





What do employers look for?

Through studying an International Business major, graduates develop a valuable set of skills transferable to a range of careers. These skills can include:

- Business problem solving across sectors, industries and national boundaries
- Effective communication with customers and suppliers in different countries
- Working effectively in multicultural groups
- A global perspective and cultural sensitivity
- Planning and organisation
- Positive attitude, resilience and adaptability
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Research design and data collection
- Logical and quantitative thinking.

Jet set and learn

International Business students are encouraged to spend a semester studying at an overseas partner university. This provides a great opportunity to learn about a different culture, gain insight into different business environments and practices, and form new contacts. UC has partnership agreements with universities in Asia, Europe, North America and Australia.

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Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, client/customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness, teamwork, and initiative.

With technology, globalisation, and other drivers changing society, skills such as resilience, problem solving, and adaptability is important.

Skills that are likely to grow in importance include analytical and creative thinking, systems thinking, and technological literacy.*

*World Economic Forum www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/05/future-of-jobs-2023-skills

How can these skills be developed?

- Some skills are gained through studying
- Extra-curricular activities can help, such as getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities, whether it is undertaking work experience, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group.

What do employers look for?

Many Aotearoa New Zealand businesses are looking to expand into the global market, creating a need for graduates who are well versed in international business.

An International Business major can be an excellent springboard for graduates interested in exploring roles within the global business market.

International Business major graduate employers have included:

- Government departments, international non-governmental organisations, and development agencies
- Retail trade, and import / export corporations, including transport, postal and warehousing
- Small–medium sized / entrepreneurial firms, including social enterprises
- Banks and insurance firms
- Multinational manufacturers
- Consulting firms
- Electronics industry
- Tourism and travel companies
- Hospitality organisations
- Education and training institutes.

Sam

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How has your interests shaped your extra-curricular activities?

In the final year of my BA, I was President of a student-run organisation called Global China Connection which aims to build New Zealand-China relations through professional and networking initiatives. Funded by UC, we run programmes to help students become more aware and ready for China-related opportunities.

What advice would you give to someone thinking of studying this?

Go on exchange! Anywhere around the world, but I would encourage choosing somewhere outside your comfort zone. Go somewhere with a different culture and different language to New Zealand because you will learn so many new skills and appreciate different cultures.

I'd also advise applying for as many scholarships as possible. You never know until you try. Don't leave it because you think you won't be successful – that's what other people are probably thinking.