

Master's Scholarship - New Zealand's Biological Heritage



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

Applications are invited for a master's scholarship opportunity in the Environmental Psychology Lab in the Tauranga Campus. The scholarship is part of the broader National Science Challenge addressing New Zealand's Biological Heritage (<https://bioheritage.nz/>), particularly focusing on ways to empower New Zealanders to demand and enact environmental stewardship and kaitiakitanga.

The successful applicant will use available survey data (e.g., New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study, Public Perceptions of New Zealand's Environment, Quality of Life Survey) and multilevel analysis to identify consistent contextual and socio-psychological barriers and drivers to undertaking action to protect our biological heritage. Findings will lead to a better understanding of factors that motivate people to actively protect our biological heritage. The thesis will be prepared for submission to a peer-reviewed academic journal.

The successful applicant should be eligible to enrol for a Master of Science in Psychology, and the project will require the student to work at the Tauranga campus. Besides working closely with A/Prof Milfont, the successful applicant will also collaborate with members of the broader research team.

An ideal candidate would have:

- Completed (or are currently enrolled in) an Honours degree in psychology with at least a B+ grade average and focus on quantitative methods. (Students who are still waiting for their final grades are also encouraged to apply.)
- Demonstrated strong skills in academic writing and data analysis
- Prior experience with multilevel analysis and knowledge of Vision Mātauranga (Taiao / Environment theme) would be advantageous
- Current residency in Aotearoa New Zealand

If you are a self-motivated and hard-working student, passionate about environmental conservation, who meets the criteria above please apply.

Eligibility criteria:

Level: Masters

Enrolment: Full-time (1 year)

Value:

Stipend of \$17,000 total plus domestic tuition fees (approximately \$7,098 - \$8,505 per year).

Application documents required:

- Cover letter detailing your motivation, interests and background related to the research project
- CV, including statement of previous research experience and contact details for 2-3 referees (including at least one academic reference)
- Academic transcript and copy of the Honours (research) thesis, even if in draft form

Contact and email address for applications:

Associate Professor Taciano L. Milfont

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Closing date:

8 October 2021