

**YWAM ZION**

**DISCIPLESHIP  
TRAINING  
SCHOOL**

**GENERAL INQUIRY**

***“I WAS CALLED NOT TO  
COMFORT OR  
SUCCESS BUT TO  
OBEDIENCE... THERE IS  
NO JOY OUTSIDE OF  
KNOWING JESUS AND  
SERVING HIM.” -  
KAREN WATSON***

**MISSION INQUIRY HANDBOOK**

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YWAM Zion

10 Orchard Place

Morningside, 0110

[www.ywamzion.org.nz](http://www.ywamzion.org.nz)

# PART 1: LECTURES

- **WHY DTS?**
- **SCHEDULE**
- **ELECTIVES**
- **FEES**

# 1.

## PART ONE : LECTURES

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### WHY LECTURES?

Short term missions spear-headed by youth and young adults may not seem so outrageous in today's climate, but when the founder of Youth With A Mission, Loren Cunningham, was just 20yrs old he received a vision that was totally counter-cultural in the 60's.

Loren saw waves washing onto shores all over the globe, and as he continued to observe the vision, the waves became hoards of young people covering the globe, cross culturally, spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

The DTS as we know it today came about in response to this vision, although it was originally called 'Summer of Service' and was strictly outreach-focussed. Lecture phase was introduced as a preparatory stage of the process and is intended for an individual to truly encounter the Lord, experience true inner healing, and grow in wisdom and stature before being sent onto the field as a witness for Christ.

There are school themes to suit all kinds of interests, so we encourage you to pray about where the Lord is guiding you and to whom he is sending you to for the sake of His Kingdom come.

# SCHEDULE

The schedule is set in a live-learn format, where we all live in community and learn in community. This means some of the learning happens directly through lectures, mentorship and workshops, while other aspects of learning and discipleship occur informally through simple rhythms of daily life lived alongside others.

The following schedule is also in keeping with the University of the Nations requirements for a full learning week, and ensure students gain the entirety of the credits available at this entrance level of YWAM study.

DTS SCHEDULE							
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
6:30 AM	Devotions / Time with Jesus / Breakfast					School Activity / Streams / Free	Free
7:30 AM	Staff prayer/ Duties						
8:10 AM	Van leaves for Class						
8:30 AM	Worship	Outreach Intercession	Staff lead Intercession	Bible Overview	Student lead Intercession		
9:30 AM	Panui / Notices	Panui	Panui	Panui	Panui		
9:40 AM	Morning Tea (20 min)						Church (optional)
10:00 AM	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture		
11:15 AM	Break (15min)						
11:30 AM	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture		
1:00 PM	Lunch						Free
2:00 PM	Lunch Clean Up						
2:30 PM	Assignments (Diakonos 2-5)	Evangelism (2:30-4:30pm)	Outreach Prep (2:30-4pm)	Community Outreach (2:30-4:30pm)	Stream Activities		
			Free / One on Ones / Assignments				
4:30 PM							
5:00 PM	Dinner prep	Dinner prep			Dinner Prep		
6:00 PM		Dinner			Dinner		
6:30 PM	Dinner	Dinner Clean Up			DYOD	Clean up	
7:00 PM	Dinner Clean Up	Free	Free	Free	Stream Activities	Free	
	Guys & Gals night	Free/Community evening		Worship Night (7:30-8:30)		Free	
8:30 PM	Free	Free		Free	Free	Free	Free
10:00 PM	Noise Curfew				Noise Curfew		Noise Curfew

The weeks typically include (but are not exclusive to):

- 12-13 weeks of teaching content. These are taught by experienced YWAM missionaries and teachers on a variety of topics.

- Bible overview. Weekly time of basic learning how to navigate the Word of God with application to everyday life.
- Local outreach and local evangelism every week.
- A rotation of minor work duties for the stewardship and functioning of the facility.
- Weekly one-on-ones which are an assigned staff person to journey alongside you in prayer and for specifically your processing.
- Days off and free time for your ability to rest or use this time to work on support letters and connecting with people back home or new friends.

## TOPICS

As we mentioned, there are 12 weeks of lectures before the Outreach portion. These lectures are facilitated by your school leaders, school staff, and the guest speaker of the week. These speakers are experienced missionaries and chosen for their expertise on the topic that are covering. We choose lecturers not just based on their knowledge on a topic, but in how they live it out and how evident it is in their lives. We also offer ministry should the desire arise for prayer.

An example of 12 weeks of DTS topics is:

- Hearing God's Voice
- YWAM Values and Orientation to the mission
- Character & Nature of God
- Spiritual Authority
- Relationships
- Following Jesus/Lordship of Christ
- Holy Spirit
- Worship & Intercession
- God's heart for Missions
- Gospel & Culture
- Bible Overview

- Identity & Calling

## STUDENT ASSESSMENTS & CREDITS

As an official University with credits, you do have assignments and again between 19-24 credits upon successful completion of the full course. Students undertake a number of assessments in order to track their growth and engagement with the material. These assignments are able to be presented through many ways, so don't feel limited if you aren't used to writing essays. Some assignments you might have on your school are:

- 2x book readings (one assigned and typically one you can choose).
- 2x news letters.
- Weekly one on one's.
- Personal reflection journal with guided questions and a format to follow for your one on one to read.

## STREAMS/ELECTIVES

We offer a variety of electives at varying times of the year. Outdoor Pursuits & Surf DTS are within Quarter 1, with Music & Worship/Arts & Classic DTS within Quarter 4. If there is more than one stream on in a quarter, they will join for lectures and separate for stream activities.

Scattering our streams allows us to focus in on the DTS theme and type of student that is attracted to that elective, as well as have specific staff with passions and strengths in the areas of those school focusses lead out and steward the Spirit in accordance with their giftings too.



The streams participate in a variety of activities once a week on an allocated afternoon for each DTS, as well as partake in the occasional full weekend away (typically 2-3 per DTS) and a couple of one-day activities for the whole school together at the start and end of the DTS entirely.

## FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

The DTS fees are split into three parts and all costs are in New Zealand Dollars (NZD).

- Lecture phase \$4,500
- Outreach Phase \$3,500-\$5,000
- Activity Fee (Surf, Outdoors, Worship) \$1,100.

NOTE: These fees do *not* cover a students initial arrival to New Zealand or their departure after DTS. These fees also do not cover medical insurance or any personal costs during the course of the school, such as travel outside of the arranged school activities or medical needs for outreach (medications or vaccines required for entrance into nations).

# PART 2: OUTREACH

- **WHY OUTREACH?**
- **LOCATIONS**
- **SCHEDULE**

# 2.

## PART TWO : OUTREACH

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Our missions trips are all about applying what was learned throughout Lecture Phase, which is Part 1 of the DTS.

Our aim is for students to have a positive missions experience on the field and it brings great joy to our hearts when individuals feel a call back to a nation they served or to a people they were with.

There are three key parts to our ministry which are categorised as Training, Mercy Ministry, and Evangelism. We believe the Great Commission is for everyone, and therefore all are called to go and make disciples in every sphere of life. We encounter the Lord and train well so that we can serve and evangelise to others.

## LOCATIONS

An example of some of the locations we have frequented as a ministry are the Pacific Islands (Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu), Nepal, Uganda, India, and the Phillipines. As a ministry we are also developing vision with friends in Indonesia and have begun pioneering teams to this new, long-term sending location.

Outreach location selection happens around week 4 of the DTS and students are given a set time-frame to seek the Lord and submit where they feel drawn to as a location. Leadership and staff then prayerfully consider and create the teams before revealing the outcome to the school within a few days.

We aim to be consistent in our sending locations, and to send teams only to locations that our staff are able to facilitate an effective outreach well in.

## OUTREACH SCHEDULE

For the weeks activities, the YWAM University of the Nations curriculum requires every outreach to incorporate the following:

- Evangelism and relationship building with the unchurched.
- Encouraging the local church which can include helping with the occasional youth event, camps, running of church services and ministering to the community.
- Working with local partnerships toward sustainable, long term solutions to crisis and justice issues. Our staff are trained in facilitating healthy, short-term outreaches which benefit both the team and the hosts.
- Team time with your peers, DTS students and staff which include worship, intercession, and just hanging out in allocated free times.
- Continued mentorship/processing time with a staff.
- Rest days! It's important we rest well when it's needed.

Asides from the ministry schedule, you might also experience:

- Depending on the location, travel may include trains, busses, boats, or hiking outback to reach new destinations.

Here is an example what a week on outreach can look like. This is so you can see the typical layout of a week and not focus so much on what the ministry examples are, as they vary greatly depending on location:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
08:30 - 09:15	Day Off	Intercession	Worship and Intercession	Intercession	Prayer Walk	Free Time	Free Time	
09:15 - 10:00		Worship and Communication	Travel to Ministry	Devotional Prayer and Communication	Outreach Prep Time			
10:00		Travel to Ministry		Travel to Ministry				
10:30		Children's Programme in Squatter Camp	Ministry at Girl's Home	Children's Programme in Squatter Camp	Church Bible Study			
11:00								
11:30								
12:00								
12:30								
13:00		Lunch		Lunch				
13:30		Work Duties		Work Duties				
14:00		Free Time			Travel to Ministry	Free Time	Worship in the Park	Preparation Time for the Service
14:30					Evangelism in Local Town			Meet Individuals from Church
15:00			Depart from Ministry		Team Bible Study	Flyer Distribution for Open House		Team lead Church Service
15:30								
16:00		Dinner					Intercession for other Outreaches Special Team Meal and Evening	
16:30 - 18:30		Youth Night at Church	Work Duties	Free Time	Youth Ministry	Prayer for Evening		
18:30			Free Time			Open House		
19:30 - 21:00								
21:00 - 23:00								

***“AS THE DTS GOES, SO GOES THE MISSION” - DARLENE CUNNINGHAM (CO-FOUNDER OF YWAM)***

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# HOW OLD ARE STUDENTS?

Typically between the ages of 18-28, although we do get older students too, particularly married couples in their mid 20's to early 30's. We also are open to 17yr olds, providing their caregiver signs for them on certain documents and so long as the student turns 18 during lecture phase (the first 12 weeks of the school).

# WHAT IS THE HOUSING LIKE?

We have 3 houses on a hill in the city of Whangarei. Staff and students all live on-site to ensure a family environment where staff are accessible and modelling what they teach.

Students share a room with others, usually around 4 others, depending on the size of the school and the housing available at the time. We try to let you know as much as possible about your sleeping space ahead of time, so go ahead and ask us what the housing is looking like for your school of interest if you would like to know more.

# HOW MANY STUDENTS ON A DTS?

Typically between 15-25 students per DTS depending on the quarter. We enjoy "smaller" schools for the family atmosphere, the ability to truly know one another, and the accessibility it gives students for ministry with their one-on-one's and visiting speakers.

# HOW AND WHEN ARE OUTREACH LOCATIONS CHOSEN?

You will know your outreach location within the first month of your DTS. Your school leader/s will present the locations to you and from there you will pray about your top 1 or 2 options.

This is a time to practice hearing God's voice as an individual and as a collective. Your leaders are also praying and once they receive student choices, they set about creating the teams before announcing them within the following days.

## **WHAT IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO BE IN NEW ZEALAND?**

This all depends on your reasons for coming. We believe all year is the best time of year! But if it's sun and dry weather you are after, then a Quarter 1 school is for you. That is why our Outdoor Pursuits and Surf school are in the summer time when the weather is more enticing for the beach.

If you are less concerned with the weather and simply desire to be discipled and to go out into the nations, then either time of the year is great! Our Quarter 4 DTS is during the spring and as we are the only sub-tropical part of the country, we get a mix of hot days, rain, and humidity. The Music and Arts focussed streams can continue to operate well at that time of year.

## **CAN I SIGN UP WITH FRIENDS?**

Absolutely! This happens often and we also have boyfriends and girlfriends attend DTS together from time to time. While it can be beneficial to enter the DTS without too much familiarity in relationship surrounding you, it can also be an incredible experience for good friends and married couples



together. We just encourage everyone to step out and invite new people into your DTS experience too.

## CAN I DO ONLY THE LECTURE PHASE?

The DTS comes in two parts, Lectures & Outreach. The school is not complete until both parts are fully participated in, resulting in a “pass” grade in the University of the Nations.

Only under unique circumstances will we consider a student being able to complete just the Lecture phase without participating in Outreach. This means the default is that **every student/applicant for the DTS is signing up to a full 12 weeks of Lectures, followed by a full 8-10 weeks cross-cultural Outreach**, concluding with 1 week for re-entry, debrief, and graduation.

## WHAT IS THE UOFN?

“The University of the Nations (UofN) was born out of Youth With A Mission (YWAM), a highly decentralised international movement of Christians from many denominations dedicated to presenting the person of Jesus Christ to this generation and to training and equipping many believers in that endeavour...

...The University of The Nations is unique in its international missionary training scope with school locations in 160 nations and at 600 locations on 6 continents.”

*(Excerpt from <https://uofn.edu/about>)*

## WHO ARE THE STAFF?

Every staff involved in Training within Discipleship Schools has to have successfully completed an entire Discipleship Training School. One of our foundational values within YWAM is to “do first, then teach”. This means anything the students are required to partake in, the staff have also been through and will be right there alongside the students on their school too.

Our staff are all volunteers, which means they pay to be there to serve the students. No one receives a salary or even a reward for their service in the form of cash gifts, food or rent subsidies. All of the staff pay their way fully and are supported by their communities from around the globe.

"As citizens of God's kingdom, YWAM staff seek to love, worship, and obey their Lord, to love and serve His Body, the Church, and to present the whole gospel for the whole person throughout the whole world." *(Excerpt from <https://uofn.edu/about>)*

Furthermore, each staff partakes in leadership development throughout their commitment with Zion in order to up-skill and continuously posture themselves as students before the Lord. Staff also participate in national staff training gatherings and have scheduled one-on-one's with ministry leadership for accountability and pastoral support.

Got more questions? Feel free to contact us via email: [registrar@ywamzion.org.nz](mailto:registrar@ywamzion.org.nz) or call [+64 9 55 33 816](tel:+6495533816)

# ABOUT YWAM ZION

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We are a community of interdenominational Christian young adults from all around the world, passionate about knowing God and making God known. We are a part of a much larger global movement of other communities who share the same values and beliefs, and who also desire that all would have the opportunity to enter into relationship with our beautiful God.

Specifically for YWAM Zion....

1. Our mission is to facilitate an environment where those within YWAM and those in community around us can encounter the Lord and experience **Intimacy** with him.
2. We desire for this intimacy to overflow into relationships with the Lord as sons and daughters, secure in their **Identity**.
3. From this place of relationship with the Lord, we seek to send young people into Northland, New Zealand, and the Nations as ambassadors and witnesses for Christ creating **Impact** for the Kingdom of God.

For more information on YWAM global visit: <https://uofn.edu>

For more information on YWAM Zion visit: [ywamzion.org.nz](http://ywamzion.org.nz) or email [registrar@ywamzion.org.nz](mailto:registrar@ywamzion.org.nz)