti and racial justice.

Clive and Heather will also have the support of the remainder of the Marsden team including Grant Berghan (kaumātua), Leah Waipuka-Bain (Māori policy), Mershen Pillay (methodology) and Julio Pereira (quantitative analysis), and Tim McCreanor (qualitative analysis).

Ideal applicant:

Someone passionate about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, who is well organised, personable, reliable, a sound writer with experience with reflective thematic analysis.

Programme of work:

- Categorising of submission and entering them into a research database. Applying exclusion and inclusion criteria.
- Undertaking reflective thematic analysis of six sector submissions.
- Completing a literature review.
- Drafting a research report and/or article.
- Attending supervision and engaging with the wider research team.

Day to day nature of work:

- Organising and analysing data in a database
- Completing a literature review
- writing research report/ and or Article,
- meeting with supervisors and/or research team

Research skills the intern will develop:

- Utilising reflective thematic analysis
- Developing research database and applying exclusion and inclusion criteria
- Receiving constructive feedback on written work
- Working to deadline and collaboratively with colleagues
- Conducting a literature review
- Writing for publication.

Depending on the timing of the internship, the intern will be invited to attend a one-day writing for publication workshop through Heather Came & Associates.

25-26 INTPROJ 14: Pūtōrino e Rua dendrochronology internship

Project Supervisor(s): Utiku Potaka

Institution: Whakauae Research Services

Email: utiku@whakauae.co.nz

Project location: The intern will be located in Whanganui City at Whakauae Research Services. Field work will be conducted on Merchiston Estate in the Rangitīkei. Samples will be prepared for analysis at Massey University in Palmerston North. Analysis will be completed at Massey University and may involve a trip to Wanaka in the South Island to visit Andrew Wells. There may be some opportunity for remote work, however, a large portion of the internship will need to be based in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region.

Project summary:

Dendrochronology uses the patterns of tree rings (annual growth layers) to determine the age of a tree and the environmental conditions during its growth. This can be done by cutting a slab or 'cookie' through a tree trunk or by taking a very thin core the width of a pencil from the trunk of a live tree using an increment borer. The living trees are not harmed in the process of taking core samples. By studying tree rings, scientists learn how the environment has changed through time. Our native trees can be hundreds and, in some cases, thousands of years old, providing an important window into the past.

We are assessing a historic natural hazard event near Rātā in the Rangitīkei where a large landslide has occurred, blocking the river for a time in the past. Oral histories suggest the event occurred in 1855. The aim of this internship is to use science to find additional support for the likely age of this landslide. One of the best tools we have is trees, as they put on a growth ring every year, allowing us to get high-resolution information that can tell us how old the tree is and also what changes have occurred in the environment over that lifespan. To help us achieve our goal we are working with Andrew Wells an ecologist with extensive dendrochronology experience.

We are looking to support an intern to work with Andrew and take a series of cores from trees growing through the Rātā study area. The field work will be completed over a couple of days. This will lead into a more substantial period of lab work where the cores need to be mounted and prepared for analysis. Final tree ring analysis will then be completed under the tutelage of Andrew Wells.

Project team:

The team will be made up of Callum Rees (Geologist and Soil Scientist at Massey University), Utiku Potaka (Pou Kōrero for Ngāti Hauiti and researcher at Whakauae Research Services), Andrew Wells (Ecologist at Wildlands Consultants) and He Waka Uru Ora (Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki – Ngāti Apa).

Ideal applicant:

The student should have a basic understanding of tikanga Māori and be comfortable working with iwi representatives. Tribal connections to the Rangitīkei would be advantageous but not required.

Students should have an interest in te taiao and want to expand their Mātauranga Māori as it relates to podocarp forests

The project will involve some field and lab work, so the student should be willing to learn new skills and have a practical background.

Programme of work:

- **Desktop study:** Research background information on the site and dendrochronology
- **Field work:** Site visits to nearby native forests and overview of original Māori occupation and ecology of the immediate area. Also meet with local landowners to discuss the project.
- **Dendrochronology field work:** Core native trees under guidance of Andrew Wells and Callum Rees
- **Laboratory work:** Work with Massey technical staff to sand and prepare the tree ring cores for analysis.
- **Analysis:** Analyse the tree rings under the tutelage of Andrew Wells and begin to interpret the record of environmental change.
- **Reporting:** Write a short report outlining the key research findings.

Day to day nature of work:

Will be varied from research on a computer to field work and laboratory work.

Research skills the intern will develop:

The intern will build an understanding of Ngāti Hauiti and Ngāti Apa history and traditions of the local area as it relates to the use and occupation of the subject area. As such they will be exposed to tribal lore as it relates to the aging of trees.

The intern will develop skills in dendrochronology including taking tree ring cores, core preparation, final analysis and interpretation.

25-26 INTPROJ 15: Matihiko whakairo Māori, rorohiko hoahoaina hangarau - Carving Māori experiences with 3D digital technologies

Project Supervisor(s): Ass. Prof. Rory Clifford

Institution: The University of Canterbury

Email: rory.clifford@canterbury.ac.nz

Project location: Project will be primarily located in Ōtautahi/Christchurch. A suitable computer will be made available that can be used to conduct remote activity as necessary.

Project summary:

This project aims to promote Kāi Tahu manaakitanga in tourism, to protect the kaupapa and design processes of whakairo of taonga while providing manuhiri with distinctive Kāi Tahu experiences when visiting Ōtautahi. Working alongside Dr. Rory Clifford, the intern will explore custom 3D design, scanning and manufacturing, to produce distinctive artifacts to better manaaki manuhiri. To provide genuine Kāi Tahu experiences and improve manaakitanga with distinctive manawhenua designs, The ability to quickly and repeatedly produce hoe and other waka adornments following tikanga and Mātauranga Māori is desired. Utilizing modern computer aided design and custom manufacturing and has piqued the interest of local Māori tourism operators and the numerous kaimahi that welcome manuhiri. The ability for Māori to have better access to advanced custom manufacturing and design tools, provides unique opportunities to express Māoritanga, while opening up new methods, technologies and materials for kaiwhakairo to explore and create pathways for career opportunities in computer aided 3D manufacturing. The tikanga from whakairo taonga tuku iho, needs to influence this, to provide distinctively unique experiences for manuhiri to remember and leave with a feeling of receiving the best manaakitanga at our disposal.

Project team:

The supervising researcher will be Te Apārangi - Royal Society, Ngā Puanga Putaiao fellowship recipient Dr. Rory Clifford, with additional administrative assistance from Tracy Henderson.

Ideal applicant:

The ideal applicant will be of Māori decent, ideally an uri of Kāi Tahu. Applicant should have an interest in whakairo Māori, some exposure of computer softwares for illustrative design and 3D modelling. They should also have an interest in custom manufacturing with 3D printing and laser cutting. Applicant will need to be in final year undergraduate, or undertaking a masters degree in either computer science, engineering or in toi Māori, particularly in carving.

Programme of work:

The key research activities under guidance from the supervisor will be exploring the use of new technologies in 3D modeling, 3D scanning and 3D custom manufacturing, working with manawhenua tourism client to demonstrate and produce distinctive Kāi Tahu whakairo of hoe, waka adornments and display panels.

Day to day nature of work:

The day-to-day nature of this work will be:

- to use computers to undertake 3D modelling;
- use scanning tools to bring real world objects into virtual reality;
- visualise 3D toi Māori in virtual reality;

- research designs unique to Kāi Tahu and Ngāi Tūāhuriri;
- learn how to use our 3D printers and laser cutters to take objects from virtual reality to the real world;
- work with our client to iteratively produce artifact;
- deliver artifacts to client.

Research skills the intern will develop:

- CAD design (3DS Max, Blender & Adobe)
- 3D printing, custom 3D manufacturing, 3D scanning
- Exploring Mātauranga Māori applied in digital 3D modelling and manufacturing
- Co-design with Māori to deliver on time and to client satisfaction