

Master of Taxation Studies (MTaxS)

This Master of Taxation Studies is New Zealand's premier postgraduate tax qualification designed for both law and commerce graduates who intend to pursue a career in tax advocacy or tax consulting.

Quick facts

Programme type: Taught and research options

Points: 120 or 180

Duration: Full-time and part-time options

Intake: February and July

Postgraduate fees for international students



Programme overview

The Master of Taxation Studies is an opportunity to study and discuss tax theory, policies and practice. It is taught by academics, leading practitioners who are top barristers, partners in professional practice and senior members of the tax administration.

Our MTaxS is designed for professionals who wish to extend their understanding of the theoretical issues and legal structures that underpin the taxation system. The programme offers the opportunity for graduates to develop knowledge, present arguments and understand and communicate their ideas in important areas of taxation.

The courses predominantly cover legislation and case law applicable to taxation – but also draw from disciplines such as economics and accounting.

The MTaxS can be undertaken through coursework or a combination of coursework and research.

Entry Requirements

Taught (120 points)

Bachelor of Commerce (Hons), Bachelor of Laws, or Bachelor of Laws (Hons)
GPA 4.0

Taught (180 points)

Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws (if three years), or equivalent three year degree
GPA 4.0

Research (120 points)

Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws, or equivalent three year degree
GPA 4.0

Research (180 points)

Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws (if three years), or equivalent three year degree
GPA 4.0



Find out more



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Come and study with world-leading researchers

Craig Elliffe is the Director of the University of Auckland's Master of Taxation Studies programme. His research areas are particularly in tax avoidance, international tax and corporate tax.

Before taking a chair, he was for 14 years a tax partner at KPMG and for eight years subsequently a tax partner at Chapman Tripp. Craig is the Deputy chair of the Tax Advisory Group of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand and was a member of the Permanent Scientific Committee of the International Fiscal Association and the New Zealand Government's Tax Working Group (2018-2019).

Professor Craig Elliffe



Where could this programme take you?

Inclusion of a major in Taxation as a specialist subject in your degree offers a range of professional possibilities. Tax as a career is less subject to the normal business cycles, and demand for tax professionals is always strong.

Jobs related to this programme:

- Barrister and solicitor
- Inland Revenue official
- Tax Accountant
- Tax practitioner in private practice, commerce or industry
- Academic

"I choose to study a Master of Taxation because it offers valuable knowledge, practical skills, and the opportunity to interact with tax professionals in the field, which are all essential for a successful career in taxation."

"You'll develop a comprehensive understanding of concepts like income tax, corporate tax, international tax, tax planning, and compliance. This knowledge will equip you with the skills to navigate complex tax systems and make well-informed decisions in your professional career."

Yuan Ji

Master of Taxation Studies

Flexible delivery

Our programme provides flexible legal study for both full-time and part-time students. You can study while you work to keep up your professional momentum or go full-time to get to the next level even faster. Entry to the MTaxS is open throughout the year, offering the flexibility you need to accelerate your career.

We understand that personal, family and work commitments are important factors when deciding whether to study, so we offer options to fit with your lifestyle:

- Full-semester courses taught in the early evening once a week
- Half-semester courses taught for six weeks of the semester in the early evening once a week
- All 15-point courses taught intensively over three consecutive days (normally Thursday to Saturday)
- Independent research programmes.



Have any questions?
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