



ST. CATHERINE'S VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

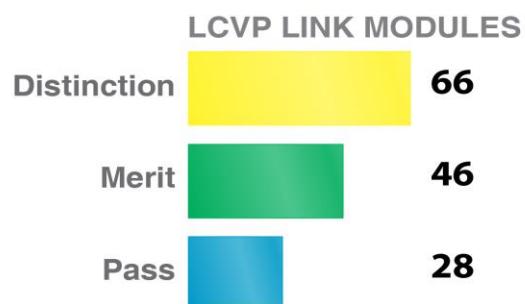
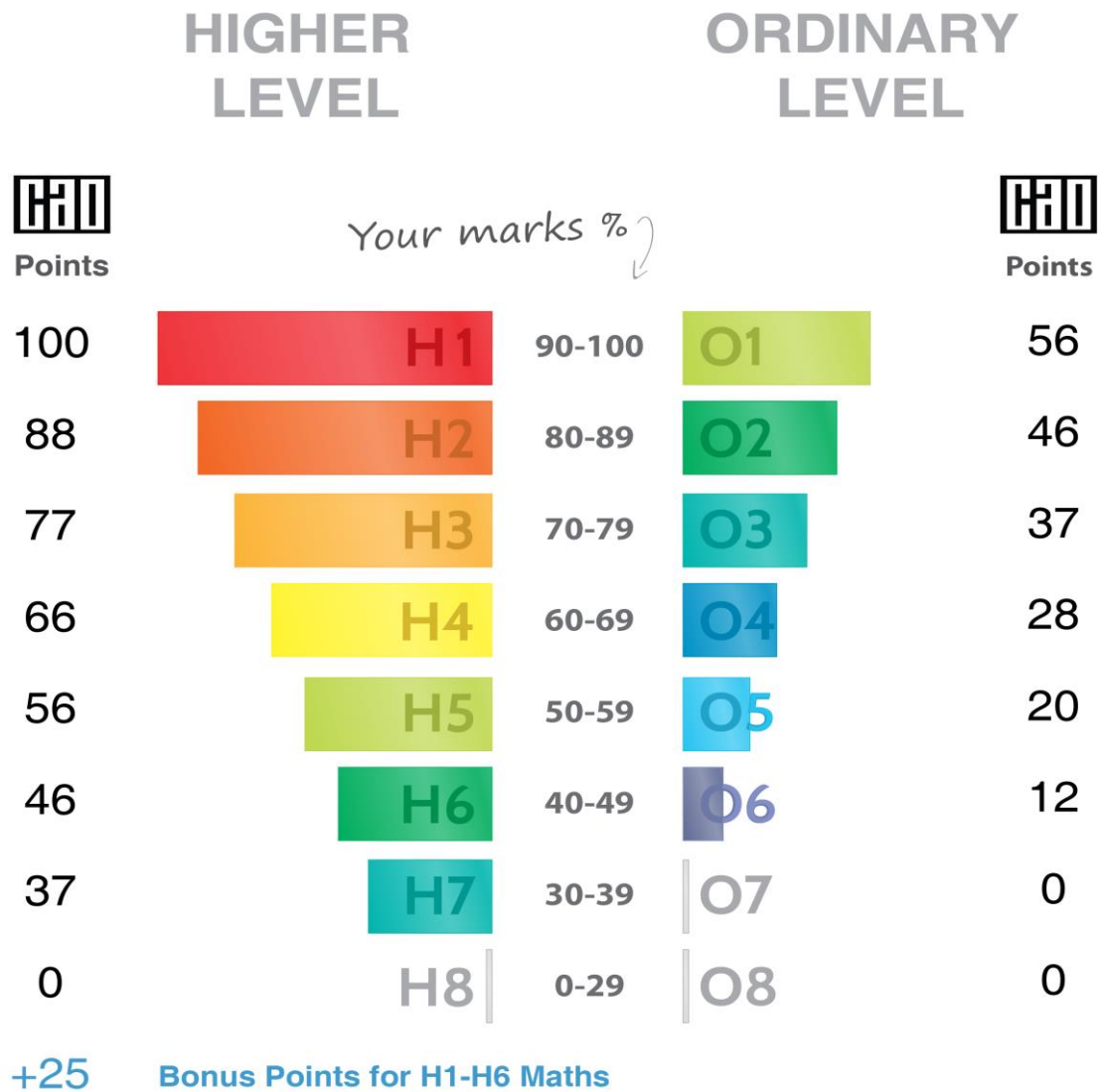
SUBJECT CHOICE

2021-2022



CAO POINTS GUIDE

grading system from 2017



Subjects & Career Choice



Subject Choices & the relationship to career areas and college course choice. As a guideline, here are some pointers that you may find useful for a range of popular career areas:

Architecture

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- *French
- Physics
- Art
- Design & Communication Graphics

* UCD only

Business

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- *French
- Business
- Accountancy

*NUIG / UCD / UL only

Computers/ Games Dev/ Software

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Language
- Physics
- Design & Communication Graphics

Engineering

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Physics
- Engineering
- Design & Communication Graphics
-

Hospitality/ Hotel Management

- English
 - Irish
 - Maths
 - *French
 - Business
 - Home Economics
- *An advantage for the Tourism sector

Law

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- French
- Business
- History
- Your favourite subject

Agricultural Science/ Teagasc

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Agricultural Science
- Business/ Geography
- Biology

Veterinary

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- French
- *Chemistry
- Biology
- Agricultural Science

Psychology/ Social Worker

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- French
- Biology
- Business
- Home Economics

Music/ Music Technology

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- French
- Music (HL)
- Business

Art/ Interior Design

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Art (HL)
- DCG
- Business

Marine Engineering/ Fishing

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Engineering
- Physics
- Construction

Nursing/ Healthcare

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- *A science subject- Biology
- Home Economics

Science

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- *A science subject x2

* Maximises CAO Points

Arts/ Humanities/ Teaching

- English
- *Irish (HL- PT)
- Maths
- French
- PE
- Geography/ History

Our school offers the
following



16

Leaving Certificate
Subjects

Language

French

Leaving Certificate French follows a common syllabus framework for the teaching and examining of modern languages in the Leaving Certificate. The syllabus aims to develop learners' communicative skills in the French, to develop their strategies for effective language learning and raise their awareness of cultural, social and political diversity.



Content:

- ❖ Oral (Speaking)
- ❖ Written
- ❖ Aural (Listening)
- ❖ Reading

Assessment:

❖ Speaking	25% (H)	20% (O)
❖ Listening Comprehension	20% (H)	25% (O)
❖ Reading Comprehension	30% (H)	40% (O)
❖ Writing	25% (H)	15% (O)

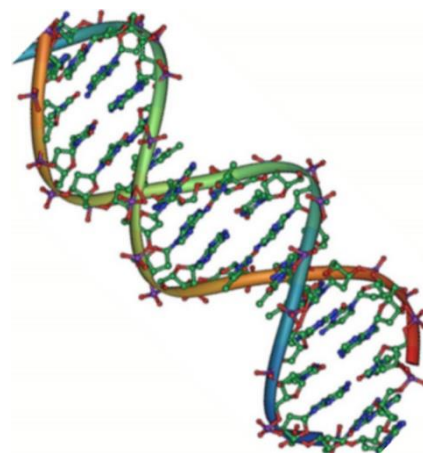
Notes:

- ❖ A third language ***may be a requirement to gain entry to some courses** in University or if you want to further your studies in languages.
- ❖ E.g. 3rd Language **is needed** to study Commerce in NUI Galway & UCD- It is **not needed** to study Business in DCU or NUI Maynooth.
- ❖ This subject is **not** needed **for entry to ANY** University or Institute of Technology.
- ❖ French is useful for many careers and for travel

*Refer back to Subjects & Careers

Sciences

Biology



Biology is the study of life. Through the study of biology students explore the diversity of life and the inter-relationships between organisms and their environment. They become aware of the use of living organisms and their products to enhance human health and the environment. The syllabus consists of three units:

Unit One: Biology - The Study of Life

Unit Two: The Cell

Unit Three: The Organism

Offered at Higher & Ordinary Level.

Assessment

- ❖ Written Examination Paper

Notes:

- ❖ Biology ***may be a requirement to gain entry to some courses** in University or if you want to further your studies in Biological Sciences.
- ❖ Human Health & Disease in Trinity CD and Genetics in UCC **requires** Biology.
- ❖ E.g. Biology is a great subject if you are **considering healthcare courses such as nursing**. Very useful subject to have for further study in **Sports**.
- ❖ Other careers where studying Biology at second level is useful include: Veterinary, Dentistry, Agriculture, Applied Biology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Botany, Ecology, Earth Science and Environmental Science, Genetics, Marine Science and Aquaculture, Microbiology and Zoology, Psychologist, Astronomer, Teacher, Dietician and Researcher.

*Refer back to Subjects & Careers

Chemistry



Leaving Certificate chemistry is a two-year course that covers essential and relevant topics in chemistry. The syllabus consists of about 70 % pure chemistry; the remaining 30 % deals with the social and applied aspects of chemistry. Topics covered include; atomic chemistry, organic chemistry, volumetric analysis, environmental chemistry, atmospheric chemistry, the greenhouse effect, the ozone hole, water treatment, sewage treatment, water analysis, radioactivity, fuels etc.

Leaving Cert chemistry builds on the foundation of what students learned in Junior Cycle science. It is also a foundation course for those who wish to continue to study chemistry or a related subject in third level. Experimental skills learned are a great advantage for students doing any related subject in third level.

Practical work is an integral part of the course. The chemistry course includes 29 compulsory experiments. Students are required to keep a record of their experiments. Experiments are examined in the terminal exam paper.

Leaving Cert Chemistry is examined at Ordinary Level (Pass) or Higher level (Honours). Both papers are three hours long.

Chemistry is **extremely useful** for a wide range of career options such as: Environmental science, Forensic Science, Industrial Process Chemist, Industrial Quality Control, Pharmacy, Medicine, Agrochemical science, Petrochemical industry, Plastics industry, Physiotherapy, Biochemistry, Geochemistry, Chemical & Biochemical Engineering, General Science, Dietician, Nursing, Food Science, Biotechnology, Medical Laboratory Technology etc.

Chemistry ***is a requirement to gain entry to the following courses** in Universities: Veterinary Medicine –UCD, Pharmacy- TCD, UCC & RCSI, Dentistry- UCC, Medicine- UCC, Health Nutrition & Dietetics, Clinical Measurement- DIT.

*Refer back to Subjects & Careers

Physics



Many people who have studied physics report it helps them develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. These are skills that are useful in a wide variety of jobs and in particular those in the field of engineering. Through the study of physics students gain a new appreciation of the working of the world around us. Mathematics provide the tools physicists use to understand the world we live in. For this reason, any student considering studying physics should be comfortable in mathematics.

The topics on the course include

- Mechanics
- Waves
- Light
- Sound
- Electricity
- Electromagnetism
- Atomic Physics
- Particle Physics

Assessment:

- ❖ Leaving Certificate physics is assessed by a three-hour examination.
- ❖ **40% of which is on the practical work** carried out in the course.
- ❖ Subject is offered at Higher & Ordinary Level.

Note:

- ❖ Physics is for students who wonder why and ask how.
- ❖ Students who are interested in the following careers would be advised to study Physics:
- ❖ Engineering (all forms), Meteorologist, Electrician, Optician, Radiographer, Dentist, Medical physicist, Computer Technician and Programmer., Scientific research, teaching among many.

*Refer back to Subjects & Careers

Agricultural Science



Leaving Certificate agricultural science involves the study of the science and technology underlying the principles and practices of agriculture. Plants and animal types associated with agriculture are studied, and investigations are undertaken into such aspects as soil, ecology, plant and animal physiology, farm crops, farming practices, genetics and microbiology.

Agricultural Science remains a very popular subject among students in Ireland and reflects our agricultural background. This subject proves popular among students who are planning to study Veterinary Science, Science or Medicine in college.

Assessment:

- ❖ Written Examination Paper – 75%
- ❖ Coursework – 25%
- ❖ The coursework is comprised of a portfolio of specified practical activities and an Individual Investigative Study

Notes:

- ❖ Careers in this area include: Veterinary Nursing, Green Cert and Green keeping, Horticulture, Food Science, Agricultural Advisers, Agricultural Engineering, Sports Turf Management, Environmental Science, Forestry, Farming, Marine Science, Careers in Renewable Energy and Teaching.
- ❖ A subject that works well with Biology and Geography.

Practical Subjects

DCG- Design Communication Graphics

This subject develops students' comprehension ability, problem solving and creative thinking skills are developed through the analysis and solution of both 2 and 3-dimensional graphics. Graphics and design are communicated using freehand sketching skills, traditional draughting equipment and CAD.



DCG helps to further students' cognitive and practical skills development. These skills include graphicacy/graphic communication, creative problem solving, spatial abilities/visualisation, design capabilities, computer graphics and CAD modelling.



The creative and decision-making capabilities of students in the activities associated with design, are developed through three principal areas of study: design and communication graphics, plane and descriptive geometries and applied graphics.

Assessment:

There are two assessment components:

1. Student Assignment (40% of marks, of which CAD (SolidWorks) will form a significant and compulsory component)
2. Examination paper (60% of marks)

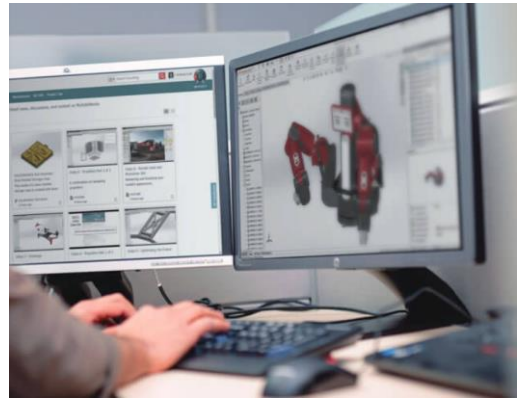
Notes:

- It is an **advantage to have studied Graphics at Junior Cycle but it is NOT essential.**
- Free-hand sketching is a large component of the core topics. Therefore, Junior Cert **Art, Wood Technology & Engineering** would serve as an advantage in this area.
- A **basic knowledge of ICT skills** is also beneficial.
- Students must also appreciate that work completed **must conform to a high standard of neatness and draftsman ship.**
- On completion of DCG students will be competent and confident in the application of CAD and other appropriate Information and

Communications Technologies (ICT) in the solution, modelling and presentation of graphic design solutions, in two and three dimensions.

- Career Options, this subject will be of use to you if you intend to progress into careers such as:

- **Architectural Technology**
- **Interior Design**
- **Engineering**
 - *Civil Engineering*
 - *Mechanical Engineering*
 - *Electronic Engineering*
 - *Mechatronics*
- **Construction**
 - *Quantity Surveying*
 - *Building Services*
- **Product Design**
- **Animation**
- **Web Design**
- **Manufacturing / Production Technology**



Construction Studies

Leaving Certificate Construction Studies provides students with an introduction to the knowledge and skills involved in construction technology and construction materials and processes. This practical subject gives students hands-on experience working with tools and machinery. Students also undertake theoretical and background work for their final examinations which provides the students with the knowledge and hand skills for working in the sector.



The changing face of Construction Studies in the 21st century

Major themes emerge as important drivers in the changing nature of Construction Studies in recent years, which include:

- Climate Change
- Fossil Fuel Depletion
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- EU Renewable Energy Targets
- Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future
- Nearly Zero Energy Building (nZEB)
- Dwelling House for the 21st Century
- Importance of the Indoor Environment

Assessment:

The examination consists of three components:

Section	Name	Level	Marks	% Exam	Exam Period
Part 1	Construction Theory	Higher Level/ Ordinary Level	HL = 300 marks OL = 200 marks	HL = 50% OL = 40%	June
Part 2	Practical Skills	Common Level	150 marks	HL = 25% OL = 30%	May
Part 3	Coursework	Common Level	150 marks	HL = 25% OL = 30%	Completion date in April. Examination in June

Notes:

- It is recommended that a student taking Leaving Certificate Construction Studies has a general **interest in buildings, architecture, engineering, design and the built environment.**
- The study of Construction Studies will prepare students with the basic lessons and principles associated with **21st century design and builds.**
- The aim of the syllabus is to develop a knowledge of woodworking techniques and skills based on practical experience.
- Each student should have an aptitude for, and an **interest in designing and making practical projects.**
- Studying this subject will be useful for anyone thinking of working/studying in the following areas:
 - **Architectural Technology**
 - **Construction Management**
 - **Quantity Surveying**
 - **Building Services & Renewable Energy**
 - **Fire Safety Engineer**
 - **Carpentry**
 - **Electrician**
 - **Plumbing**

Engineering

Leaving Engineering at Leaving Cert represents a study of a wide range of mechanical engineering materials, processes and technological applications integrated with the acquisition of the manipulative skills and techniques necessary for practical resourcefulness, creativity and design realization in the execution of work.



It aims to promote an educational knowledge of the materials; an understanding of the processes; ability in safely using the skills and tools to achieve objectives through practical work; initiative in the planning and development of technological projects.

There are two main areas of study: **Workshop processes**, and **Materials and Technology**.

Engineering Examination Format

Examination components	<u>Marks</u>	<u>%</u>
<i>Higher Level</i>		
Technology Project – Design	150	25
Practical Fitting Test (6 Hours)	150	25
Written Test (Materials and Technology)	300	50
Total	600	100
<i>Ordinary Level</i>		
Technology Project – Manufacture	150	30
Practical Fitting Test (6 Hours)	150	30
Written Test (Materials and Technology)	200	40
Total	500	100

- ❖ You'll find Engineers in almost all industries, from Aviation, Agriculture and Space to Healthcare, Manufacturing and Software – and everywhere in between.
- ❖ Right now, engineers around the world are working on innovative projects from solar energy to synthetic organs, driverless cars, to virtual reality headsets.

Business Subjects

Accountancy

Leaving Certificate accounting provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills in accounting and financial management necessary for managing personal and basic company accounts. The learning experiences in accounting develop students' organisational, logical thinking, planning and problem-solving skills for their future life, work and study. It also develops their numeracy skills within the context of business and enterprise. It is also an important subject choice for those thinking of starting their own business.



Commonly seen as the mathematical side of business, accounting attracts the more numerate student. It teaches students the bookkeeping side of Business but delves deeper, teaching you to analyse and interpret the figures. Once you can understand and adhere to the basic rules of accountancy, it is a subject that you can do very well in.

Assessment:

Examined at Higher and Ordinary Level

One computational exam – 100%

Notes:

- ❖ While the Junior Certificate Business Studies Course provides a foundation for this course, **it is not essential** and it is possible to take accountancy up at senior cycle.
- ❖ This course offers a hard working student the real possibility of high grades because of the unambiguous nature of the questions. An organised student who likes order will be particularly suited to this course.
- ❖ Career pathways might include **accountancy, actuarial studies, marketing, business or finance**. It would also be an important subject choice for those thinking of starting their own business.

Business

Leaving Certificate business creates an awareness of the importance of business activity and develops a positive and ethical attitude towards enterprise. The learning experiences in business develop students' critical thinking, creative and organisational skills while enhancing literacy and numeracy skills using real-life examples. Business provides students with a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in business, marketing, law, enterprise and management.



Assessment

Examined at Higher and Ordinary Level

One terminal exam with a combination of short answer, applied and structured questions

Notes:

- ❖ Beneficial for candidates who might be interested in courses or careers in the area of **finance, enterprise, law and communications**.
- ❖ Business will suit a candidate who is interested in **current affairs and listens to the news, reads the papers and stays alert to what is happening** in the general business world.
- ❖ This subject suits someone who has an organised mind and **likes to answer questions in bullet points**, rather than in long essay format.
- ❖ This subject would be useful to anyone thinking of starting his or her own business in the future. Someone hoping to do **an apprenticeship who could eventually be self-employed**.
- ❖ It is **not necessary for students** to have studied Junior Certificate Business Studies.
- ❖ Careers in a wide range of areas including **Banking, Finance, Administration, Law, Insurance, Management and Marketing** among others.

Artistic & Creative

Art

The Art course for Leaving Cert is about developing the student's ability in a range of artistic fields and disciplines. The syllabus permits a huge number of media, from the **fine arts such as sculpture, drawing, painting, pottery and art appreciation.**



If you want to study more in an artistic area you can continue in Fine Art and specialise in painting, sculpting or printmaking. Alternatively, you could go into the design area and specialise in areas such as **fashion, graphic, interior or furniture design.** Studying art as the title suggests allows students to be creative and explore their desire for self-expression and develop an appreciation for artistic work of others including the **work of famous artists and design appreciation.**

Students who have shown an aptitude for art, in Junior Cert Art are advised to consider the subject for L.C. Some students may take Art for Leaving certificate that have not studied the subject before and can bring their art work to the art teacher for consideration. The reason for this is going forward the focus is on art history (not drawing skills) which is nearly 40% of the final mark.

Assessment:

- ❖ Art History 37.5%
- ❖ Life Drawing 12.5%
- ❖ Coursework 50%

Notes:

- ❖ Art is useful for careers in **animation, art teaching, computer design, architecture, fashion design, interior design, graphic design, painting and decorating, photography and art therapy.**
- ❖ If a student has a good aptitude for ART then they should consider taking this subject to maximise their CAO Points.
- ❖ Coursework - A workbook is given out to students in January of their final year with a choice of themes. Students then have 12 weeks to complete the Project Workbook and **two final pieces** - one in Visual Art the other in Design/Craftwork. The project has to be completed in school and cannot be removed.
- ❖ Students sit an Art History exam in June which is necessary for the academic component of Leaving Certificate Art

Music

Leaving Certificate Music involves a series of interrelated musical activities within each of the three core areas of musical experience - performing, composing and listening.



In performing, students choose from a variety of individual and/or group performing activities. In composing, students develop an understanding of musical structure and form, while the listening component provides for rich aural experiences through exposure to music of different periods, styles and genres.

Who is music suited to?

- Students who have shown an aptitude for music, such as by getting high grades in Junior Cycle Music and are keen to develop and practice more.
- You do not need to have studied music at Junior Cycle, but it is generally recommended that you have a competence in singing or playing an instrument to take it up as a new subject in 5th year.

Assessment:

Listening Paper – 25 %

Composition Paper – 25 %

Practical Performance – Up to 50 %

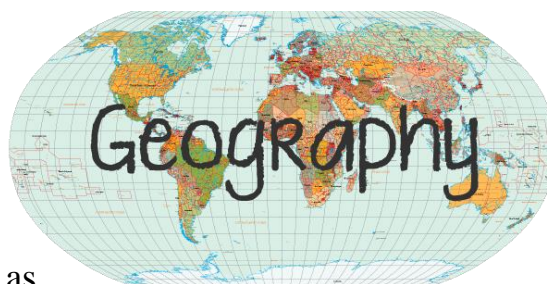
Notes:

- ❖ Students can **get up to 50 per cent of the total marks** in the musical activity that best suits their talent before they even sit the written paper
- ❖ Music is useful for **media work or studies, primary teaching, sound engineering, public relations, library work, speech therapy, film, physical education, communications, production, performance and music at third level.**
- ❖ **NUI Maynooth/ UCD/ TCD requires** additional entry requirements such as interview, music exams and auditions to gain entry.
- ❖ **NUI Maynooth requires Higher Level Cert Music for entry to study music.**

Social Sciences

Geography

Geography is the study of people, their environment, and the interaction between the two. The course follows from Junior Cert Geography, and covers very similar topics (such as rocks, soils, oceans, population movements, map-reading, and economic activities) in a lot more detail. Students considering further study in areas such as geography, economics, environmental science, or politics.



Geographical skills

The teaching and application of skills is integrated into each of the units where appropriate:

- Map and aerial photograph interpretation
- Satellite imagery
- Figure interpretation
- Census of population data
- Weather maps and data.

Notes:

- ❖ Wide variety of careers such as **cartography, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), town planning, environmental science, engineering, travel/tourism, meteorology/weather forecasting and in global/development work, teaching, horticulture, agriculture. Wild-Life Park Rangers.**
- ❖ Geography is a very popular subject choice. Up to 20% of the final grade is achieved before sitting the actual examination by completing a report on a geographical investigation - this is a great advantage for students.
- ❖ Geography can work well with Agricultural Science.
- ❖ TCD accepts geography as a science subject for entry into both the science and pharmacy faculty

History

At both Higher and Ordinary level students will study both European and Modern Irish history. Each student will complete a Research Study Report (RSR). For the RSR each student will produce an extended essay on a significant historical event or a person of historical



significance. The student will choose what he/she wishes to work on with the guidance of their teacher. The RSR comprises of 20% of the overall mark.

The student of History will study four topics in all. Two of these modules will be dedicated to European history while the other two covers Irish history.

At higher level each student will complete three essay style questions and one document question. This is great practice for third level as each student learns to think critically as well as plan and write a detailed answer in less than forty minutes.

At ordinary level each student must also complete a document question together with three other questions. The document question is compulsory and the other three questions have three components. Part A demands the students to answer five questions relating to a comprehension piece. Parts B and C require the student to write paragraph style answers. The ordinary level paper offers plenty of choice which allows the student to showcase their knowledge of the various topics.

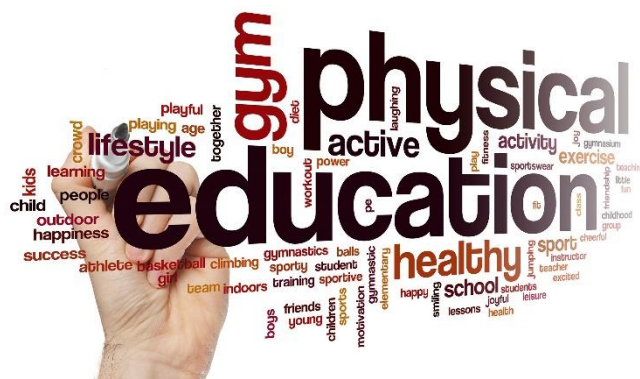
Assessment:

- ❖ Written examination paper (80%)
- ❖ Research study report (20%)

Notes

- ❖ History develops an ability to think independently and is very useful skill for third-level education.
- ❖ An interest in, and knowledge of history are relevant to any career related to current affairs, such as Journalism, Local and National Radio and TV.
- ❖ History is valuable as a background to studies in Law, Town Planning, Architecture, Politics, Economics, Sociology, Art, Museum and Library work.

Physical Education



The aim of LCPE is to develop students' capacity to participate in physical education and physical activity in a confident and informed manner. Students will get the opportunity to learn **in physical activity** by engaging in activity, **through physical activity** by shifting the focus from performance to personal, social and intellectual learning and finally **about physical activity** which refers to the enquiring about different theoretical perspectives that influence performance in physical activity.

The objectives of the course are to develop students

- *Performance in physical activity*
- *Ability to reflect on performance in physical activity*
- *Knowledge and understanding of the factors which influence performance and participation in physical activity.*
- *Appreciation of the benefits of physical activity*
- *Capacity to undertake different roles in physical activity*
- *Understanding of the principles underlying ethical participation in physical activity*
- *Understanding of the role of physical activity and sport in the social and cultural life of Ireland*

Assessment Breakdown

1. Performance Assessment (PA) - (30%) (8 minute video)
2. Physical Activity Project (PAP) - (20%) (1600 words and 4 minute video)
3. Written Exam - 50%

Subject Breakdown

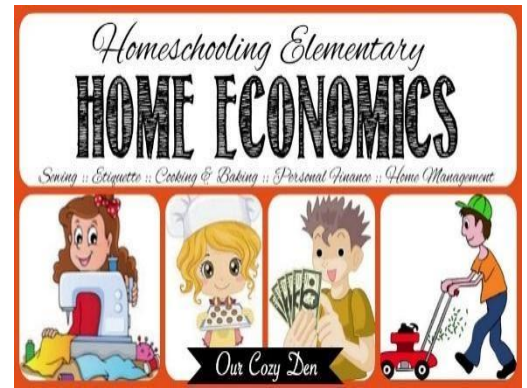
STRAND 1 Towards optimum performance	STRAND 2 Contemporary issues in physical activity
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning and improving skill and technique 2. Physical and psychological demands of performance 3. Structures, strategies, roles and conventions 4. Planning for optimum performance 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Promoting physical activity 6. Ethics and fair play <p><i>In addition, two of the following topics will be prescribed each year:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Physical activity and inclusion 8. Technology, media and sport 9. Gender and physical activity 10. Business and enterprise in physical activity and sport

Student Requirements

- Good IT Skills and access to a laptop
- Keen interest in sports and physical activity as a coach or participant

Home Economics

Home Economics syllabus provides students with knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes necessary for managing their own lives, for further and higher education and work. The learning experiences in home economics develop flexibility and adaptability in students, prepare them for a consumer-oriented society and provide a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in food, textiles, science, design, social studies and tourism.



Assessment:

- ❖ Journal 20%
- ❖ Written Paper 80%

Notes:

- ❖ There is a link with Biology and Business.
- ❖ This subject provides a good foundation for careers in a wide range of areas including Health, Nutrition, Education, Tourism, Textiles, Design, the Food industry, Science and Social Studies.
- ❖ Students be competent in awareness of Nutrition and Culinary skills, communicating well and being organise topic discussion and teamwork.
- ❖ Much of the course is theory based – students are often under the illusion that “it’s all cooking” and can find it quite a shock when they realise that the Practical Section has to be written up and presented.

It's your choice.....

Make it count!

How many subjects should I choose?

You have **4 Choice Subjects** that you can choose from 15 subjects offer by our school. The more subjects you choose to do at Higher Level will maximise your CAO Points. Higher Maths offers 25* Extra Bonus CAO Points if you achieve between a H1 and a H6.

Are there any subjects that I have to choose?

English, Irish, Maths & Link Modules are our 4 Core Subjects. It is important that you check future third level course entry requirements to choose specific subjects. These entry requirements are discretionary to different colleges for e.g. *to study Commerce (Business) in NUI Galway you need to have a third language, however to study Business in DCU or NUI Maynooth a third language is not required.*

***Science subjects are discretionary to different courses in different colleges.*

How do I go about choosing the right subjects that suit me?

Look at your Junior Cert results & find the subject you were best at & enjoyed! (1)
Choose a subject that you are good at & enjoyed as this will help to maximise your CAO Points. (1)
Choose a subject that will maximise entry to every course at third level (e.g. Language & Science) (2)

If I don't know what I want to study at Third Level yet, what subjects should I choose?

If you still aren't sure after your Career Interest Tests, take a good mixture of subjects. French, Science, two of your favourite subjects.

*You **DO NOT NEED FRENCH** to gain entry to ANY Institute of Technology so take a third subject you are good at and enjoy learning!

What if I am not able to take certain subjects that I need or want?

This can happen when demand for a subject is very low or when the school lacks the resources to provide the courses. In this context it is vital that subject preferences are carefully entered on the VSWARE as we use the options systems to manage the data inputted to best meet the needs of students

If there is a subject you need, we look at the best possible option for you e.g. sitting this subject outside of school and offering as much support as possible to you within the school.

Do I need to take a science subject?

While it is by no means necessary to do a Science subject it is generally regarded as sensible to adopt a balanced approach to subject choices. In this regard choosing a science subject makes sense. Secondly, some subject choices at University require at least one Science and on occasion two. The latter is often the case if applying to Northern Ireland. Finally, some sciences fit naturally with other Leaving Cert subjects for example Maths and Physics, Engineering and Physics or PE and Biology.

Would you encourage me to do three science subjects?

We advise students to be aware of the VERY HEAVY THEORY workload that is involved in taking three sciences. This is **not a requirement** for any Third Level course in Ireland or the UK. Three

sciences can be very demanding and require a lot of time therefore we advise substituting this with a practical subject that could maximise your CAO Points.

Common pitfalls when it comes to choosing a subject:

Never choose a subject because your friend is considering choosing it
Never choose a subject just because you like/dislike the teacher
Never choose a subject because your older brother or sister did well in it
Never choose a subject if you know nothing about that subject & have no interest in it

What if I haven't studied this subject at Junior Cert Level?

It is advisable to talk to the teacher currently teaching that subject. They will be able to advise you on your capability for taking up their subject. If a student has tried this subject in TY then they are at an advantage and perhaps enjoy the subject.

How many classes per week do I have of each subject?

4-5 timetabled classes per week. (Sometimes one double class)

Where can I get more information of subjects/ third level courses?

Talk to teachers currently teaching the subject in question.
Talk to Mr O'Hagan about possible implications if a student changes their mind during the Leaving Cert on their career path. (This happens quite frequently when students enclose themselves in selected subject areas & unfortunately haven't got the necessary subjects to move into their then preferred area of study).

For more info....

www.ncca.ie- (subject content and what you will be studying)
www.careersportal.ie (future progression/ video interviews/ grades etc)
www.qualifax.ie (third level college course entry requirements)

A sample of college websites:

<https://www.tcd.ie/>
<https://www.ucd.ie/>
<https://www.ul.ie/>
www.nuig.ie
www.dcu.ie
www.lyit.ie
www.sligoit.ie