academyEX

The Mind Lab | Tech Futures Lab | Earth Futures Lab

2027 International Student Prospectus

Your career's evolving. So will you.

Because you're not done yet.



Contents

Introduction

A note from the Founder 02
Who we are 03
Our Impact 04
A note from our Director of Academic Quality 05

Overview

Choose academyEX for a unique learning experience 06

Learning with The Mind Lab

About The Mind Lab 10
Master of Contemporary Education 11
Master of Change & Organisational Resilience 13

Learning with Tech Futures Lab

About Tech Futures Lab 15
Master of Technological Futures 16

Expand your learning experience

Our community 18
Our learning spaces 20
The academyEX team 22

Student support

Supporting our learners 24
International students 25

Important information

How to apply 27
Policies & governance 29
Fees & refunds 31
Contact us 32

A note from our Founder



Welcome to academyEX. Here, you're among those who are driven by a shared purpose: to understand, evolve, and shape the world around us.

– Frances Valintine CNZM
Founder

When I founded AcademyEX, I had a simple mission: to create an institution where working professionals can come together to learn, connect, create and navigate today's fast evolving world.

Since 2013 we have supported adult learners work through the tension between the excitement of progress and the potential of what is emerging with the fear of being left behind.

AcademyEX was designed for professionals who feel the pull to learning and staying relevant and informed.

AcademyEX isn't just about collecting a new qualification. It's about becoming the kind of professional who doesn't just react to change but shapes it. We exist to manage uncertainty while creating opportunity in spaces many can't see.

When you join our community, you're not just enrolling in postgraduate study. You're stepping into conversations with people who are grappling with the same questions, facing the same challenges, and hungry for the same kind of meaningful impact. You're gaining access to research that's happening in real-time, insights that emerge from the intersection of human wisdom and technological possibility.

Most importantly, you're giving yourself permission to bet on your own potential at a moment when that bet could change your future.

LinkedIn

Who we are

Welcome to the future. Welcome to academyEX.

New Zealand's only private postgraduate institute.

At AcademyEX, we believe learning should prepare you for what's next, not what has been. Our future-focused qualifications equip you with the skills, confidence and capabilities to innovate, lead change and create meaningful impact.

We bring together academic excellence, industry expertise and practical learning to help you see new possibilities for your career, your organisation and your future.

A proud history. A future-focused outlook.

Founded by education innovator Frances Valintine CNZM, our story began with The Mind Lab in 2013, followed by Tech Futures Lab in 2016 and Earth Futures Lab in 2023.

In 2027, we celebrate 10 years of delivering research-based master's education, supporting professionals to challenge conventional thinking, explore emerging opportunities and turn bold ideas into real-world impact.

Today, AcademyEX is part of aEX Education Group, bringing together education and workforce development expertise across New Zealand and Australia.

Learning designed for a changing world

Our approach to education is deliberately different.

- Practical and applied – Learn through real-world challenges, with knowledge and skills you can put into practice.
- Industry-connected – Learn from academic leaders, industry experts and innovative thinkers at the forefront of change.
- Multidisciplinary – Build capabilities in technology, leadership, innovation and systems thinking that cross traditional industry boundaries.
- Flexible and future-focused – Explore learning pathways from short courses and micro-credentials to postgraduate qualifications and master's degrees.

AcademyEX (and its faculties; The Mind Lab, Tech Futures Lab, Earth Futures Lab) is a Tertiary Education Organisation registered by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) to deliver qualifications approved by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) under the provision of the Education Act 2020.

Our Impact

Our impact goes beyond the classroom

Through aEX Education Group, we connect education with the evolving needs of industry, government and communities.

- Postgraduate education: Master's degrees, postgraduate qualifications and micro-credentials through AcademyEX in New Zealand.
- Learning across Australia: Industry-relevant education and nationally recognised qualifications through aEX Institute.
- Workforce development: Tailored learning solutions through aEX Learning Solutions, including delivery to a range of corporate and government organisations.
- Government partnerships: Working alongside public sector organisations to build workforce capability, strengthen leadership and support meaningful change.

Recognised for innovation and impact

Our commitment to challenging traditional approaches to education has earned recognition in New Zealand and internationally.

- 2024 – Innovation of the Year, Gold Winner, Newmarket Business Association
- 2023 – Innovation and Impact Award, World Summit Awards
- 2023 – Best Contribution to the NZ Tech Sector, Finalist, NZ Hi-Tech Awards
- 2020 – Outstanding Contribution to Technology & Business in New Zealand, Winner, CIO Awards
- 2018 – Education Category, Winner, NZ Hi-Tech Awards

Your future starts here.

Whether you're looking to advance your career, lead change or explore new possibilities, AcademyEX offers a different way to learn, think and grow.



The Mind Lab

Learning that develops leadership capabilities in educators, business and community leaders, so people and organisations can thrive.



Tech Futures Lab

Professional development for the edge you need to innovate, transform and disrupt the status quo in businesses or across industry.



Earth Futures Lab

Courses and qualifications to develop capabilities, innovations and actions that lead to equitable, sustainable outcomes.



In a time when the greatest certainty is change itself, lifelong learning is key. That's why at academyEX we work to reimagine lifelong learning so with us it is accessible, inspiring, fun and practical and will reignite joy in the journey of endless exploration.

Dr Hayley Sparks
Director of Academic Quality

A note from our Director of Academic Quality

At AcademyEX, education is not confined to traditional models. As the world shifts, so too must our approach to learning. We recognise that today's professionals bring rich, real-world experience—and that expertise doesn't always come with a formal qualification. That's why we create flexible, accessible learning experiences where your lived and professional knowledge is valued from the start.

Our programmes are co-designed with learners, industry experts, technologists, and community leaders who are shaping the future of Aotearoa New Zealand. We prioritise applied, real-world learning over theory-heavy instruction, giving you the tools to build relevant, future-ready capabilities. Whether you're stepping into study for the first time or returning after time away, our approach is built to fit around your life—and to elevate your personal, professional, and community impact.

Innovation is core to how we teach and how you learn. We disrupt outdated models by replacing supervisors with advisors, and by designing assessments as opportunities to apply your learning meaningfully. Our programmes span short courses, micro-credentials, and postgraduate qualifications, all grounded in equity, inclusion, and learner wellbeing.

At AcademyEX, you're not just enrolling in a programme - you're joining a community. You'll build lasting relationships, develop new confidence, and gain skills that empower you to lead and create change in a fast-evolving world.

This is learning reimagined—for people who want to make a difference.

LinkedIn

Choose academyEX for a unique learning experience

As Aotearoa New Zealand's only private postgraduate institute, we have developed a unique and innovative teaching and learning approach that challenges the status quo of education.

Rest assured, we are NZQA accredited and all our postgraduate programmes meet the strict criteria set down by New Zealand's qualification authority. Credits earned with us may be cross credited to other New Zealand and international educational institutions (at their discretion).



Our teaching and learning approach takes lead from kaupapa Māori values – values of the indigenous population of Aotearoa, New Zealand – grounded in ako (collaboration), manaaki (support), pono (honesty), and rangatiratanga (the right to self- determination or agency).

We don't 'teach', we facilitate. Our approach to learning is reciprocal – we encourage and foster knowledge exchange, robust conversation and strong positive relationships. You, the student, are the heart of all that we do.

This philosophy is realised in our strategy 'Te Ara Kōtihi' – the pathway to success. Although we recognise the importance of a shared purpose in today's changing world we also appreciate how diversity and varied perspectives can create unity.
We welcome your voice.

Our mātāpono / our values

Positive relationships between people and places are at the centre of our philosophy and values for both teaching and learning. Our mātāpono (values) guide staff, students, facilitators, practitioners and researchers to ensure we have our communities and colleagues at the heart of professional practice, study or research.



What this means for our learners

Guided by our Te Ara Kōtihi principles, we provide space and authentic opportunities for you to bring your whole self, your values and your purpose.

Assessments are real world applied projects, contextual to your role, your industry or your passion project. Projects can be delivered in a variety of ways – written, oral or mixed media, in English, te reo Māori or NZ Sign Language.

Collaboration is made easier with opportunities in and outside of programme learning through a range of student support initiatives. Most of our cohorts are also mixed, with domestic and international learners engaging together - offering truley global perspectives.

We respect diversity and create inclusive learning environments that are culturally responsive and sustainable. Our teaching facilitators actively engage in practice-relevant research to ensure what you learn is evidence based and research-informed.



Te Ara Kōtihi / the pathway to success

Koru / new life and growth

Our learners – the centre of everything we do, as well as human potential, growth, relationships and conversations, all of which are unique to our organisation.

Niho taniwha / teeth of the taniwha

Our organisation – our teams, staff, teachers, structures, processes and delivery, which all exist to support our learners.

Kōtihi / summit

Our success – what we are striving for, which is all of us working as a collective, combining our skills and knowledge, to create value and better outcomes for all our learners.

Meet our Industry and Academic Advisors

At academyEX, learning extends beyond the classroom. Our Industry and Academic Advisors are experienced professionals, researchers and thought leaders who bring diverse perspectives, specialist knowledge and real-world expertise to support students throughout their research journeys.

Our advisors play an important role in helping students shape, develop and refine their research projects. They offer guidance and constructive feedback, challenge assumptions, introduce new ways of thinking and help students connect academic research with practical applications in industry and society.

Drawing on their experience across a wide range of sectors and disciplines, our advisors support students to explore complex challenges, identify opportunities for innovation and develop research that is both academically rigorous and relevant to the real world.

Our advisors help students to:

- Shape their research direction – Refine research questions, explore emerging ideas and identify meaningful opportunities for investigation.
- Challenge and strengthen their thinking – Bring fresh perspectives, critical insights and constructive feedback to deepen their analysis.
- Connect theory with practice – Draw on industry experience and academic expertise to ensure research is grounded in real-world challenges and opportunities.
- Navigate the research journey – Provide guidance as students explore complex issues, evaluate evidence and develop practical recommendations.
- Create meaningful impact – Support students to translate their research findings into actionable insights, innovative solutions and opportunities for change.

Through these relationships, students benefit from personalised guidance and access to a diverse community of experts who are passionate about developing the next generation of innovators, leaders and changemakers. Th.ese are some of our Advisors - you can meet more of them on our website.



Dr Allanah Johnston
Industry/Academic Advisor
Master of Change and Organisational Resilience



Felix Schulz
Industry Advisor
Master of Technological Futures



Dr Teah Carlson
Industry/Academic Advisor
Master of Change and Organisational Resilience



Paula Gair
Industry Advisor
Master of Technological Futures

Click together to build a Master's

With academyEX you can create your own pathway into a master's degree using our micro-credentials and postgraduate certificate programmes. It's a flexible way to tailor your knowledge and skills in specialised areas and still gain a master's degree that recognises your capability and expertise. The way in which you stack courses needs to be carefully planned to ensure that you will complete with a coherent qualification and meet all graduate outcomes. Reach out to us at hello@academyex.com and we can discuss a personalised plan.



Micro - credential

Duration: Range between 7 and 15 weeks

Format: Part-time / weekly facilitated online sessions / self-directed learning

Cost: NZ $360-$675 (incl.GST) for domestic students

Result: Level 7 or 8 NZQA micro-credential (15 credits)

If you haven't studied for a while (or ever), a micro-credential is a fantastic way to dip your toes back into learning. Our micro-credentials will set you up with practical applied skills and a project output to use as evidence of your learning. They're accredited by NZQA and can stack towards a Master if you want to take things further.



Postgraduate certificate

Duration: Range between 20 and 32 weeks

Format: Weekly facilitated online sessions / in-person full day block sessions over the programme / distance learning available

Cost: Check the programme information in this prospectus for costs

Result: Level 8 NZQA postgraduate certificate (60 credits)

Whether you're looking to boost your career prospects, dive deeper into a subject you're passionate about, or simply expand your knowledge and skills, a postgraduate certificate can help you achieve your goals. It can also stack towards a Master's.



Master's degree

Duration: Range between 14 and 18 months

Format: Weekly facilitated online sessions / in-person full day block sessions over the programme / distance learning available

Cost: Check the programme information in this prospectus for costs

Result: Level 9 NZQA Master's degree (180 credits)

Entry Requirements

Master's degree

To be admitted to a master's degree you need to have:

- A recognised bachelor's degree AND at least 2 years relevant professional experience

  OR

- A professional qualification in a relevant discipline OR at least 5 years relevant professional experience, recognised as being equivalent to merit achievement in a bachelor degree or equivalent.

Find out how to demonstrate equivalent professional experience under How to apply.

Getting to know you and your goals:

For admission into this master's programme you will have an interview with one of the programme team. It's a chance for you to ask any questions and ensure that this master's programme is the right fit for you.

English Language Proficiency Requirements

International learners must the entry requirements stated above AND provide evidence of English Language Proficiency as follows

- Evidence of an academic qualification at level 7 or above, completed in a country where English is the main language; or IELTS academic band score of 6.5 (overall), with no individual band less than 6.0 or equivalent (for example, PTE overall score of 58 and no band less than 50). Our regulations follow NZQA English Langague Requirements.



The Mind Lab

At The Mind Lab, we provide learning that develops leadership capabilities in educators, business and community leaders, so people and organisations can thrive.

The Mind Lab has been supporting educators and leaders for over 10 years to remain at the forefront of their practice.

Our teacher programmes help educators around Aotearoa, New Zealand and abroad to create collaborative, equitable teaching and learning practices that ignite digital change and transformation within communities.

We recognise many passionate and dedicated teachers have incredible ideas that are waiting for the opportunity to become reality. Using our postgraduate teacher programmes as their platform, new classroom practices, whole school pedagogies and entire community projects have been made possible by graduates of The Mind Lab.

Our leadership programmes support people to lead change, whether that's from the front, or from within. Transformational leadership is two-fold, first to recognise one's own leadership capabilities and then to foster leadership capabilities within others. Our approach to leadership is underpinned by the simple practice of 'for good'. By building an holistic mindset that encourages collaboration and inclusivity, graduates of The Mind Lab leadership programmes have made positive impacts on their organisations and communities, and grown as capable future-fit leaders in themselves.

At The Mind Lab, we've always believed that times of massive transformation offer the opportunity to be a leader of change for good. As a faculty of academyEX, we continue to shape today's leaders into leaders for tomorrow.

The Master of Contemporary Education and Master of Change and Organisational Resilience are delivered through The Mind Lab faculty.

For flourishing communities and organisations tomorrow, we need the ability to create resilient, dynamic and diverse environments today.

Dates

19th April 2027

—

Duration

15 months, full time

—

Study mode

In-person workshops
+ self-directed learning

—

Location

AcademyEX HQ,
99 Khyber Pass Rd, Grafton
Auckland.

—

Fees

Onshore NZD$46,995 *
(incl. GST)
*See pg. 26 for more details

MCE

Master of Contemporary Education

NZQA Accredited, Level 9, 180 credits

A practice-based masters focused on real change in your education community.

A practice-based masters programme for education leaders – research and theory based learning culminating in the development and execution of a Change Project. You will be able to lead educational innovation and opportunities created through digital technologies and future-focused practices to advance education. This programme provides an opportunity for international educators to develop their professional practice and leadership knowledge and capabilities.

What you'll walk away with

- Skills to critically engage in a substantial and authentic way with students, whānau, communities and other key stakeholders invested in educational change.
- An ability to critique past, existing, and emerging practices and determine your own cultural and social impact in the wider education context.
- Tools to critically analyse existing and emerging opportunities in contemporary education, and generate strategies to advance your own and the wider teaching practice.
- Capability to develop and adapt specialised knowledge in emerging and disruptive technologies, and support digital fluency in your practice.
- Knowledge to lead and develop collaborative learner-focused 'solutions in practice' in the context of emerging challenges and opportunities in contemporary education.

Topics covered

- Leadership in Practice.
- Collaboration in Practice.
- Contemporary Teaching.
- Digital Fluency.
- Practice based change research – including the development of a plan and implementation of a project.

Learn more / apply here for MCE

Masters Programme Structure	Part 1: Digital and Collaborative Learning	**DCLC8001** **DCLC8002**	Digital and Collaborative Transformation in Learning and Leadership Leading Research Informed Innovation in Practice	Level 8 Level 8	30 Credits 30 Credits
	Part 2: Contemporary Teaching	**MLED8201** **MLED8205**	Contemporary Teaching Applied Research Methods, Ethics and Project Plan	Level 8 Level 8	15 Credits 15 Credits
	Part 3: Practice-based Change Project	**MLED9290**	Practice-based Change Project	Level 9	90 Credits

*Tuition fees are invoiced prior to the intake starting and must be paid in full as part of the enrolment and visa process.

Programme structure

There are three parts to this master's degree.

Part 1: Digital and Collaborative Learning (60 credits, Level 8)

The first part of the programme is the two courses of the Postgraduate Certificate in Digital and Collaborative Learning (PGC-DCL).

Part 2: Contemporary Teaching & Project Plan (30 credits, Level 8)

If you have completed the PGC-DCL, you will join the MCE programme here.

Part 2 is made up of two 15 credit courses to build on learning and competencies acquired in Part 1. A compulsory Contemporary Teaching course is complemented by an Applied Research Methods, Ethics and Project Plan course to enable you to apply your learning and develop a Project Plan for implementation in Part 3.

Part 3: Practice-based Change Project (90 credits, Level 9)

The Practice-based Change Project is a capstone course that builds on the outcomes of Parts 1 and 2. Students complete a 90 credit project to demonstrate their capability in leadership and collaboration towards positive change through implementation of their project.

Attendance expectations

Attendance is an important component of student success and 100% attendance is required for International Students.

Please note, the Master of Contemporary Education programme is not an initial teacher education programme and does not lead to registration as a teacher in New Zealand.

For more information about this intake, please contact international@academyex.com.

Key Enrolment Dates

Scholarship Close Date	20 December 2026
Applications Close	19 January 2027
Study Start & End Date	19 April 2027 30 July 2028

Dates

Intakes in February, June and October 2027

Duration

Complete in 14 or 18 months

Study mode

2 hour weekly online sessions plus full day in-person workshops every 6 weeks + self-directed learning

Location

academyEX HQ,
99 Khyber Pass Rd, Grafton Auckland.

Fee

Onshore NZD$46,995 *
(incl. GST)
*See pg. 26 for more details

MCOR

Master of Change & Organisational Resilience

NZQA Accredited, Level 9, 180 Credits

Build organisational resilience that not only withstands disruptions, but grows because of them.

Leading change for resilience requires a mindset shift to one that is adaptable, flexible and poised for the opportunities of change. In this programme, you'll develop skills that foster collaborative working relationships, which support adaptability. You will also apply future-focused resilience frameworks to real problems in your professional environment, while considering the impact on people, place and planet.

What you'll walk away with

- Skills to analyse critical social, cultural, economic, environmental and technological drivers of change that impact organisations.
- Ability to evaluate Indigenous and contemporary practices that can support effective and authentic initiatives to build organisational resilience in the context of change.
- Reflections on personal and collective capability to lead sustainable change in practice.
- Ability to apply culturally intelligent practice founded on principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi to develop equitable and inclusive outcomes of change initiatives.
- Tools to develop culturally, methodologically and ethically sound organisational change initiatives to advance authentic leadership and management practice.
- Ability to apply relevant knowledge, skills and capabilities to develop change initiatives focused on organisational resilience in the context of local and global disruption.

AND for 90 credits at Level 9;

- Ability to develop and apply new knowledge contributing to professional understandings of the complexity of leading transformational change in organisations.

Topics covered

- Technology and ethics, including the role of AI.
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi and culturally intelligent practice.
- Change leadership and management.
- Reflective practice.
- Leadership models .
- Research methods and stakeholder engagement.

Learn more / apply here for MCOR

Masters Programme Structure	Part 1: Discovery	**MCOR8101**	Technology, Ethics and Change	Level 8	15 Credits
		MCOR8102	Organisational Complexity, Change and Resilience	Level 8	15 Credits
		MCOR8103	People and Capability Through Organisational Change	Level 8	15 Credits
		MCOR8104	Leadership, Culture and Change	Level 8	15 Credits
	Part 2: Project Planning	**MCOR8205**	**Applied Research Methods, Stakeholder Engagement, and Ethics**	Level 8	15 Credits
		MCOR8206	**Practice-based Change Research Proposal**	Level 8	15 Credits
	Part 3: Project Implementation	**MCOR9345**	Practice-based Change Strategy	Level 9	45 Credits
		MCOR9390	Practice-based Change Research Project	Level 9	90 Credits

*Tuition fees are invoiced prior to the intake starting and must be paid in full as part of the enrolment and visa process.

Programme structure

This 180-credit MCOR programme is structured into three parts, and there are a number of pathways that can be taken to complete the programme.

Part 1: Discovery

Over 20 weeks, deep dive into learning with industry experts on a range of topics including technology, ethics, leadership, organisational complexity and culture within the context of change and resilience. Apply your learning to your practice and begin to reflect on and develop project ideas

Part 2: Project Planning

Over 12 weeks, be guided to apply learning about research methods, stakeholder engagement, evidence and ethics to produce a proposal for a project that you will implement in Part 3. Work with an Industry/Academic Advisor to advance professional capability and have impact in your industry or community.

P**art 3: Project Implementation**

Implement your project and develop valuable outputs over 20 or 40 weeks. Choose to complete a 90 credit project, or complement a 45 credit project with micro-credentials or elective courses to further advance your knowledge and capability

Programme Delivery

Study mode:
Classes: 2 hours online live facilitated sessions weekly, plus 1 full day workshop every 6 weeks.

Location: In-person sessions take place at academyEX HQ, 99 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton, Auckland.

Orientation: 2 x full day in-person session at academyEX in Grafton at the start of Part 1. These two days must be attended in person. It is a fantastic way to connect and dedicate time to building those important relationships with your cohort and the teaching team who will support you through your master's journey.

Key dates

Intake	Study Mode	International Scholarship Application Close Date (4 months before start date)	Study Application Close Date (3 months before start date)	Study Start Date	Study End Date
February 2027	14 months 18 months	28 October 2026	27 November 2026	25 February 2027	12 April 2028 30 August 2028
June 2027	14 months 18 months	17 February 2027	19 March 2027	17 June 2027	2 August 2028 20 December 2028
October 2027	14 months 18 months	23 June 2027	23 July 2027	21 October 2027	6 December 2028 16 May 2029



Tech Futures Lab

Professional development for the edge you need to innovate, transform and disrupt the status quo in businesses or across industry

Since 2016, we've supported executives, entrepreneurs, creative thinkers and community leaders to create future- fit solutions that leverage our collective technological future. Embracing digital transformation is critical if we want to not only be part of the conversation, but lead it and influence the direction that emerging disruptive technologies, like AI, big data, blockchain and human-centred design, can steer our world toward.

Our technology programmes are strategic capability builders, ideal for anyone who wants to gain in-depth contemporary insights, develop a deeper understanding of the levers of change and become a confident navigator in a world that's constantly evolving.

Busy professionals need practical skills, knowledge and a launch pad to lift ideas into reality. That's why learners on our programmes walk away with strategic, actionable, business-context projects they can take back into their organisation to enact change.

Likewise, budding entrepreneurs and changemakers have used our disruptive technology qualifications to found new businesses, using contemporary models, like the sharing or circular economy. Graduates of Tech Futures Lab are pioneers and innovators who have gone on to create enterprises that completely change the way business operates, contributes and engages with society.
At Tech Futures Lab we help people build skills, knowledge and networks that create opportunities for new; whether that's a new career, a new business or new
thinking that adds to collective knowledge needed to make the most of this digital age.

The Master of Technological Futures is delivered through Tech Futures Lab faculty.

For professionals to stay relevant, informed and capable of navigating the changing world of work, continuous learning is essential.

Dates

Intakes in February,
June and October 2027

—

Duration

Complete in 14 or 18 months.

—

Study mode

3 hour weekly online sessions plus full day in-person workshops every 6 weeks + self-directed learning

—

Location

academyEX HQ,
99 Khyber Pass Rd, Grafton Auckland.

—

Fee

Onshore NZD$46,995 *
(incl. GST)
*See pg. 26 for more details

MTF

Master of Technological Futures

NZQA Accredited, Level 9, 180 credits

Become a changemaker and innovate for the better.

Designed in close consultation with industry experts, a flexible programme to develop your capability to innovate for impact using emerging technologies or contemporary business models, applied to a self-defined project or research topic.

What you'll walk away with

- Ability to lead organisational change in the context of emerging and disruptive technologies.
- Skills to recognise, access and critically engage in available scholarship and advanced specialised knowledge to remain professionally current.
- Ability to engage in self-reflection and recognise the potential to influence applied professional practice, through enhanced professional understanding underpinned by a kaupapa Māori philosophy with authentic engagement with the appropriate communities.
- Working in the context of practice, improve communication across disciplines and cultures within changing environments.
- Tools to apply professionally relevant knowledge and, using evidence, innovate within practice.
- Skills to analyse, understand and propose potential solutions to complex professional challenges.
- Ability to anticipate communication challenges in context of practice and determine effective communication methods to disseminate to target audiences.
- Ability to plan, execute and complete novel applied practice research that informs and impacts practice, contributing to profession-relevant knowledge.
- Graduates completing a supervised Level 9 Research Project of 90 credits and above will also be able to demonstrate a high order of skill in the planning, execution and completion of a piece of original research or other scholarly work to an internationally recognised standard.

Topics covered

- Emerging and disruptive technologies.
- Contemporary business practices, including design sprints, agile and systems led strategies.
- Kaupapa Māori and indigenous leadership.
- Critical thinking, engaging with evidence.
- Research process, including methodologies and ethics.

Masters Programme Structure	Part 1: Immersion Phase	**MTFC8001** **MTFC8002** **MTFC8003** **MTFC8004**	Emerging and Disruptive Technologies Disrupted systems, industries, practices and communities Technology and Ethics Technology and Practice Context	Level 8 Level 8 Level 8 Level 8	15 Credits 15 Credits 15 Credits 15 Credits
	Part 2: Planning Phase	**MTFC8205** **MTFC8206**	Applied Research Methods, Stakeholder Engagement and Ethics Practice-Based Change Research Proposal	Level 8 Level 8	15 Credits 15 Credits
	Part 3: Project Phase	**MTFC9890** **MTFC9845**	Technological Futures Project OR Technological Futures Project (level 9) + approved Micro-credentials or Project course (level 8)	Level 9 Level 9 + 8	90 Credits 2 x 45 Credits

*Tuition fees are invoiced prior to the intake starting and must be paid in full as part of the enrolment and visa process.

Programme structure

At the highest level, the masters is broken into three parts, the Immersion Phase, the Planning Phase and the Project Phase.

The Immersion Phase is an intensive dive into the world of exponential technologies defining the future of work and business. The Planning Phase is focused on designing and developing a project proposal for implementation in The Project Phase.

During the Immersion Phase, students are enrolled in four courses, two in each 10 week block). In the Planning Phase, students are enrolled in two compulsory courses simultaneously, before selecting a pathway (of 45 or 90 credits at Level 9) through the Project Phase. Students are supported to select the most appropriate pathway for their project during the development of their plan and negotiation of a Learning Agreement.

Programme delivery

Duration: Complete in 14 or 18 months.
Weekly commitment: 30 hours full-time including contact sessions (both online and in-person), assessments, self-study, tutorials, workshops and application in practice.

Study mode:
Classes: 3 hours online live facilitated sessions weekly, plus 1 full day workshop every 6 weeks.

Location: In-person sessions take place at academyEX HQ, 99 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton, Auckland.

Orientation: 2 x full day in-person session at academyEX in Grafton at the start of Part 1. These two days must be attended in person. It is a fantastic way to connect and dedicate time to building those important relationships with your cohort and the teaching team who will support you through your master's journey.

Learn more / apply here for MTF

Key Enrolment Dates

Intake	Study Mode	International Scholarship Application Close Date (4 months before start date)	Study Application Close Date (3 months before start date)	Study Start Date	Study End Date
February 2027	14 months 18 months	28 October 2026	27 November 2026	25 February 2027	12 April 2028 30 August 2028
June 2027	14 months 18 months	17 February 2027	19 March 2027	17 June 2027	2 August 2028 20 December 2028
October 2027	14 months 18 months	23 June 2027	23 July 2027	21 October 2027	6 December 2028 16 May 2029



Our community

academyEX is about creating opportunities for exponential impact – for you and the people and places that matter to you. We focus on community to create space and environments for you to connect,collaborate and extend your knowledge, and your network.



Converge

There's not many places you can come for robust, critical yet respectful discussion; about emerging technologies, making change from within, the ethics of big data or new pedagogical approaches to education.
But you can at Converge, our community meetup. It's a regular online meetup where learners across any of our postgraduate programmes, across any of our three faculties, can come together to share, ideate, collaborate and test the boundaries of what innovation could be. As a learner or alumni, you can bring along a project – no matter what stage it's at – and share with the Converge community. You can feel confident you'll get considered feedback, new perspectives, suggested contacts and even keen collaborators.

Converge runs every Tuesday, 12:30–1:30pm NZT on Zoom, free, hosted by academyEX and is open to students, alumni, staff and industry professionals. We also host an annual Converge Symposium where students can present their research and engage in workshops.

Alumni

When you learn with academyEX you join an alumni network of changemakers, entrepreneurs, social innovators, and just good people doing incredible things both here and abroad. Connecting with academyEX alumni means you'll grow a network of people who share similar visions to make positive change and aren't afraid to experiment, test and learn and look at things with a systems-lens perspective.

To encourage more moments where alumni can connect, we hold regular events like Converge and provide alumni discounted rates to our paid events. Plus we're always formulating new forums that can help alumni members make the impact they're dedicated to making.



Our learning experience

At academyEX, our vibrant learner community lies at the core of everything we do. With diverse experiences, skills, and backgrounds, our members fuel the conversations that define and shape our open and supportive culture, focused on professional development. We actively encourage our learners to immerse themselves in the array of learning experiences available. These opportunities extend beyond enrolled programmes, providing a platform to connect with a like-minded community, enhance skills, broaden knowledge, and truly enrich your learning experience with us.

academyEX HQ

Our headquarters are in Auckland, New Zealand at 99 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton, 1023. We refer to it as 'the Lab'. This is where we run all in-person sessions and any in person events. Nothing like a university lecture hall, it's a creative environment that's conducive to learning and collaboration. As a student you're welcome anytime to come and use the Lab as your remote working spot. On the fringe of the city centre, the Lab is easy to reach via public transport and there's plenty of parking options around too.

Online learning spaces

Learning with academyEX means learning from wherever you are. With easy to use digital collaboration tools, you'll stay connected with both your cohort and your programme team. To support our promise to learn from wherever you are, you'll be set up with access to digital tools and spaces that work on all devices so you can jump in to learn when it suits you or join your online sessions from the office, the beach or the kitchen table.

Learning Management System
The academyEX Learning Management System (LMS) is your online hub for all learning with academyEX. Here, you can log in to easily access all your course content and study resources, comment or share your thoughts on the content, ask questions of your cohort as well as upload your assessments and check your grades. It's your one-stop-shop for everything you need throughout your journey.

Slack
We use Slack as our messaging and sharing platform – it's a quick and easy way for all students to communicate, discuss, question and critique over the course of a programme. Through Slack you can engage with your fellow students, either one to one or with the entire cohort, as well as the Academic Programme Team and Support Teams. Slack is easy to set up and can be used in a browser, as a desktop app, or on your phone or tablet.

Zoom
We use the Zoom platform to deliver live online sessions, which are an integral part of your learning experience and engagement with your chosen programme of study. If you haven't used Zoom or need some help setting it up, we'll provide a 'how-to' at least two weeks before you begin your programme with us, so you're up and running and ready to join from day one.

Turnitin
To ensure and maintain academic integrity, academyEX uses Turnitin. All written submissions must be uploaded to Turnitin to generate a Similarity Report. Turnitin is used as a tool to support students in gaining insights into their academic writing and citation practice as well as a way for markers to provide feedback on written assessments. Please refer to the academyEX Code of Conduct for more information about academic integrity.

Events and extras
Our regular events, either online or in person, provide extra opportunities to explore new ideas, expand your skills and network and keep your energy up on whatever it is you're working towards.

Check out our upcoming events here.

Things you'll need to learn with us

To access online materials, class sessions and communication tools to stay in touch need access to a laptop, a mobile/handheld device and a reliable connection to the internet. To participate in the live online class sessions your device will need a camera and microphone. If you're using a device provided by your workplace, you may need administration rights to that device to install apps like Zoom and Slack.

Competency based assessment

Learners are assessed through competency-based summative assessments. Competency-based assessment encourages self-assessment, collaboration, and the practical application of skills. Credits are awarded against the successful completion of summative assessments.

Final outcomes against all assessments, and therefore courses, that candidates can receive are a 'Not Yet Competent' or a 'Competent' grade.

To get a 'Competent' grade for a course overall, students must satisfy all assessment criteria related to the Learning Outcomes of the courses. Candidates may receive an interim outcome of 'Pass with Requirements' or 'Requirements Needed' against an assessment which means that there are further requirements to fulfill in order to pass the assessment. Candidates will be provided with the opportunity to resubmit within the stated time frame to continue. Candidates who receive a 'Not Yet Competent' outcome are given the opportunity to resubmit. All assessment outcomes are determined by an Assessment and Moderation Panel.

Special assessment circumstances

If an unforeseen circumstance impairs a learner's ability to submit an assessment on time, they are able to apply for a Special Assessment Circumstance (SAC) through the Learning Management System. Learners have five working days from the assessment due date to apply and provide relevant supporting evidence where relevant.

Te Reo Māori and New Zealand Sign Language

All students are offered the opportunity to submit any assessment in the official languages of New Zealand: New Zealand English, te reo Māori, and New Zealand Sign Language. All students are asked to indicate to the Programme Coordinator when starting the Programme (via the Programme email or Slack) if they intend to submit assessments in te reo Māori or New Zealand Sign Language. This is to enable us to ensure your assessment can be marked and feedback provided by someone fluent in the language and an expert in the subject matter.

The academyEX Team

When you learn with academyEX you connect into a network of approachable, humble and supportive educators who look at the world with open minds and share enthusiasm to innovate for positive change.

A key advantage of our small size is that you will never just be a number. We know each and every one of our students and take great care to support them through their learning journey.



Frances Valintine
Founder



Dr Hayley Sparks
Director of Academic Quality



Dr Debi Futter-Puati
Director of Teaching and Learning



Chris Stevens
General Manager

Fuatino Peilua
Academic Registrar



Melenaite Tohi
Postgraduate Director



Tayla Ammunson
Pou Āwhina Student SupportManager



Dr Dave Parsons
Research Director





Claudio Aguayo
Programme Lead
Master of Technological Futures



Dr Herbert Thomas
Programme Lead
Master of Contemporary Education



Hancine Samvelyan
Programme Lead
Master of Change and Organisational Resilience



Huw Jones
Kaihautū Moana Māori

Supporting Our Learners to Succeed

At academyEX we want you to succeed.

We're committed to creating inclusive learning environments and we work alongside all our students to support them through their studies. This support includes educational and learning support, as well as different types of non-educational support.

Our teams work closely with each other so you will always have a friendly point of contact to help you navigate your learning journey. To access our Student Support and Wellbeing services simply call (+64 9) 964 4444 or email us at support@academyex.com

Your Health & Wellbeing

Learners at AcademyEX have access to a range of health and wellbeing services via Whakarongorau Aotearoa who run digital telehealth services, offering health, mental health and addictions support across digital channels. Referrals to other agencies are available for more personal/one-on-one advice and support. If you ever feel there are circumstances or impairments that impact on your learning, we encourage you to speak to your Programme Lead or the Academic Registrar.

AcademyEX has also partnered with Puawaitanga to provide external counselling support for learners where required. This support can be accessed by connecting with our Pou Āwhina Student Support Manager for referral.

Disability Services

AcademyEX is committed to providing a range of resources and strategies to help students who have provided information and verification of impairment. If this is relevant to you, the potential services available may include assistance with note-taking, assistance with academic study due to learning impairments such as dyslexia, sign language interpretation, and so on. The Programme Coordinator will reach out to students privately to see if they wish to discuss any impairment-related support with the Programme Lead. Students are also encouraged to reach out to the Programme teams so that they can be effectively supported throughout the Programme.

Learning as an International Student with academyEX

At academyEX we are accredited* to welcome international learners, whether based in Aotearoa New Zealand or connecting in from abroad.

*academyEX is a signatory to the New Zealand Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021

International students living in New Zealand

If you're an International Student who intends to learn with academyEX while in New Zealand, you'll enjoy the opportunity to learn alongside people from a range of diverse backgrounds and cultures. Our teaching and learning approach focuses on the learner and we encourage all learners to bring their whole selves to their learning experience.

There is important information you need to know as an international student living in New Zealand. One important requirement is an appropriate visa that allows you to study with a New Zealand education provider.

That can be either a Student Visa or other relevant visa with conditions that allow you to study. We can help you connect with the right authorities at Immigration New Zealand so you can make these arrangements.

For students studying in New Zealand and with aspirations to apply for a Post Study Work visa after completing their programme, we have a range of sessions and workshops to attend alongside self-directed study whilst students are on site for 20 hours per week.

academyEX and kaupapa Māori

When you learn with AcademyEX,you experience an organisation that has its roots firmly planted in Aotearoa New Zealand but looks out towards the world. As a young nation that is actively working to recognise Tiriti O Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi) through our education system, at academy EX we consciously create learning environments that are culturally responsive and inclusive, not just of Māori and Pacific learners but all cultures from around the world.

Kaupapa Māori means ‘the Māori way’ and defines the approach, customs, principles and ideals of the indigenous Māori culture we use to guide our way at academyEX.

We aim to incorporate the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values of Māori society in our teaching and learning in order to support Māori learners to succeed but also celebrate and increase the awareness of these unique aspects of our indigenous culture. Sharing that knowledge with learners from other nations can develop new understanding and ignite positive change within other communities.

Scholarships

International Student Academic Excellence Scholarship (25% tuition fees) awarded to those demonstrating academic excellence.

International Scholarship applications close 4 months before the start date of an intake. Complete scholarship applications will only be considered for review by the panel once an offer of place in the programme has been confirmed and accepted.

Early Bird Offer

Early Bird offer is available for International Student Applications.

- Early Bird (15%): applied to applications where a signed offer letter has been received 4 months before the start date of an intake

Please see key dates below.

Early Bird Offer will not be applied if a scholarship is awarded.

International Student Fees

Master’s degrees in 2027	NZD$46,995 (incl. GST) **Including:** Application Fee: $500 - payable as part of full fees. Non-refundable Materials Fee: $2,000 - payable as part of the full fees.

Note: When studying in New Zealand, a 15% Goods and Services (GST) Fee applies. This is included in the fees for studying in New Zealand above.

Key Dates: Early Bird and Scholarship

Intake	Close Date
MTF/MCOR Feb 2027	28 October 2026
MCE April 2027	20 December 2026
MTF/MCOR June 2027	17 February 2027
MTF/MCOR Oct 2027	23 June 2027

How to Apply

If you've chosen a programme you want to study, you can apply for it through our website. Just click the 'Apply here' button for the programme you want in this prospectus (top right) and it will link you to that webpage. Once there, you can select 'Apply Now' to begin your application.

Applying for a programme with us is easy. There are three key steps you need to take:

1. Complete an application through our online portal Simply visit the course page you want to apply for and use the 'Apply here' in the top right of the page.

You will need to have following documentation handy:

- Academic qualification transcripts.
- Relevant work experience. See below for more information about what qualifies as relevant work experience.

For domestic students: all the above plus;

A copy of your passport or birth certificate or a New Zealand citizenship certificate.

For international students: all the above plus;

- A copy of your passport.
- Proof of your English language proficiency.
- Your current Visa status if you're intending to study in New Zealand.
- Your completed Statement of Intent

2. For master's applications and all international students, you will also have a one to one interview with us – so you can meet us but also to talk about what you're looking for and ensure academyEX is the right fit for you. We can do this in person or virtually if you're not currently in Auckland.

3. Pay your programme fees in full with academyEX. If you've applied for a scholarship during your enrolment application, we'll send an invoice for the remaining balance once the outcome of your scholarship application is finalised.

What qualifies as relevant work experience?

Relevant professional industry experience can include paid or voluntary roles within organisations where formal or informal leadership can be evidenced (for example, management and team leadership roles, elections to Boards, project leadership).

Evidence that can be provided includes: professional and or community awards; references; published (or shared) outputs; invitations to represent professions and communities at conferences, by media. You will need to upload this evidence as part of your application or discuss it during the interview process.

Specific information for International Students

If you are accepted onto a programme with us, you'll need to complete an application for a Student Visa with Immigration New Zealand or check whether you need to apply for a variation of conditions on your current visa to allow you to study. You can use their handy website tool for specific details about your nationality and current situation.

You will also need to provide evidence of your fee payment to Immigration New Zealand as part of completing your Visa application.

What happens then?

Once your application has been received, and the necessary checks done, academyEX will:

- Officially offer you a place on the programme applied for; **or**
- If your application is declined we'll provide the reasons why and an opportunity to discuss this if you wish.

Following your official acceptance of the offer of a place on the programme, and providing the required documentation is in order and fee payment arrangements are in place, you will then be enrolled as a student.

Enrolment Terms and Conditions

On application, all students must agree to the academyEX Student Terms and Conditions before their enrolment into a programme can be processed. These Terms and Conditions outline all refund entitlements.

The fee for the programme is due seven days prior to the advertised start date of the programme.

Selection criteria

When the number of eligible applicants for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following selection criteria will be applied:

- Assessed level of personal motivation to complete the qualification;
- Coherence in the expression of ideas and opinions;
- Practice aptitude;
- Academic aptitude;
- Level of awareness of the discipline(s);
- Quality of independent references.

These criteria are not ranked in any order. Applicants who meet the greatest number of criteria will be the preferred applicants.

Selection will be made by a person or persons with the delegated authority to offer places to applicants.

They will select students on the basis of written information supplied on the enrolment form. At their discretion, an interview (in-person or electronic) may be required.

Conditional enrolment

There may be instances where an enrolment cannot be completed immediately and, on these occasions, a conditional offer may be granted. The offer will outline a set of conditions that must be fulfilled before an enrolment can become unconditional. Applicants will not be invoiced until they are unconditionally enrolled.

Variations of enrolment

If students encounter circumstances or challenges which are impacting their ability to continue with a programme or course, they should contact the Programme Lead in the first instance to discuss what options for support are available. It may be possible to suspend enrolment for a period of time, or for students to withdraw from a course and re-enrol at a later date. Terms and conditions for variations to enrolment are outlined during the enrolment process.

Withdrawals and refunds

If you are already enrolled in the programme and decide to withdraw, you have different refund entitlements depending on when you withdraw. The withdrawal scenarios include information as well as the implications on fees, scholarships and grades, relative to when a student chooses to withdraw.



Policies & Governance

Below are some key policies and procedures relevant to all programmes of study at academyEX.

For further information, please see our Admission, Enrolment, Exclusion and Withdrawal Policy and Procedures.

Privacy Policy and Code of Conduct

academyEX Privacy Policy provides details of how student and staff privacy will be maintained.

academyEX Tikanga (Code of Conduct) is our code of conduct for all staff and students of academyEX and underpins how we all approach our shared, collective purpose of creating impactful futures.

academyEX Student Complaints Appeals Policy and Procedures

academyEX takes all student concerns seriously and should any misconduct be identified, the processes outlined in the Student Complaints and Appeals Policy and Procedures, and Student Disciplinary Policy will be followed.

academyEX Student Complaints and Appeals Policy outlines the procedures to be followed if an applicant or student makes a formal complaint, or makes an appeal against academyEX's decision outcome.

Complaints and appeals are submitted in writing, with evidence to academicmanagement@academyex.com. An appropriate investigator is assigned by the academyEX Academic Team to review the complaint or appeal and conduct an investigation and identify a resolution.

All groups involved in the investigation will be kept up to date throughout. Full details of the process can be found in the academyEX Student Complaints and Appeals Policy and Procedures.

If you are not satisfied by the outcome of our complaints process, you may be able to raise your concerns externally. The New Zealand Qualifications Authority's website provides useful information about the avenues available to you.

academyEX Student Disciplinary Policy

academyEX Student Disciplinary Policy outlines student disciplinary procedures which may be followed if disciplinary action is required.

Possible consequences, if disciplinary action is required after an investigation into misconduct is undertaken, are outlined in this policy.

Credit Recognition and Transfer and Assessment of Prior Learning

academyEX has robust processes for the recognition of learning and award of credit by formal, informal (no formal curriculum, no credits earned) and non-formal (organised curriculum, no credits earned) learning. Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Please contact support@academyex.com for more information.

academyEX Recognition and Assessment of Prior Learning Policy and Procedures apply to any process that evaluates formal learning (including cross-crediting and transfer of formal learning to academyEX courses, programmes and qualifications) and the Assessment of Prior Learning (APL) by informal and non-formal learning.

Academic Integrity

academyEX is committed to maintaining and promoting the highest standards of academic integrity. All students are held to the same high standards. To help ensure that academic integrity is maintained, academyEX uses Turnitin as a plagiarism detector tool. Turnitin is also used by markers to provide feedback to students on written submissions. All written assessments must be submitted to Turnitin to generate a Similarity Report.

What is Academic Integrity?

As stated in the academyEX Code of Conduct, Academic Integrity refers to intellectual honesty with regard to the use of information.

This includes but is not limited to:

1. Proper acknowledgment of other people's (academics, professionals, peers, relatives, ancestors) work. Acknowledgment of those who have gone before. This is also important for those who come after (readers, peers, assessors) to be able to follow and even build on your work.

- Use a consistent and clear process.
- Other people's work is not limited to their writing (which should be presented as a quote and only if the writing is reproduced faithfully), but also their ideas, findings, and conclusions.
- Do you need permission to reproduce this work?

2. Ensuring that your submissions, presentations, and assessments are your work.

- You may have employed or commissioned an editor or proofreader. If you have, make this clear and acknowledge them with their permission.
- Others may have contributed to your submission and these contributors also need acknowledgment e.g. a programme coder, a colleague, or a collaborator.
- If you are in doubt, get advice from programme staff.

Fees & Refunds

Programme fees

Tuition fees vary for each programme. Fees are also different for Domestic Students and International Students. See below to find out if you're a Domestic or International student.

Tuition fees are invoiced prior to the intake starting and must be paid in full as part of the enrolment and visa process.

AcademyEX complies with NZQA's Student Fee Protection Rules which protect the interests of domestic and international students. AcademyEX has a Static Trust Account with the NZQA-approved fee protection supplier, Public Trust, that ensures the safe protection of student fees over the value of $500. For further information see the academyEX Student Fee Protection Policy and Procedures.

Am I a domestic or international student?

Domestic students are New Zealand Citizens, as well those with NZ Permanent and Resident Visas, and Australian Citizens living in New Zealand.

International students include those with NZ Permanent Resident and Resident Visas living internationally, those who have NZ Study Visas, and citizens and residents of all other countries living internationally.

Refund entitlements

A student who has already enrolled in the programme and decides to withdraw has different refund entitlements depending on when they withdraw. At the time of application, students must agree to the academyEX Student Terms and Conditions before we can process an enrolment into the programme. These Terms and Conditions include all withdrawal scenarios and refund entitlements for the programme.

Contact us

For questions regarding enrolments and inquiries, our international and enrolment team are here to help.



Aastha Kapoor - International Liason Lead
aastha.kapoor@academyex.com
+64 20 484 6401



Julian Becker - International Liaison Lead
julian.becker@academyex.com
+64 21 918 570

academyEX HQ

99 Khyber Pass Road
Grafton
Tāmaki Makaurau 1023 (Auckland 1023)
Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Phone: (09) 964 4444
international@academyex.com

Postal address

PO Box 8115
Newmarket
Auckland 1149
New Zealand



Shruti Patil – Enrolment and Finance Manager
shruti.patil@academyex.com
+64 22 370 8214



Eugenia Lytvyn - Student Experience Manager
eugenia.lytvyn@academyex.com
+64 9 964 4444

academyEX.com