

**Pursuing Your
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree**

at
The Faculty of Education
The University of Auckland (UoA)
New Zealand

Professor Lawrence Jun Zhang, PhD
(Applied Linguistics, Foreign Language Education & TESOL)
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Why PhD Study ?

Why
The University of Auckland
New Zealand?

NZ Government Scheme for New International PhD Students

- International PhD students only pay domestic fees: PhD annual tuition fee 2015*: NZ\$6,503 (*Note that to be eligible for the domestic fee, you must reside in New Zealand for the duration of your doctoral programme. However, you may undertake research activities overseas during your doctoral programme for a cumulative total of no more than 12 months.)
- Eligible to work part time for the duration of the course of study.
- Dependent children receive the same schooling benefits until their final year of high school. They pay no tuition fees except for a small yearly donation.
- The spouse/partner is eligible for an open work permit.
- Upon graduation, international students are eligible for a twelve-month open work permit.

Things You Need to Do Now

- Think about your proposal (called 'Initial Research Proposal' – IRP) so that your supervisor will know what your research will be mainly about.
- Get ready to take the IELTS as early as possible to avoid delays. The minimum IELTS (Academic) requirement for graduate study is 6.5 overall and no Band is lower than 6.0 will be accepted.
- Get all the academic qualification certificates (文凭) and transcripts (学业成绩单) scanned in either .jpg or .pdf format and saved for uploading online when you apply for admission (i.e., When you submit your IRP). Translate them into English for submission if they are in Chinese (at this stage there is no need for submitting a certified true copy yet)
- Request two reference letters from professors who have taught or supervised you on the MA Degree programme or request your Dean for help.

Applying for Admission

- Go online and register to start an application account for yourself
<http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz/uoahome/about/programmes/postgraduate-programmes/doctoral-programmes/application-process>
- Follow the steps to complete your application:
 - Submit all the documents required
 - Initial research proposal (IRP)
 - A scanned copy in the original language and its English version of all your certificates, transcripts, etc. You can translate them into English yourself at this stage, but later you will need to send the certified true copies of each – see the next slide)
 - Wait for instruction on how to submit a true certified copy of all your academic qualifications (i.e., certificates, diplomas, transcripts) by postal mail to UoA

- You will get a notice from the Graduate School of The University of Auckland if you qualify for admission (Note: A true certificate copy is what you will have to get from either the university you have graduated from or from a lawyer's office (律师行), preferably a Notary Public (gongzhengchu 公证处). A certified copy is a **photocopy** that bears the signature or the seal of the lawyer's office saying the copy is true and correct).
- Wait for an official Letter of Offer, which is sent by the UoA Graduate Centre.
- Apply for a scholarship from the CSC once you get a Letter of Offer from UoA, if you need financial assistance.

- If a scholarship is granted, then you will not have to worry about tuition fees or living expenses in NZ.
- The tuition fees will be waived (UoA pays the tuition fees for you) if you win a CSC scholarship, which will cover your living expenses.
- Otherwise, you will have to pay your tuition fee and living expenses yourself. Details are here:
<http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/for/international-students/is-tuition-fees-and-costs/is-pg-tuition-fees-for-international-students>
- Get ready for departure for study in Auckland.

Explanations of terms used

- ***True certified copy:*** It is a photocopy which is verified to be true by either the university the student graduated from or by a lawyer's office with a stamp or signature that indicates that the copy is true of the original copy.
- ***Initial Research Proposal (IRP):*** It is basically your PhD research proposal (see attached template for you to use). It can be a long document or a relatively short one, which is about three or five pages in length. If you know the supervisor you want to be supervised by, please write down her/his name on the front page of your IRP. Any topic that you think will be worth being researched into and at the level of PhD research can be submitted.
- A list of PhD supervisors is available here:
<http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/supervisors-list>

Questions?

If you need any help or have any question, please let us know by writing to Maxine or me.

Ms Maxine Ma

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