## Senior Cycle Subject Choice Information Evening

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Guidance Counsellors

## Our Agenda for tonight:

- Senior Cycle Curriculum at Naas CBS
- Factors to consider when choosing subjects
- College / Course / Career Requirements


## Subject Choice in the Leaving Certificate Established

- Students usually study 7 subjects
- Core subjects (3): English, Maths, Irish*
- Plus 4 optional subjects from the others available in the school
- Google Form - Open from Wed 17th Jan $\rightarrow$ Fri 8th March


# English Studies and English Literature -TCD H4 

## The CORE GROUP

ENGLISH

> Communications - DCU H4
> Journalism -DCU/TUD H4

Journalism \& Digital
Communication - UL H4
Media Studies - Maynooth H5

Required for entry to NUI colleges
*Exemptions can be sought

## The CORE GROUP

IRISH

UCD, Maynooth, UCC, Uni of Galway, RCSI, NCAD

Higher Level Irish is a requirement for primary school teaching - H4

Garda- Successful applicants are required to study and pass Irish as part of a module in the Garda College.

## The CORE GROUP

## MATHS

Economics \& Finance UCD - H4
Computer Science TCD - H4
Data Science DCU - H3
Theoretical Physics TCD - H3
Actuarial and Financial Studies UCD - H2
DCU - H3

Higher Level H4 - Many Level
8 Engineering Courses

## Option Subjects

Ag. Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Accounting, Business, Economics

Construction Studies, DCG

History, Geography, Art, Music

Applied Maths*, Computer Science, Physical Education

French, German. LCVP Option*.

Students are asked to select 4 option subjects.

Students will order these in preference.

## Decision Making: Use what you know from school so far



> What subjects did I get my best results in?

How do I like to learn best?

Do I have any idea of what I would like to do after school?

## Find out the answers to these questions:




Personality/ Interests

## Career/

College Choice

Aptitudes/ DATS

Bring these 4 together and you should find the right option for you.

## 3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Third Level / College


SPECIFIC COURSE/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
(may involve interviews, portfolios etc.).


## POINTS

(points are not required for many options after post-primary school).

## 1) Matriculation/Minimum Entry Requirements

Minimum Academic Requirements for entry that students must meet for HEl's

| HEI | Minimum Grades | Required Subjects |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| NUI | $2 \mathrm{H} 5 \& 4 \mathrm{O} / \mathrm{H} 7$ | O6/ H7 in English, Irish \& A Modern <br> Language* Maths* |
| Trinity | $3 \mathrm{H} 5 \& 3 \mathrm{O} / \mathrm{H} 7$ | O6/ H7 in Maths, English, \& Irish or <br> Another Language |
| UL | $2 \mathrm{H} 5 \& 4 \mathrm{O6/H7}$ | O6/H7 Maths, English \& Irish or <br> another language |
| DCU | $2 \mathrm{H} 5 \& 4 \mathrm{O} / \mathrm{H} 7$ | O6/ H7 Maths, English or Irish |
| Technological <br> Universities | $2 \mathrm{H} 5 \& 4 \mathrm{O} / \mathrm{H} 7$ | O6/H7 Maths, English or Irish |

## Third Language Requirement

Requirement for many courses in NUI Colleges (UCD, Maynooth University, University of Galway, UCC, RCSI, NCAD
*NUI Exemption can be sought


## Third Language Requirement

NUI - Yes
$\checkmark$ Arts
$\checkmark$ Human Sciences
$\checkmark$ Social Science
$\checkmark$ Commerce/Business*
$\checkmark$ Law*
$\checkmark$ Medicine
$\checkmark$ Health Sciences
*Not required for courses at Maynooth

## NUI - No

* Engineering

Science

* Nursing
* Agricultural programmes (UCD)


## Third Language Requirement

- Trinity College and UL - English and Another Language (Irish will suffice)
- DCU - English or Irish
- Technological Universities - do not require a Third Language
- Defence Forces - Cadets requires a Third Language

Be careful - specific courses require a language other than Irish
e.g Law and French, Business and German, Modern Languages

## 2) Specific Subject Requirements

Some courses require students to have a specific subject with a specific grade for entry.

Examples of specific subject requirements include:

- H4 Irish for Primary Teaching (all colleges)
- H4 Maths for most Engineering degrees
- H5 Chemistry for Veterinary (UCD)
- H3 French for Law and French (TCD)


## Science Subject Requirements

The majority of Science or Health related degrees will require at least 1 laboratory science subject.

Medicine
Dentistry
Pharmacy
Physiotherapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech and Language Therapy
Nursing
Veterinary
Human Nutrition/Dietetics
Radiography
Radiation Therapy

Optometry
Paramedic Studies
Podiatric Medicine
Science - general and specific - most courses
Agricultural Science
Equine Science
Environmental Science
Science Education
Engineering (UCD)


## Courses requiring Two Science Subjects

- Medicine (UCC, Trinity)
- Dentistry (UCC, Trinity)
- Pharmacy (UCC, Trinity)
- Human Health and Disease (Trinity)
- Any Science course in Trinity


## Science Subjects

Biology is required to study:

- Genetics in UCC
- Human Health \& Disease in Trinity
- Health Science with Dietetics/OT/Physiotherapy - ATU Letterkenny

Physics is required to study:

- Theoretical Physics in Trinity



## Science Subjects

Chemistry is required to study:

- Human Nutrition and Dietetics (TU Dublin)
- Veterinary Medicine (UCD)
- Dentistry (UCC)
- Medicine (UCC)
- Medical \& Health Science (UCC)
- Pharmacy (UCC and RCSI)


## You can check course/subject requirements here:



## Leaving

Certificate Points

| 3) Points |
| :--- |
| Requirement |
| Points are calculated <br> from the student's <br> six best subject <br> results in one sitting <br> of the LC. |



## How do the exams work:

Different subjects assess the skills you learn in different ways


## Subject Research - www.careersportal.ie




## FRENCH \& GERMAN

## Content:

* Communication through target language
* Speaking /Listening / Reading /Writing
- Variety of themes
(family,school,hobbies,sport \& current affairs)
Grammar \& Cultural awareness


## Assessment :

* Final Exam= Written paper 55\%
(Reading comprehension \& writing tasks)
* Oral-25\% (HL) 20\% (OL) March/April
* Aural - 20\% (HL) 25\% (OL)


## Student Suitability:

* Anyone with an interest in Fre/Ger culture, history and language
* Students considering working abroad or in the area of international relations
* Students who can already speak French/German DATS - Verbal, Spelling, Language Usage

Careers: Language teaching, Translators, International Business, Tourism, Irish \& EU Public Service, Media \& Information industry.....

## BIOLOGY

## Content:

* 70\% Biological knowledge, understanding \& skills
30\% technological, social, economic Unit 1: The Study of Life
Unit 2 : The Cell
Unit 3: The Organism


## Assessment:

Final exam = Written paper 100\% 22 mandatory practical activities Laboratory record must be kept Field Study /Ecology Portfolio

## Student Suitability:

* Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
* Aptitude \& interest in lab work
* Interest Test - Investigative
* DATS - Numerical, Verbal, Language Usage

Careers: Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Science, Veterinary, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Teacher, Genetics, Ecology.....

## CHEMISTRY

## Content:

* 70\% pure chemistry 30\% social \& applied aspects of chemistry

1. Atomic Structure
2. Volumetric analysis
3. Organic chemistry
4. Water chemistry
5. Reaction mechanisms

## Assessment:

* Final exam = Written paper 100\%
* 28 mandatory experiments
* Laboratory record must be kept


## Student Suitability:

* Enjoyed and did well in JC Science and Maths
* Aptitude and interest in lab work

Good attention to detail

- Ability to describe the procedures of experiments and understand vocab
* Interest Test - Investigative
* DATS - Numerical, Abstract

Careers: Medicine, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Forensics, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering, Dietetics, Nursing, Food Science

## PHYSICS

| Content: |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Compulsory | Options (HL Only) |
| 1. Optics / Waves | Particle Physics |
| 2. Mechanics | Applied Electricity |
| 3. Heat |  |
| 4. Electricity |  |
| 5. Electricity \& Magnetism |  |
| 6. Atomic Physics |  |

## Assessment:

* Final exam= Written paper 100\% (HL \& $\mathrm{OL})$
* 24 mandatory experiments
- Laboratory record must be kept


## Student Suitability:

Students who wonder why and ask how
Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
Aptitude and interest in lab work
Enjoy learning about how things work
HL Maths is not a requirement to do physics.

* Interest test - Investigative
- DATS - Numerical, Mechanical


## Careers: <br> Engineering, Data Analyst, Teacher, Researcher, Medical Physicist, Meteorologist, Software Developer, Astronomer....

## AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

## Content:

* Study of the science and technology underlying the principles and practices of agriculture
4 Main Strands

1. Scientific Practices
2. Soils
3. Grass \& Other Crops
4. Animals

## Assessment :

* Final exam= Written paper 75\% (HL \& OL)
* Project - Investigative study 25\%
- Portfolio of activities and investigations (lab \& field investigations, farm visits)


## Student Suitability:

* Some experience of farming is desirable Enjoyed and did well in JC Science
* Interest test - Investigative
* DATS - Numerical, Verbal, Language Usage


## Careers:

Agriculture, Farming, Horticulture, Forestry, Food Science, Greenkeeping, Sportsturf
Management, Teaching, Renewable Energy...

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Content:

Study of computers and algorithmic processes. Includes how programming and computational thinking can be applied to the solution of problems, and how computing technology impacts the world around us.

- 3 Strands

1. Practices and Principles

- 2. Core Concepts
* 3. Computer Science in practice


## Assessment :

* Final Exam =Computer based assessment 70\%
- Project (March) 30\% (HL \& OL)
* Languages used - Python, JavaScript, HTML


## Student Suitability:

* Enjoying puzzling out
* Do well in maths and science
* Strong interest in how computers work, solving problems in a logical way and the effect technology has on society
* DATS - Abstract
* Interest Test - Investigative

Careers - Big Data, Software, Apps, Cloud, Web Developer, Cyber Security, Programming, Games Design.


## APPLIED MATHS*

## Content:

Covers the mathematics behind the behaviour of objects when placed in various situations,
such as being thrown as projectiles, bounced off walls or other objects, immersed in fluids, or swung around on a rope.

1. Units and Vectors
2. Uniform acceleration
3. Projectiles
4. Connected particles
5. Work, power, energy \& momentum
6. Impacts \& collisions
7. Circular Motion
8. Difference Equation
9. Differentiation \& Integration
10. Networks \& Graphs
11. Optimal Paths

## Assessment:

* Final exam= Written paper 80\%
* Modelling project 20\% (HL \& OL)
* *Offered as an additional 8th in the CBS.


## Student Suitability:

* Desirable to be studying Maths HL \& Physics HL
* Enjoy and do well in maths
* Intertest Test - Investigative
* DATS - Numerical


## Careers:

Engineering, Physics, Construction, IT, Insurance, Architecture....

## ACCOUNTING

## Content:

1. Financial Statements preparation
2. Farm accounts
3. Club Accounts
4. Company Accounts
5. Manufacturing Accounts
6. Financial statement analysis \& Interpretation
7. Budgeting
8. Break even analysis
9. Cost classification
10. Accounting theory \& Principles

## Assessment:

* Final exam= Written paper 100\% (HL \& OL)
*     * Not essential for entry into any business course (except Commerce in Uni of Galway - H4 Acc req)


## Student Suitability:

* Comfortable with numbers
* Does not have to be doing HL Maths
* DATS - Numerical
* Interest Test - Administrative, Enterprising


## Careers:

* Accountancy, Actuarial Studies, Marketing, Business, Finance....


## BUSINESS

## Content:

## 7 Core Units

Introduction to People in Business
Enterprise
Managing 1 \& 2
Business in action
Domestic Environment
International Environment

## Assessment:

Final exam= Written paper 100\% (HL \& OL)
*Not a requirement for any CAO courses

## Student Suitability:

* Interest in current affairs and listens to the news
* Organised mind and likes to answer in bullet points
- JC Business helpful
* Consistent attitude to homework and study
* DATS - Verbal, Language Usage
* Interest Test - Enterprising, Administrative


## Careers:

* Banking, Finance, Administration, Law, Insurance, Management, Marketing....


## ECONOMICS

## Content:

* Economics is regarded as the most practical business subject and is the study of how people manage limited resources such as money to meet their goals.
- Two Broad Categories

1. Microeconomics
2. Macroeconomics

- Subject Content

1. Demand, supply, equilibrium, utility \& elasticity
2. Costs \& market structures
3. Factors of production
4. National income \& the multiplier
5. Inflation, money, banking \& monetary policy
6. International trade, balance of payments and the euro
7. Fiscal policy and taxation
8. The Government in the economy

## Assessment:

Final exam= Written paper 80\% Project - Research Study 20\% (HL \& OL )

## Student Suitability:

Enjoyed JC Business
Interest in politics, current affairs, or psychology

* DATS - Verbal, Language Usage
* Interest Test - Investigative, Administrative, Enterprising

Careers: Banking, Insurance, Finance, Marketing, Politics.....

## HISTORY

## Content:

- Fields of study
- Early Modern 1492-1815
- Late Modern History 1815-1993
* 4 topics studied from the selected field of study
- two from Irish History
- two from the history of Europe
- Two topics prescribed for documents based study - one from each field of study
* Completely different from JC course


## Assessment :

Final exam= Written paper 80\%
Special Research Project 20\%

## Student Suitability:

* Enjoys and appreciates History and would like to improve their knowledge
* Willing to commit a lot of time
* Strong English skills, good writer
* DATS - Verbal, Language Usage Interest Test - Investigative


## Careers:

Current Affairs, Journalism, Law, Politics, Economics, Management, Business, Teaching, Government...

## GEOGRAPHY

## Content:

* Study of people, their environment, and the interaction between the two.
* Follows on from JC course. Covers similar topics in a lot more detail.
* $3 x$ Core Units +1 Elective Unit

1. Patterns \& Processes in the physical environment
2. Regional Geography
3. Geographical Investigation \& skills
4. Patterns \& Processes in the economic environment

## Assessment :

Final exam= Written paper 80\%
Special Research Project 20\%

## Student Suitability:

* Enjoyed and did well in JC Geog
* DATS - Verbal, Abstract, Space

Relations, Language Usage

* Interest Test - Investigative


## Careers:

Cartography, Geographical Information Systems, Town planning,
Environmental Science, Engineering, Travel, Tourism, Meteorology, Global/ Development work

## DESIGN \& COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

## Content:

* Necessary to have done JC Graphics
* Great emphasis in the LC course on comprehension, analysis and problem solving. You must be able to understand what has to be done, analyse how you are going to approach it and then proceed to solve the problem.
- CORE

1. Plane \& Descriptive Geometry
2. Communication of Design and Computer Graphics

* Applied Graphics - Optional Areas of study - (2 from 5 to choose)


## Assessment :

* Final exam= Written paper 60\%
- Student Assignment 40\% - Design Brief Involves freehand sketching + Board/T Square + CAD/ICT


## Student Suitability:

* JC Graphics
- Basic knowledge of IT skills
* DATS - Abstract, Mechanical, Space Relations

Interest Test - Investigative, Realist

## Careers:

Engineering, Product Design,
Construction, Architecture,

## CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

## Content:

The course is essentially about the study of buildings and the built environment. The theoretical part of the course examines all parts of building from the planning stages to the completed building.

The course is studied under the following main headings:

Planning \& Design; Drawings \& Documents;
Site preliminaries \& Foundations; Walls, Partitions;

Floors, Roofs; Fireplaces; Windows and Doors, Stairs;

Plastering \& Painting; Plumbing \& Heating; Services Drainage

## Assessment:

Final exam= Written paper 50\% (HL) 40\% (OL) Project \& Portfolio 25\% (HL) 30\% (OL) Practical exam 25\% (HL) 30\% (OL) - 4hrs (May)

## Student Suitability:

* General interest in buildings/built environment
* interest/Aptitude for design/practical work
* DATS - Abstract, Mechanical, Space Relations
* Interest Test - Realist, Creative, Investigative

Careers: Building Management, Carpentry, Electrician, Town Planning, Heating \& Ventilation, Housing Management...

## MUSIC

## Content:

* LC course provides continuity and progression from JC course
- Course consists of 3 Main Components:

1. Composing
2. Listening
3. Performance

+ Additional Elective for HL students


## Assessment:

* Performance - 25\% (April 6th Year)
* Compositions - 25\%
* Listening - 25\%
* Elective (HL) - 25\%
* OL students choose musical activity that best suits from 3 above


## Student Suitability:

* Enjoyed and did well in JC Music
* If you can read music and have a competence in singing or playing an instrument
* DATS - Abstract
* Interest Test - Creative


## Careers:

Media work or studies, Primary teaching, Sound Engineering, Public Relations, Library Work, Speech Therapy, Film, Communications, Production, Performance and Music at third level

## ART

## Content:

* All students, OL and HL, follow a common course.
* The practical work can include Life Sketching, Still Life, Imaginative Composition, Design and Craftwork.
* The History of Art and Appreciation is a broad course covering Irish and European Art, and also Art Appreciation. It requires looking at artworks through the use of reproductions, slides and art galleries, reading books and writing essays on different subjects.
- 4 Units

1. Create
2. Research
3. Respond
4. Emphasis on the Artistic

## Assessment:

Written Exam - 30\% (HL \& OL)
Practical Exam - 20\% (HL \& OL)
Practical Coursework 50\% SEC brief 6th Yr

## Student Suitability:

* Enjoyed and did well in JC Art
* Enjoy expressing themselves through Art and like to sketch and doodle
* DATS - Abstract, Space Relations
* Interest Test - Creative


## Careers:

Art, Art Therapy, Design, Animation, Graphics, Artist, Architecture, Teaching

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Content:

* Course features inter-linking theoretical and practical sections.
* Theoretical section - separated into 2 strands - 1. Towards Optimal Performance

2. Contemporary issues in physical activity.

Students study the factors that impact on physical performance, the relationship between sport and society and examine the benefits of of participation in physical activity.

* Practical section - students will be assessed on their skills level in three different activities from a wide range of physical activities.


## Assessment :

* Written paper - 50\%
* Physical Activity Project - 20\%
* Performance Assessment - 30\%


## Student Suitability:

* Physically active students - individual/team sports
* DATS - Investigative
* Interest - Social, Investigative, Realist

> Entry Reqs: Counted as a Science for entry into Physio (UL), Sports \& Exercise Science (UL)

Careers: First step towards careers in Health and Fitness, Nutrition, Athlete, Sport Sciences, Physiotherapy....

## *Leaving Certificate Vocational Preparation - LCVP

## Content:

* Practical World of Work Focus
* Two Modules

1. Preparation for the World of Work
2. Enterprise Education

* Course Content Includes:

Curriculum Vitae
Interview Techniques
Career Investigation
Summary Report
Enterprise/ Product Design/ Action Plan

Diary of Work Experience
Recorded Interview / Presentation Enterprise Report

## Assessment:

* Written Exam - 40\% (May 6th Year)
* Portfolio - 60\% (5 pieces of work submitted in March of 6th Year)


## Student Suitability:

* An optional 7th subject for Irish Exempt students
* Practical students
* Interested in the world of work
* Interest Test - Enterprising

CAO Points: Distinction - 66; Merit - 46; Pass - 28

Careers: Starting one's own business and/or taking an active role in an established business

## Common Pitfalls



Not doing enough research

Making a decision at the last minute

## Your Next Steps

Research the subjects/course you are considering before choosing

Talk to your teachers/read infocareersportal.ie

Think of what you will need for $3^{\text {rd }}$ level/career

Review your Exam
Results

Choose subjects based on your own interests and aptitudes

## Final Piece of advice

* The subject and level choices made now will influence the options available on completion of second level.
* Serious thought and consideration, good research and consultation will help avoid limitation in choice later
* Get active and choose wisely!!!
* Google Form - Open from Friday 19th Jan $\rightarrow$ Fri 8th March


## Google Form - Open from Friday $\rightarrow$ March 8th

## 5th Year Subject Choice 2024

Please use the following form to provide us with your subject choices for 5th year. Please ensure that you put your subject choice in order of preference.

Please rank option subjects in order of preference from 1-6. You will study 4 for LC.


## Resources

* Visit relevant websites
www.ncca.ie
www.curriculumonline.ie
www.careersportal.ie
www.qualifax.ie
* Guidance Counsellor - make appointment
* Review subject textbook, test papers
* Talk to Subject Teachers, LC students, Parents, Older Siblings
* TY Subject Choice Cafe - Tues 27th and Wed 28th February


## PowerPoint Presentation available in Guidance Section of www.naascbs.ie




