

Title	Explain whakapapa in relation to Māori history		
Level	3	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to explain: the concept, and use, of whakapapa in relation to Māori history; and whakapapa in relation to an event in Māori history.
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Classification	Tikanga > Tikanga Concepts
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 The basic principles underpinning tikanga are common, but while there are some constants, the details of performance of tikanga, and their explanation, may differ. These differences may be at a whānau, hapū, iwi, marae or rohe level. The context of the learning should include the tikanga of the local mana whenua (if capable) but learning others' tikanga is also encouraged.
- 2 It is envisaged a range of approaches could be taken to the use of this unit standard. This ranges from accessing published sources, to ākonga/learners utilising what they already know of whakapapa, to conducting research into whakapapa. In any of these processes, whakapapa was traditionally the realm of selected tohunga and in many instances many Māori still view their whakapapa as tapu, or knowledge restricted to those who hold the knowledge or those descendants of the tūpuna given in the whakapapa. Therefore, it is important that ākonga/learners conducting research into whakapapa be aware of possible pitfalls (including resistance to the sharing of information and people taking offence). Ākonga/learners must approach the work with a high degree of sensitivity in how they plan their research, for people they interview, and how they handle any information collected.
- 3 Definitions:
Māori history refers to the history of the indigenous people of Aotearoa/New Zealand, known as tangata whenua. Before the arrival of Pākehā, tangata whenua knew themselves and were known by others as members of a particular whānau, hapū, or iwi, linked by common descent from eponymous ancestors. Therefore, the term Māori history is often seen as a misnomer, whilst the term "*tribal histories*" is the preferred term. However, the study of post-contact history can be viewed from both perspectives, as many of the historical events have had an impact on all Māori.

Ngā kōrero tuku iho encompass Māori narratives and historical accounts that underpin Māori belief systems and tikanga. These stories can be discovered within Māori oral traditions like pūrākau, pakiwaitara, whakapapa, waiata, karanga, and whaikōrero, as well as written works. They may also be specific to a whānau, hapū, iwi, hāpori, marae or rohe. These narratives hold significant reverence and are cherished as invaluable accounts that are handed down through generations.

Whakapapa is a vital concept in Māori culture that encompasses genealogy, ancestral lineage, and the interconnectedness of all things. It refers to the knowledge and understanding of one's family tree, tracing back to their ancestors and origins. Whakapapa is not only about biological relationships but also includes spiritual, cultural, and historical connections. It reflects the Māori worldview, emphasising the importance of knowing and respecting one's roots, maintaining cultural identity, and acknowledging the reciprocal relationship between people (*ira tangata*) and *ira atua*; land and the spiritual realm. Whakapapa provides a foundation for identity, belonging, and understanding within Māori society.

- 4 The resource support listed is given as a guide only and is not intended to be in any way prescriptive. It is acknowledged that different areas may have their own written and unwritten repositories of knowledge relevant to this unit standard.

Resource support may include, but is not limited to:

Appropriate websites.

Biggs, B, (1995). *Ngā Iwi o Tainui*, (Auckland, NZ: Auckland University Press).

Department of Internal Affairs, (1990). *Ngā Tāngata Taumata Rau: 1769-1869*, (Wellington, NZ: Allen and Unwin and the Department of Internal Affairs).

Department of Internal Affairs, (1994). *Ngā Tāngata Taumata Rau: 1870-1900*, (Wellington, NZ: Bridget Williams Books and the Department of Internal Affairs).

Grey, G, (1997). *Ngā Mahi a Ngā Tūpuna*, (Christchurch, NZ: Kiwi Publishers).

Kelly, L, (1980). *Tainui*, (Christchurch, NZ: Capper Press).

Māori Land Court records.

Royal, T A, (1994). *Te Haurapa: An Introduction to Researching Tribal Histories and Traditions*, (Wellington, NZ: Bridget Williams Books Ltd).

Stafford, D M, (1967). *Te Arawa: A History of the Arawa People*, (Auckland, NZ: Reed Books).

Waitangi Tribunal Reports, (Wellington, NZ: Waitangi Tribunal).

- 5 All sources of information must be referenced.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Explain the concept of whakapapa in relation to Māori history.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Whakapapa is explained in terms of links between *ira tangata* and *ira atua*.
- 1.2 Whakapapa is explained in terms of chronological reference points in Māori history.
- 1.3 Whakapapa is explained in terms of approaches to *kōrero tuku iho*.

Outcome 2

Explain the use of whakapapa in relation to Māori history.

Performance criteria

2.1 The use of whakapapa is explained in terms of giving context to historical accounts and helping to provide dates for events.

2.2 Whakapapa is explained in terms of its use on the marae.

Range contexts may include but is not limited to – whaikōrero, karanga, wānanga, explaining natural phenomena, mōteatea, whakairo, taonga.
evidence of two is required.

Outcome 3

Explain whakapapa in relation to an event in Māori history.

Performance criteria

3.1 Whakapapa relevant to an event is identified.

Range may include but is not limited to – tūpuna, whānau, hapū, iwi, atua, marae, whare, taonga.
evidence of two is required.

3.2 Whakapapa is explained in terms of its relevance and significance to an event.

Planned review date	31 December 2028
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	29 June 1999	31 December 2015
Review	2	19 December 2003	31 December 2015
Rollover and Revision	3	12 December 2013	31 December 2019
Review	4	15 September 2016	31 December 2020
Review	5	29 November 2018	31 December 2025
Review	6	14 December 2023	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0226
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the NZQA Māori Qualifications Services mqs@nzqa.govt.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.