



“Ka werohia tatou mo te waheke nei.”
“Challenging ourselves for a better future”

WHANGANUI CITY COLLEGE



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Senior Courses for 2025



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Introduction:

The courses are full-year courses. This means that students can only choose full-year courses in the senior school.

Senior Courses:

Students will work towards gaining NCEA Qualifications in Years 11, 12, and 13. NCEA or The National Certificate of Educational Achievement is the main qualification for Years 11, 12 and 13.

If you need any more information you can find most of the answers on the NZQA site ([NZQA student information](#))

Many of the courses may have both internal and external assessments available. Courses have a mix of Achievement and Unit Standards, to take into account students' differing strengths.

There will be a number of multi-level courses on offer to students. This will ensure that students have a wide variety of subject options to choose from, however, most of the Year 11s will be single-level classes, meaning that only Year 11s will be in those classes.



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Course selection:

Before making your choices, it is important that you discuss your future plans with your whānau, whānau teacher, and the Academic Dean (Ms Paki).

Think about the career that you want to pursue and the qualifications that you need.

A good place to do some research would be the Careers and Youth website which will help you make better informed decisions about the subjects that you need to choose.

Read the course information before selecting and choosing the subjects that will help you achieve your goal. Remember to choose courses that will allow you to progress through to Year 13.

A good thing to do is to choose courses that will build on your strengths and your interests.

Co-requisites - Literacy and

Numeracy:

In order to gain any NCEA level, you need to gain the co-requisite Literacy and Numeracy credits. This means that you will need to gain 10 Literacy and 10 Numeracy credits in the Common Assessment Activities (CAAs).

To get UE Literacy you will need to get 5 Reading and 5 Writing credits from specific Level 2 Achievement Standards.

How to choose your courses:

1. Read through the courses before making a decision
2. Talk to your whanau, whanau teacher or dean if you are unsure of the courses
3. On the right-hand side, you can make your 1st choice and backup choice and complete the semester sheet.
4. Make sure that you have a wide range of subject choices that you are interested in.
5. If you are interested in doing Farming, UCOL courses or the Building course (years 12 and 13) make sure that you talk to Mr van Heerden.
6. Complete the form and submit it



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Senior Courses

Semester One

Line 1

Course Code	Course Name	What is this course about	Learning Area	Choice
ENLIFE1	English Level 1	<p>This course will build awareness and appreciation of language and literature. Rangatahi will have the opportunity to explore a range of viewpoints through a unique Aotearoa lens.</p> <p>Ākonga will be working on the new NCEA Level 1 standards:</p> <p>1.1: Demonstrate understanding of how context shapes verbal language use 1.2: Produce a verbal and visual personal response to texts 1.3: Develop ideas in writing 1.4 Unfamiliar Texts</p> <p>Each standard is 5 credits for a total of 20 possible credits</p> <p>Ākonga will also develop the skills required for the required NCEA literacy unit standards and will have two opportunities during the year to attempt these standards. These standards are separate from the English standards.</p>	English	
PEPED1	Physical Education Level 1	<p>This course will provide you with the opportunity to learn about yourself, about your community, and about the place of sport and physical activity in society.</p> <p>You will be expected to wear the correct school Physical Education uniform for all practical lessons.</p>	Physical Education and Health	
VAART1	Visual Arts Level 1	<p>Two Achievement Standards and One External Portfolio.</p> <p>Wet and dry media is the first standard then produce work exploring a number of printmaking techniques. A portion of work may be used on an external folio so keep work in a similar theme throughout. The theme for the work is the choice of the student in consultation with the teacher.</p>	Art	
TRMAI1	Te Reo Maori	<p>This is a course for those who are interested in building their knowledge of te reo Māori:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement & Unit Standards offered • Full Year Course 	Maori	
PEOD2	Physical Education Level 2	<p>This course is a practical based course in mountain biking, tramping and risk management. Attendance is essential to your success in this class as it is aimed at personal development and teamwork within the outdoors. Students entering this course must be willing to accept the physical and mental challenges provided by the above adventure pursuits.</p> <p>This course offers around 26 credits at Level 2 and involves about 14 days out of school.</p> <p>Note: Students will need basic tramping apparel in order to enter this class (thermal clothing, jackets and suitable footwear).</p>	Physical Education and Health	



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SSGEO3	Geography Level 3	Study Physical and Cultural environments in depth. This includes a trip and the study of tourism in the upper South Island including Picton and Kaikoura. We also look at Human Trafficking, Blood Diamonds and the Rhythm & Vines Festival. Does it get any better than this?	Geography	
TEFDI12	Fashion, Design and Identity	Design for Life is a hands-on, project-based course where you'll explore creative design and problem-solving to make a real impact. With a focus on manaakitanga—caring for people, whānau, and community—you can take on projects like upcycling garments, furniture making and upholstery, wearable art, lighting, or practical spatial designs such as garden and playground design. Document your journey through a digital portfolio, showcasing techniques and materials you've tested, while working towards earning up to 20 credits.	Technology	
SCICHEM23	Chemistry Level 2 and 3	An NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 Chemistry course for students who are interested in pursuing careers in process engineering, health work, environmental science etc. Students may study chemistry in different contexts such as environmental science, organic chemistry and consumer product quality control. Proficiency in numeracy is required and highly recommended, as is Science studied at NCEA L1.	Science	
TDIGIT23	Digital Technology Level 2 and 3	Technology is intervention by design. This Digital Technology course will focus on building your capability to apply technological ideas within a digital environment. You will be given the opportunity to investigate a specialised digital technologies area, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Software programming - Electronic environments and embedded systems - Digital information systems - Digital media - In doing so, you will develop possible solutions that take into account end-user considerations. 	Digital Technology	



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Line 2

Course Code	Course Name	What is this course about	Learning Area	Choice
MATNTN1	Te Maunga o Te Ngahere	This course covers the new NCEA Mathematics and Statistics at Level 1 through the lens of the mountains and the forest. It interweaves the strands of mathematical and statistical understanding with local iwi tikanga. It will include the new 1.1 and 1.2 internals and the 1.3 external with the opportunity for extension and challenge of 1.4 external.	Mathematics	
PADANCE1	Senior Dance Studies Level 1	The purpose of this course is to build student's skills and practical knowledge in multiple areas of the dance industry. This is inclusive of developing practical dance skills and techniques in a variety of dance genres, learning about choreography and the process of movement generation, and discovering the intersections that may sit between the subjects of dance and te ao haka. This course also explores dance film performance and site-specific performance, in particular, how these may interweave with localised pūrākau.	Dance	
SCSCI1	Science NCEA Level 1	Students who need Science at NCEA Level 1 or intend to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics at NCEA Level 2 and above must take this course. The programme will be delivered in the context of a Farming and Environmental (Kaitiakitanga) Science theme.	Science	
TDIGIT1	Digital Technology Level 1	During this course, you will develop computational thinking skills and the ability to design and develop authentic digital outcomes. You will also learn how computers represent and process data. You will develop an understanding of how data can be organised and the ethical issues surrounding its use. You will learn about digital design and the development processes used to create, test, and evaluate digital outcomes.	Digital Technology	
SSGEO2	Geography Level 2	Learn about the environment on our doorstep at Tongariro:the volcanoes, the people and the tourism. To do this we do the famous “Camp Plat” trip. We also look at Crime in Chicago, the Global issue of Endangered Species and how money & possessions affect us in Aotearoa. We learn some pretty interesting stuff.	Geography	



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MATST23	Mathematics and Statistics Level 2 and 3	<p>This course is designed to help students interpret the statistics they encounter in the world. It also looks at all aspects of Level 2/3 Probability and how to use this to predict the future. We look at experimental design, statistical analysis involving bivariate and multivariate data and appropriate report writing. It is designed to help students interpret the statistics they encounter in the world.</p> <p>You will have the potential to gain 18 Level 2 credits or 24 Level 3 credits.</p>	Mathematics	
SSTOU23	Take a Trip	<p>In this project, you will work together to plan a trip somewhere within the North Island. You will need to create an itinerary, make accommodation and transport bookings, plan activities, create a budget and fill out the safety management paperwork. The cost to do this in 2021 was \$350, so you may end up organising some fundraising activities too. Assessments are to be negotiated with the teacher.</p>	Social Science	
TEFDWH23	Feed the Whanau Level 2 and 3	<p>This course involves processing, which is taking raw materials and manipulating them to create new products. These can be items of food, cosmetics, plastics, concrete, and plywood- just to name a few. Students can develop a processed product for an authentic context that can be feasibly or actually produced. This involves using and understanding processing operations, raw materials knowledge and skills with an emphasis on making a product that is beneficial to people and the community.</p> <p>Full-year course. Level 2 and 3 (Not suitable for Yr 12 with no prior experience in technology)</p>	Technology	
EWORD3	English Level 3	<p>This course will be for students who like expressing their ideas in writing. There will be an overall theme for the year. The focus is on skills in 'making and creating meaning' through a range of written, visual and oral texts. If you choose this course you must be prepared to read and write to a high standard. The standards offered are a progression from Level 2. The standards offered will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.4 Writing Portfolio (5 pieces of writing) 3.9 Close Viewing of Visual/Oral Texts 3.7 Connections (4 texts) 3.8 Oral Text (speech) <p>Other achievement standards may be offered.</p> <p>Students need to have achieved the Level 2 writing portfolio and one other Achievement standard at Level 2 for entry.</p>	English	



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Line 3

Course Code	Course Name	What is this course about	Learning Area	Choice
MATWTA11	Tangata whenua, Te Awa o te Moana	This course covers the new NCEA Mathematics and Statistics at Level 1 through the lens of the people, our river, and the sea. It interweaves the strands of mathematical and statistical understanding with local iwi tikanga. It will include the new 1.1 and 1.2 internals and the 1.3 external with the opportunity for extension and challenge of 1.4 external.	Mathematics	
TETKAU1	Te Kaupapa Level 1	This course looks at how to make useful items from a variety of hard materials. These items can be built from new or existing repurposed objects. Students will learn how to manipulate a variety of materials in the making of an outcome. They will use a range of traditional and modern (3D printing) construction techniques during the project. Sustainability in the materials used is a key component of this course. Students will have the opportunity to achieve credits from BCiTO Unit Standards and NCEA Achievement Standards. Full-year course. NCEA Level 1.	Technology	
SSCOMM1	Commerce Level 1	Ever want to own or manage your own business? Learn the basics from economic and marketing concepts, to how a business makes money. What makes a successful business? Delve into the business plans of some of New Zealand’s groundbreaking and innovative companies like SpaceX, Knead Artisan Donuts, and Kai Tuna.	Commerce	
SSGEO1	Geography Level 1	We study tsunamis, beaches and tourism. We look at the South Island and go to Picton the following year. Geography is really relevant to our world and fun to study.	Geography	
EWOR22	English Level 2	This course focuses on building upon the skills students have learned in Level 1 English, and further develops their productive and receptive language skills to prepare them for NCEA Level 2 or 3 and tertiary education. The course aims to give students the opportunity to gain L2 University Entrance. The course will involve reading and/or viewing texts and completing written work throughout the year. A minimum of 12 credits will be offered which will be both internally and externally assessed.	English	
PAMUSS23	Sound Control Level 2 & 3	Students interested in a pathway in music performance and sound engineering should consider this course. Focus on building your skills on your instrument and learn the skills needed to operate sound systems used for concerts & other live sound or recording studio situations. The sound is at your fingertips. (Instrument experience preferable)	Music	
SSHIST23	History Level 2 and 3	We study history relevant to Whanganui, Aotearoa and the world. Our topics can include: Parihaka, the Mau Movement, the Taranaki wars, Te Keepa Rangihiwini, Māori Battalion and Kingitanga.	History	



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PEHAUO23	Hauora Level 2 and 3	This course will provide you with an opportunity to gain an understanding of Hauora and Te Whare Tapa Wha and look at ways to take action to enhance well-being.	Physical Education and Health	
TRMAI23	Te Māhuri Level 2 & 3	This is a course for those who are interested in building their knowledge of te reo Māori: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achievement & Unit Standards offered• Full Year Course• Multi Level Class	Te Reo Māori	



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Line 4

Course Code	Course Name	What is this course about	Learning Area	Choice
ENLIFE1	English Level 1	<p>This course will build awareness and appreciation of language and literature. Rangatahi will have the opportunity to explore a range of viewpoints through a unique Aotearoa lens.</p> <p>Ākonga will be working on the new NCEA Level 1 standards:</p> <p>1.1: Demonstrate understanding of how context shapes verbal language use 1.2: Produce a verbal and visual personal response to texts 1.3: Develop ideas in writing 1.4 Unfamiliar Texts</p> <p>Each standard is 5 credits for a total of 20 possible credits</p> <p>Ākonga will also develop the skills required for the required NCEA literacy unit standards and will have two opportunities during the year to attempt these standards. These standards are separate from the English standards.</p>	English	
PAMUS1	Sound Control Level 1	<p>Students interested in a pathway in music performance and sound engineering should consider this course. Focus on building your skills on your instrument and learn the skills needed to operate sound systems used for concerts & other live sound or recording studio situations. The sound is at your fingertips. (Instrument experience preferable)</p>	Music	
SCSCI1	Science NCEA Level 1	<p>Students who need Science at NCEA Level 1 or intend to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics at NCEA Level 2 and above must take this course. The programme will be delivered in the context of a Farming and Environmental (Kaitiakitanga) Science theme.</p>	Science	
TEFDWH1	Feed the Whanau Level 1	<p>This course involves Processing which is taking raw materials, and manipulating them to create new products. These can be items of food, cosmetics, plastics, concrete, and plywood just to name a few. Students are to be able to develop a processed product for an authentic context that can be feasibly or actually be produced. This involves using and understanding processing operations, raw materials knowledge and skills with an emphasis on making a product that is beneficial to people and the community.</p> <p>Full-year course. Level 1</p>	Technology	
PEPED2	Physical Education Level 2	<p>This course will provide you with the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills required to improve your own performance, or perhaps to help others develop their skills, through a range of different sporting codes.</p> <p>You will be expected to wear the correct school Physical Education uniform for all practical lessons.</p>	Physical Education and Health	
FINANCE23	Financial Literacy Levels 2 and 3	<p>Make good financial decisions in life. This course offers unit standards at Levels 2 and 3. Gain knowledge about Debt, Investing, Retirement, Saving and Managing Money</p>	Commerce	



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MACAL23	Calculus and Algebra	<p>This course involves Mathematics in Practical and Algebraic situations. It is designed to give the students the Mathematical skills and knowledge pertinent to Level 7/8 of the curriculum that could be used in daily life.</p> <p>This course also prepares students for the use of Mathematics in higher study of Science, Commerce, Mathematics, Social Science and any area that requires algebraic skills. NCEA Level 3 standards will be selected based on prior achievement.</p> <p>You will have the potential to gain 24 Level 2 credits or 27 Level 3 credits.</p>	Mathematics	
PEPED3	Physical Education Level 3	<p>This is a practically based course following on from PEPED2 and PEOED2, which will provide opportunities for students interested in a career related to Sports management, Sports Officiating, Sport Teaching/Coaching and Outdoor Education.</p> <p>This course offers around 22 credits at Level 3.</p>	Physical Education and Health	



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Line 5

Course Code	Course Name	What is this course about	Learning Area	
ENLIFE1	English Level 1	<p>This course will build awareness and appreciation of language and literature. Rangatahi will have the opportunity to explore a range of viewpoints through a unique Aotearoa lens.</p> <p>Ākonga will be working on the new NCEA Level 1 standards:</p> <p>1.1: Demonstrate understanding of how context shapes verbal language use 1.2: Produce a verbal and visual personal response to texts 1.3: Develop ideas in writing 1.4 Unfamiliar Texts</p> <p>Each standard is 5 credits for a total of 20 possible credits</p> <p>Ākonga will also develop the skills required for the required NCEA literacy unit standards and will have two opportunities during the year to attempt these standards. These standards are separate from the English standards.</p>	English	
PEOED1	Physical Education Level 1	<p>This course is a practical based course in mountain biking, rafting, tramping and risk management. Attendance is essential to your success in this class as it is aimed at personal development and teamwork within the outdoors. Students entering this course must be willing to accept the physical and mental challenges provided by the above adventure pursuits.</p> <p>This course offers 22 credits at Level 1 and involves about 14 days out of school.</p> <p>Note: Students will need basic tramping apparel to enter this class (thermal clothing, jackets and suitable footwear).</p>	Physical Education and Outdoor Education	
SS1HIST1	History Level 1	<p>We study topics relevant to Whanganui, Aotearoa and the world. Our topics can include, T.W. Ratana, Gloriavale, The Birmingham campaign, Pākaitore and the New Zealand Wars.</p>	History	
PEHAO1	Hauora Level 1	<p>This course will focus on the topics of Food and Nutrition, Mental Health, Relationships and Sexuality, in relation to the hauora of individuals, whānau, and communities. We will explore Māori knowledge bases, decision-making processes, values, and practices related to hauora and wellbeing through models of health such as Te Whare Tapa Whā.</p>	Physical Education and Health	
EWORLD2	English Level 2	<p>This course focuses on building upon the skills students have learned in Level 1 English, and further develops their productive and receptive language skills to prepare them for NCEA Level 2 or 3 and tertiary education. The course aims to allow students to gain the English criteria for university entry. The course will involve reading and/or viewing texts and completing written work throughout the year. A minimum of 12 credits will be offered which will be both internally and externally assessed.</p>	English	



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PADANCE23	Senior Dance Studies Levels 2 & 3	The purpose of this course is to build students' skills and practical knowledge in multiple areas of the dance industry. This is inclusive of developing practical dance skills and techniques in a variety of dance genres, learning about choreography and the process of movement generation, and discovering the intersections that may sit between the subjects of dance and te ao haka. This course also explores dance film performance and site-specific performance, in particular, how these may interweave with localised pūrākau.	Dance	
LSKILS23	Life Skills	People interested in exploring pathways post-school should consider this course. There are a significant number of credits available for motivated learners. This is connected with the school's Gateway placements and "tasters" of future employment.	Life Skills	
SCIPHY23	Physics Level 2 and 3	This is a combined NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 Physics course for students who are interested in pursuing a career in all forms of engineering science. Students may study waves, electricity, mechanical systems and nuclear physics at Level 2. NCEA Level 3 achievement standards will be selected based on prior achievement. Students must be numerate and ideally, have studied NCEA Level 1 Mathematics and Science.	Science	
SCIGEN23	General Science Level 2 and 3	This is a combined Level 2 and Level 3 Science course with an emphasis on Life Science and Earth and Space Science. Students will investigate the relationship between plants, animals and their environment, and the seasonal cycle.	Science	
VAART23	Visual Art Level 2 and 3	Two Achievement Standards and One External Portfolio. The two Achievement Standards are integrated. The theme is "Vanitas", a conceptual form of portrait using items of symbolism and a skull. A portion of the work may be used on the external folio. This external Folio consists of three panels and is the entire year's work. The theme is used through two terms so it has to be a robust idea. This is an endorsed subject.	Art	



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Name:.....

Whanau class:.....

Year level:.....

2025

Line 1	1st Choice	ENLIFE1	PEDPED1	VAART1	TRMAI1	TEFDI12	PEOED2	SCICHEM23	TDIGIT2	SSGEO3		
	Backup	ENLIFE1	PEDPED1	VAART1	TRMAI1	TEFDI12	PEOED2	SCICHEM23	TDIGIT23	SSGEO3		
Line 2	1st Choice	MATNTN1	PADANCE1	SCSCI1	TDIGIT1	SSGEO2	MATST23	SSTOUR23	TEFDWH2 3	EWOR3		
	Backup	MATNTN1	PADANCE1	SCSCI1	TDIGIT1	SSGEO2	MATST23	SSTOUR23	TEFDWH2 3	EWOR3		
Line 3	1st Choice	MATWAI1	TETKAU1	SSCOMM1	SSGEO1	EWOR2	PAMUSS23	SSHIST23	TRMAI23	PEHAU23		
	Backup	MATWAI1	TETKAU1	SSCOMM1	SSGEO1	EWOR2	PAMUSS23	SSHIST23	TRMAI23	PEHAU23		
Line 4	1st Choice	ENLIFE1	PAMUS1	SCSCI1	TEFDWHI1	PEPED2	FINANCE23	MACAL23	PEPED3			
	Backup	ENLIFE1	PAMUS1	SCSCI1	TEFDWHI1	PEPED2	FINANCE23	MACAL23	PEPED3			
Line 5	1st Choice	ELIFE1	PEOED1	SSHIST1	PEHAO1	EWOR2	PADANCE23	LSKILLS123	SCIGEN23	SCIPHY23		VAART23
	Backup	ELIFE1	PEOED1	SSHIST1	PEHAO1	EWOR2	PADANCE23	LSKILLS123	SCIGEN23	SCIPHY23		VAART23