

TAI POUTINI POLYTECHNIC TUTORS



Geoff Button

Programme coordinator, Ecotourism

Geoff will focus on content covering ecology, earth sciences and biology. Geoff is passionate about ecotourism and the environment. He has extensive tourism industry experience and has also worked for DOC, mainly in Abel Tasman and Kahurangi National Parks. It was the latter experience that made him aware of the impacts and issues involved with tourism.



Stu Drake

Head of department, Outdoor education

Stu worked for the Department of Conservation for over 10 years as a ranger on the West Coast and at Mount Cook. He is a member of LandSAR, is a St John paramedic and a crewman/winch operator for the Greymouth-based Solid Energy Rescue Helicopter.



Ian Hooker

Programme coordinator,
NZ Diploma in Business

Ian teaches a number of the management papers at Tai Poutini Polytechnic. Prior to this he was spent five years as associate professor in international business at Nanchang University, in China, and has previous top management experience in commercial organisations and polytechnics in New Zealand.



Dave Ritchie

Tutor, Outdoor education

Dave has been with the Outdoor Recreation Department since 2006. He spends most of his time floating down beautiful West Coast rivers. In his spare time on land, he lends us his valuable time and knowledge developing our Leadership and Guiding programme and pushing students and staff to their limits as programme coordinator.



Hine Mckletchie

Tutor

Hine holds a Diploma in teaching Maori language and is an experienced Maori language tutor. Hine lives in Hokitika and her wide interests include Maori arts such as flax weaving, creative writing and small business management.



Dave Mason

Te Takawaenga/Kohinga Matauranga
(Maori development and support officer),
Kaiwhakaako (Tutor)

Dave provides guidance around ceremonial and other occasions that require Maori protocol, coordinates the development and maintenance of Maori course content across the polytechnic and throughout Te Tai Poutini and supports Maori and Pacific Island students. He is of Ngai Tahu descent and enjoys walking on the Arahura River looking for Pounamu (Greenstone), fishing, and just replenishing his wairua (spirit).