

The background features a vertical gradient from light green at the top to dark blue at the bottom. On the left side, there is a large, semi-circular scale with numerical markings from 150 to 260 in increments of 10. Several circular diagrams are overlaid on the background, including solid and dashed lines with arrows indicating clockwise or counter-clockwise rotation. The text 'SENIOR CYCLE SUBJECT CHOICE' is positioned on the right side in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# SENIOR CYCLE SUBJECT CHOICE

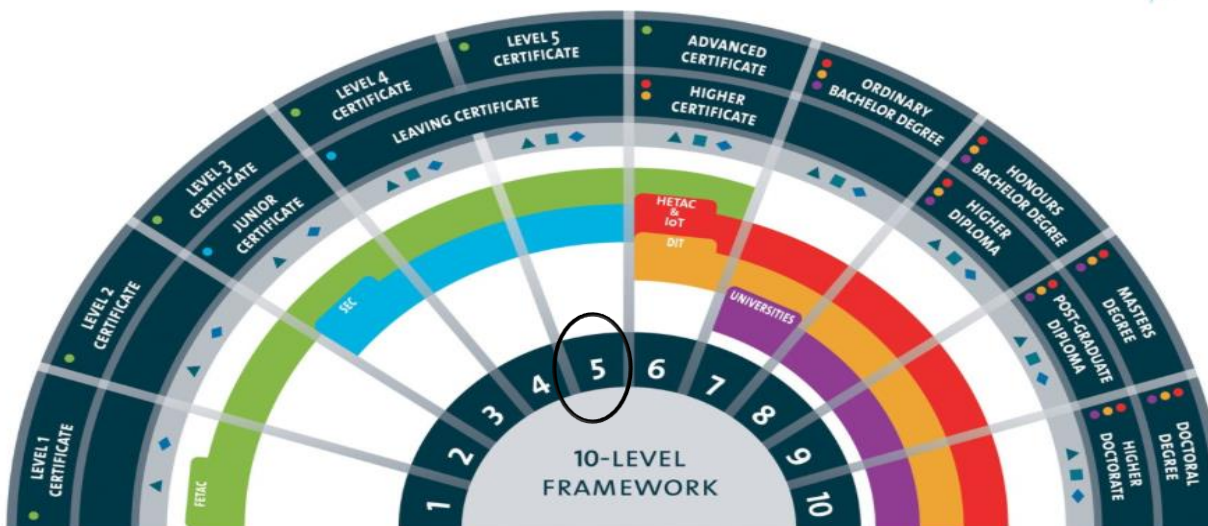
# AGENDA

- Leaving Certificate
- Entry Requirements
- Third Language
- Higher Irish
- Mathematics
- Leaving Certificate Subjects
- Importance of keeping on science
- CAO & The NEW Points System
- DATS & Learning Styles

# THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE

## NATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF QUALIFICATIONS

Údarás Náisiúnta  
Cáilíochtaí na hÉireann  
National Qualifications  
Authority of Ireland



### AWARDING BODIES

- FETAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education & Science)
- HETAC - Higher Education and Training Awards Council
- IoT - Institutes of Technology (make their own awards at specified levels under Delegated Authority from HETAC)
- DIT - Dublin Institute of Technology
- Universities

### AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four types of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards: are the principal class of awards made at a level
- ▲ Minor Awards: are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- Supplemental Awards: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- ◆ Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

# THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE

- STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE ARE THE AWARDING AUTHORITY FOR THIS LEVEL 5
- RECOGNISED BY QUALITY & QUALIFICATIONS IRELAND (QQI)
- TWO YEAR SCHOOL PREPARATION FOR THE STATE EXAM
- IN GARBALLY, STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THIS EXAM BY CHOOSING 4 ELECTIVE SUBJECTS ON TOP OF ENGLISH, IRISH & MATHEMATICS
- LIKE ANY DECISION IN LIFE – PLAY TO YOUR STRENGTHS WHILST ADHERING TO THE RULES

# PLAY TO YOUR STRENGTHS & ADHERE TO THIRD LEVEL RULES

- What subjects are you interested in? **TRACK RECORD**
- Are you motivated to learn more? **TRACK RECORD**
- Do you have aptitudes for certain subject areas? **DATS**
- Subject specific requirements for the third level courses?
- General Entry Requirements for Universities and Institutes of Technology?
- CAO Points System - **CALCULATE**

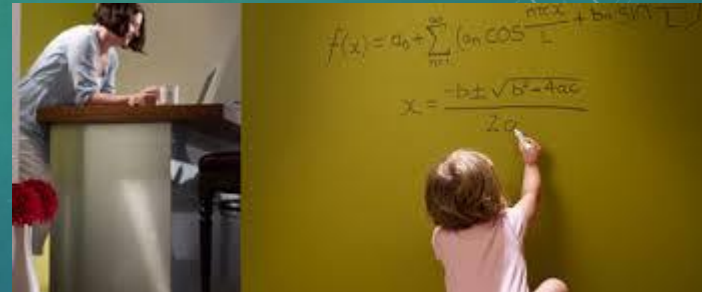
# REMEMBER...

- Three things are important when choosing a subject

1. APPTITUDE
2. INTEREST
3. MOTIVATION TO LEARN

None of these are fixed....

However they serve as a guide at this stage of your educational development.



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE SUBJECTS

- *Language & Humanities Group*  
Art, Music, Home Economics, History & Geography -  
English, Irish, French & German
- *STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)*  
Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Agricultural Science,  
Maths, Applied Maths, Construction, Design and  
Communication Graphics & Engineering
- *Business Group*  
Business, Accounting & Economics

# HOW MANY SUBJECTS?

- Leaving Cert. Students are offered 7 subjects

1. English
2. Maths
3. Irish
4. ?
5. ?
6. ?
7. ?

# CHANGES TO THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE GRADING SYSTEM

Higher Level Grade
H1 (90-100)
H2 (80 < 90)
H3 (70 < 80)
H4 (60 < 70)
H5 (50 < 60)
H6 (40 < 50)
H7 (30 < 40)
H8 (0 < 30)

ORD Level Grade
O1 (90-100)
O2 (80 < 90)
O3 (70 < 80)
O4 (60 < 70)
O5 (50 < 60)
O6 (40 < 50)
O7 (30 < 40)
O8 (0 < 30)

# CHANGES TO THE LC GRADING SYSTEM

- The HEIs developed a new common points scale, aiming to minimise the need for random selection and catering also for applicants presenting sittings of the Leaving Certificate from years prior to the introduction of the new grading scale in 2017.
- **MATHS BONUS POINTS**

25 bonus points will continue to be awarded for Higher Level Mathematics for H6 grades and above. For example, if an applicant receives a H6 grade, an additional 25 points will be added to the 46 points already awarded for a H6 grade i.e. Higher Level Mathematics now carries a points score of 71 for this applicant.

# CHANGES TO THE LC GRADING SYSTEM

- **FOUNDATION LEVEL MATHEMATICS**
- Universities do not award points for Foundation Level, the IoTs are currently considering a conversion for 2017.
- **LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAM**

LCVP GRADE	POINTS
DISTINCTION	66
MERIT	46
PASS	28

# CHANGES TO THE COMMON POINTS SCALE

Higher Level Grade	Points	Ordinary Level 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

# MATRICULATION – IMPACT

## Changes to basic matriculation requirements from 2017

Where Current Requirement is	Post 2017 Requirement
5 OD3 (IOT Level 6)	5 O6 / 5H7
2 HC3 & 4 OD3 (NUI, UL, DCU & IOT LEVEL 7,8)	2 H5 & 4 O6 / H7
3 HC3 & 3 OD3 (TCD)	3 H5 & 3 O6 / H7

## Changes to specific subject requirements from 2017

- HEIs 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.

# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

## WWW.NUI.IE

**Matriculation – What do you need to get in?**

**NUIG, UCD, UCC,  
NUI Maynooth**

**2H5 and 4 H7/O6 to include**

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- Third Language
- And two additional subjects

**Remember this is just general “get in” requirements.**

**There may be course specific requirements also!!!!**



# DCU & UL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Matriculation – What do you need to get in?

**2H5 and 4 H7 / O6 to include**

- English
- Irish or Another Language
- Mathematics
- And four additional subjects

Remember this is just general “get in” requirements.

There may be course specific requirements also!!!!



# TRINITY – WWW.TCD.IE

- **3H5 and 3 H7 / O6 which must include**
- English
- Mathematics (Foundation accepted in some courses)
- Irish or Third Language
- And three additional Subjects

Biology and agricultural science may not be presented together to satisfy course specific requirements.



However both may be used for scoring purposes.

# INSTITUTIONS OF TECHNOLOGY

## Level 8 Requirement

Grade H5 at higher level in 2 subjects, plus Grade H7 / O6 at ordinary level in 4 other subjects in the Leaving Certificate examination.

- Mathematics
- English or Irish

## Level 6 & 7 Requirement

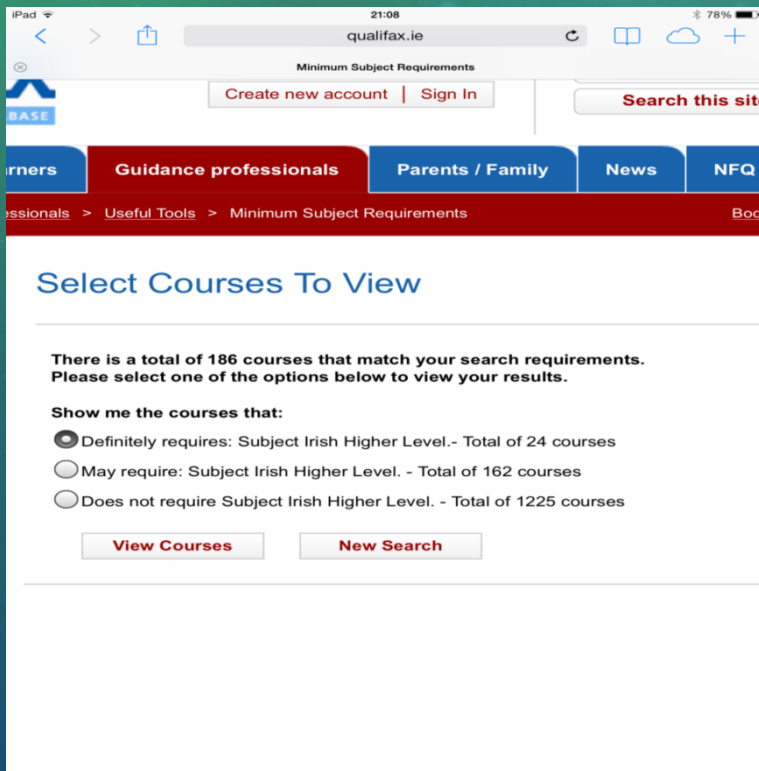
Grade H7 / O6 at ordinary level in five subjects in the Leaving Certificate examination.

- Mathematics
- English or Irish

Remember this is just general “get in” requirements.

There may be course specific requirements also!!!!

# SEARCHING SUBJECT SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS WITH QUALIFAX.IE



- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
- Home page
- Click students
- Click useful tools
- Click minimum subject requirements
- Enter subject & level

# SUBJECT SPECIFIC - IRISH

- **Higher Level Irish**
- Currently, there are 24 courses across the 6 Universities and the Teacher Training colleges that require higher level Irish (H4 +).....**included in this are**
  - ❖ Primary Education – Undergraduate & Postgraduate
  - ❖ Irish Studies in TCD, NUIG, UL, UCC
  - ❖ Business/Commerce with Irish in NUIG, UCC, NUIM, DCU

# THIRD LANGUAGE

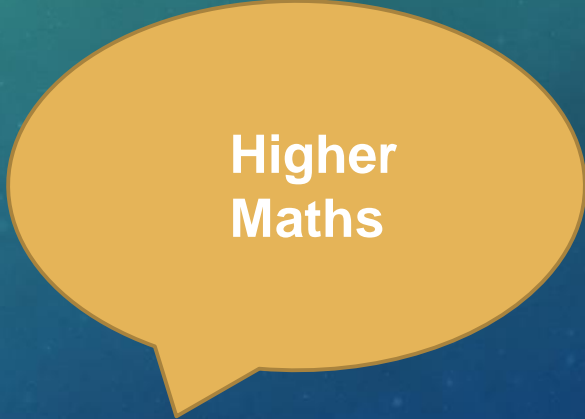
- The inclusion of a modern language in the leaving certificate is highly recommended.
- Compulsory requirement for 157 courses in CAO – **YOU NEED IT TO GET IT**
- Highly beneficial for career development **OPPORTUNITIES**
- Highly desired work skill – Look at Apple story in Athenry



# MATHEMATICS

- **Higher Level Maths vs Ordinary Level**
- Currently 61 courses in CAO require higher level maths
- Currently 1295 courses in CAO accept ordinary level maths

Engineering  
Actuary  
Financial Maths  
Computer Science  
Economics & Finance  
Mathematical Sciences  
Theoretical Physics  
Statistics



**Higher  
Maths**

- Oh yes....25 bonus points!

# DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS (DCG)

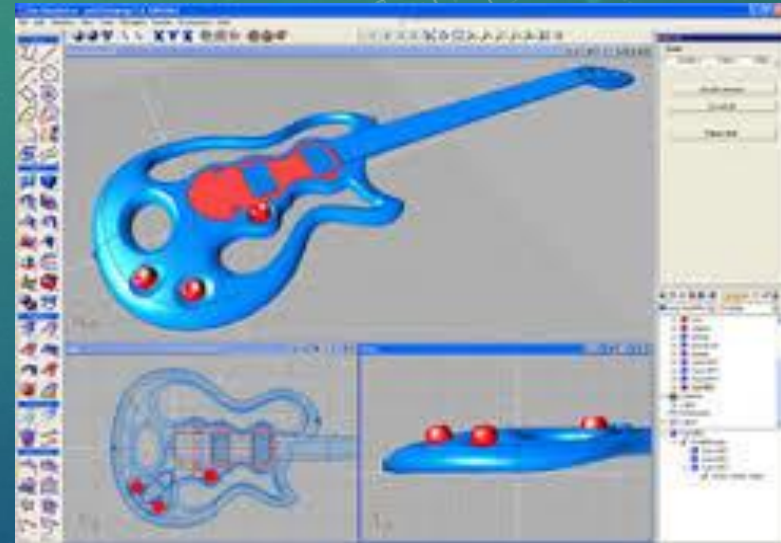
- DCG has taken the place of technical drawing for the Leaving Certificate.
- Provides students with the opportunity for visualising and comprehending information presented verbally or graphically.
- It grows out of Tech Graphics at Junior Certificate level.
- In the DCG course, there is emphasis on comprehension, analysis and problem solving.
- Although it is not an essential subject for either architecture or engineering it is regarded as a useful asset if you are thinking of a technical course.

# DCG - ASSESSMENT

One Written Exam Paper: 60%

Student Assignment: 40%

- **Terminal Exam:** 3 hours duration – 240 marks
- **Student Assignment** – CAD forms a significant and compulsory element. Emphasis on:
  1. Elements of design
  2. Communication graphics
  3. Use of ICT'S in design
- Different theme for higher and ordinary level  
May take the form of:
  - -A design investigation and modification
  - -A concept design  
(160 marks)



# PHYSICS

- Physics aims to enhance students ability to think logically, observe and understand scientific method.
- It enables students to develop an understanding of the scientific method and their ability to observe, to think logically, and to communicate effectively.
- Science, technology and society (STS) is an integral part of the syllabus.
- With STS students can be aware of the principles of the applications of physics in the everyday world.



# PHYSICS ASSESSMENT

Written Exam – 400 marks

## Section A:

- Students must answer 3 out of 4 questions 120 marks - 30%

Questions are based on experimental procedures and use of results

## Section B:

- Students must answer 5 out of 8 questions
- 280 marks – 70%
- Questions are more broad and theory based

Physics students are required to keep a record of their practical work over the two years of the course for inspection purposes by the SEC

# PHYSICS – WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- You need a good standard of mathematics at Junior Certificate at either higher or ordinary level.
- The mathematics element in physics mostly made up of formulas. It is repetitious and easily mastered with a good attitude.
- You should have a curious mind.
- You need to be neat and organised.
- Are you the type of person who wonders “how does that work?”

# HISTORY

- The Leaving Cert History course was recently revised and is divided into two distinct fields of study at Irish and European level.
- Early Modern (1492-1815) and Late Modern (1815-1993).
- History aims to record and analyse things which have happened in the past, with an emphasis on both how and why events occurred.
- It deals with human experience and it is often studied out of personal interest
- History develops important skills such as self-discipline and critical thinking which are of life-long importance

# HISTORY ASSESSMENT

Assessment consists of two components:

- A written examination paper (80%) and A research study report (20%) submitted around Easter before the June exam.
- The project is the student's own individual work - 1500 word essay.
- Handed in at the end of April before the leaving cert. The average mark is 90% plus.
- Written Exam – 170 mins.
- Pupils will answer the Documents based study and three essays (one from each topic studied).
- Ordinary level students follow an identical course, with a different emphasis in the way questions are asked on exam papers.



# WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- **It is relevant to modern life** – everything in life has a history, it will give you a greater understanding and perspective on life.
- **Awareness of human behaviour** – develops an understanding of the human condition and human motivation.
- **Cultural Inheritance** – in this decade of remembrance history has never been so important and accessible. History informs you of your identity.
- **Communication Skills** – You will sharpen your thoughts. History will help you organise your ideas in a logical coherent manner. History will help you communicate your arguments and conclusions which will help you in all other subjects and in your future careers.
- **Analytical Skills** – History will sharpen your critical thinking skills.

# ACCOUNTING

- Provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills in accounting and financial management necessary for managing personal and basic company accounts.
- Higher and Ordinary level - Written exam 3hrs duration.
- The exam paper is made up of three sections.
- The first two are based on the Financial Accounting.
- Third covers the Management Accounting section.
- Questions must be answered from all sections of the exam paper.



# ACCOUNTING: WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- Student must like working with numbers.
- Student should have good attention to detail.
- Good Time Management.
- While not necessary, it is a great help to have studied Business Studies at Junior Certificate.
- Persistent temperament is suited.

# BUSINESS

- ❖ This subject teaches the skills and knowledge needed to understand how business works.
- ❖ This is a practical and vocationally-oriented course that introduces students to the world of Business in a straightforward and logical way.
- ❖ It aims to create an awareness of the importance of Business activity and to develop a positive and ethical attitude towards it. The importance of people in Business is highlighted.



# BUSINESS - COURSE OVERVIEW

- There are 7 core units covering the following topics: Introduction to people in business; Enterprise; Managing 1 & 2; Business in action; Domestic Environment and International Environment.
- There is a common syllabus covering Higher and Ordinary level, which will fulfil the aims and objectives of the course.
- A flexibility of design that caters for present day Irish business education and yet is capable of adaptation to future developments in a structured and efficient way.
- It assists students to develop their education for adult and working life including the creation of positive attitudes towards self-employment.

# BUSINESS ASSESSMENT

## Exam Structure - Higher & Ordinary Level

**Higher Level – 1 x 3 hour paper (400 marks); 3 sections.**

- ❖ Section 1 – Short questions (8/10) 80 marks.
- ❖ Section 2 – Applied Business Question – 80 marks (compulsory).
- ❖ Section 3 – Long Questions (60 marks per question (4/7))

**Ordinary Level – 1 x 2.5 hour paper (400 marks); 2 sections.**

- ❖ Section 1 – Short Question (10/15) 100 marks.
- ❖ Section 2 – Long Questions (75 marks per question (4/8)).



# ECONOMICS

Economics deals with the real world business obstacles such as demand and supply, production and consumption, money and banking as well as economic policies, problems and conflicts. With inflation and international trade and payments constantly making headlines, economics requires its students to keep track of real world situations.

## **What kind of student might Economics suit?**

- ❖ Anyone considering a future career in any area of business, journalism, communications or finance
- ❖ Students who enjoyed Junior Cert Business.
- ❖ Students who take an interest in politics, current affairs, or psychology.

# ECONOMICS – COURSE CONTENT

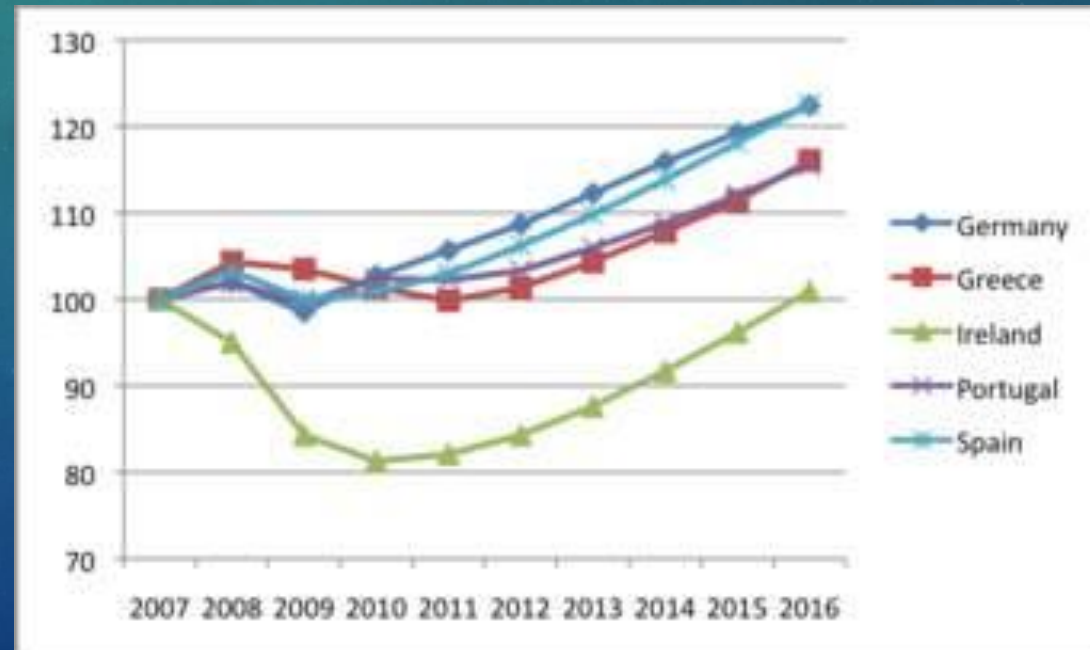
Leaving Cert economics consists of eight main examination question areas.

## **Subject content**

- ❖ Demand, supply, equilibrium, utility and elasticity
- ❖ Costs and market structures
- ❖ Factors of production (including economists)
- ❖ National income and the multiplier
- ❖ Inflation, money, banking and monetary policy
- ❖ International trade, balance of payments and the euro
- ❖ Fiscal policy and taxation
- ❖ The Government in the economy (including economic development and growth, population and emigration)

# ECONOMICS - ASSESSMENT

- ❖ Higher Level & Ordinary Level
- ❖ One Paper – 2.5 hour paper
- ❖ Section A – 9 Q's do 6 (100 marks)
- ❖ Section B – 8 Q's do 4 (75 each. 300 in total). Large element of choice here.



# HOME ECONOMICS

## Why Study Home Economics?

- ❖ Students should study this subject if they are interested in the following areas;
- ❖ Be able to research, study, analyse and interpret material
- ❖ Be able and willing to learn Nutrition and Culinary skills
- ❖ Be able to communicate well
- ❖ Be organised
- ❖ Be able to discuss topics and work in teams

# HOME ECONOMICS

- ❖ It would be advisable for students opting for Leaving Certificate Home Economics to have completed the Junior Certificate course. Some of the areas covered on the Junior Cert Home Economics course are continued at Leaving Certificate level.
- ❖ Practical cookery assessed through written exams only
- ❖ Textile Electives—fashion design, social studies, home design and management



There is a lot more Sociology e.g. Family /marriage/ relationships/ family problems e.g. alcoholism, gambling, the elderly, housing, problems facing teenagers/ child care development  
In-depth Study of Nutrition, Resource Management and Consumer Studies

# HOME ECONOMICS - ASSESSMENT

**Written Exam paper – 80%**

The written examination consists of three sections:

- ❖ **Section A**  
12 short questions – Students answer 10.  
These deal mainly with all the core areas of practice. (60 marks allocated)
- ❖ **Section B**  
5 questions - Students are to answer Question 1 (Food Science and Nutrition) and any other 2 questions (from the other Core Areas). (180 marks allocated)
- ❖ **Section C**  
3 questions - Students are to answer 1.  
Elective question, based on which Elective was chosen to do in class. (80 marks allocated)
- ❖ **2. Practical Coursework - 20%**
  - ▶ This is worth 20% of the final mark; this is submitted in journal form earlier in the Leaving Certificate year.

# ART – SUCCESS DEPENDS ON

- Enjoy drawing and working creatively with images
- Be Resourceful & Independent learner. Ability to research project themes.
- Have an enquiring mind.
- To have opinions about Art and Design from the past and present and to be able to express this opinion.
- Art History & Appreciation is worth 37.5% of the overall grade



# ENGINEERING

- Structure of the course involves practical work in the school engineering workshop combined with engineering theory.
- Theory Course is called Materials & Technology
  - A) Extraction and Production of Metals
  - B) Structure of Materials
  - C) Testing of Materials
  - D) Heat Treatments
  - E) Machining
  - F) Joining Methods e.g. Welding
  - G) Mechanisms



# ENGINEERING

- Assessment at Higher Level
  - 25% Practical Test Examination lasting 6hrs
  - 25% Project – Design and fabricate with evidence of work via a written folder
  - 50% Theory Examination
- Assessment at Ordinary Level
  - 30% Practical Test Examination lasting 6hrs
  - 30% Project - Design and fabricate with evidence of work via a written folder
  - 40% Theory Examination

# ENGINEERING – SUITABLE CANDIDATES

- Metal work up to Junior Certificate or Engineering Module completed in TY
- Ability to work independently in the engineering workshop
- Proactive / Innovative
- Interested in how things work
- Ability to read drawing / Spatial skills
- Health & Safety Conscious



# 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.
- ❖ TCD accepts geography as a science subject for entry into both the science and pharmacy faculty.
- ❖ Students must think abstractly and in 3-D (Be careful about studying Geography if you have any problems with this)

# GEOGRAPHY

A new syllabus in Geography was brought in in 2006 and this 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.

The syllabus is divided into 4 main units. All students study the Core Units 1-3 and Elective Unit 4

**Core Unit 1** - Patterns and processes in the physical environment

This unit examines the relationship between the tectonic cycle, the rock cycle and the processes of landform development.

**Core Unit 2** - Regional geography

This unit examines how economic, human and physical processes interact in regional settings.

**Core Unit 3** - Geographical investigation and skills

This unit encourages the development of skills in handling spatial information leading to the completion of an individual geographical investigation.

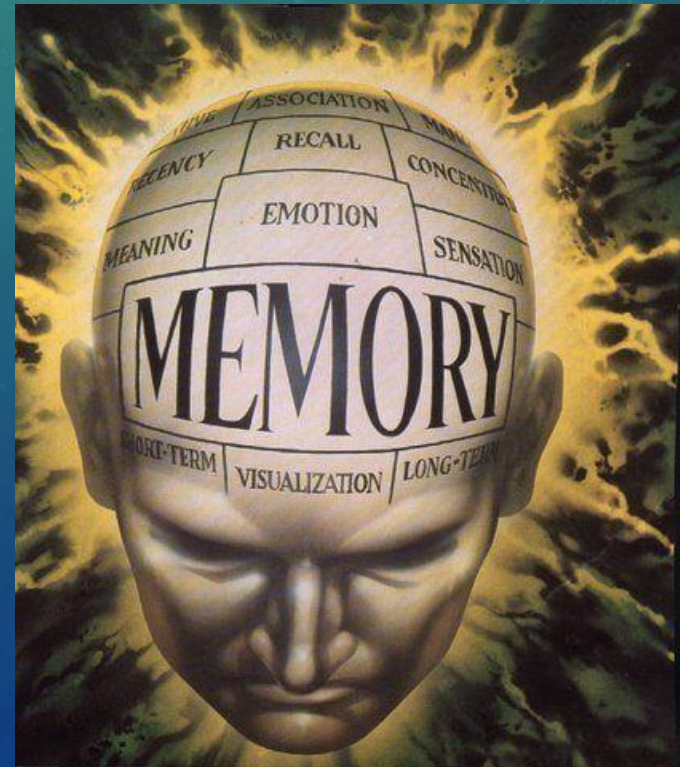
# GEOGRAPHY ASSESSMENT

- **Exam Structure**
- Leaving Certificate Geography is assessed at Ordinary and Higher level in ascending order of difficulty. There are two assessment components:
- Written Examination (80%)
- Geographical Investigation Report (20%)
- Students complete two questions on the core units, one question on an elective unit, and one question on an optional unit.



# BIOLOGY

- Biology remains the most popular laboratory science subject in the Leaving Cert.
- The syllabus requires a lot of memory work.
- Biology includes practical activity and investigation to develop science skills and knowledge.
- The scope of biology is wide and varied.
  - Unit 1 – Ecology
  - Unit 2 – Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
  - Unit 3 – Human Physiology, Plant Physiology, Micro-organisms



# BIOLOGY – UNIT 1/ECOLOGY

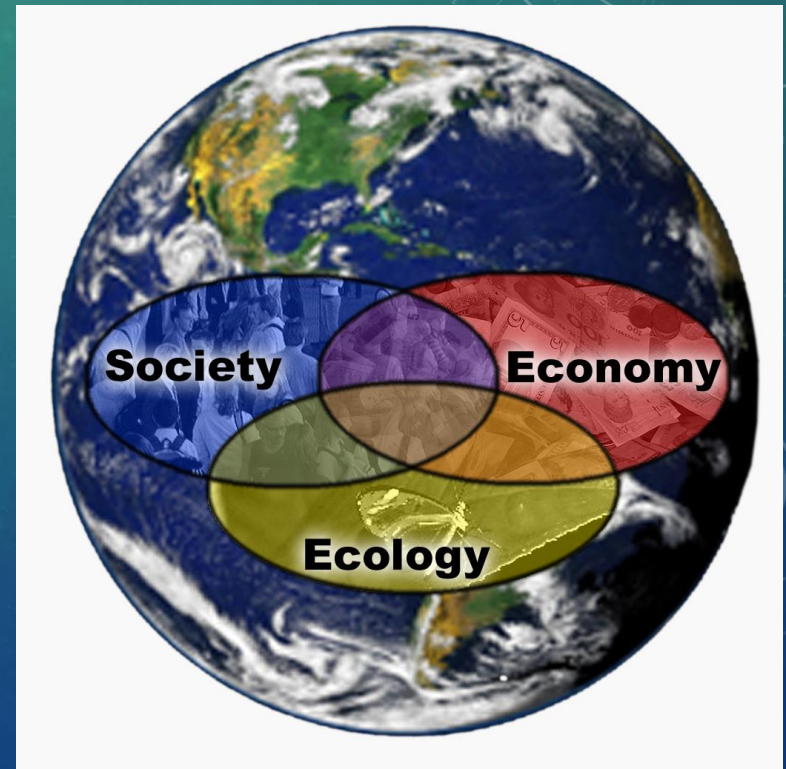
Fieldtrip is mandatory. It covers 4 laboratory experiments out of the 22 mandatory experiments.

Occurs in 5<sup>th</sup> year

Usually a woodland visit

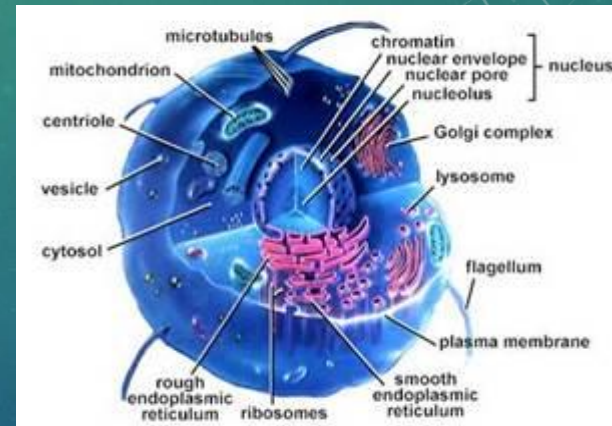
This prepares students for the ecology section in the LC exam

The fieldtrip is an integrated study of animals, human populations and plants as they coexist.



# BIOLOGY – UNIT 2

- Genetics & Mutations
- Biotechnology
- Genetic Evolution
- Molecular Biology
  - DNA
  - RNA
  - CELL
- Photosynthesis
- Respiration



# BIOLOGY UNIT 3

- Human Physiology

- Cardiovascular
- Endocrine
- Excretory
- Respiratory
- Digestive
- Reproduction

- Plant Physiology

- Reproduction
- Plant Anatomy
- Plant Biochemistry

- Micro – Organisms

- Bacteria
- Fungi



# BIOLOGY - ASSESSMENT

- Same Layout for Higher and Ordinary
- One Written Exam - 3hrs
- Three Sections
  - A – 5/6 Questions (30mins)
  - 25% of total
  - B – 2/3 Questions (20 mins)
  - 15% of total
  - C – 4/6 Questions (120mins)
  - 60% of total
  - A,B,C Format (They mix it up)
- The Biology is assessed on knowledge of the full course

# CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

- 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 and Design
- Drawings and Documents
- Site Preliminaries and Foundations
- Walls, Partitions
- Floors, Roofs
- Fireplaces
- Windows and Doors
- Stairs
- Plastering and Painting
- Plumbing and Heating
- Services Drainage



# CONSTRUCTION STUDIES - ASSESSMENT

Construction Studies is offered at Ordinary and Higher level

Assessment is made up by:

- Written examination – 300 MARKS / 50% (3HRS)
- Practical test – 4 HR exam in May (Design & Make) 150marks / 25%
- An assessment of student project work - Building Project where the student makes a building detail, a scale model of a building or a craft piece. The student also produces a portfolio to accompany the project that they make. Completed by Christmas. Worth 150 marks / 25%

# CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

## WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

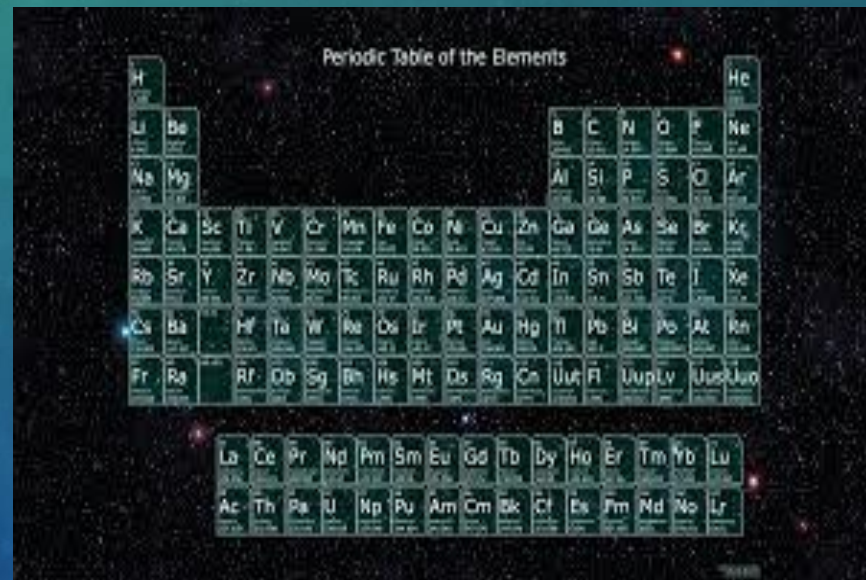
- It is very important the student has studied Woodwork for Junior Certificate
- Very difficult to score high in Higher Construction if you don't have woodwork
- A+ students have:
  - Good Psychomotor Skills
  - Good Spatial Skills
  - Work Independently
  - Are creative and good at drawing



# CHEMISTRY

Leaving Cert Chemistry is comprised of all the essential and relevant topics within general chemistry. The major topics involved include the following:

- Atomic structure
- Volumetric analysis
- Organic chemistry
- Water chemistry
- Reaction mechanisms.



Periodic Table of the Elements

H																	He
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba		Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra		Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	Fl	Uup	Lv	Uus	Juo
La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu			
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr			

# CHEMISTRY

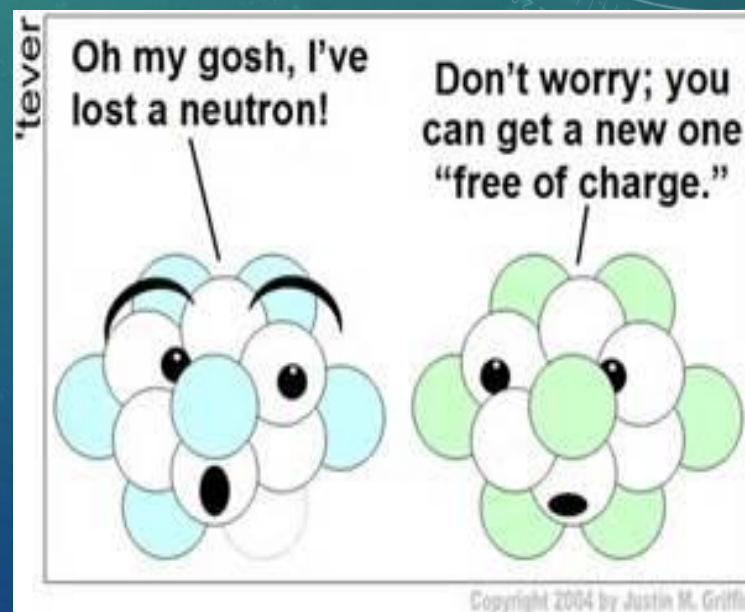
- It is recommended that a student undertaking the course has a good understanding of Junior Cert Science at the higher level.
- Each student should have an aptitude and interest for laboratory work.
- A student would be expected to have a reasonable level of Junior Cert Maths, either at higher or ordinary level.



# CHEMISTRY – EXAM STRUCTURE

The leaving cert exam is 3hrs in duration.

- Consisting of two section.
- There is no element of continuous assessment but experimental copies must be available for inspection by the State Examinations Commission.
- Students taking chemistry have to memorise the chemical components of a series of prescribed experiments. They will need to present the elements of four such experiments in their exam.



# WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- Upwards of **30 mandatory experiments** and plenty of scope for interesting demonstrations by your teacher.
- Subject relevant for today's world.
- It is also a subject or career that is international and would facilitate travel.
- If one is studying any science, engineering or a technology course at third level, chemistry will appear as an exam module.

Do I know any good  
sodium jokes?

Na.



## WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- **Good Grades** - If you work through 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year you will achieve a high grade.
- Ireland has top pharmaceutical and chemical companies. These employ hundreds of highly qualified Irish graduates in Science and Engineering as well as in other disciplines.
- Chemistry skills have been identified as a skills shortage in the Irish Economy.
- Points requirements to get into Applied Chemistry courses in Institutes of Technology are among the lowest in Science.

# AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

- CURRICULUM TOPICS

1. Plant Physiology
2. Animal Physiology
3. Microbiology
4. Genetics



**Students opting for Biology will study most of this material in their course as well**

5. Soil Science
6. Crop Husbandry (Grassland, Cereals, Root Crops)
7. Animal Husbandry (Pigs, Sheep, Cattle) Equine is not included
8. Fertilisers (Manures, Environment, Organics, Forestry, Animal Welfare)

# AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

- Assessment 400mks
  - Written 75%
  - Practical 25%
- A SEC assessor visits the school in early May during LC year.
- They interview each student to determine mastery of the coursework.
- 25% Practical allocated as follows:
  - Lab Manual – 11.25%
  - Project Folder – 8.75%
  - Plant Identification – 2.5%
  - Animal Identification – 2.5%



# WHAT THE TEACHER SAYS

- A farming background can be an advantage but by no means essential
- The A student works hard during 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> year
- An aptitude for science is essential
- Did you score well in Higher level Science at JC?
- Bridging the gap between ordinary science at JC and higher level Agricultural science can be very difficult
- NUI Laboratory Science Subject



# SUBJECT SPECIFIC - SCIENCE

2 science subjects required for **Medicine, Dentistry**.

Chemistry required for **Veterinary Science, Dietetics & Public Health Nutrition** in DIT, **Medicine & Pharmacy** in UCC

One laboratory science subject required for **veterinary nursing....(UCD ALLOW Home Economics)**

One laboratory science subject required for **nursing**

Most **Science, Engineering, Pharmaceutical and Dietetics** courses require one laboratory science subject

Watch for grade and subject specific requirements also **e.g.RCSI PHYSIO**

# SCIENCE COURSES LEADING TO CAREERS IN STEM

- Science
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Occupational Therapy
- Medicine
- Speech Therapy
- Dentistry
- Sports Science
- Veterinary
- Nutrition
- Pharmacy
- Dietetics
- Physiotherapy
- Optometry
- Radiography
- Product Design
- Nursing

- Many science courses in the UK (via UCAS application system) require two science subjects at leaving certificate
- Examples include physiotherapy in the UK
- A in Junior Cert Science often required
- These must include Biology, Maths & English plus either Chemistry or Physics and Two others
- [UCAS.COM](https://www.ucas.com).....get researching

# CAREER WEBSITES

- KNOWLEDGE IS POWER
- IT IS IMPORTANT TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH CERTAIN CAREER ICT RESOURCES
- STARTING WITH QUALIFAX.....
- Careersportal.ie - students have there very own career portfolio
- Ucas.com (if thinking of applying to college in the UK)
- Eunicas.ie (if thinking of studying in Ireland)
- Cao.ie

REACH<sup>+</sup>

Roisin Mc Sharry

Garbally College  
Garbally Park, Ballinasloe, Co. GalwayNational  
CAREER SKILLS  
Competition 2016  
Closing Date: 20 April 2016

★ My Favourites Show

My Career Portfolio Hide

STATUS TOPIC

Guidance Interview

Career Planning &amp; Research...

High Five Principles

What Inspires Me

My Talents

Self-Assessments...

- My Career Interests
- Personal & Career Values
- My Personality
- My Multiple Intelligences
- My Aptitudes
- My Career Skills
- My Enterprise Skills

Study Performance...

- My Exam Targets

## REACH+ Setup

Use these tools to change or edit your account details, or to get assistance on using the programme

Account  
Details

Help &amp; Support



My Documents



CareerPad

## 1. Career Planning and Research

Choosing a career path is one of the biggest decisions you will make. How can you help make good choices and what help can you get when you are unsure.

Guidance  
InterviewCareer  
AwarenessHigh Five  
PrinciplesWhat Inspires  
MeDreams and  
Ambitions

My Talents



Video Library

College Open  
DaysCareers Fairs  
& Events

## 2. Self Assessment

How well do you know yourself? The exercises in this section are designed to make you think about yourself and what you want from your career.

Career  
InterestsPersonal and  
Career Values

Personality

Multiple  
Intelligence

## GUIDANCE NOTICEBOARD

Tuesday, 23 February

Tourism, Hospitality & Culinary  
Roadshow - CIT

Wednesday, 24 February

Accounting Boot Camp - UCC

Thursday, 25 February

UCAS 2016 - Extra Starts

Thursday, 25 February

Accounting Boot Camp - UCC

Friday, 26 February

Closing Date for First Round Interviews  
- Ormonde College of Further Education

View all...

## In the News...

Thursday, 18 February

Level 6 Physiotherapy is  
Delivering on Progression Options

Thursday, 18 February

Free DCU Maths Support  
Sessions are back

Wednesday, 17 February

National Career Skills Competition  
2016

# BOOKMARK THIS CAREER ICT RESOURCE

[www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)

Start using now!

The screenshot shows the Qualifax website on an iPad browser. The address bar displays "qualifax.ie". The page title is "Qualifax National Learners database". The main navigation menu includes: Home, Students, Adult learners, Guidance professionals, Parents / Family, News, NFAQ, and My Account. The page features four main sections with images and text: "Students Information", "Adult Learners", "Guidance Professionals", and "Parents & Family". Below these is a "Welcome to Qualifax" section with a paragraph about the site's purpose. To the right of the welcome section are three icons: "Search all Courses", "Take an Interest Assessment", and "Check a Qualification". At the bottom, there are two sections: "Events Calendar" with a list of events from 25.02.2014 to 26.02.2014, and "Featured Content" with three news items: "Springboard Jobs Initiative", "CAO Information", and "Update to Registrars of Higher Education Institutions".

iPad 22:28 77%

qualifax.ie

Qualifax National Learners database

Skip to content

**Qualifax**  
THE NATIONAL LEARNERS' DATABASE

You are not signed in  
Create new account | Sign In

Qualifax Website...  
Search this site

Home Students Adult learners Guidance professionals Parents / Family News NFAQ My Account

**Students Information**  
Are you looking for the widest range of education and training programmes? Are you considering further

**Adult Learners**  
Thinking of returning to education / training? Qualifax has all the information you need about a wide

**Guidance Professionals**  
There is specific information and materials available to support your work with others.

**Parents & Family**  
Is your son or daughter considering continuing their studies? Is an adult in your house thinking of returning to

**Welcome to Qualifax**  
Qualifax is Ireland's National Learners' Database. It is the "one stop shop" for learners. We provide the most comprehensive information on further and higher education and training courses. Qualifax has developed services to ensure that you have all the information you need to make informed choices about your education, training and career paths.

Your Browser  
The Qualifax site is best viewed using Internet Explorer 7, or higher. Using other browsers may not work properly or may lead to unpredictable results.

**Search all Courses** **Take an Interest Assessment** **Check a Qualification**

**Events Calendar**

25.02.2014	CIT Careers and Postgraduate Studies Fair	Cork Institute of Technology
25.02.2014	UCAS 2014 - Extra Begins	UCAS
25.02.2014	Adult Learner Evening	Waterford Institute of Technology
26.02.2014	Showcase & Information Evening for ALBA - Adult Learners BA	All Hallows College
26.02.2014	Registration / Information Day	Dunboyne College of Further Education

[View All Events](#)

**Featured Content**

**Springboard Jobs Initiative**  
Springboard 2013 launch 21-06-2013 To see videos related to the Springboard launch please click here To search courses available click here...

**CAO Information**  
Time Table of CAO Events CAO FAQ's CAO Website Bonus Points for Higher Level Leaving Certificate Maths Points...

**Update to Registrars of Higher Education Institutions**  
Information updates from the Qualifications Service Section within Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) www.qqi.ie Click on the following link...

**Quality and Qualifications Ireland**  
Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) Established On 6 November 2012, Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) www.qqi.ie was established...

# ALL SUBJECTS ARE EQUAL

- ❖ In terms of entry to third level colleges almost all subjects count equally in terms of points.
- ❖ The important thing to remember is to choose subjects that broadly meet the entry requirements to the college faculty.
- ❖ Then choose additional subjects based on interest and evidence of success.
- ❖ An A1 in Home Economics is worth the same points as an A1 in Physics....Chemistry etc..

# WHY SEVEN SUBJECTS?

## CAO (Central Application Office)

- ❖ Award points based on best SIX subjects in one single sitting.
- ❖ The 7th subject can be a safety net.
- ❖ Timetable in Garbally is structured on all students studying 7 subjects

# CLOSING DOORS

- ❖ Dropping science can close doors at this stage.
- ❖ e.g. Nursing requires a science subject.
- ❖ Find out the specific requirements needed for your area of interest.
- ❖ Consult with your Guidance Counsellor
- ❖ Consult as a family – everyone can learn to use [qualifax.ie](http://qualifax.ie) and then the individual HEI website to find out information in regard to courses.

# THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING

- ❖ Choose subjects that you ENJOY learning
- ❖ Reflect on your favourite subject at Junior Certificate.....which ones did you enjoy/engage in?
- ❖ Where did your best grades come from?
- ❖ If you haven't done the JC yet.....where do you consistently pick up good grades during school assessments
- ❖ Where are you are in terms of your career development? Have you any ideas yet?
- ❖ What learning style do you have?
- ❖ DATS.....How can the results help in subject choice?

# DATS – 8 APTITUDE TESTS

- ❖ Verbal Reasoning
- ❖ Numerical Reasoning
- ❖ Abstract Reasoning
- ❖ Mechanical Reasoning
  
- ❖ Spatial Reasoning
- ❖ Grammar
- ❖ Spelling
- ❖ Perceptual Speed & Accuracy

# WHY CONSIDER DATS?

- ❖ Used to assess student potential and learning preferences
- ❖ Enhances all aspects of teaching and learning
- ❖ Stronger abilities may indicate chance of better grades in subjects
- ❖ Remember.....**Attitude** is better indicator than ability/aptitude

# DATS PROFILES & INTERPRETATION









- ❖ Results are Irish Normed – PERCENTILES NOT %%%
- ❖ 70% of the population have average scores
- ❖ 15% of the population have above average scores
- ❖ 15% of the population have below average scores
- ❖ Whatever group you find yourself.....

*'attitude to learning is key'*

# DATS – PERCENTILE SCORES

- ❖ LOOK UP THE DATS SUMMARY REPORT IN REACH
- ❖ SCORES ARE NOT FIXED – EFFORT & MOTIVATION TO LEARN IN DIFFERENT APPTIDUDES WILL SEE EXPONENTIAL IMPROVEMENT
- ❖ REMEMBER SCORES ARE RANKINGS IN THE POPULATION NOT PERCENTAGES
- ❖ 30 – 70 is mean range

## DATs Results

Aptitudes		Score
Abstract Reasoning		65
Numerical Reasoning		77
Verbal Reasoning		89
Perceptual Speed and Accuracy		87
Mechanical Reasoning		92
Space Relations		35
Language Usage: Spelling		90
Language Usage: Grammar		55

Date of Birth: 07/08/1973 Date of Test: 03/11/2015 Last updated: 17/11/2015

*How to interpret your results*

# DATS ARE ONLY ONE PART OF JIGSAW

*Its not your aptitude  
it is your attitude  
that helps you reach  
your altitude*

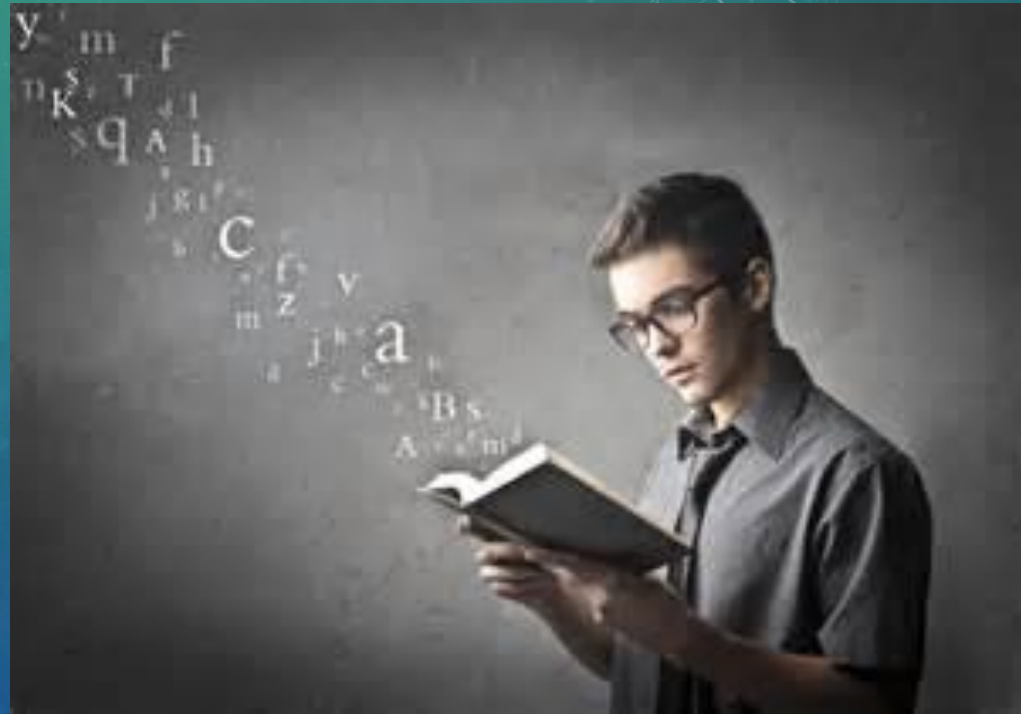


# PROBLEM SOLVING EMPHASIS

- LETS LOOK AT EACH TEST .....
- HOW DOES IT RELATE TO SUBJECT CHOICE IN GARBALLY?

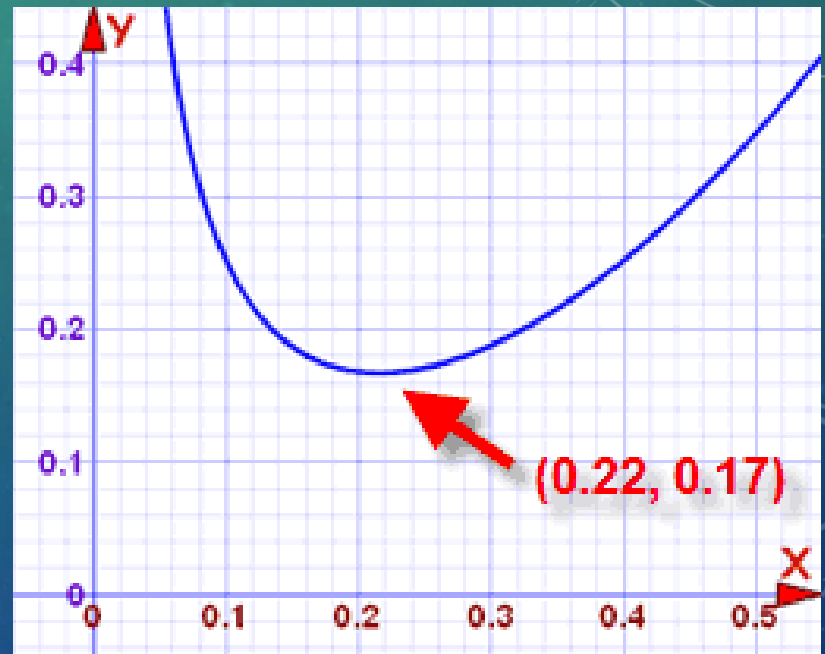
# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON VERBAL REASONING

- English
- History
- Languages
- Business
- Geography
- Home Economics
- Languages
- Music



# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON NUMERICAL REASONING

- Maths
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Applied Maths
- Accounting
- Economics



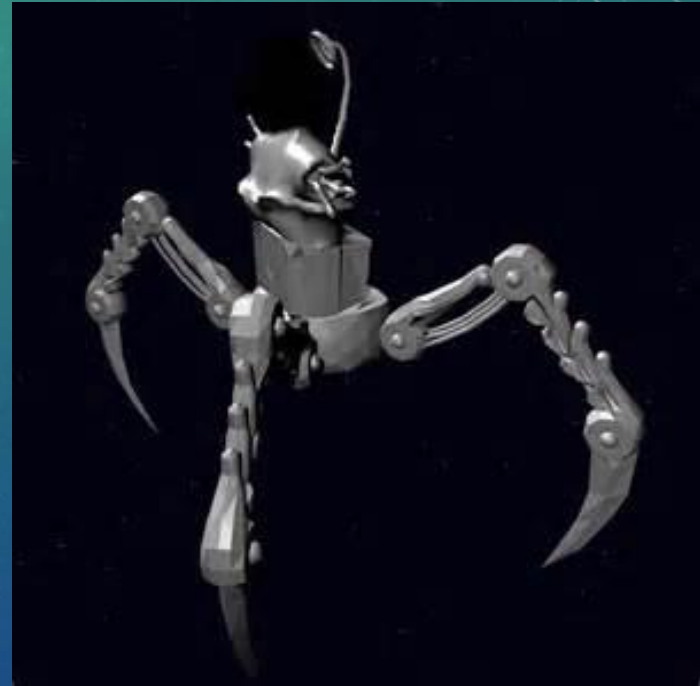
# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON SPATIAL REASONING

- Art
- Home Economics
- DCG
- Construction Studies
- Engineering
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Geography



# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON MECHANICAL REASONING

- **Physics**
- **Applied Maths**
- **Construction Studies**
- **Engineering**
- **DCG**
- **Agricultural Science**



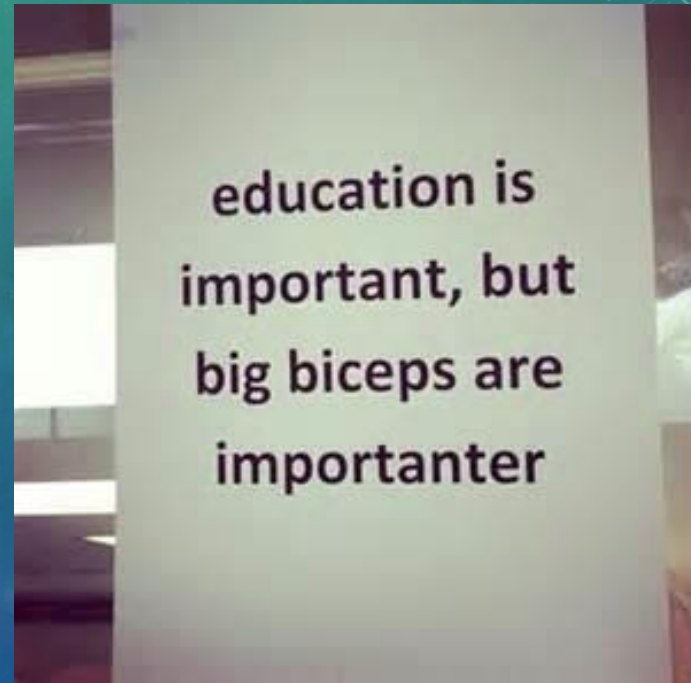
# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON ABSTRACT REASONING

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Music
- Art
- Applied Maths
- Maths
- DCG
- Home Economics
- History



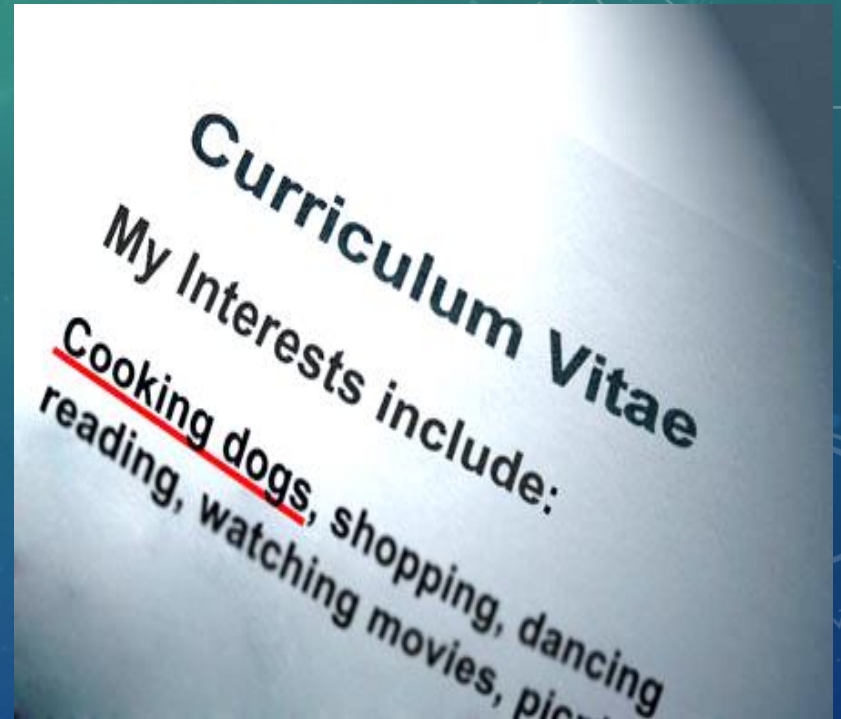
# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON SPELLING

- All Languages
- All Laboratory Science Subjects
- Business
- History
- Geography
- Religious Education
- Home Economics



# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON GRAMMAR

- All languages
- All Laboratory Science Subjects
- Business
- History
- Geography
- Home Economics



# SUBJECTS THAT HAVE SKILLS EMPHASIS ON PERCEPTUAL SPEED & ACCURACY

- **All Subjects**
- **All Exams**



# WHEN CHOOSING...

- ❖ THINK ABOUT YOUR PREFERRED LEARNING STYLE
- ❖ THINK BACK TO THE SUBJECTS YOU ENJOYED DURING THE JUNIOR CYCLE
- ❖ WHICH LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS SUITED YOU?

# AUDITORY LEARNER



# VISUAL LEARNER



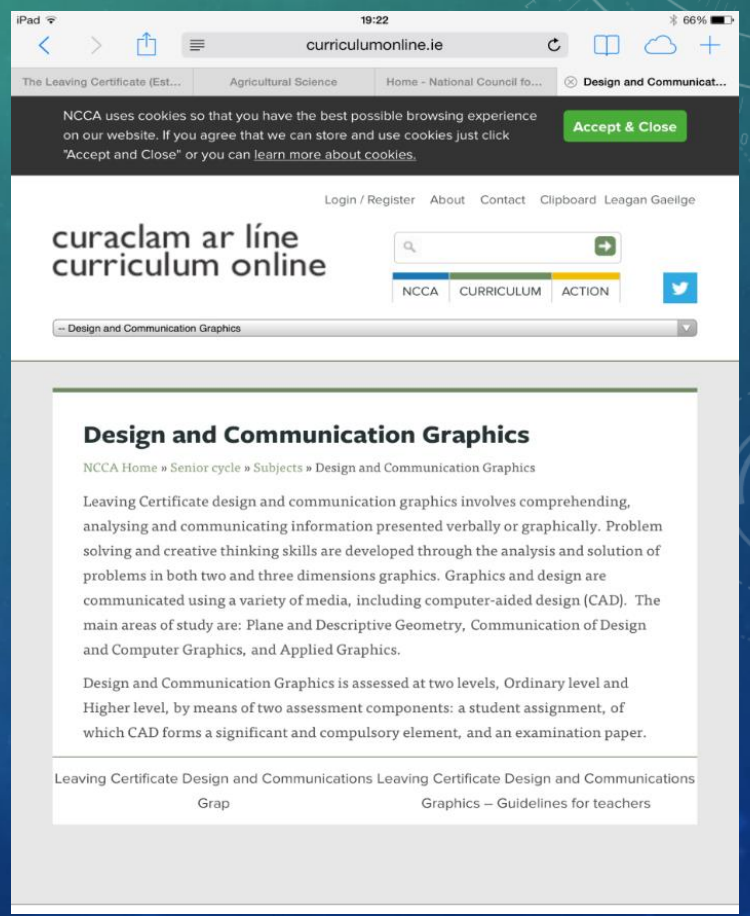
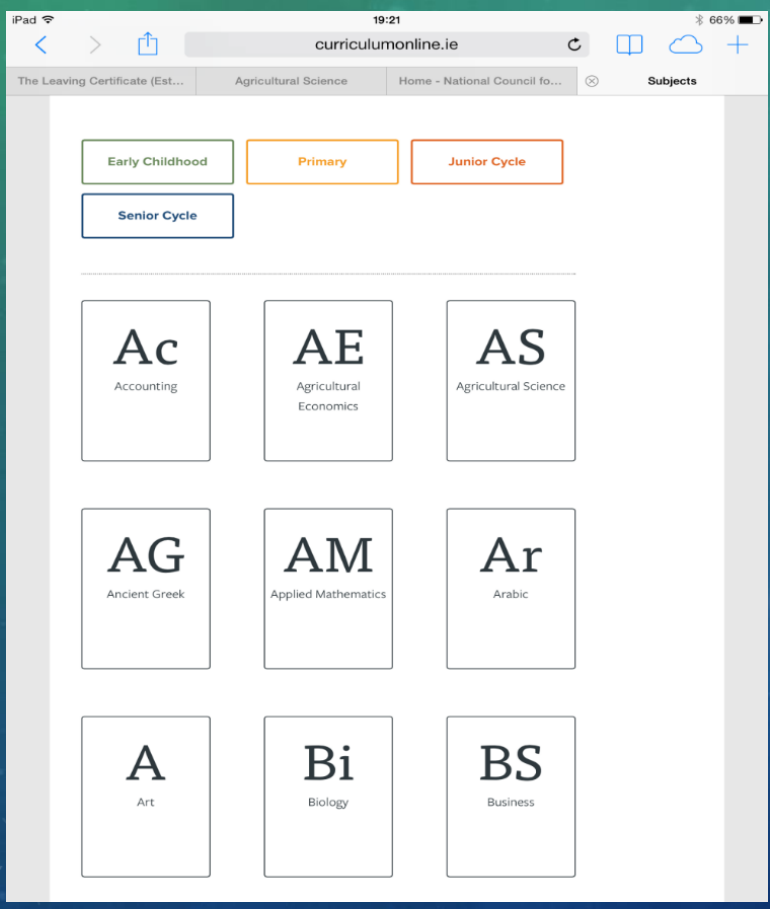
# KINAESTHETIC – LEARN BY DOING



# EXCELLENT RESOURCES

- ❖ [Curriculumonline.ie](http://Curriculumonline.ie)
- ❖ ICT Resource – Part of NCCA – National Council for Curriculum and Assessment
- ❖ [Careersportal.ie](http://Careersportal.ie)
- ❖ ICT Resource – Recommended by the DES for career exploration, study skills & exam preparation.

# CURRICULUMONLINE.IE



# AVOID THESE IDEAS!

- ❖ “None of my friends are doing that subject.....so I’m not doing it”
- ❖ “Only girls do well in that”
- ❖ “It’s an easy ‘A’”
- ❖ “If I don’t do it at leaving certificate, then I can’t do it in college”
- ❖ “Doing 8 subjects will get me more points/more options”
- ❖ “I’m already good at it so I will not need to do much work”

# AND ESPECIALLY THIS ONE

- ❖ Don't be foolish by dropping your favourite subject.....because someone tells you it is hard to get an A in it.
- ❖ Stick to what you enjoy.
- ❖ Chances are if you follow those subjects you will pick courses in college that you enjoy because you trusted your instinct.



# SUBJECT CHOICE - LEAVING CERT

Number the subjects in order of preference.

Minimum of 6

Tick the appropriate senior cycle option.

Sign Twice

Parent/Guardian

Student

Must be returned by 26/02/16

Please number the subjects below 1, 2, 3, etc., in order of your preference. You should enter at least 6 preferences.

**NOTE: This form should be returned to Ms Henry before 09-03-2015.**

Subject	Preference
Accounting	
Agricultural Science	
Art (with Craftwork option)	
Biology	
Business	
Chemistry	
Construction Studies	
DCG	
Economics	
Engineering	
French	
Geography	
German	
History	
Home Economics (New Syllabus - Scie)	
Physics	

**I AM OPTING FOR LCA IN 2015/2016**                      **YES**      **NO**  
**I AM OPTING FOR LCVP IN 2015/2016**                      **YES**      **NO**  
**I AM OPTING FOR TRANSITION YEAR 2015/2016**                      **YES**      **NO**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

ORDER OF MERIT  
NUMBER 1 = THE  
ONE YOU WANT  
THE MOST ETC...