

Te Hoe Toi

Creative Industries



Te Hā

Taylor Fleet

Visual Communication Design



GET
SET



ara.ac.nz

Art and Design

Channel your creative thinking into a rewarding career.

Design skills are essential for New Zealand's economic and cultural future. Our highly practical art and design programmes will give you the skills and knowledge needed to build a career in the creative industries.

You'll engage in hands-on learning led by expert tutors in small classes. Your studies will equip you to pursue a career in a swiftly evolving environment and reshape thinking of what's possible in the creative work context. Our graduates are at the forefront of these shifts – leading the drive to solve real-world problems through the creative and critical thinking skills they develop with us.



Scan to learn more about our
Art & Design courses



New Zealand Certificate in Creativity



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months
Part-time: up to three years



February, July*

Gain foundational hands-on experience for employment or further studies in the creative industries.

Designed as an introduction to creative thinking, this programme will prepare you for further tertiary study and give you transferable skills necessary across many industries.

You'll be given opportunities to develop strategies in problem solving, idea generation and visual and oral communication. You'll also be introduced to a variety of creative media and tools to explore solutions to real-world problems.

**July start is available in Christchurch only.*

New Zealand Certificate in Digital Media and Design



Level 4



Christchurch, Timaru



Full-time: six months
Part-time: up to three years



February, July

Prepare for employment or further study in the creative industries by gaining foundational digital experience.

This programme is designed to give you experience in producing creative and effective outcomes using current digital technology.

You'll learn how to apply creative theory to practical, real-world projects, and have the opportunity to explore your own interests through research and practical application in design and creative contexts.



New Zealand Certificate in Fashion

- Level 4
- Christchurch
- Full-time: six months
- February, July

Learn the skills needed to meet fashion industry expectations and explore your design aspirations.

If you're keen to work in the fashion industry, or to undertake further study, this certificate provides the perfect pathway.

We'll introduce you to a range of textiles and the basic skills of fashion design, and you'll gain entry-level skills in pattern making and garment construction. We'll also explain how the industry works and explore various types of workplaces.

At the end of the course, you'll be able to make a range of basic garments and apply your skills in a garment production workshop, under the direction of a designer or production manager.

New Zealand Diploma in Arts and Design

- Level 5
- Timaru
- Full-time: one year
- February

Enhance your skills to establish yourself as a creative professional.

With this diploma you'll develop core skills in problem solving and idea generation in a range of methods and materials. You'll also become familiar with using digital technology for creative work.

This diploma is the ideal pathway to the Bachelor of Design where you can further refine your skill for a career.

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.

Bachelor of Design



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February

Refine your artistic talents and critical thinking skills to become a versatile creative professional.

Design is about thinking, solving problems and telling stories. Our Bachelor of Design – available in Visual Communication Design, Applied Visual Art and Fashion specialisations – will teach you how to master these skills so you can transform your ideas into reality.

Initially the focus is learning the foundational principles of design and about the different methods used to drive creative design processes. You'll then have opportunities to use your own experiences to identify problems and develop real-world solutions for them, though the use of various methods and mediums.

Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Practice



Level 8



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February

Take your professional creative career to a new level.

This programme has been designed for musicians, dramatists, performing and visual artists, designers, film makers, writers, directors and other professional creatives who wish to take their first foray into postgraduate study. It will enable you to advance your creative practice and develop knowledge and specialist skills, beyond those gained through your undergraduate degree.

As a student of this programme, you'll have the opportunity to use reflection on creative and critical theory to initiate and develop an area of interest into a supervised research project within a domain of practice. You'll also develop and apply advanced knowledge of theories and worldviews, including Te Ao Māori, in relation to a domain of research and creative practice.

Master of Creative Practice



Level 9



Christchurch



Full-time: 18 months



February

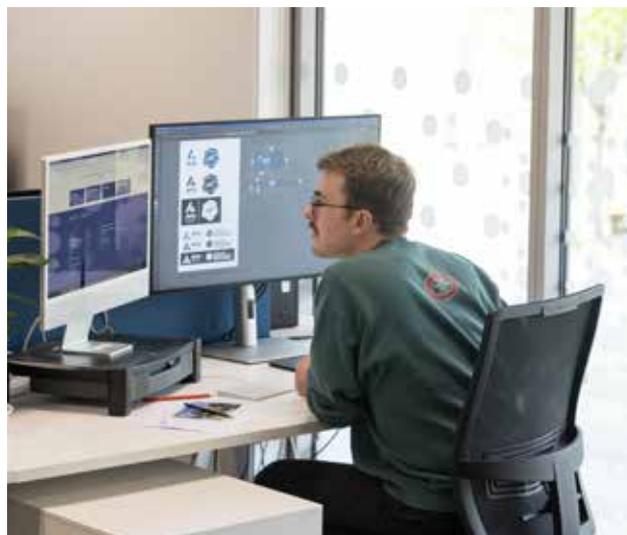
Gain a qualification that recognises you as a leader in creative practice.

The Master of Creative Practice is applicable to creatives such as musicians, dramatists, performing and visual artists, designers, film makers, writers, directors or any professional engaged in creative pursuits.

If you're a graduate with experience working in the creative community and you'd like to become a leader in creative practice, this is the perfect way to establish your credentials in your chosen domain. The programme may also suit you if you don't have extensive experience, but you've demonstrated academic and creative success at graduate or undergraduate level.

The Master of Creative Practice is designed to engage you in understanding, investigation and intervention within your chosen domain in academic or professional contexts. It will give you the opportunity to critically reflect on your practice through theory, and to further develop the practice into a more substantial and fully independent research-based thesis.

You'll be enabled to extend your domain of creative practice through enacting an advanced, sustained and sophisticated body of independent, original, practice-based research, which conforms to internationally recognised standards. You'll also be equipped with the skills and knowledge to extend your domain of practice through the undertaking of independent original research.



Broadcasting

Give yourself the best start to a career on screen, on air or in journalism.

Consumption of news, entertainment and social content has never been greater. If you aspire to work in front of the mic or camera, or behind the scenes, the New Zealand Broadcasting School (NZBS) at Ara is the place to study. It's recognised as the premier national provider of applied education in broadcast journalism, television, film, digital media and radio performance and production in New Zealand.

Our programmes are hands-on and totally focused on career outcomes. You'll benefit from studying in small classes with access to a wide range of broadcasting communication facilities and expertise. You'll develop an ability to think broadly and critically about the media and the implications of new technologies, and you'll have opportunities to gain real-world experience.



Scan to learn more about our Broadcasting courses



Bachelor of Broadcasting Communications



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February

Launch your media career with a fast-paced, practical degree designed to get you industry-ready.

This three-year, skills-based programme includes two years of immersive, applied, on-campus learning, followed by a final year off-campus in a professional media environment. From day one, you'll specialise in journalism, screen production, or radio – working with real gear, real projects, and real deadlines.

In your first year, you'll begin by building foundational skills in storytelling and content creation, before moving into your already chosen specialisation. You'll work in creative teams, develop a strong group culture, and collaborate with learners from other specialisations to get a feel for the full media landscape.

In your second year, you'll take on more advanced roles - working in a newsroom, on-campus radio station, or film crew - using industry-standard equipment and software every step of the way. Cross-specialisation collaboration continues, helping you build the adaptability and communication skills essential for industry.

Your third year is off campus, you'll spend up to 24 weeks on an extended placement in a professional media environment - contributing as a valued team member, gaining real industry experience, in-placement mentoring, applying and reflecting on everything you've learned.

Find out more at:

nzbs.com

Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts

Music

Develop your artistic talents and grow your technical skills for a rewarding career in the music industry.

The music industry is huge and demand for talented professional musicians, DJs and audio specialists is strong across a diverse range of career paths. Our highly respected music programmes will equip you with the skills, knowledge and experience needed to become a capable, confident and creative music professional who can take advantage of this demand.

When you study with us, you'll learn from nationally and internationally recognised musicians and audio experts in a supportive, collaborative environment, alongside students from all over the country who want to pursue a career in the global music industry. You'll become part of New Zealand's vibrant, exciting music scene where home-grown talent is celebrated, and you'll have extensive opportunities to build a rewarding and satisfying creative career.



Scan to learn more about our Music courses

New Zealand Certificate in DJ and Music Production



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February

Immerse yourself in electronic music in New Zealand's home of drum and bass.

This course is an opportunity to immerse yourself in electronic music in the drum and bass capital of New Zealand. It will equip you with the skills needed to thrive in the music industry as a DJ or music producer.

You'll learn about the physics of sound, DJ fundamentals, audio practice, electronic music production, audio engineering, and the creative arts industries. During your studies you'll become proficient using industry standard software and hardware, learn production and DJ techniques, and gain business skills and industry knowledge.

The course includes experiential sessions, simulations, role play and projects.

New Zealand Certificate in Music



Level 4



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February

Enhance your talent with performance skills and embark on a career in the music industry.

Built mainly around the study and performance of contemporary rock and pop, this programme is designed to assist you to perform with confidence and find your place in the New Zealand music landscape. It covers music fundamentals, playing in a band, writing songs and recording, plus the study of the emergence of the contemporary music industry globally and in New Zealand.

New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 5)



Level 5



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February

Launch your career as a professional audio engineer.

This course is designed to equip you with the expertise to capture, mix and reproduce sound for various applications including music, film and live events. This includes tracking; mixing, mastering and record production; DJing; live sound production and streaming; sound for film and TV; radio, including commercials; spoken word production including audio books and podcasts; audio and MIDI software and hardware design and engineering; sound production including sound design, game and multimedia audio and sonic arts; audiology; acoustic design.

You'll explore the physics of sound and learn techniques used in digital audio recording and manipulation. You'll become fluent in the use of computer-based and linear recording systems and familiar with both digital and analogue mixing consoles.

As well as tutorials, demonstrations and workshops, you'll undertake practical exercises like building a simple audio kitset.

New Zealand Diploma in Audio Engineering and Production (Level 6)



Level 6



Christchurch



Full-time: one year



February

Take your audio engineering skills to new heights.

This course deepens and broadens the skills gained in the Level 5 audio engineering and production diploma. It offers an additional year of advanced study, enhancing both the theoretical and practical aspects of audio engineering and production.

During the course you'll learn how to apply a range of creative and technical audio engineering techniques and processes to produce music and other sound-related works to a professional level. This includes tracking; mixing, mastering and record production; DJing; live sound production and streaming; sound for film and TV; radio, including commercials; spoken word production including audio books and podcasts; audio and MIDI software and hardware design and engineering; sound production including sound design, game and multimedia audio and sonic arts; audiology; acoustic design. You'll research and analyse material, reflect on your work to improve your practice, and develop your industry knowledge towards employment opportunities.

Bachelor of Music



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February

Prepare to thrive as a professional musician.

Our Bachelor of Music covers all the skills and knowledge you need to be a multi-faceted professional musician. You'll learn from a great team of tutors who are each also professional, working musicians. They perform, write and record across the country, from the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra to Salmonella Dub and everything in between.

The degree offers three pathways: Music Creation (composition); Music Performance; Music Production. This choice lets you specialise in the area you're passionate about, while learning alongside and working with musicians from other pathways. It's built around collaboration; you'll learn foundational skills and apply them in group projects and classes that directly mirror the real world of the music industry.

The programme focuses on the practical; even the 'academic' subjects are taught in a style that relates directly to the practical application of those subjects. More than half the programme content is practical in nature, a higher proportion than most music degrees in New Zealand. With such a focus on the practical, you're a musician from day one at Ara.

Your third-year capstone project allows you to design your own major project (which can include a work placement if relevant) with dedicated support from a specialist tutor.



Visit ara.ac.nz for all entry requirements and fee information.



Level



Location



Duration



Starts

Music Theatre

Polish your performance skills to shine on stage and excel behind the scenes.

The National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) is one of the country's leading performing arts schools, offering the highest level of performance training to enable you to be a versatile, dynamic and successful performer.

We'll prepare you for the world stage in a practical, friendly and supportive environment, led by a faculty of leading industry professionals. You'll be nurtured and encouraged, and you'll gain the skills to thrive in this exciting industry. As part of your studies, you'll gain extensive experience through live performance in a variety of productions, and you'll make valuable connections with leading industry groups.



Scan to learn more about our Music Theatre courses



New Zealand Certificate in Performing Arts



Level 4



Christchurch



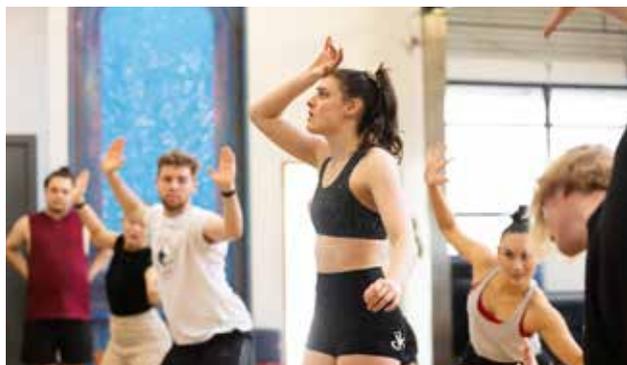
Full-time: one year



February

Start your journey towards a career in the entertainment industry.

This qualification is the only Level 4 performing arts programme in New Zealand. It will equip you with a repertoire of essential techniques and develop your skills in the areas of singing, dancing, movement, acting and performance. Together, these skills will increase your opportunity to work in the performing arts.



Bachelor of Music Theatre



Level 7



Christchurch



Full-time: three years



February

Gain a solid foundation of skills and experience for a rewarding theatrical career.

Taught by experienced performers and teachers who are dedicated to helping you make the most of your career, this degree will give you the skills needed to succeed in several branches of the performing arts.

You'll gain practical experience in performance and production work in key theatre disciplines such as acting, singing and dance, and study spoken voice, music theory, theatre history, technical theatre skills and research methods.

From the second year, you'll learn to integrate the skills acquired in your first year. In the final year, most assessment is performance focused with the option to pursue an independent capstone project of your own design. This project allows for work-integrated learning in industry settings – including the possibility of working in professional productions and further specialisations to develop other, related skills within the worlds of applied theatre and theatre for the stage.

Notes

Notes

APPLY NOW

ara.ac.nz

City campus

130 Madras Street, Christchurch
Mon-Fri, 8am - 4.30pm

Manawa campus

276 Antigua Street, Christchurch
Mon-Fri, 8.30am - 4.30pm

Woolston campus

Ensors Road, Christchurch
Mon-Fri, 8am - 4.30pm

Timaru campus

32 Arthur Street, Timaru
Mon-Fri, 8am - 4.30pm

Connect with us:

Connect with us here:

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