

Masters of Māori and Indigenous Leadership (MMIL) Applications open for 2019 cohorts in Tāmakimakaurau and Te Tau Ihu regions

Information session in Tāmaki: 15th November 2018, venue tbc.

Application and Enrolment clinics

Tāmaki: 20th Nov 2018, and 14th Jan 2019

Te Tau Ihu: 21st Nov 2018, and 15th Jan 2019

The MMIL is an applied, professional, and flexible programme led by Bentham Ohia, and Sacha McMeeking. This programme is dedicated to supporting the advancement of Māori and Indigenous self-determination. Graduates will gain knowledge, skills and networks that will enable them to lead change, innovation and transformation within communities and organisations. This qualification is designed for people wanting to strengthen their ability to step into management and governance leadership roles with responsibilities for delivering on Māori aspirations within Iwi, Māori, government, community and private sector organisations. The programme is specifically designed for mid-career Māori and is open to applicants who may not have an undergraduate degree but can demonstrate service to the Māori community. The MMIL can be completed while in full time employment, from anywhere in New Zealand over an 18-month period.



Aotahi School of Māori and Indigenous Studies is excited to announce that we will be offering two cohorts for 2019. One based in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, and another in the Te Tau Ihu regions of Nelson and Blenheim.

Each cohort will be between 25 – 30 people. This allows for the creation of interconnected networks of a diverse range of leaders in different fields and communities who can support one another into the future.

What is the MMIL?

The MMIL is now in its third year, with the first cohort poised to graduate in December 2018. Graduates of the MMIL will gain:

- The ability to analyse, critique, create and lead Indigenous development, drawing upon comparative approaches, practical knowledge and soft skills to create pioneering models that uphold intergenerational aspirations and tikanga Māori;
- Advanced leadership skills and attributes that enable graduates to lead and implement change initiatives within Māori contexts;
- The breadth of knowledge and skills necessary to excel in a strategic leadership role; Membership in a national cohort of Māori leaders, from across Iwi, Māori and government sectors; and
- A network of international Indigenous relationships.
- Become an ambassador of change, as part of an alumni of a strong network of graduates of Māori and Indigenous Leadership from a huge range of professions, disciplines, communities and expertise.

The Programme involves:

- 7 – 8 monthly weekend wānanga, that run from Friday morning through to Sunday evening. These wānanga will involve deep work on (1) leadership in the Māori sector; (2) comparative Indigenous models and theories of development; and (3) strengthen and cement strong relationships amongst the leaders on the programme. These wānanga will involve presentations from established leaders in the Māori sector;
 - A two week hīkoi overseas to connect with First Nation and Indigenous peoples to develop a practical understanding of comparative Indigenous approaches to development and self-determination, as well as create an internationally connected cohort of natives;
 - One elective paper that can be drawn from any discipline to enable students to gain depth in an existing area of expertise or broaden their experience into a new field;
 - One practical project that will require students to design and implement an innovative initiative within their community or organisation. This project will synthesise the learning gained from across the programme as a whole; and
 - A research paper in an area relevant to the personal affinities of the student.
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International Hīkoi



The International Hīkoi is a two week cultural exchange with different Indigenous communities and organisations throughout the Americas and the Commonwealth. The trip is the practical element to the cross comparative research students have been doing as part of the programme.



The Trip is created to specifically for each cohort's needs so that the parts of the itinerary exposes students to transformative Indigenous initiatives that align with student's projects.



"An honour and privilege to be invited to witness the amazing work our indigenous whānau are doing to support their people to thrive and grow through education, entrepreneurship, political advocacy and to see the work they do to protect their environment, enhance their culture and improve their economic wellbeing"

"Life changing Experience of shared connection and collaborative growth."

"Through this course we saw, felt, heard and experienced best leadership practices. We actioned these to empower and inspire those in our communities and were guided to become great ancestors. It helped us to become the best version of ourselves."

2018 Students on their Masters journey and Hīkoi experiences.

Who are your Kaiako?



Bentham Ohia

Bentham is a kaupapa-driven, whānau centric man, with a strong reputation of service to Māori and Indigenous communities worldwide. He is committed to whānau transformation through education, which is central to the values he brings to the Masters in Māori and Indigenous Leadership programme.

Bentham was born and bred in Waikawa Picton, the whenua of his mother Linda (Riwaka) and is now based in Wellington with his Wife, Kate, and his son. He is currently serving on many institutions and movements in Aotearoa and overseas; as the President of Advancement of Māori Opportunity (AMO), Trustee of Ngā Potiki a Tamapahore Tust, Deputy Chair of Waikato Tainui College of Research and Development, Board member of Te Mātāwai as the Mataatua Wake representative, and an advisor to a number of CEO's.

Bentham is also a Director of Puata Hou Trust, a whānau based business he operates with his wife, Kate Cherrington, who also has

strong ties with this Masters programme. Bentham has also been announced as the Vice President (Tāne) for the Māori party following the resignation of Hon Te Ururoa Flavell in August 2018.

Sacha McMeeking

Sacha brings a serial entrepreneur's approach to working with and for Iwi Māori. From instigating United Nations proceedings to architecting a Māori social enterprise fund and leading commercial negotiations, she is known for solution-building that meets Iwi Māori aspirations. Before coming to UC, Sacha was the director of a boutique consultancy working with Iwi Māori in strategy development, kaupapa Māori asset management and innovation, and was the General Manager Strategy and Influence with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu responsible for government relations on behalf of the Iwi.

Recognised as an emerging New Zealand leader, Sacha won the inaugural Fulbright Harkness Fellowship in 2010. Sacha is a change agent and compliments her varied with a desire to support and grow the next generation of Māori scholars. Initiatives like the Māui lab, and the Masters in Māori and Indigenous Leadership programme are a product



of that intent and just one of the many innovations that Sacha intends to bring through Aotahi in the years to come.

Sacha's areas of research include:

- Iwi Māori development, innovation and entrepreneurship;
- Iwi Māori futures, social and cultural capital;
- Comparative approaches to Indigenous peoples; and
- Public policy.



Garrick Cooper

Garrick is interested in practices of 'decoloniality' in Aotearoa. This includes understanding the ways in which coloniality reproduces and sustains itself and maintains the interests of dominant groups in society and how we might subvert those processes. To this end, one part of his research includes using Māori epistemologies (and philosophical insights that we can draw from these) to critique dominant narratives about Māori (and perhaps "others") and create new pathways forward that transcend the binaries of Europeans and natives, Māori and Pākehā, the oppressor and the oppressed.

Our resident philosopher on the programme, Garrick is bound

constantly questioning the boundaries of knowledge and facilitating the stretching of student minds, and has one awards for his lecturing at the University of Canterbury. He also sits on a number of boards, and is currently on the Governance Board for the National Science Challenge.

Application Process

If this sounds like you, we welcome any queries or applications for the programme either in Tāmaki Makaurau or Te Tau Ihu. If you do not have an undergraduate degree, please do not let that deter you as we have created a pathway through to completing a full Masters degree through a Postgraduate Certificate pathway. This programme is a professional applied programme, so what we look for is your passion, drive, service and commitment to advancing upon the aspirations of Māori and Indigenous communities.

The enrolment process is as follows:

By the 23rd of November 2018, please submit the following to william.grant@canterbury.ac.nz and include in your email your preference for consideration for the Tāmaki Makaurau cohort, or the Te Tau Ihu cohort:

1. **A Personal Statement:** A 1,500 – 2,000 word statement that describes your personal experience with and commitment to Iwi self-determination, as well as your study goals and expectations from this programme. Please include a project scope that describes a project or initiative that you want to pursue during your MMIL journey that you believe makes a significant contribution to our community, and how it contributes to tino rangatiratanga.
2. **Curriculum Vitae:** This should include any academic history, work history, and relevant experience. This is to establish you are/have been working in a role that contributes to Māori interests and aspirations.
3. If you have an undergraduate degree, **please send a scan of your transcript** (please note, if you should be offered a place on the programme, we will require a physical original posted to us).

These documents will go to the selection committee for their consideration. Notification of the outcome of your application will be sent out via email by the 17th of December; further information on the remaining steps will be sent out in the pānui.

Aotahi School of Māori and Indigenous Studies

Aotahi School of Māori and Indigenous Studies is committed to challenging the future of Māori and Indigenous Studies to reflect the ever-changing state of Te Ao Māori. Our school values have been modelled on the traditions of Māui-Tikitiki-a-Taranga, the embodiment of challenging the status quo.

The MMIL is being delivered by the University of Canterbury, at Aotahi (The School of Māori and Indigenous Studies). The programme is one of a suite of initiatives from Aotahi that aim to ensure we meaningfully contribute to the aspirations of our people and the advancement of tō tātou tino rangatiratanga.

The MMIL is founded on the belief that the most significant contribution at this time to advancing our tino rangatiratanga is having people with courage, vision, and culturally embedded leadership skills, who can imagine and realise practical solutions that achieve intergenerational aspirations.