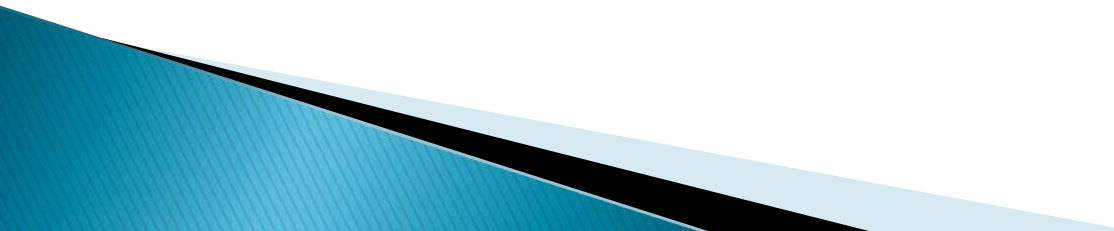


First year experiences for Māori Law Students at Victoria University

Māmari Stephens
Victoria University of Wellington

Some characteristics

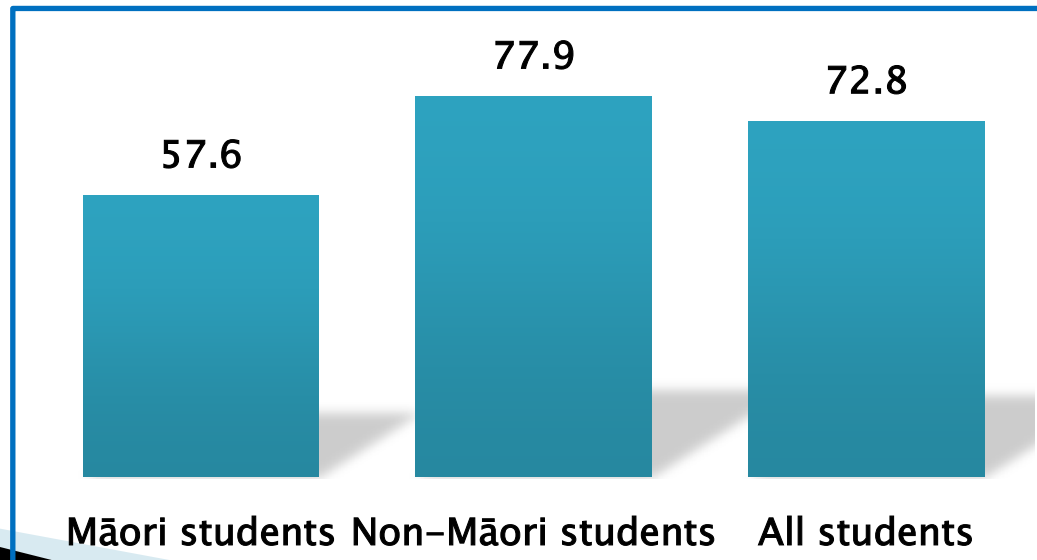
- More likely to come from outside Wellington
 - More likely to be dissatisfied with smaller level of contact with family during the academic year
 - Be involved in community activities/sports
 - Consider their peer group at law school to be:
 - Culturally similar to (rather than diverse from) them
 - The people they rely on to get through law school (78%–42%)
 - Unknown to them before law school. (11.9–31%)
- 

Māori students at first year

- ▶ Open Entry – LAWS 121 (introduction to the NZ Legal System)
- ▶ Must pass 121 for entry into 122 (Introduction to Case Law) 123 (Introduction to Statute Law).

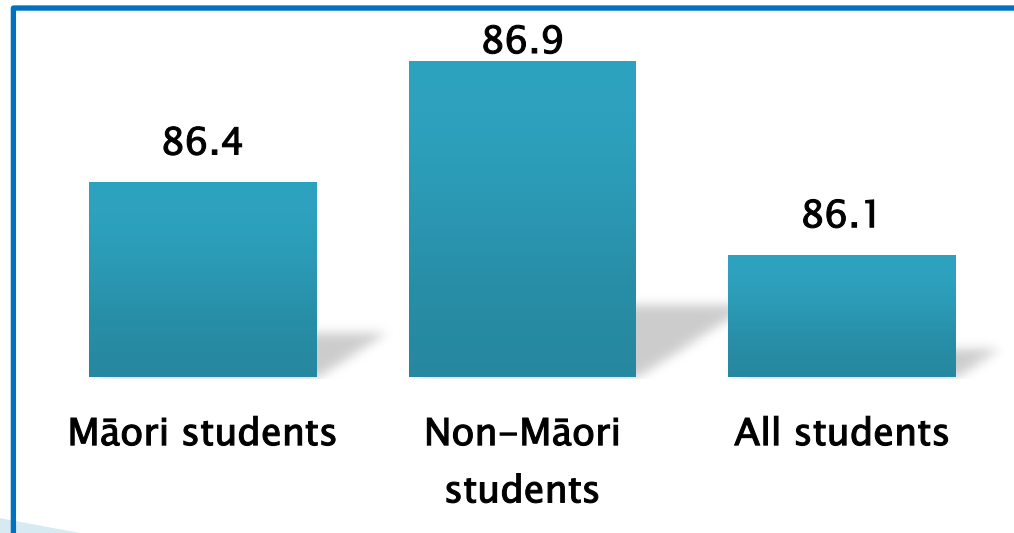
LAWS 121

	RE	P	% passed
Māori students (12%)	85	49	57.6
Non-Māori students	580	452	77.9
All students	703	512	72.8



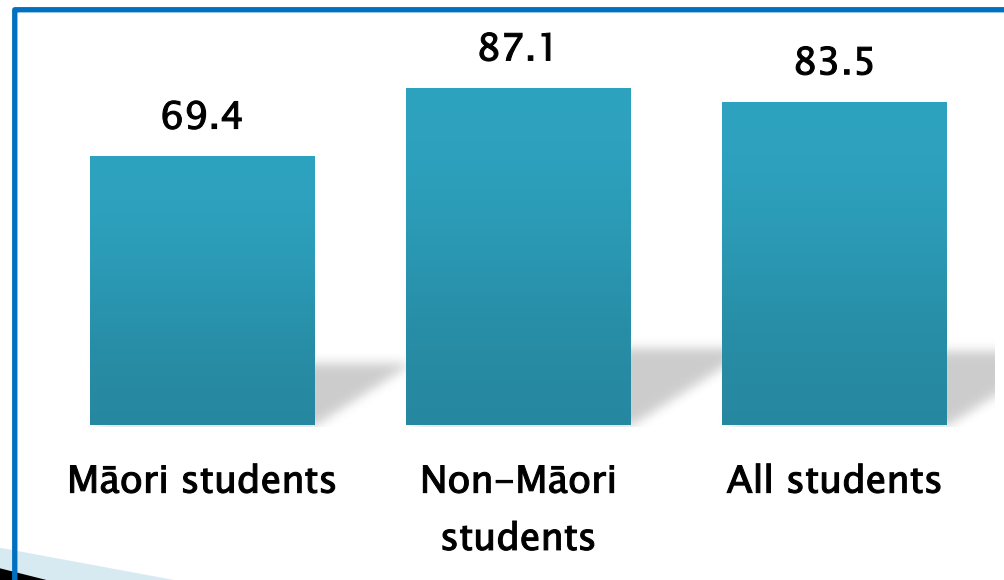
LAWS 122

	RE	P	% passed
Māori students	44 (10%)	38	86.4
Non-Māori students	396	344	86.9
All students	452	389	86.1



LAWS 123

	RE	P	% passed
Māori students	49 (10.5%)	34	69.4
Non-Māori students	403	351	87.1
All students	468	391	83.5



Support

- ▶ Kaitakawaenga (Māori law students Coordinator)
- ▶ Māori/Pasifika support tutorials
- ▶ Te Kauwae Parāoa
- ▶ Ngā Rangahautira
- ▶ Academic Advisor to Māori Students
- ▶ Māori Admissions Process
- ▶ <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/maori-at-victoria>

Issues & observations

- ▶ Separation
 - ▶ Normalisation?
 - ▶ Formation (but for what end goal?)
 - ▶ Collectivisation (for survival)
 - ▶ Expectation

 - ▶ **Whakawhanaungatanga**
- 