

History and Development of University Doctoral Dress in Aotearoa New Zealand

By Scott Pilkington

Abstract

In 2018 it was announced that Auckland University of Technology (AUT) would join the other seven universities in Aotearoa New Zealand in offering a higher doctorate qualification. As part of this process it became apparent that new academic dress would need to be designed and created. Working in the University's Graduate Research School gave me an opportunity to provide input, and as a result, I designed a new set of academic dress for these qualifications in conjunction with the University's official robemaker, Paul Fielder, FBS.¹

This provided a prompt to examine what academic dress there is for existing AUT doctorates—so that the new qualifications (a DLitt and a DSc were introduced from 1 January 2019, with the first graduate due in late 2022) could be sympathetic to the existing ones; and also to explore what the relationship is among doctoral academic dress at the other universities in Aotearoa—so that the design of the new dress was not reinventing the wheel. This research project builds on this examination to explore the history and development of doctoral academic dress across Aotearoa.

This study found that there is a range of similarity across doctoral dress in universities across New Zealand, with the six universities that were originally constituents of the University of New Zealand being the most similar (as at one point they shared a common academic dress).

Introduction

The introduction in 2019 of a suite of new doctoral qualifications at Auckland University of Technology (AUT) provided the context for investigating the history and development of doctoral academic dress across the eight universities in Aotearoa (New Zealand).²

The scope of this study is on the eight universities, and for the sake of simplicity excludes those polytechnics and Wānanga which also offer doctoral qualifications.³ The focus of this study is on how doctoral academic dress in New Zealand has changed

1 Pilkington 2019.

2 Aotearoa is the Te Reo Māori name for New Zealand and will be used throughout the article interchangeably with the English name for the country. Where possible, Aotearoa will be used to recognize Te Reo as the nation's first language.

3 Wānanga are publicly owned tertiary institutions that provide education in a Māori cultural context. Established by the Ministry of Education through the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and accredited through the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), they are governed by the New Zealand Education Act (1989).

within universities. Due to the nature of the study, it does not cover why they changed or what the mechanism of change was.

This article will review existing literature about academic dress in Aotearoa, a summary of the methodology used, followed by the results of the search and a discussion of the history and development of academic dress, concluded with a summary and reflection.

Literature review

This review will cover some of the scant literature that covers academic dress in Aotearoa, and the doctoral qualifications offered.

To understand the adoption, development, and design of academic dress in Aotearoa, three main publications need to be consulted: Hugh Smith and Kevin Sheard's *Academic Dress and Insignia of the World*, Frank Haycraft's *The Degrees and Hoods of the World's Universities and Colleges*, and Noel Cox's *Academical Dress in New Zealand*.⁴ For the description and study of academic dress, two main publications are indispensable: George Shaw's *Academical Dress of British and Irish Universities*, and Nicholas Groves' *Towards a Standard Terminology for Describing Academic Dress*.⁵

The first attempts to categorically comprehend the plethora of global academic dress were carried out by Haycraft and Smith and Sheard, and while out of date due to the vast changes to the university landscape in the intervening years, these provide the basis from which to understand the development of academic dress in New Zealand, and a useful snapshot of what academic dress looked like in the mid- to late-twentieth century. They illustrate that the costume that most people imagine (especially in the Commonwealth, the US, and Ireland) when describing academic dress is a specifically British one.⁶

Cox introduces New Zealand academic dress by examining its roots in the British academic heritage. He illustrates how New Zealand was developing its first cities during the peak of the nineteenth century and inherited the sense of provincial civic pride and the desire for popular education from its Scottish migrants, which led to the introduction of New Zealand's original universities. The first university was Otago (1869), which was quickly superseded by (and for a while amalgamated into) the University of New Zealand (1870–1961).⁷ Between 1870 and 1900, three more university colleges and one agricultural college would be established as part of this federal university, which oversaw examinations, and left teaching to the affiliated colleges. These five colleges (and another agricultural college introduced in the 1920s) would form separate universities in the 1960s, followed by two others after the demise of the University of New Zealand.

During its existence, the teaching colleges of the federal university used the same academic dress. While the university had its roots in Scottish educational ideals, the first academic dress took its form from that of Cambridge. Cox describes the modern (i.e., late-nineteenth century) Cambridge MA gown [m2] as the model for masters' gowns in New Zealand, made of plain black stuff, with a gathered or rouched back to give a

4 Smith 1970; Haycraft 1972; Cox 2001.

5 Shaw 1995; Groves 2001.

6 Haycraft 1972; Smith 1970.

7 Cox 2001, p. 15.

definite yoke below the collar. The gown is calf-length, worn open at the front, and with typical closed, glove pattern hanging sleeves, with a horizontal slit to free the arms. The Cambridge BA gown [b2] forms the model for most bachelors' gowns in New Zealand, with a black stuff gown with open pointed sleeves. The forearm sleeve is left open, except at the bottom. The hoods are all the size and shape of the Cambridge MA [f1].⁸

In his article, Cox focusses on each of the eight universities and some of the other polytechnic institutes and Wānanga in turn, providing a brief historical overview, and a snapshot of academic dress across all qualifications. This current study seeks to build on and develop his research, by examining in more detail one qualification level across the nation.

All eight of the universities offer the following doctoral qualifications:

- Named/professional doctorates (e.g., DHSc, EdD, DBA, DocFA);
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD);
- Higher degrees (by examination or *honoris causa*) (e.g., DLitt, DSc, LLD);
- An honorary doctorate (*honoris causa*) (e.g., HonD)⁹

On the national education scale, all are level 10 (out of 10) qualifications. Four non-university organizations offer doctoral qualifications: two polytechnic institutes, a private training institution, and one Wānanga. Due to access difficulties and for ease of comparison, the scope of the study was limited to the eight universities.¹⁰ Recent research by Byron Rangiwai has examined the academic dress of one of the Wānanga (and provides an overview of the development of academic dress in New Zealand), and the practice of combining academic costume with appropriate cultural dress, specifically the wearing of Kākahu (traditional cloaks).¹¹

The present research tests the following hypotheses:

- Does academic dress at a doctoral level carry similarities among institutions across the country? This means the same design or the same colour will be witnessed for similar qualifications across different universities (e.g., an LLD at one university looks similar to an LLD at another). This will be tested by comparing similar qualifications across universities. Some are similar in focus but different in name (e.g., BCom vs BBus). If there is no national consistency, then the design of new academic dress does not need to consider subject-related consistency across the nation.

- Does each university maintain a codified relationship in the scheme of academic dress across the range of qualifications offered? This means that the doctorates will look

8 Cox 2001; Groves 2001.

9 For the purposes of this research, honorary doctorate and awarded *honoris causa* are defined as the same. When universities award an honorary doctorate, sometimes they specify the qualification (e.g., LLD) and other times they award an honorary degree without specification (e.g., HonD). The award of honorary degrees without specification appears to be occurring less and less with a clear preference to awarding specific degrees (usually higher doctorates rather than other named doctorates or the PhD). These are still listed separately here as it is possible to earn a higher doctorate but not possible to earn an HonD.

10 These were: Medical Research Institute of New Zealand: Doctor of Medicine (MD); Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiarangi: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Māori Development and Advancement (MDA), Doctor of Indigenous Development and Advancement (IDA); Unitec: Doctor of Computing (DComp); and Otago Polytechnic: Doctor of Professional Practice (DPP).

11 Rangiwai 2019a, 2019b.

similar to other doctorates, the masters will look similar to other masters, bachelors will look similar to other bachelors (e.g., a BA and a BSc will look similar, differing only in colour, as would an MMus and an ME, or a DBA and a DMA). This will be tested by comparing qualifications at the same level within each university. If there is no internal qualification-level consistency, then the design of new academic dress does not need to consider designs used for existing doctorates at the same university.

- Does each university maintain a codified relationship in the scheme of academic dress across the range of subjects offered? This means the bachelors, masters, and doctors in a subject will look similar (e.g., a BSc, MSc, and DSc would have different designs but the same colour). This will be tested by comparing subject-family qualifications and considering consistency.

- Is there a progression of style and design through the different qualification levels? This means a master's degree is 'finer' than a bachelor's, a doctorate is 'finer' than a master's, and a higher doctorate is the 'finest' of qualifications offered (but less 'fine' than those worn by the university official party). The assumption here is that higher qualifications would have additional expensive items (e.g., silk, lace) than lower qualifications, which will be simpler and plainer. This will be tested by examining the detail specified for each qualification level, looking for the introduction of additional silk (half- versus fully lined hoods, facings), lace, buttons, and tassels.

Summary of hypotheses:

1. External qualification similarity
i.e., does an LLD at one university look like an LLD at another?
2. Internal qualification similarity
i.e., do the BA and BSc look similar excepting only colour?
3. Internal subject similarity
i.e., do the BSc, MSc, DSc share the same colours?
4. Advancement of style through
i.e., do higher qualifications have fancier embellishments?

Methodology

The method of enquiry was to interpret university calendars and official policy statutes as primary source material. By looking at how doctoral academic dress has changed and developed, an understanding of the nature of doctoral academic dress in Aotearoa can be determined.

The study reviewed 246 calendars and statutes and documented a record of academic dress.¹²

Across the eight universities, seventy-nine doctorates are available. Each university offers an average of eight doctorates (including honorary doctorates).¹³

¹² It is worth noting here that the academic year in New Zealand runs March to November, with university calendars usually published between October and January. As a result, a discrepancy appears in noting university calendars, as some calendars are published the calendar year prior to the academic year while others (even from the same university) are published in the same calendar year as the academic year.

¹³ First date listed is foundation date, second date listed is where they became a separate university.

Table 1. List of universities and doctorates awarded

University	Island	Years	Doctorates
Auckland	North	1883 / 1961	14
Auckland University of Technology (AUT)	North	1895 / 2000	6
Canterbury	South	1873 / 1961	12
Lincoln	South	1878 / 1990	4
Massey	North	1927 / 1963	8
New Zealand	Nation-wide	1870–1961	8
Otago	South	1869 / 1961	14
Victoria University of Wellington (VUW)	North	1895 / 1961	13
Waikato	North	1964 / 1964	8

Table 2. Doctoral programmes offered in Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Programmes listed in italics are unique to that university

Doctorate	University/ies	Type
DBA	Otago, Massey	Named
<i>DClinDent</i> (Clinical Dentistry)	Otago	Named
DClinPsy	Auckland, Massey	Named
DCom (Commerce)	Otago, VUW, Canterbury, Lincoln	Higher
<i>DDSc</i> (Dental Science)	Otago	Higher
<i>DDiv</i>	Otago	Honorary
EdD	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Massey, Waikato, AUT	Named
DEng	Auckland, Canterbury	Higher
DocFA/DFA	Auckland Canterbury	Named Honorary
<i>DGov</i>	VUW	Named
DHSc/DHlth (Health Sci./Health)	AUT, Auckland, VUW	Named
HonD	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Massey, Waikato, AUT	Honorary
<i>SJD</i> (Juridical Science)	Waikato	Named
LLD	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Waikato	Higher
DLitt	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Massey, Waikato, AUT	Higher
MD	Otago Auckland	Higher Named
<i>DMid</i> (Midwifery)	VUW	Named

Table 2, continued.

Doctorate	University/ies	Type
DMus	Otago, VUW, Canterbury Auckland	Higher Named
DMA (Musical Arts)	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Waikato	Named
DNatRes (Nat. Resources)	Lincoln	Higher
DNurs	VUW	Named
DPharm	Auckland	Named
PhD	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Lincoln, Massey, Waikato, AUT	PhD
DSc	Otago, Auckland, VUW, Canterbury, Lincoln, Massey, Waikato, AUT	Higher
DSW	Massey	Named

Results

University of New Zealand

The University of New Zealand was established in 1870 and offered eight doctoral qualifications: seven higher doctorates (the regulations do not specify coursework so they are assumed to be higher doctorates), and from 1925, the PhD.¹⁴ The PhD dress is the black Cambridge MA gown [m2].¹⁵ The hood is the same size and shape as for the Cambridge MA [f1] and is entirely made of scarlet silk. The cap for all doctorates is the black trencher. The dress for the named doctorates is the same as for the PhD, except that the hood is made entirely of silk in the subject colour. Cox explains that originally these hoods were black lined with subject colour, which changed over time.

Table 3. Doctorates offered by the University of New Zealand 1870–1961

Doctorate	Type	Other examples	Subject colour
DDS	Higher	BDS, MDS	Purple
DDiv	Higher	BDiv, MDiv	Dove grey
LLD	Higher	LLB, LLM	Light blue
LittD	Higher	BA, MA	Pink
MD	Higher	MBChB, ChM	Mauve
DMus	Higher	BMus, MMus	White
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Dark blue
PhD			Scarlet

As will be seen in following sections, with the exception of Canterbury, this colour scheme is largely replicated in the original six universities.

Otago

The oldest of them all (and predating the University of New Zealand), the University of Otago (1869) offers the largest number of doctorates of the New Zealand universities

¹⁴ University of New Zealand 1875–1960.

¹⁵ Codes refer to Groves' classification system, from Groves 2001.

(fourteen): the PhD, two honorary doctorates, seven higher doctorates, and four named doctorates.¹⁶ The PhD dress is the Cambridge MA [m2], but is made of ruby red¹⁷ silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth. The hood is the same size and shape as for the Cambridge MA [f1] and is of ruby red silk or silk-like fabric, lined with silk or silk-like fabric in ruby red. The cap for all doctorates at Otago is the black velvet cap as worn by doctors of Scottish universities [h3]. The dress for the named doctorates is the same as for the PhD, except that the hood is lined with silk or silk-like fabric in the relevant subject colour.¹⁸ The dress for the Honorary Doctor of University of Otago is not specified.¹⁹ The other honorary doctorate, the Doctor of Divinity (DDiv),²⁰ and the higher doctorates are similar to that of the PhD: a Cambridge MA gown but made of cardinal red silk,²¹ silk-like fabric, or cloth; and a Cambridge hood made wholly of coloured silk in the relevant subject colour. All of the doctorates match the colours used by other programmes in their subject area:

Table 4. Doctorates offered by the University of Otago 1869–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour	BCC
DBA	Named	BCom, MCom, MBA	Tangerine	55
DClinDent	Named	BDS, MDS, MDent	Spectrum violet	214
DCom	Higher	BCom, MCom	Tangerine	55
DDSc	Higher	BDS, MDS, MDent	Spectrum violet	214
DDiv	Honorary	BDiv, MDiv*	Violet grey	41
EdD	Named	BEd, MEd	Coral	93
LLD	Higher	LLB, LLM	Powder blue	193
LittD	Higher	BA, MA	Rose pink	32
MD	Higher	MBChB	Lilac	176
DMus	Higher	MusB, MMus	White	1
DMA	Named	MusB, MMus	White	1
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Lido blue	89
PhD			Ruby red	38

* No longer offered.

It is worth noting that these colours have changed over time. When medicine was introduced in 1894 its hood colour was mauve and changed to crocus mauve in 1975 and lilac in 1992. Divinity was introduced as dove grey in 1948 but by 1963 it had changed to violet grey.

¹⁶ University of Otago 1961–2020.

¹⁷ BCC No. 38. For a discussion on the use of British Colour Corporation numbers see: Scott 2005.

¹⁸ In the 1960s the gowns had the option of black or maroon (PhD) or scarlet (other doctors). Some time between 1975 and 1978 this was updated to black or ruby red (PhD) or cardinal (other doctors), and some time between 1990 and 1992 the black was dropped (University of Otago 1965, 1975, 1978, 1990, 1992, 2004, 2008, 2020).

¹⁹ Presumably because ordinarily a higher doctorate would be awarded *honoris causa* instead.

²⁰ Which is a much friendlier abbreviation than that of the Doctor of Sacred Theology (STD/SThD)—no doubt this has raised a few eyebrows if one were to remark: ‘I just returned from Rome, where I received my STD!’

²¹ BCC No. 186.

Canterbury

The second oldest of the original six universities, the University of Canterbury (1873) offers doctorates: the PhD, six higher doctorates, and two named doctorates.²² The PhD dress is the Cambridge MA [m2] with peony red²³ detachable facings for formal dress. The hood is of the same material and colour as the facings of the gown and is lined with slate grey (formerly called ‘Canterbury grey’), and (like all the hoods at Canterbury) is based from a pattern held by the university registrar, rather than the Cambridge pattern as at other universities.²⁴ The cap is the black bonnet as for the University of St Andrews [h3]. No separate dress is specified for the honorary doctorate, and all of the other doctorates share the same academic dress. This dress is the Cambridge MA in signal red²⁵ without facings, and with a hood of the Canterbury design made entirely of silk in slate grey. This is quite different from the other New Zealand universities.

Table 5. Doctorates offered by the University of Canterbury 1873–present

Doctorate	Type
DCom	Higher
EdD	Named
DEng	Higher
LLD	Higher
LittD	Higher
DFA	Honorary
DHSc	Named
DMus	Higher
DMA	Named
DSc	Higher
PhD	

Auckland

The University of Auckland (1883) offers fourteen doctorates: the PhD, an honorary doctorate,²⁶ four higher doctorates, and eight named doctorates.²⁷ The PhD dress is the Cambridge MA gown [m2], with the addition of 100 mm satin facings, made up of 75 mm of scarlet edged with 25 mm of gold. The hood is the Cambridge hood [f1] made wholly of scarlet satin. The cap for all doctorates at Auckland is the Tudor bonnet [h2] in black with a gold cord ending in tassels. The honorary doctorate (HonD) is also the Cambridge MA but is made of scarlet satin. The hood is made wholly of satin and is university blue. Since 1978 when records for this began, only three of the sixty-three

²² University of Canterbury 1960–2022.

²³ BCC No. 37.

²⁴ BCC No. 154. This hood pattern is shown in Smith 1970, Plate 114, p. 463. In the Appendix of this article it is referenced as ‘Canterbury shape’.

²⁵ BCC No. 208.

²⁶ Technically any programme can be awarded on an honorary basis; usual practice is that the Doctor of Laws is the programme chosen..

²⁷ University of Auckland 1958–2022.

honorary doctorates awarded were of this type. The bulk were honorary LLD and DLitt/LittD degrees. In comparison, since 1996 the LLD has been awarded based on submission four times, the DLitt once, the DEng twice, and the DSc fifteen times. The named and higher doctorate dress is very similar to that of the PhD. All feature the Cambridge MA gown (named doctorates in black cloth, higher doctorates in black or scarlet silk or cloth)²⁸ but with facings of 50 mm wide satin in the relative subject colour. The hood is also the Cambridge hood and is made wholly of satin also in the subject colour. All of the doctorates match the colours used by other programmes in their subject area:

Table 6 Doctorates offered by the University of Auckland 1883–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour
DClinPsy	Named	BSc, MSc	Dark blue
DEng	Higher	BE, ME	Dark violet
DJur*	Named	LLB, MJur*	Light blue
DHSc	Named	BHSc, MHSc	TBC
DMA	Named	BMus, MMus	White
DMus	Named	BMus, MMus	White
DocFA	Named	BFA, MFA	Gold
DPharm	Named	BPharm, MPharm	Grey green
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Dark blue
EdD	Named	BEd, MEd, MTchg	Emerald green
LittD	Higher	BA, MA, MLitt	Rose pink
LLD	Higher	LLB, LLM	Light blue
MD	Named	MBChB	Crimson†
HonD	Honorary		University blue
PhD			Scarlet

* Jurisprudence is no longer offered.

† Although in practice it nearly always looks fuchsia, leading to some embarrassing moments at graduation if the unaware confuse newly hatched medical officers with the ‘applied arts’ (a subject no longer used).

The DHSc was added in 2022 and is yet to have a colour assigned; however, the BHSc and MHSc are both lined in lilac, so it is anticipated that the DHSc will be the same style as the other named doctorates but featuring facings and hood in lilac.

Auckland is unique across the eight universities in that almost none of its sub-doctoral qualifications share the same hood (in recent years there has begun to be a double-up of some hoods). While at other universities two degrees in the same department may share a hood (e.g., clinical dentistry and dental science are the same at Otago, and arts and design are the same at AUT), at Auckland they are all different. For comparison, here are the masters’ degrees offered or taught by the Faculty of Arts:

²⁸ From 1989 to 1991 non-PhD doctors could wear blue silk or scarlet silk or cloth, and since 1992 named doctorates have had black gowns and higher doctorates black silk or scarlet silk or cloth.

Table 7. List of masters degrees offered in Faculty of Arts at University of Auckland, showing the use of a common hood colour

Master		Hood colour	Stripe colour
MA	Arts	Rose pink	None
MCTS	Conflict & Terror Studies	Rose pink	75 mm dark brown on satin
MCW	Creative Writing	Rose pink	25 mm tan on satin
MHerCons	Heritage Conservation*	Lemon	25 mm pink on satin
MIndigSt	Indigenous Studies	Rose pink	25 mm terracotta on satin
MLitt	Literature	Rose pink	75 mm pink on outside
MProfStuds	Professional Studies	Pink	25 mm taupe on satin
MPP	Public Policy	Rose pink	25 dark brown on satin
MTESOL	Teaching English as a Second Language	Rose pink	25 mm light brown on satin
MTheol	Theology†	Forest green	None

* Co-taught with the School of Architecture and Planning.

† Theology was previously taught by a Joint Board of Studies (1992–2005) and in 2010 joined the Faculty and is worthy of inclusion in an article focusing on theological qualifications in Aotearoa.

For the most part Auckland has not had its hoods change colour and has been very consistent. The only difference appears to be in 1996 when medicine and health separated as subjects, and the degrees taught under those two subjects changed from a mixture of crimson and lilac to medical degrees being crimson and health degrees being lilac. It is worth noting that while the University offers an MPhil, it does not prescribe academic dress for it, instead referring the wearer to wear the hood of the master's degree most similar.

Victoria University of Wellington

The fourth of the original universities that were the part of the University of New Zealand is Victoria University of Wellington (1897), which offers thirteen doctorates: the PhD, an honorary doctorate, three named doctorates, and five higher doctorates.²⁹ The PhD dress is the Cambridge MA gown [m2] with a stole faced with silk in post office red.³⁰ Professional doctorates are the same, but with the stole in an approved subject colour. All doctorates at Victoria use the John Knox cap [h3]. The honorary doctorate does not have a specific dress. In contrast to the PhD and professional doctorates, the higher doctoral qualifications feature a hood rather than the stole. The named and higher doctorates feature the Cambridge MA gown in black cloth (higher doctorates can be black or scarlet silk or cloth), with the same size and shape hood as the Cambridge MA [f1] wholly made of silk in the respective subject colour. The higher doctorates have their subject colours specified, and other doctorates are listed to wear 'relevant subject colour hoods or stoles':

²⁹ Victoria University College 1950; Victoria University of Wellington 1958–2020.

³⁰ BCC No. 209.

Table 8. Doctorates offered by Victoria University of Wellington 1897–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour	BCC
DCom	Higher	BCA, BCom, MCom	Marigold	56
EdD	Named	BEd, Med, MTchnng	Peacock Green	123
DGov	Named	MPA*	Champagne	4
DHlth	Named	BHlth, MHlth	Emerald	
LLD	Higher	LLB, LLM	Pompadour	194
LittD	Higher	BA, MA	Rose pink	32
DMid	Named	BMid	Emerald	
DMus	Higher	BMus, MMus	White	
DMA	Named	BMus, MMus	White	
DNurs	Named	MNS, MA(Applied)	Emerald	
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Empire blue	87
PhD			Post office red	209

* No longer offered as the MPA; a Master of Public Management is offered

The colour changes witnessed at VUW are usually more a change in name than a change in colour (e.g., Laws changing from light blue to pompadour which is generally taken to be the same). The exception would be education, adopting turquoise in 1965 and changing to peacock green in 1969. Perhaps the biggest change for VUW (the biggest change across Aotearoa) was in 1998 for the PhD, professional doctoral, and certain other masters' degrees to abandon hoods and adopt a stole instead. The doctoral stole has a curved back while the masters' stoles have a straight back. Stoles are used where there is not necessarily a corresponding bachelor's and bachelor's honours degree in the same subject. It is worth noting that stoles are being used for the suite of named health doctorates (DHlth, DMid, DNurs).³¹ In 2019 these were developed and offered in the year prior to bachelors' degrees being developed in these areas, although an MA in nursing or midwifery has been available since 1987 and 1998, respectively. With the introduction of the bachelors' and doctoral degrees in health, the masters' degrees previously offered have changed colour from verdigris to emerald. These three doctorates are cotaught, and students from the three programmes form a single cohort. The final degree awarded depends on the student's background.

Lincoln

Two of the other universities were associated with the University of New Zealand were associated agricultural colleges: Lincoln University (known then as Canterbury Agricultural College) and Massey University (Massey Agricultural College). Lincoln was integrally linked with Canterbury until 1990, while Massey had been independent until the disestablishment when it was merged with VUW for a period prior to independence.

Lincoln University (1878) offers four doctorates: the PhD and three higher doctorates.³² It is the only New Zealand university not to offer a university honorary doctorate

³¹ Personal communication with Catherine Dunning, manager of Academic Dress Hire (Wellington), 1 April 2020.

³² Lincoln University 1992–2020.

and to rely solely on the other doctorates when presenting honorary qualifications. Prior to 1990 Lincoln was still affiliated to Canterbury and shared academic dress, offering its own only from 1992. The PhD dress is the Cambridge MA [m2] with facings of ultramarine,³³ 100 mm wide the full length of the gown. The hood is the Cambridge hood [f1] and is ultramarine lined with Indian yellow.³⁴ The cap for all Lincoln doctorates is the black bonnet as for the University of St Andrews [h3]. The higher doctorates are similar, in that they are the Cambridge MA but in signal red, and the hood and facings are in the relevant subject colour. Like many of the other universities, the colours used for subjects at the doctoral level match those worn in other programmes:

Table 9. Doctorates offered by Lincoln University 1878–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour	BCC
DCom	Higher	BCom, MCom, MBus	Indian orange	6*
DNatRes	Higher	MHortSc	Pea green	172
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc, MAppSc	Ultramarine	148
PhD			Indian yellow	6

* Apparently there is no discernible difference between 'Indian yellow' and 'Indian orange'.

Massey

The second agricultural college, Massey University (1927) offers eight doctorates: a PhD, an honorary doctorate, two higher doctorates, and four named doctorates.³⁵ The dress for the PhD is a Cambridge MA gown [m2] with facings of cloth post office red³⁶ 100 mm wide the full length of the front. The hood is the Cambridge hood [f1] made of material of post office red and lined with university blue.³⁷ All doctorates at Massey wear the black velvet bonnet as for the Oxford Doctor of Civil Law with a black cord [h2]. The dress for the honorary doctorate is a Cambridge MA gown in post office red, with no facings or hood specified. The named doctorates have the same gown as the PhD, but with a Cambridge hood made of fabric in university blue and lined with the relevant subject colour. The dress for the higher doctorates is the Cambridge MA robe in post office red, with the same hoods as for the named doctorates. It is specified by the University that the hoods used for the named and higher doctorates are the same hoods as used by the masters' graduates in the same field:

³³ BCC No. 148.

³⁴ BCC No. 6.

³⁵ Massey Agricultural College 1928–1960; Massey College 1962; Massey University College of Manawatu 1963; Massey University of Manawatu 1964, 1965; Massey University 1969–2020.

³⁶ BCC No. 209.

³⁷ BCC No. 90.

Table 10. Doctorates offered at Massey University 1927–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour	BCC
DBA	Named	MBA	Tangerine	55
DClinPsy	Named	BA, MA	Rose pink	32
EdD	Named	BEd, MEd	Tuscan yellow	233
DLitt	Higher	BA, MA	Rose pink	32
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Smalt blue	147
DSW	Named	BSW, MSW	Horse chestnut	134
PhD		BPhil, MPhil	Post office red	209

The first description of Massey academic dress comes in the 1962 Massey College Calendar, at which time the degrees taught at Massey were offered through Victoria University of Wellington. It is in the 1965 Massey University of Manawatu Calendar and the 1970 Massey University Calendar that we can see Massey begin to offer degrees in its own right, and set its own academic dress. The first action of the new University council was to change science from dark blue to smalt blue, and veterinary science (not taught as a separate doctorate anyway) from crimson to imperial purple. Education changed colour several times, from satinwood in 1973 to buff in 1975, then gull grey in 1990, and eventually Tuscan yellow in 2003.

In 2014 Massey completely revised the academic dress of the university officers, but thus far has not passed on these changes to the qualifications awarded.

Waikato

Waikato University (1964), the first of the new universities, also offers eight doctorates: a PhD, an honorary doctorate, three higher doctorates, and three named doctorates.³⁸ The dress for the PhD is a maroon gown (not specified, but Cox mentions that it is the Cambridge MA [m2]) with a crimson hood (also not specified, but Cox mentions that this is the Cambridge hood [f1]) with a crimson lining. The cap for all Waikato doctorates is the black Tudor bonnet [h2] with gold cord and tassels. The academic dress at Waikato is quite unusual compared to other New Zealand universities in that there is no subject demarcation at any level in the colour or cut of the dress. Bachelors and masters wear black gowns, and a trencher. The pattern of the gowns is not specified by either the university regulations or in Cox's analysis. Bachelors' hoods are black, lined with gold. Masters' (except MPhil) are gold, lined with gold. MPhil and doctorates are crimson, lined with crimson. Robemaker Paul Fielder adds that the honorary doctorate robes are of special design with a full-length frontal zip closure with black facings and back yoke (similar to American dress). The named doctorates (except for the Doctor of Musical Arts which is not specified) feature the same dress as the PhD, namely a maroon gown with a crimson hood and crimson lining. The dress of the higher doctorates is a crimson gown, with a crimson hood with crimson lining.

38 University of Waikato 1980–2009.

Table 11. Doctorates offered at the University of Waikato 1964–present

Doctorate	Type	Gown / hood colour
HonD	Honorary	Red / gold
EdD	Named	Maroon / crimson
SJD	Named	Maroon / crimson
LLD	Higher	Crimson / crimson
DLitt	Higher	Crimson / crimson
DMA	Named	Not specified
DSc	Higher	Crimson / crimson
PhD		Crimson / crimson

AUT

The newest of the universities, Auckland University of Technology (2000)³⁹ offered at the start of this research, the smallest number of doctorates, at six: a PhD, an honorary doctorate, two practice-led professional doctorate, and two higher doctorates.⁴⁰ The dress for all of the doctorates is the Cambridge MA gown [m2], but with a satin facing cloth in post office red⁴¹ 100 mm wide for the full length of the front, with a Cambridge hood [f1] made of satin in the colour post office red and lined with the relevant subject colour, and the cap is the black velveteen Tudor bonnet [h2] with a gold cord around the crown, the cord ending in tassels. Like many of the other universities, the colours used for subjects at the doctoral level matches those worn in other AUT programmes (but it is worth noting that the colours chosen are vastly different from those at other universities):

Table 12. Doctorates offered at AUT 2000–present

Doctorate	Type	Other degrees	Subject colour
HonD	Honorary		Burgundy
EdD	Named	BEd, MEd, MEdL	Fuchsia
DHSc	Named	BHSc, MHSc, MHPrac	Dark blue
DLitt	Higher	BA, MA	Red
DSc	Higher	BSc, MSc	Cornflower blue
PhD		MPhil	Burgundy

As at all the other universities, AUT uses the Cambridge-style MA gown and hood for its doctorates, and Cambridge-style gowns for the other qualifications. However, unlike the other universities, AUT uses a design of its own for the bachelors' and masters' hoods, which Cox confirms is based on American ICC pattern, similar to the Oxford style [s1].

For the new higher doctorates, the description of their design first appeared in the 2021 AUT Academic Calendar (this was also the first I knew that a design had been se-

³⁹ Founded in 1895 as a technical school, then polytechnic, and converted into a university in 2000. See <www.aut.ac.nz/about/our-history> [retrieved 17 January 2022].

⁴⁰ Auckland Institute of Technology 1999; Auckland University of Technology 2000–22.

⁴¹ BCC No. 209.

lected), which was nearly identical to what I had proposed to the Vice-Chancellor in my 2019 report. In a subsequent mid-year update to the calendar this was replaced with a blank space, and the 2022 AUT Academic Calendar listed a modified design, featuring many of my design elements. The final design is for a black Cambridge doctorate [d1] gown, hemmed with 50 mm gold satin, faced with 100 mm wide post office red satin, and the sleeves also lined in post office red satin. The hood is a post office red satin Cambridge MA [f1] hood edged in bone and lined in either post office red (DLitt) or cornflower blue (DSc). The cap is a black velveteen [h2] bonnet with a red (DLitt) or cornflower blue (DSc) ribbon around the crown ending in a fork. The original design also called for damask silk designs for either the facings or the sleeve linings, but these were not adopted due to difficulties around sourcing an appropriate local design and cost.

AUT has had a number of colour changes over the years. Originally subjects matched the colour of their faculty, so subjects now taught in very different schools in completely different faculties may share an original colour. This can be seen in arts (e.g., BA, MA) and design (e.g., BDes, MDes) which are both red, even though they have been different faculties (Culture and Society vs Design and Creative Technologies) longer than they were the same (Arts). In 1999 applied science, engineering, and medical laboratory science were all gold. Since 2006 they are now cornflower blue, yellow, and light blue, respectively. From 1999, when the PhD was offered for the first time, until 2006, when the regulations became more prescriptive, the PhD was to be lined with 'appropriate faculty colour'. They are now uniformly lined burgundy (as are the hoods for the MPhil and conjoint bachelors' degrees). It is also in this year that education changed from 'red' to 'fuchsia'.

Discussion

The tables available in the Appendix summarize doctoral programmes offered by multiple universities in New Zealand (there are several doctorates that are only awarded by one or two institutions). With the wide variation in hood colours, ranging from diop-tase to purple brown, it is unclear whether, when the subject colours were decided, an analysis like this was ever completed so as to make a conscious effort to be different.⁴² As illustrated by Cox, there is a distinct lack of consistency in subject colours through the various levels of qualification across universities.

Whether there was an analysis or not, one thing we know for an absolute fact is certain is that for the most part (except Waikato which only has one colour for all subjects) all of the universities have a variation on pink for their arts degrees, a variation on dark blue for their science degrees, and white for their music degrees. Some of the subjects have been arbitrarily separated, because at some universities they are different degrees (e.g., computer science is BCIS at AUT but BSc at the other universities; or Māori studies which is part of the BA at some universities, but a separate degree at others). The subjects have been ordered so that similar colours are grouped together. Numbers are listed where BCC numbers have been provided.

While the university regulations call in some cases for gowns with attached facings, the various branches of Academic Dress Hire have made their own economies (mixed fabric gowns are difficult to dry clean) and have modified these gowns. For Auckland,

42 Certainly nothing as in-depth as that done at Warwick in the 1960s (Jackson 2008).

Canterbury, and Lincoln Universities they use a standard black master's gown with a separate stole of the appropriate colour. For Massey they use a standard black master's gown with a combined hood and stole that fits on top.⁴³

To revisit the hypotheses from the review section:

- Academic dress at a doctoral level would carry similarities between institutions across the country.

Yes—for the most part. The universities use the same base design: the Cambridge MA gown (either black or coloured) and hood, and Tudor bonnets for caps. Except for VUW (which has an all-red stole), they also have coloured facings to the robes.

- Each university will maintain a codified relationship in the scheme of academic dress across the range of qualifications offered.

Yes—for the most part. There are some variations for individual bachelors' degrees, which appears to be the result of degrees inherited when universities and education colleges merged in the 2000s, but for the most part there is a clear differentiation among bachelors', masters', and doctoral academic dress, which can be easily picked out from a moderate distance. At VUW this is complicated by the PhD stole.

- Each university will maintain a codified relationship in the scheme of academic dress across the range of subjects offered.

Yes. At no university did the base design change through the progression of related degrees. The only time a change like this occurred was in subjects like psychology that are offered in multiple faculties for first and second degrees (e.g., BA or BSc, MA or MSc), but the doctorate only administratively processed by one faculty (e.g., DClInPsy is in science at Auckland but arts at Massey).

- There will be an increase of style and design through the different qualification levels.

Yes. At no university was this different. For the most part bachelors' degrees were Cambridge BA gowns with a matching hood lined with a subject colour trimmed with white fur or satin; masters' degrees were Cambridge MA gowns with a matching hood lined with a subject colour and *not* trimmed with white fur or satin (with the exception of the defunct Master of Creative and Performing Arts (MCPA) at Auckland, which was an interdisciplinary master's taught by arts and music and lined with rose pink (arts) and bordered with white (music)); and doctoral degrees were Cambridge MA gowns with facings in a subject or university colour with a matching hood lined with a subject or philosophy colour. This remains consistent with the conclusions drawn by Smith and Sheard in 1970.⁴⁴

Conclusion

Since the first doctorates were introduced at the University of New Zealand (LLD, MD, and DMus), through to the most recent (DLitt and DSc at AUT, DHlth, DMid, and DNurs at VUW, and DHSc at Canterbury and Auckland), there have been a great range and scope of doctoral academic dress across Aotearoa. The six universities that originated in the University of New Zealand (1870–1961) continue to share a great deal of academic dress overlap (particularly across bachelors' and masters' degrees) in subjects

⁴³ Personal observation.

⁴⁴ Smith, p. 6.

originally taught by the parent university. It is since 1961 and the separation of the individual colleges into new universities that the range of academic dress has flourished. Certainly, this variety can be seen also at the doctoral level, with some subjects (e.g., arts, music, science, the PhD) being similar across several of the universities, while other universities (Canterbury and Waikato) preferred their own path from the moment they could offer separate doctorates.

A future project could be the theoretical reunification and establishment of a single scheme of academic dress (particularly at the doctoral level) as there is talk from time to time about the re-establishment of the University of New Zealand with constituent colleges. The main arguments for doing so are the reduction in national competition for students, allowing colleges to specialize in a particular group of subjects, and allowing a national university to pool resources and bid for more international students.

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Further information

A further version of the work by the Revd Dr Noel Cox is available online at <www.geocities.ws/noelcox/Introduction.htm>.

A copy of the report submitted to AUT recommending the adoption of new academic dress for the higher doctorates is available at <spil030.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/proposal-for-selection-of-new-higher-doctorate-academic-dress-at-aut-2019.pdf>.

Appendix

Doctoral dress for qualifications taught at more than one institution. Where available, Groves' Key references are included. Where multiple universities in a table use the same item, it is described only in the first instance.

PhD						
Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato
Ruby red (BCC No. 38) Cambridge MA [m2] gown in silk, silk-like fabric or cloth. Ruby red silk or silk-like fabric Cambridge MA [f1] hood lined with ruby red silk or silk-like fabric.	Black [m2] gown with peony red (BCC No. 37) detachable facings. Peony red Canterbury hood lined with slate grey (BCC No. 154).	Black [m2] gown with 100 mm satin facings, made up of 75 mm scarlet edged with 25 mm gold. Wholly scarlet satin [f1] hood.	Black [m2] gown. Stole faced with silk in post office red (BCC No. 209).	Black [m2] gown with 100 mm ultramarine facings (BCC No. 148). Ultramarine (BCC No. 148) [f1] hood lined with Indian yellow (BCC No. 6).	Black [m2] gown with 100 mm cloth facings of post office red (BCC No. 209). Post office red [f1] hood lined with university blue (BCC No. 90).	Maroon gown. Crimson hood with crimson lining.
						Black [m2] gown with 100 mm satin facings of post office red. Post office red [f1] hood lined with burgundy.
Honorary doctorates						
Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato
Not specified.	Not specified.	Scarlet satin Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Wholly satin Cambridge MA [f1] hood in university blue.	Not specified.	Not offered.	Post office red [m2] gown.	Black [m2] gown with a 100 mm satin facing in post office red (BCC No. 209). Post office red gown is zipped up the front. burgundy.

Named doctorates offered by more than half of the universities:

Qual	Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Massey	Waikato	AUT
DMA	Ruby red (BCC No. 38) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Ruby red silk or silk-like fabric Cambridge MA [f1] hood lined with silk or silk-like fabric in white (BCC No.1).	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black [m2] gown with 50 mm wide white satin facings. White satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. White silk [f1] hood.	-	Not specified.	-
EdD	Ruby red (BCC No. 38) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth [m2] gown. Ruby red silk or silk-like fabric [f1] hood lined with coral (BCC No. 93) silk or silk-like fabric.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black [m2] gown with 50 mm wide emerald green satin facings. Emerald green satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Peacock green silk [f1] hood.	Black [m2] gown with 100 mm wide post office red (BCC No. 209) cloth facings. University blue (BCC No. 90) cloth [f1] hood lined with Tuscan yellow (BCC No. 233).	Maroon gown. Crimson hood with crimson lining.	Black [m2] gown with 100 mm wide post office red (BCC No. 209) facings. Post office red satin [f1] hood lined with fuchsia.

Higher doctorates:

Qual	Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato	AUT
DCom	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Tangerine (BCC No. 55) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	-	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Marigold (BCC No. 56) silk [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown with 100 mm wide Indian orange (BCC No. 6) facings. Indian orange silk Canterbury hood.	-	-	-
DEng	-	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Dark violet satin [f1] hood.	-	-	-	-	-

Qual	Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato	AUT
DLitt	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Rose pink (BCC No. 32) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Pink satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Rose pink (BCC No. 32) silk [f1] hood.	-	Post office red (BCC No. 209) [m2] gown. University blue (BCC No. 209) cloth [f1] hood lined with rose pink (BCC No. 32).	Crimson gown. Crimson hood.	Black Cambridge Doctorate [d1] gown hemmed with 50 mm gold satin, with sleeves lined in post office red (BCC No. 209) and with 100 mm wide post office red facings. Post office red satin [f1] hood edged in bone.
DMus	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. White (BCC No. 1) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black [m2] gown with 50 mm white satin facings. White satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. White silk [f1] hood.	-	-	-	-

Qual	Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato	AUT
DSc	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Lido blue (BCC No. 89) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Dark blue satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Empire blue (BCC No. 87) silk [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown with 100 mm wide ultra-marine (BCC No. 148) facings. Ultra-marine silk Canterbury hood.	Post office red (BCC No. 209) [m2] gown. University blue (BCC No. 90) cloth [f1] hood lined with small blue (BCC No. 147).	Crimson gown. Crimson hood.	Black [d1] gown hemmed with 50 mm gold satin, with sleeves lined in post office red (BCC No. 209) and with 100 mm wide post office red facings. Post office red satin [f1] hood lined in cornflower blue and edged in bone.
LLD	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Powder blue (BCC No. 176) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	Signal red (BCC No. 208) [m2] gown. Slate grey (BCC No. 154) silk Canterbury hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Light blue satin [f1] hood.	Black silk or scarlet silk or cloth [m2] gown. Pompadour (BCC No. 194) silk [f1] hood.	-	-	Not specified.	-

Qual	Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato	AUT
MD⁴⁶	Cardinal red (BCC No. 186) silk, silk-like fabric, or cloth Cambridge MA [m2] gown. Lilac (BCC No. 176) silk Cambridge MA [f1] hood.	-	Black [m2] gown with 50 mm crimson facings. Crimson satin [f2] hood.	-	-	-	-	-

Doctoral caps:

Otago	Canterbury	Auckland	VUW	Lincoln	Massey	Waikato	AUT
Black John Knox [h3] cap.	Black velvet Tudor bonnet [h2] with a gold cord around the crown ending in tassels.	Black velvet [h2] bonnet with black cord around the crown ending in tassels.	black [h3] cap.	Black velvet [h2] bonnet with black cord around the crown ending in tassels.	Black velvet [h2] bonnet with black cord around the crown ending in tassels.	Black velvet [h2] bonnet with gold cord around the crown ending in tassels.	PhD and named doctorates: black velveteen [h2] bonnet with a gold cord around the crown ending in tassels. DLitt: black velveteen [h2] bonnet with a red silk ribbon around the crown ending in a fork. DSc: black velveteen [h2] bonnet with a cornflower blue silk ribbon around the crown ending in a fork.

⁴⁶ At Auckland the MD is a named doctorate, but at Otago it is a higher doctorate.