UC Santa Cruz Arboretum

Arboretum New Zealand Garden Internship
Agency Sponsor: Thomas Saucedas, New Zealand Garden Curator

This internship provides first hand work experience with New Zealand native plants at the 9-acre New Zealand garden at the Arboretum.

Interns will work in the garden planting, pruning, weeding and installing basic drip irrigation systems. Interns will work with native New Zealand plants some of which are threatened or rare in nature, so there is a component of international plant conservation. Interns will keep a field journal of their work accomplished and garden observations including ecological plant-animal interactions, growth habit, flower structure, etc. Journal entries can be handwritten field notes, photographs, line drawings etc.

There will also be assigned readings either from arboretum library books and or internet articles from New Zealand conservation websites. Also interns can learn of the ethnobotany of New Zealand plants and how New Zealand’s indigenous Maori population use their native plants for food, fiber, medicine, etc. This internship is especially good for those students who are planning to travel abroad to New Zealand (or those who may have just returned from studying abroad in New Zealand) as they will gain familiarity with New Zealand forest trees and shrubs.

The Arboretum New Zealand Internship will also explore, more broadly, the gardens and collections in the Arboretum, with room for individual participants to diverge into areas of special interest.

For more information regarding Winter Quarter, 2019 contact: Tom Saucedas, (831) 502-2308 or saucedas@ucsc.edu (please put New Zealand internship in the subject line)