



**SUBJECT CHOICE FOR
5TH YEAR
2016 / 2017**

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OBJECTIVE

- At end of presentation you should have a clear idea of:
 - the subjects on offer
 - LCVP
 - A lot of the subject requirements for 3rd level
 - Where to find out more information on subject requirements for the future
 - Option Block Formation inc. samples
 - New Grade & Points scale for 2017 entry
 - Final Tips
 - Change of Mind Facility



SUBJECTS AT SENIOR CYCLE – THE CORE SUBJECTS

English

Irish

Maths

All offered at Higher and Ordinary Level.

Maths & Irish are also offered at Foundation Level.



OPTIONAL SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

- Business – Accounting, Business, Economics
- Languages – French, German
- Sciences – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agricultural Science, Applied Maths
- Humanities – Geography, History, Home Economics
- Creative – Art, Craft & Design, Music
- Practical – Construction Studies, DCG, Engineering

All offered at Higher and Ordinary Level.



APPLIED MATHS & AG. SCIENCE

- Offered partly outside timetable



A LOOK AT THE SUBJECTS

– CORE SUBJECTS

- Maths – 25 bonus points available for Honours Maths at grades H6 and above ie 40% +. Needed for most Engineering courses.
- Irish – 40% oral exam. H4 needed for Primary School Teaching.
- English – Honours English is a great preparation for Third Level Education.



OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Subject Choice Booklet contains the following information on each optional subject:

- Aptitudes needed to study subject to LC
- Comparison with JC subject
- Assessment and Assignments
- Careers Note on each subject



THE LCVP

- Students need a certain combination of subjects in order to qualify.
- Students take 7 subjects & 2 additional Link Modules with a strong vocational dimension
 - Preparation for the World of Work & Enterprise Education
- Very valuable to develop transferable skills e.g. team work, critical thinking, flexibility, etc.
- Points awarded for Distinction (66), Merit (46) and Pass (28) and can be counted as one of top 6 for points calculation.
- See pages 4 and 24 in subject choice booklet for more details.



WHAT YOU NEED TO CONSIDER BEFORE CHOOSING SUBJECTS

- Subject requirements for the future – basic entry requirements to college, apprenticeship, cadetship, etc.

&

- Course entry requirements

The most useful resource for college and course entry requirements is:

- www.qualifax.ie



COLLEGE OPTIONS

Option	Qualification	NFQ Level
University	Honours Degree	Level 8
Institutes of Technology	Honours Degree	Level 8
	Ordinary Degree	Level 7
	Higher Certificate	Level 6
Colleges of Further Education	Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI)	Level 6 (2 yrs.)
		Level 5 (1 yr.)



ENTRY TO THIRD LEVEL

3 conditions must be met:

- Minimum college entry requirements
 - Specific course entry requirements
 - Points
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- Entry requirements can be met using more than one sitting of the LC
 - Points are calculated on your best **6** subjects from **one** sitting of LC



MINIMUM COLLEGE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Universities:

- A minimum of 6 subject to include
 - 2 H5 & 4 O6/H7 grades **or** 3H5 and 3 O6/H7 grades
 - Specific subject requirements e.g. NUI colleges require passes in Irish, English and a third language; UL and Trinity require passes in English, Maths and another language.

Exceptions in NUIs

– No 3rd language requirement for most engineering, science, agricultural and food science programmes, & nursing.

_ Art is acceptable in place of the language for students entering NCAD.



MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS CONT'D

Institutes of Technology

- Level 8 (Honours Degree) – minimum of 6 subjects – 2H5 & 4O6 to include Maths and English **or** Irish.
- Level 7 (Ordinary Degree) & Level 6 (Higher Certificate) – minimum of 5 subjects – 5O6/H7 to include Maths and English **or** Irish.



MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS CONT'D

- Cadetship in the Defence Forces – minimum of 6 subjects – 3H5 & 3O6/H7 to include Irish, English, and a third language.
- Apprenticeships – minimum of 5 subjects in the Junior Certificate. However, this is changing and specific subject requirements are being introduced. Also a lot of companies are now using aptitude tests to choose suitable candidates.



COURSE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- HEIs are currently finalising the mapping of programme entry requirements to the new grade scale. Recommendation is that current grade requirements falling in the top half of a new grade band such as HC3, HC1 and HB2 will convert to H4, H3 and H2 respectively. Some exceptions will apply.
- See UCD handout – only one available at the moment.



SCIENCE/MEDICAL/VETERINARY

- Science UCC – H4 in one science subject
- Medicine UCC – H4 in Chemistry & Biology/Physics
- Dentistry UCC – H4 in Chemistry & Biology/Physics
- Pharmacy UCC – H5 in Chemistry & Biology/Physics



ENGINEERING

- Engineering UCC – One science subject & H4 in Maths
- Engineering CIT – varied course requirement depending on the type of engineering. See www.cit.ie



LANGUAGES

- Commerce International UCC
 - – H3 in a foreign language
- Law and French UCC
 - – H3 in French
- Law and Irish UCC
 - – H3 in Irish
- World Languages UCC
 - – H3 in a language other than English



FURTHER INFORMATION ON SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

- www.qualifax.ie
- College website



OPTION BLOCK APPLICATION FORM



SUBJECT CHOICES FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE COURSE 2016/2017

Student _____ Date of Birth _____

Present Class _____ Have you applied for T.Y.O. Yes No

All students entering 5th year will take An Ghaeilge, English, Maths and Religion (a non exam subject)

Students will take FOUR other subjects for Leaving Cert. giving a total of 7 exam subjects.

Students should select six subjects from the list below by putting 1 to 6 opposite the subjects in order of preference. When students have indicated their preferences, four groups or bands of subjects will be created. Students will select one subject from each band. A class may not be formed in a particular subject if the numbers applying are too low.

French	Social and Scientific (Home Ec)	
Geography	Construction Studies	
History	Engineering	
Physics	DCG (Design and Communication Graphics)	
Chemistry	German	
Biology	Accounting	
Music	Economics	
Art	Business	

All students will be given the opportunity to follow the L.C.V.P. course if their chosen subjects satisfy the criteria laid down. (See reverse for details)

Please select one subject from the group below by using a tick

Ag Science	LCVP	PE	Applied Maths
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Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

**Form must be returned to Mr Dodd's office
by Friday 29th April 2016**



OPTION BLOCK FORMATION – THE PROCESS



A survey of students preferences is carried out

Subjects are then placed in blocks based on the information gathered and availability of resources

Students are then asked to chose from these blocks



5TH YEAR OPTION BLOCK 2014/2015

Band 1

- French x 2
- German x2
- Biology

Band 2

- Engineering
- Chemistry
- Accounting
- History
- Art
- Home Economics

Band 3

- Biology
- Business
- Economics
- Geography
- Music
- Construction

Band 4

- Biology
- Physics
- Business
- History
- Geography
- DCG



5TH YEAR OPTION BLOCK 2015/2016

Band 1

- French x 3
- German x 2
- Biology
- History

Band 2

- Biology
- Accounting
- Economics
- Geography
- DCG
- Music
- Home Economics

Band 3

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Engineering
- Business
- Economics
- History
- Art

Band 4

- Physics
- Biology
- Construction
- Accounting
- Business
- Geography
- Home Economics



ADDITIONAL BLOCK

- Students will also be asked to choose one of the following:

LCVP (only an option if they qualify)

Applied Maths

Agricultural Science

PE



SELECTING THE RIGHT SUBJECTS FOR YOU

Do...

- Select subjects you enjoy
- Select subjects you are good at

Don't...

- Select a subject because a friend is doing it
- Select a subject based on whose teaching it



HOW TO CHOOSE:

- Basic and Course entry requirements – lots of research
- Interest – Do an interest inventory
www.careersportal.ie
- Aptitude – JC, class tests, CAT results
- Keep options open...



THE CORE

Gaeilge,

English,

Maths...



A LANGUAGE

French/German

- If you want to study in any NUI
- If you want to become a Cadet in the Army or Air Corp
- Certain courses e.g. European Studies, Languages, Marketing, Tourism, etc.
- IBEC and Engineers Ireland strongly recommend that all students take a language to LC



AT LEAST ONE SCIENCE

At least one science subject is essential for entry to most university science, medical, engineering, paramedical, technology course, nursing, navy cadet, etc.



BUT WHICH SCIENCE?

- Biology and/or Chemistry are more useful for medical, nursing, food science and agricultural fields
- Physics and/or Chemistry are more useful for engineering and science fields



PLUS...

2 subjects you love



CAO & POINT SYSTEM

- Competitive – based on demand for course not ability required
- All subjects are worth doing – same points for all except Honours Maths
- See UCD Handout



NEW GRADING SCALES INTRODUCED FOR 2017 LC

New Grades	% Marks
H1/O1	90 – 100
H2/O2	80 – 89
H3/O3	70 – 79
H4/O4	60 – 69
H5/O5	50 – 59
H6/O6	40 – 49
H7/O7	30 – 39
H8/O8	0 – 29



NEW COMMON POINTS SCALE

Higher		Ordinary	
Grade	Points	Grade	Points
H1	100		
H2	88		
H3	77		
H4	66		
H5	56	O1	56
H6	46	O2	46
H7	37	O3	37
H8	0	O4	28
		O5	20
		O6	12
		O7	0
		O8	0



FINAL TIPS

- Look up subject textbooks & exam papers
- Talk subject teacher
- Talk to a number of older students but be aware that they are expressing their opinion of the subject – you may have different interests and aptitudes
- Choose subjects that you like and that you are good at
- Research College and Course entry requirements
- Speak to Guidance Counsellor – drop in service available every morning during morning break



CHANGE OF MIND

- Deadline for change of mind is
Friday 23rd September 2016.
- Discussion with Subject Teacher & Guidance Counsellor necessary.
- Numbers Permitting
- Form to be signed by student & parent





QUESTIONS ?