Hamilton, New Zealand  
*University of Waikato*

USC’s affiliate program in New Zealand is designed to help American students gain first hand knowledge of life and culture in New Zealand. New Zealand, consisting of a north island and south island, is situated approximately 3 hours via plane east of Australia. Naturally and ethnically diverse, New Zealand is a multi-cultural society with a strong commitment to the indigenous Maori population. The program is located on the north island, in Hamilton, New Zealand’s fourth largest city. USC students will join about 13,500 students at the University of Waikato, situated on 148 acres of beautifully landscaped parkland. Only USC undergraduate students are eligible to participate in this program.

The program at the University of Waikato offers a full array of courses. Students take classes with New Zealander students and other students from around the world. Classes are taught in English.

As a prerequisite, students must have attained at least sophomore standing prior to attending the University of Waikato. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required to apply.

**Courses and Credits**
Students are allowed to enroll in 60 points at Waikato and typically earn 12 credit hours per semester. Listed below are a few examples of subjects offered. A full list of courses can be found at [http://papers.waikato.ac.nz/](http://papers.waikato.ac.nz/).

**Subject Offerings**

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<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Finance and Economics</td>
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<td>Art History</td>
<td>Hospitality and Tourism Management</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
<td>Languages: Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Spanish</td>
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<td>Classical Studies</td>
<td>Maori and Pacific Development</td>
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<td>Cultural Studies</td>
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<td>Environment and Management</td>
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Living Arrangements
Students can choose to live on campus in full-board residence halls, or in self-catered, cottage-style units, however on-campus housing is not guaranteed. Students may also live off campus, sharing a house or flat with other students or living with a host family. Housing costs are paid in Hamilton and vary based on the type of accommodation chosen. More information about housing can be found at http://www.waikato.ac.nz/international/students/general/accommodation.shtml.

Budgeting
Students pay tuition and fees to the University of Waikato at a tuition rate determined by the host institution. The cost of living will vary depending on the type of accommodation you chose and your lifestyle. Students should budget roughly NZ$6,000 a semester for personal expenses. All costs are estimates and may fluctuate based on the exchange rate. For more information on the cost of living in Hamilton, visit http://www.waikato.ac.nz/international/feesAndCosts/costOfLiving.shtml.

Master Calendar
The New Zealand academic calendar begins in February, with the first semester running from mid-February through mid-July. The second semester commences in mid-July and runs through mid-November. USC students can attend the University of Waikato during the fall semester, spring semester or academic year. A detailed schedule can be found at http://calendar.waikato.ac.nz/dates/teachasses.html.

Insurance
All students must purchase the Studentsafe-University Insurance through University of Waikato. The cost of this insurance is roughly NZ$186 per semester. This is in addition to the ISIC which is required by USC.

Orientation
Orientation is a requirement for all new students. Orientation Week is held the week prior to the start of classes and is an important part of settling into studies at Waikato and life in New Zealand.

Excursions
The program does not offer organized excursions, however students do have the opportunity for individual travel. Surfing and swimming beaches are just a 40 minutes drive from Hamilton. Forests, parks, lakes, thermal pools and limestone caves can be found throughout the Waikato region. The north island’s mountain ski areas are only a three hours drive away.

Extra-Curricular Activities
A number of clubs are based at the University of Waikato including cultural clubs, traditional sports, thrill seekers, and water sports. Clubs Day during Orientation Week provides the best opportunity to see the wide range of clubs offered. For more information, visit http://www.waikato.ac.nz/living/.

Entry Visa
All students studying in New Zealand are required to have a valid New Zealand Student Visa. Students can learn more about the visa process by visiting http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/study/.

Footnotes
Visit the University of Waikato’s website at http://www.waikato.ac.nz. For information specific to the affiliate program, please see http://www.waikato.ac.nz/student/support/international-students.shtml

For more information about New Zealand and the sites you can visit, go to the official New Zealand Tourism website at http://www.newzealand.com/travel/