

Typical Itinerary (subject to change)

DAY 1 – Arrive in Christ Church, NZ (12/28)
DAY 2 – orientation, background lectures
DAY 3 – The Christchurch Service project
DAY 4 - Day-long field trip to Banks Peninsula
DAYS 5 – 19- depart for Mt. Cook and begin tour by road through the South Island visiting Mt. Cook, Te Anau, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Franz Joseph Glacier, the wild and rocky west coast, St. Arnaud's mainland preserve, Abel Tasman National Park, and the dolphins and seals of the Kaikoura area.
DAY 20 – Return to Christ Church
DAY 21 - Depart and arrive in the US (1/17)



Milford Sound

Wintermester
December 26, 2017
January 17, 2018.

6 credits—winter
2017

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To apply:
[http://
www.educationabroad.vt.edu](http://www.educationabroad.vt.edu)

Course Description

Instructors

Lisa Kennedy from the department of Geography and Bob Bush from the department of Sustainable Biomaterials will be the lead instructors from VT. The course will enlist supporting lecturers from faculty at Lincoln University and University of Canterbury (Christchurch, New Zealand) and local field experts from leading environmental and natural resource organizations in New Zealand. Local support and logistics will be provided by American Universities International Programs.

Course description

This 21 day study abroad program will examine the natural and social history and resource conservation of New Zealand's South Island using a Geographic, ecological landscape perspective. New Zealand's isolation, after its separation from the ancient Gondwanaland millions of years ago, has left this island nation with a unique natural heritage. The plants and animals that have evolved here are unknown elsewhere in the world. Our program will focus on topics related to sustainable development (sustaining human societies and the natural environment) through educational travel, field trips, active participation, lecture presentations and seminars, debates and coursework exercises. The goal of this course is to use the New Zealand case to integrate different perspectives of diverse natural, biological, and social science disciplines to improve understanding of relationships between human societies and the natural environment. The impact of humans on natural resources and their sustainable use and conservation will be emphasized.

New Zealand is the perfect laboratory for seeking sustainability as its natural heritage is truly unique in the world, and New Zealanders show a great desire to maintain it.

Ask your advisor about applying these credits towards CLE areas 2, 3, or 7 or toward the Green Engineering Minor. A supplemental course option is available for Biological Science majors (6 upper-level biology credits with one lecture-lab link).

Course objectives

By the end of the program you will:

- Understand the natural history, biogeography, ecological diversity, and related social and cultural contexts of New Zealand through an exploration of the South Island's network of national parks and protected areas, which encompass rainforests, glaciers, mountains, coastlines, marine reserves, and offshore islands.
- Understand the impacts of human actions on natural systems, and human responses to those changes, using the case of New Zealand's South Island.
- Develop an understanding of ecological education practices, integrated natural resource management, and conservation actions throughout New Zealand's South Island.
- Address relationships between human societies and their natural environments from multiple disciplinary perspectives and to develop a complex, multi-faceted and holistic view of human – environment connections that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries.



Hooker Glacier Hike: Mt. Cook

Credit

Register for a total of 6 semester credits for wintermester 2017 at Virginia Tech at either the undergraduate or graduate level. The course is made up of 2 sections of GEOG 3954—Study Abroad. Register for **both sections** of GEOG 3954. Both courses are named "Sustaining Human Societies and the Natural Environment – New Zealand".

Virginia Tech undergraduate students seeking upper level Biology credits will be required to follow an embellished academic format including additional reading material and a paper to be completed upon return.

Virginia Tech students seeking graduate credit in this program are required to produce a capstone paper (at graduate standards) following the completion of this program. The subject and timing for submission will be determined by the VT faculty in charge. Graduate students will be required to contact the instructor in advance of the course to set up the requirements and timeline of this assignment.

Estimated Class Costs (undergraduate):

	VA resident	out of state
Program Fee	\$3,995	\$3,995
Meals*	\$700	\$700
Group Flight (LAX-CHC)	\$2,300	\$2,300
Airfare to LAX**	\$450	\$450
Tuition***	\$2,199	\$5,650
Total:	\$9,644	\$13,095

*some meals are included in NZ. This estimate is for those that are not.

** based on fares found 4-17-17 between DC and LAX

***tuition is based on 6 credits for in-state and out-of state students. Prices reflect a 12% tuition reduction per credit hour for study abroad. (these are from 2016-17)



Above: swimming with the Dusky Dolphins in the open ocean in Kaikoura

to apply, go to:
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