

WORK PLACEMENTS

www.sci.waikato.ac.nz/study/work-placements

The Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Technology) are both four-year degrees involving compulsory work placement components. These paid work placements give you valuable experience alongside practising experts in your field of study. Our Cooperative Education Unit arranges and oversees your work placement, ensuring the quality of your placement. The contacts made and experiences gained mean that graduates are very successful in finding employment within months of completing the BE or BSc(Tech). Obtaining a suitable placement is strongly dependent on academic performance. Students are expected to maintain good grades if they are to secure placements.

The Cooperative Education Unit at the University of Waikato is the leader in New Zealand for Cooperative Education type programmes, with on average 200 students each year. The Co-op Unit is a team of University staff who interface with employers and students to prepare students for the workplace and find work placements. The aim of the placements is to integrate academic learning with hands-on learning in the workplace to produce capable young professional scientists and engineers for the workplace or graduate studies.

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Degrees

Work placements are a compulsory component of the Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Technology). Work placement papers are available in each subject, as well as preparation and reflection papers. For the structure of the work placement component within each degree, please consult the following pages:

» Bachelor of Engineering	page 10
» Bachelor of Science (Technology)	page 14

Bachelor of Science (Technology) Work Placement Papers

200 Level Papers

SCIE279-12B (HAM) – Preparation for the Professional Workplace

10 Points

This paper consists of preparation of students entering the science workplace as part of the BSc(Tech) work placement programme. The paper includes lectures, workshops, and one-on-one meetings with placement co-ordinators. The paper covers professional development, placement interview preparation and technique, career mentoring/direction, placement selection process, company background research, self-assessment tools, professional behaviour, technical writing, occupational health and safety, and placement interview attendance.

<i>Convenor(s):</i>	<i>Dr Karsten Zegwaard</i>
<i>Corequisite(s):</i>	<i>ENMP282 and SCIE371</i>
<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0</i>

300 Level Papers

SCIE371-12C (HAM) – Science Work Placement 1

20 points

This paper is the first work placement for the BSc(Tech) degree and typically undertaken during the summer at the end of the second year. This paper includes 10 weeks of work experience at an approved subject-related organisation relevant to your studies. Placements are secured by the Cooperative Education Unit and students are paid seasonal rates during the work placement. Assessment is based on a technical report, co-ordinator site visits, and employer evaluation of the work performance. Students are required to have completed SCIE279 in order to commence this paper.

<i>Corequisite(s):</i>	<i>SCIE279</i>
<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0</i>

SCIE372-12C (HAM) – Science Work Placement 2

20 points

This paper is the second work placement for the BSc(Tech) degree and usually the first part of the 'long placement' (up to 9 months). This paper commences in the summer at the end of the third year and students should have completed SCIE379 before beginning this paper. Usually students enrol in the subsequent SCIE373 paper at the beginning of the fourth year.

Students undertake an applied project at an approved subject-related organisation. Placements are secured for you by the Cooperative Education Unit and students are paid seasonal rates during the work placement. Assessment is based on a written report giving an overview of the organisation, co-ordinator site visits, and employer evaluation of the work performance.

There is an option of 'fast-tracking' into a masters degree by enrolling in 372, completing 10 weeks of work experience instead of 9 months, and then commencing a masters at the beginning of the fourth year; however, this must be discussed with the course co-ordinator early in the third year.

<i>Corequisite(s):</i>	<i>SCIE379</i>
<i>Assessment:</i>	<i>Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0</i>

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SCIE373-12C (HAM) – Science Work Placement 3

20 points

This paper is the last part of the long placement, commencing at the beginning of the fourth year and immediately after the second summer placement (SCIE372). Usually this placement is at the same supporting organisation. Assessment is based on co-ordinator site visits, evaluation of the work performance, and a comprehensive written technical report giving an overview of the work and analysis of the outcomes.

Prerequisite(s): SCIE371, SCIE379

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

SCIE379-12A (HAM) – Reflection on Professional Workplace Experience

10 Points

This paper consists of post-placement reflection upon completion of the first science work placement and the required preparation for the second work placement. This paper includes lectures, workshops, and one-to-one meetings with placement co-ordinators. There is a focus on reflective learning from the placement experience, self-assessment outcomes initiated in the SCIE279 paper, portfolio completion, skill and skill-gap analysis, career mentoring and direction, CV updates, and the next placement selection process. Students are required to have completed a work placement paper before commencing this paper.

Convenor(s): Professor Richard Coll

Prerequisite(s): SCIE279

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

Bachelor of Engineering Work Placement Papers

200 Level Papers

ENGG279-12B (HAM) – Preparation for the Professional Workplace

0 Points

This paper consists of preparation of students entering the engineering workplace as part of the BE work placement programme. The paper includes lectures, workshops, and one-on-one meetings with placement co-ordinators. The paper covers development of professional CVs, placement interview preparation and technique, career mentoring/direction, placement selection process, company background research, self-assessment tools, professional behaviour, technical writing, occupational health and safety, and placement interview attendance.

Convenor(s): Dr Karsten Zegwaard

Corequisite(s): ENMP282 and ENGG371

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

300 Level Papers

ENGG371-12C (HAM) – Engineering Work Placement 1

0 Points

The first work placement for the Bachelor of Engineering degree is typically undertaken during summer at the end of the second year, and involves 400 hours of work experience at an approved engineering organisation relevant to your studies. Placements are secured by the Cooperative Education Unit and students are paid seasonal rates during the work placement. Assessment is based on a technical report, co-ordinator site visits, and evaluation of the work performance. Students are required to have completed ENGG279 in order to commence this paper.

Corequisite(s): ENGG279

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

ENGG372-12C (HAM) – Engineering Work Placement 2

0 Points

The second work placement for the Bachelor of Engineering degree is typically undertaken during summer at the end of the third year, and involves 400 hours of work experience at an approved engineering organisation relevant to your studies. Placements are secured by the Cooperative Education Unit and students are paid seasonal rates during the work placement. Assessment is based on a technical report, co-ordinator site visits, and evaluation of the work performance. Students are required to have completed ENGG379 in order to commence this paper.

Corequisite(s): ENGG379

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

ENGG379-12A (HAM) – Reflection on Professional Workplace Experience

0 Points

This paper consists of post-placement reflection upon completion of the first engineering work placement and the required preparation for the second work placement. This paper will include lectures, workshops, and one-on-one meetings with placement co-ordinators. There will be focus on reflective learning from the placement experience, self-assessment outcomes initiated in the ENGG279 paper, portfolio completion, skill and skill-gap analysis, career mentoring and direction, CV updates, and the next placement selection process. In order to do this paper you must have completed a work placement paper.

Convenor(s): Professor Richard Coll

Prerequisite(s): ENGG279

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0