

# SUBJECT CHOICE

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Principal

Bruce College



# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

How much choice do we really have?

Ensuring good subject choice

Consequences of poor choice

Easy V's Difficult subjects?

Higher Maths Leaving Cert.

Factors that influence choice

Other Options

Transition year



**SUBJECT CHOICE....A MYTH??**



# SUBJECT CHOICE....A MYTH??

The myth of subject  
choice..

Seven subjects

Maths, Irish, English,  
Modern European  
Language

'+3 others



# **SUBJECT CHOICE**

**Six best grades determine points  
score**

**Specific and General entry  
requirements.**

**Higher or ordinary**

**No of subjects**

**Other options available**



# **ENSURING GOOD SUBJECT CHOICE**



# ENSURING GOOD SUBJECT CHOICE

Discuss subject choice  
with your son/daughter

Students are being told  
and shown how to do  
as much research as  
possible – not all of  
them do it!

Do research yourself –  
excellent resources  
available

Be realistic – if a student  
did not like or excel at  
a subject at JC why  
would that change at  
LC



# CONSEQUENCES OF POOR CHOICE



# POOR SUBJECT CHOICE CONSEQUENCES

Student likely to be unhappy in class for two years – lack motivation

Student likely not to do well - may impact on overall attainment

Not having a subject they may need for course of choice after school

May want to change in Y5.  
School may not be able to facilitate



# EASY SUBJECTS??



EASY SUBJECTS

DIFFICULT SUBJECTS

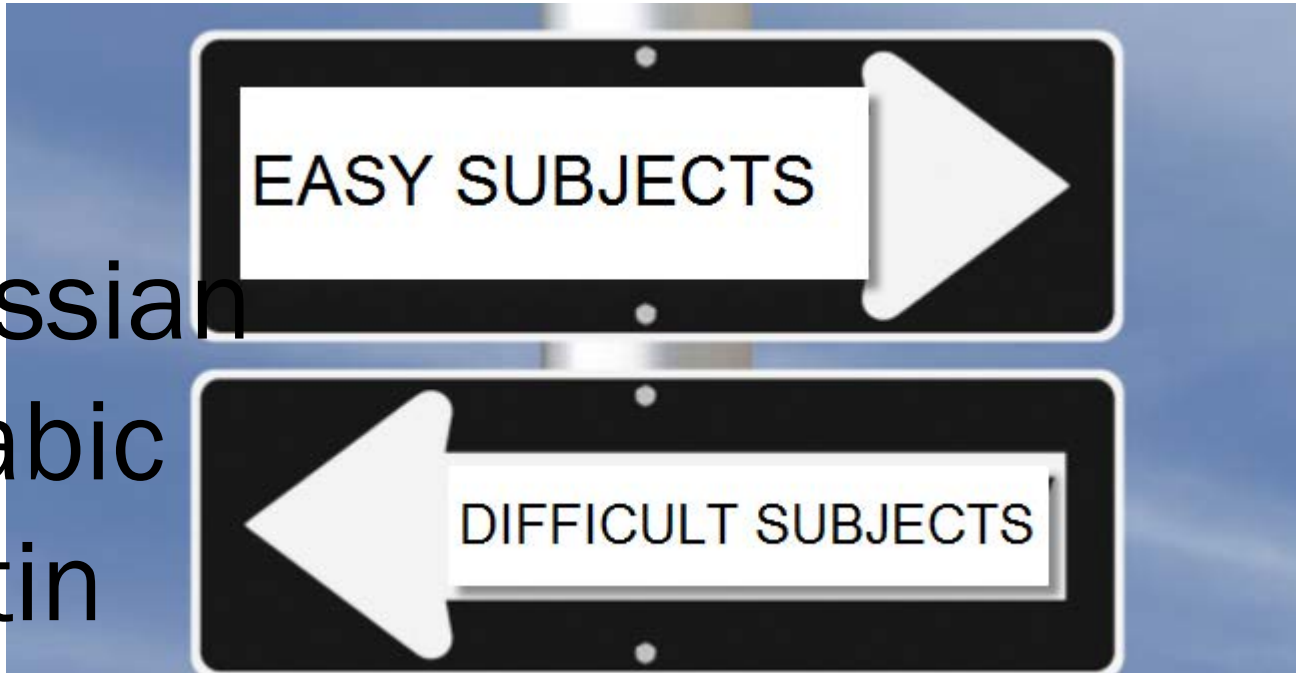
# GUESS HIGHEST % A'S IN H.L. SUBJECTS LC 2016

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# EASY SUBJECTS??

Russian  
Arabic  
Latin



# LC 2016 –HIGHER-%A'S

RUSSIAN	82.3
LATIN	30.7
ARABIC	28.2
ITALIAN	23.5
JAPANESE	22.8
ANCIENT GREEK	21.4
APPLIED MATHEMATICS	20.7
PHYSICS	20.5
ACCOUNTING	19.6
CHEMISTRY	19.6
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY	18.3
SPANISH	17.1
MUSIC	15.7
DESIGN & COMMUNICATION	14.6
BIOLOGY	13.7
IRISH	13.6
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	13.1

# LC 2016 –HIGHER-%A'S

HISTORY	13
FRENCH	13
GERMAN	12.7
TECHNOLOGY	11.7
ENGINEERING	11.5
CLASSICAL STUDIES	11.5
ECONOMICS	11.2
MATHEMATICS	11.1
BUSINESS	10.8
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE	10.3
ENGLISH	9
HOME ECONOMICS S & S	8.7
GEOGRAPHY	8.5
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	7.7
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES	7
ART	5.2

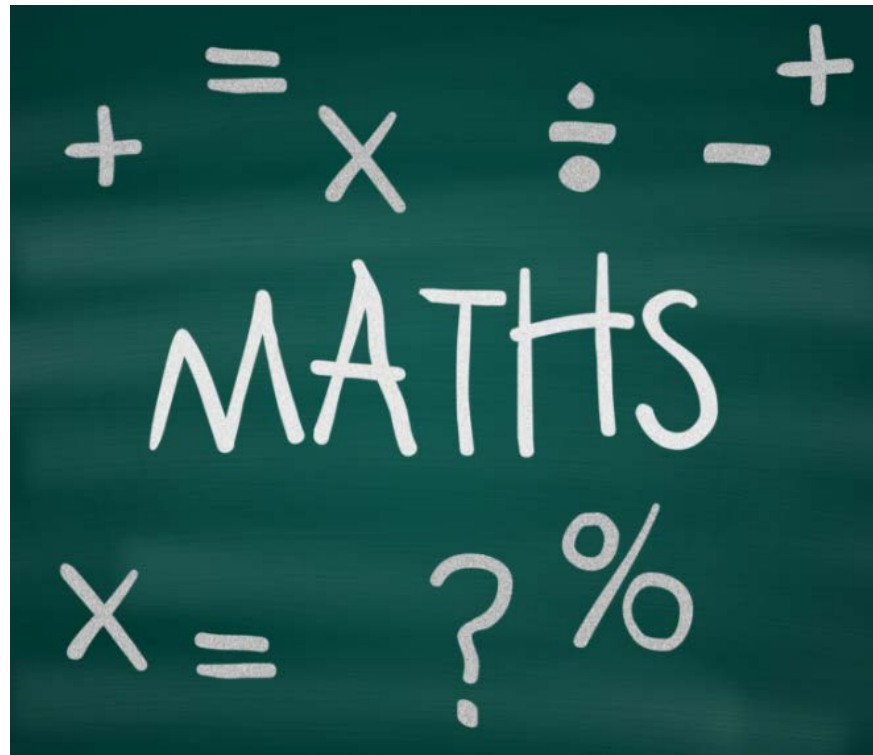
# LC 2016 – HIGHER-%,E OR LESS

Subject	Highest failure
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY	13.2
PHYSICS	10.2
CLASSICAL STUDIES	9.1
CHEMISTRY	9
BIOLOGY	8.9
BUSINESS	7.7
ACCOUNTING	7.6
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE	6.7
APPLIED MATHEMATICS	5.8
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	5.8
JAPANESE	5.7
ECONOMICS	5.3
TECHNOLOGY	4.9
MATHEMATICS	4.6
ARABIC	4.5
GERMAN	4.1
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	4
HISTORY	3.6
FRENCH	3.1

# LC 2016 – HIGHER-%E OR LESS

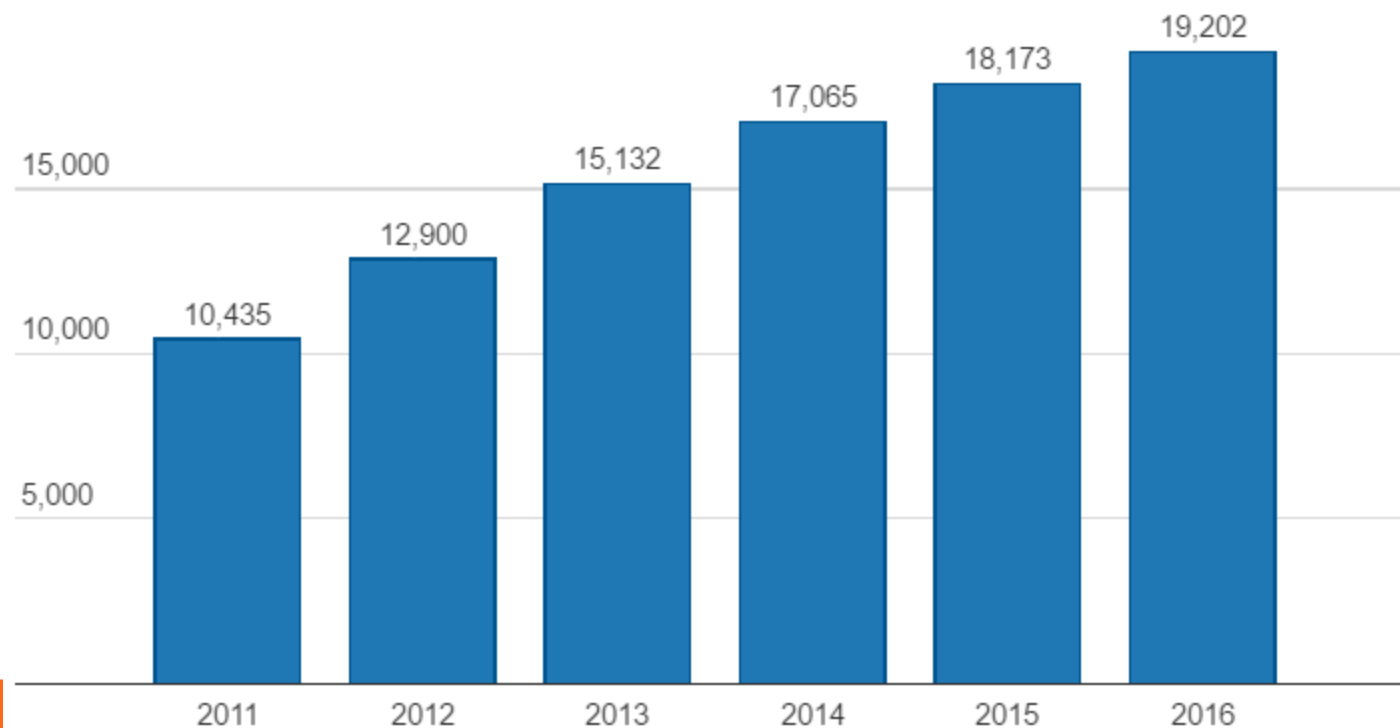
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES	2.9
SPANISH	2.8
ENGINEERING	2.4
ITALIAN	2.2
GEOGRAPHY	2.1
DESIGN & COMMUNICATION	2
HOME ECONOMICS S & S	1.6
ENGLISH	1.2
LATIN	1
ART	1
IRISH	0.6
MUSIC	0.4
RUSSIAN	0.3
ANCIENT GREEK	0

# HIGHER LEVEL MATHS



# Higher Level Maths

Students taking Leaving Certificate Higher Level Maths 2011-2016



# FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE SUBJECT CHOICE

- **Blocks & Options**
- **Wimbledon effect**
- **College / Careers**
- **Interest**
- **Aptitude**
- **Teacher**



# SUBJECT CHOICE BLOCKS



# WIMBLEDON EFFECT

Engineering

Science

IT..(.COM Bubble )

Teaching

Nursing



# INTEREST V APTITUDE



# ENTRY TO HEI

## 3 FACTORS

Minimum Entry  
Requirements

Specific Entry  
Requirements (may  
also involve  
interviews,  
portfolios etc)

Points

# MINIMUM & SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Colleges and courses differ in their requirements

Most of these revolve around the core subjects of Irish, English, Maths and a modern continental language

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

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

<http://www.curriculumonline.ie/Senior-cycle/Senior-Cycle-Subjects>



# GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Foreign language not required in general for IT's

\*\*\*Irish not required for DCU , UL, Trinity or IT's

Irish Exemptions & Exemptions from Languages?

Maths not required for some University courses (Arts ,Law, Social science)

Third Language : Not a requirement in many universities for Engineering / Science course

\*\*Department of Education rules stipulate all students required to study Irish.

[http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/the\\_irish\\_education\\_system/exemption\\_from\\_irish.html](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/the_irish_education_system/exemption_from_irish.html)



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In general, NUI universities (UCD, UCC, MU and NUI Galway+) require students to 'pass' Maths, Irish, English and another language.

Institutes of technology require students to hold a 'pass' in English or Irish and Maths.

The three remaining universities require a combination of a language and maths.



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS..FROM 2017

In previous years, students were required to hold a D3 (minimum 40pc, at either higher or ordinary level). With the new Leaving Cert grading system, this requirement will **be 06 (40-49pc ordinary level) or H7 (30-39pc higher level).**

This means that students who take the higher level paper and who do not reach 40% will get recognition for their achievements; it will be acknowledged that had they taken the ordinary level paper they would have achieved the required 'passing' grade.



# POINTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Only when the Minimum and Specific Entry requirements have been achieved do points accumulated in the Leaving Cert come into play to decide who gets a place on a course

The best six results in one sitting of the Leaving Cert Exam will be counted for points purposes

Though Minimum Entry Requirements may state you need Irish or English etc., that does not mean you must count it as one of the 6 for points



# QUALIFAX

## Subject Requirements Module

[View Search Help](#)[Return to Main Menu](#)

Show me 3rd  
level courses  
which may or  
may not require  
the following  
Subject:

Narrow down your list of courses using one or a combination of the following:

Only show  
courses from  
this CAO course  
provider:

Only show  
courses offered  
in this Province:

Only show  
courses offered  
in this county:

Only show the  
course with this  
CAO code:

# OPTIONS OUTSIDE OF CURRENT SCHOOL

**Dont like my  
choice,change  
school!!.  
Is this practical?**



# OPTIONS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Don't like my  
choice?

Study a subject  
outside of  
school



# STUDY A SUBJECT OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL - OPTIONS

Business

Economics

Ag Science

DCG

Religion

History

Art

Music



# OTHER OPTIONS

Grinds

Get help with subjects if you have concerns

When to arrange grinds?

Individual V Group.

Feedback ( Grinds teacher said he is brilliant..but not reflected in results)

Change subjects if necessary.

Use TY to do more not less in Maths, Irish, English, & foreign Language

How much and how often?



# REVISION COURSES V GRINDS

Revision courses are cost efficient

Considerable material covered

Notes

High standard of teaching

Less stress , on during holiday periods.

Study with motivated peer group.

Cross section of subjects or focus on specific areas.

More efficient use of time



# TRANSITION YEAR

It is designed to act as a bridge between the Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate programmes.

Each school designs its own Transition Year programme, within set guidelines, to suit the needs and interests of its students.

There is no state examination at the end of Transition Year.



# TRANSITION YEAR

The secret  
of getting  
ahead  
is getting  
started.

It has been my  
observation that most  
people get ahead  
during the time that  
others waste.

*Henry Ford*

# Thank You





# Bruce College – Parents Evening

14<sup>th</sup> November 2017

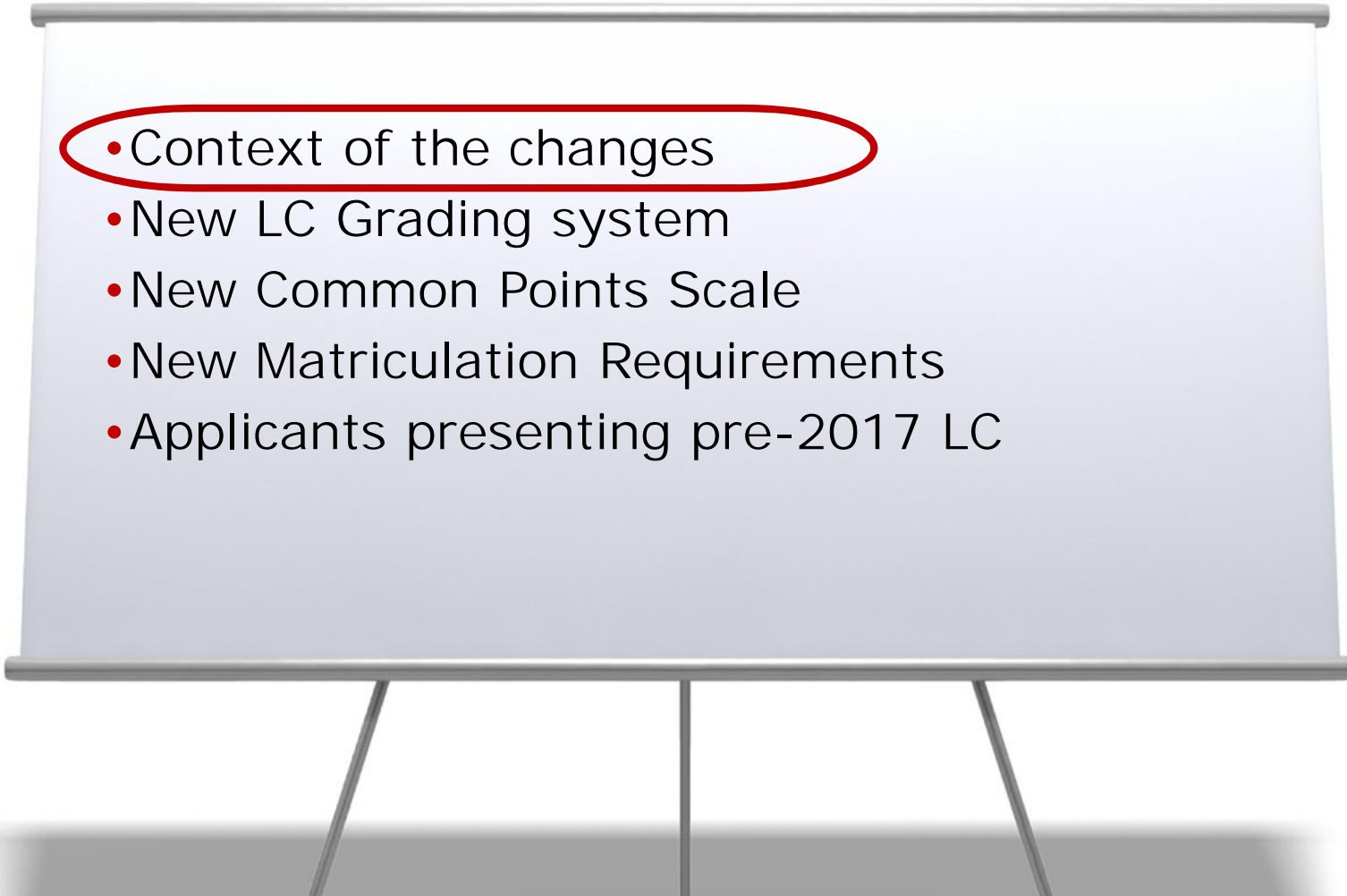
**A TRADITION OF  
INDEPENDENT  
THINKING**



**UCC**

University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

# Overview of New Grading System & Common Points Scale

- 
- Context of the changes
  - New LC Grading system
  - New Common Points Scale
  - New Matriculation Requirements
  - Applicants presenting pre-2017 LC

# Reforms launched

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- Change in the grading of Leaving Certificate
- Increase in broad entry routes
- Introduction of new Common Points Scale
- Change in Matriculation requirements

# Desired Impact of Reforms

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- Reduce pressure on second-level students
- Encourage the take-up of higher level subjects
- Fairly reward scholastic achievement
- Minimise the use of random selection

# Leaving Cert Grading 2017

Current Grading System	% Marks		New Grading System
A1	90-100	90-100	H1 / O1
A2	85<90	80<90	H2 / O2
B1	80<85		
B2	75<80	70<80	H3 / O3
B3	70<75		
C1	65<70	60<70	H4 / O4
C2	60<65		
C3	55<60	50<60	H5 / O5
D1	50<55		
D2	45<50	40<50	H6 / O6
D3	40<45		
E	25<40	30<40	H7 / O7
F	10<25	0<30	H8 / O8
NG	0<10		

# Common Points Scale 2017



Honours Level		Ordinary Level	
LC Grade	Points	LC 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

25 Bonus points for Maths for H6 and above

Moderation of points for Medicine

# Matriculation Requirements - basic

Current Grading System	% Marks		New Grading System
A1	90-100	90-100	H1 / O1
A2	85<90	80<90	H2 / O2
B1	80<85		
B2	75<80	70<80	H3 / O3
B3	70<75		
C1	65<70	60<70	H4 / O4
C2	60<65		
C3	55<60	50<60	H5 / O5
D1	50<55		
D2	45<50	40<50	H6 / O6
D3	40<45		
E	25<40	30<40	H7 / O7
F	10<25	0<30	H8 / O8
NG	0<10		

# 2017 Entry Requirements

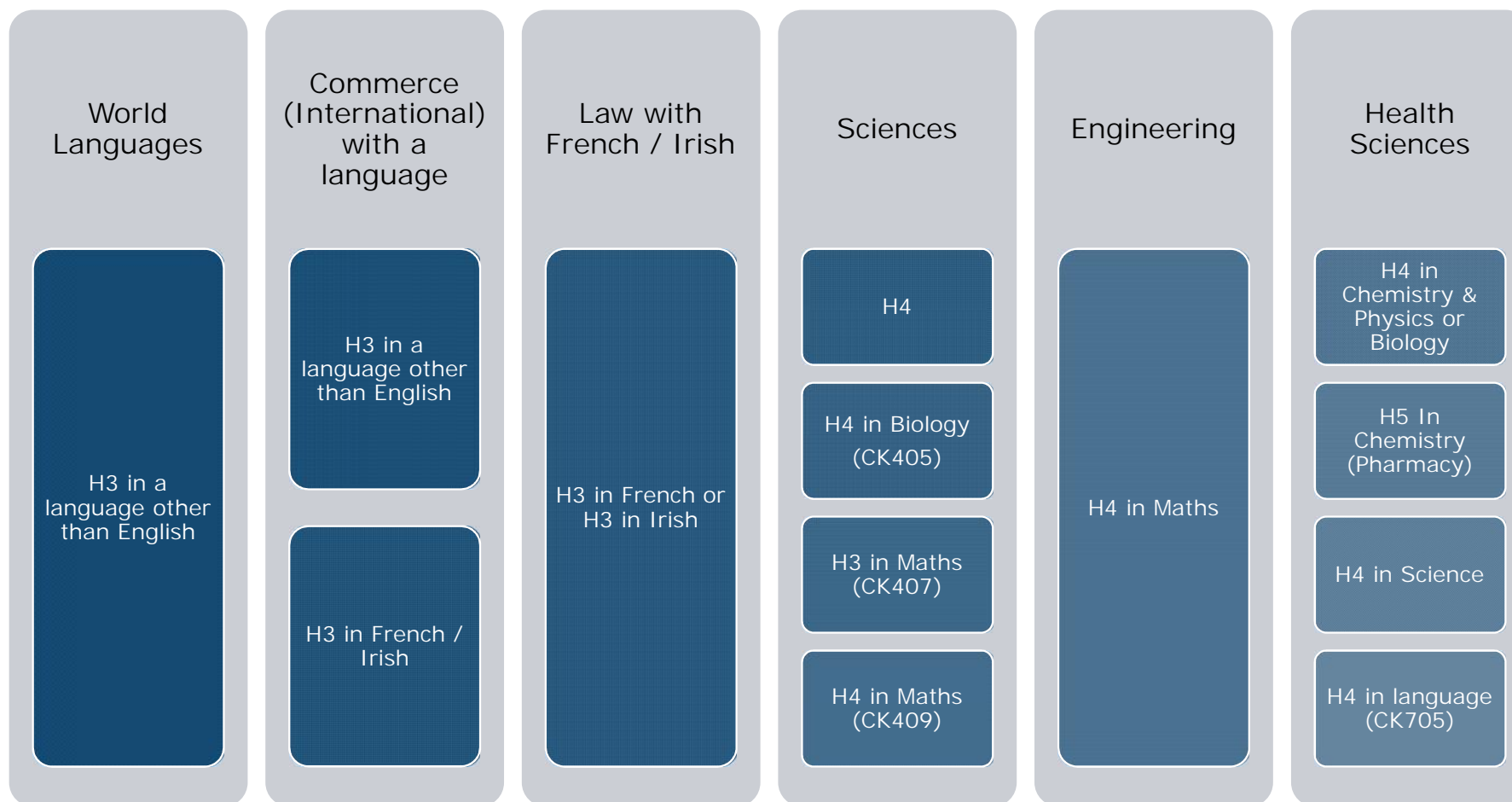
- 2 x H5 & 4 x O6/H7
- English & Irish
- Maths required for all except:  
CACSSS & Law (except Law and Business!)
- Another language required for all except:  
SEFS and Nursing programmes
- Additional Subject Requirements where specified

# New Programmes 2018

- CK120 BA Applied Psychology replacing CK106 code
- CK121 BA Psychology and Computing
- CK411 BSc Data Science and Analytics
- CK707 BSc Medical and Health Sciences



# Additional Subject Requirements 2017



# UCC in numbers

3,500 First  
Years

62 CAO entry  
routes

7 broad  
disciplines

30 Arts  
subjects

6 Business  
majors

6 Law routes

24 Science  
degree outlets

4 Engineering  
qualifications

5 separate  
Nursing and  
Midwifery  
options

# Work ready



Arts Work  
placement module  
across all  
programmes

Sports Studies &  
Physical Education  
and Science  
Education

Business  
programmes –  
6 month  
placements

Law Clinical – full  
year of placement

Food Sciences – 6  
month placements

Medicine & Health  
– industrial and  
clinical  
placements

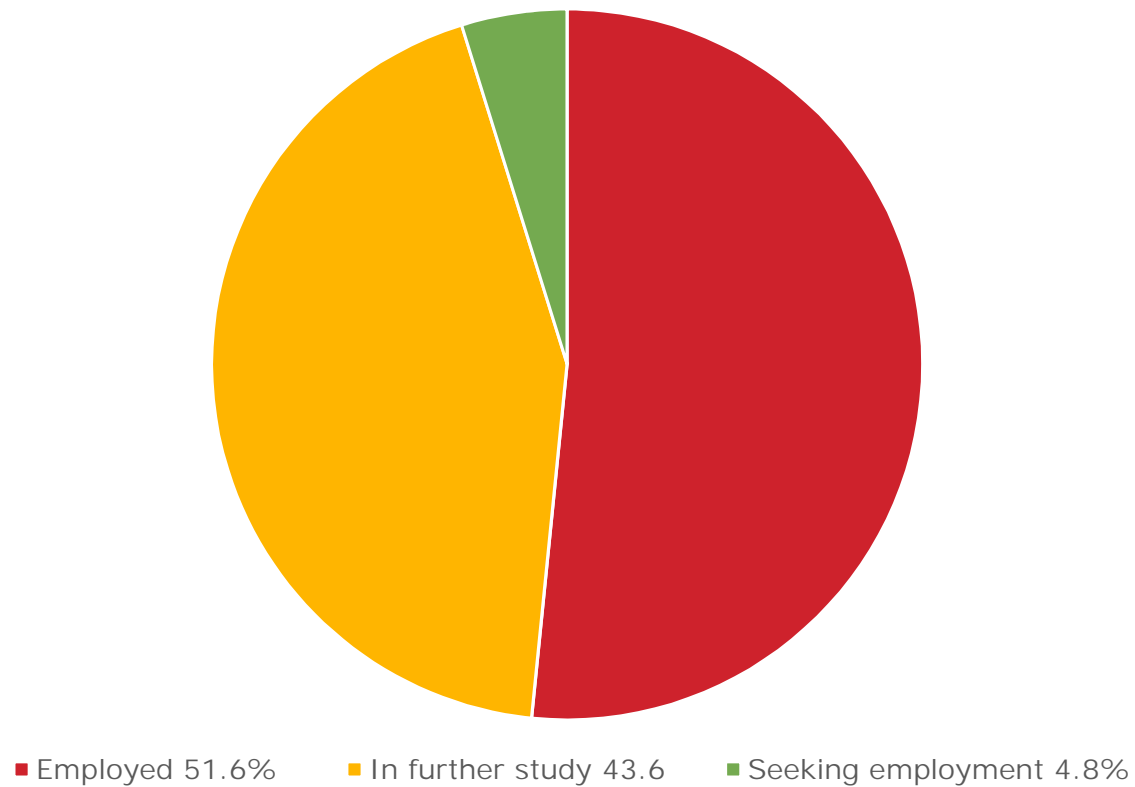
Summer  
Internships

Lab internships

Field trips

# Work ready

Undergraduates 9 months after graduating



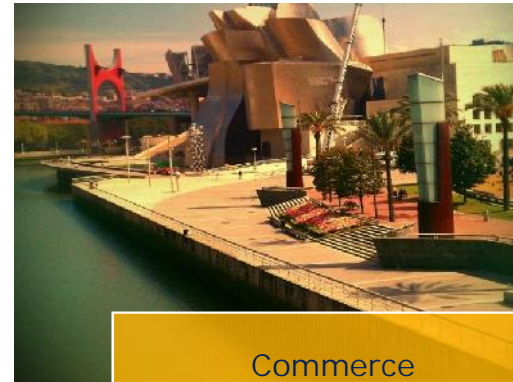
# World Ready



Arts International



Commerce International



Commerce



Law International



International Development  
& Food Policy



World Languages

# #uccmakeyourmark

## Quercus Scholarships



Entrance  
Sports  
Active  
Citizenship  
Entrepreneurship  
Academic

## Liadán Sage



Arts  
International  
Quercus  
Academic  
Scholar  
Undergraduate  
Award  
Choral Society

## Edmond Morrissey



Medicine  
Quercus  
Academic  
Scholar  
CBS High  
School  
Clonmel  
Surgeon  
Noonan

## Ciara O'Connell



Nutritional  
Sciences  
Quercus Sports  
Scholar –  
Camogie  
International  
Soccer  
European  
Championship  
Finals 2015

## Dave Calnan



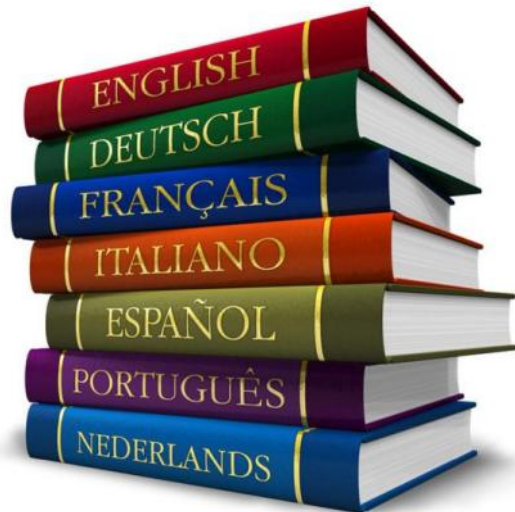
Commerce  
Quercus Innovation  
& Entrepreneurship  
Scholar  
Kino, Cork  
Cork Cares  
PWC Prizewinner

## Undergraduate Awards

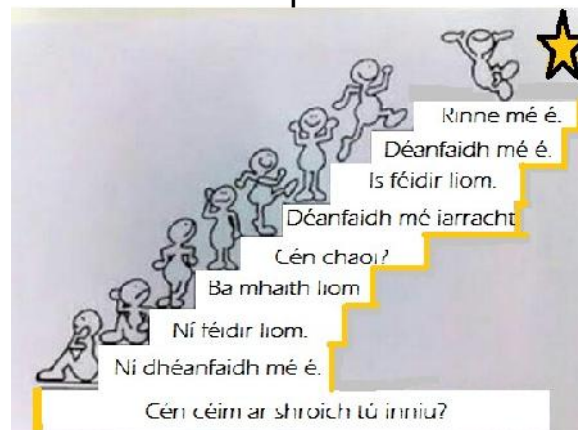


UCC  
students  
have won  
ten  
(2011-  
2015)

# Subject Choices



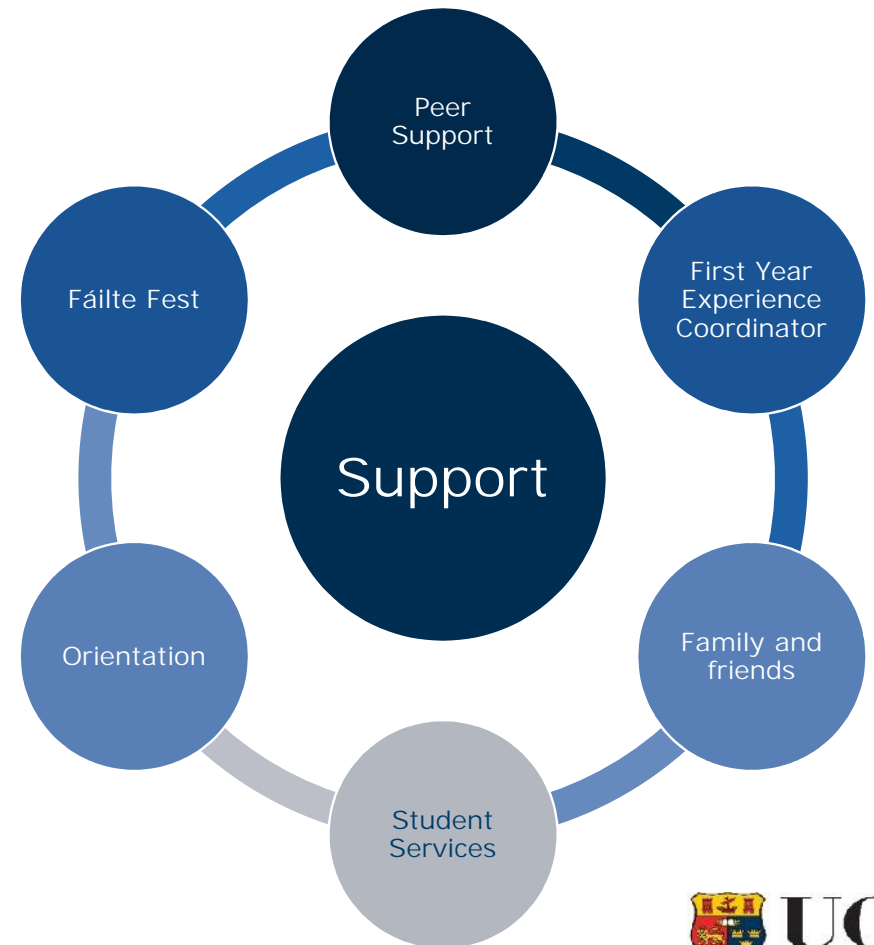
## Irish/Gaeilge Exemption



# Choosing your degree



# Support





Named university of the Year a record-breaking 5 times



Ireland's First 5-Star University



World's first Green Flag campus



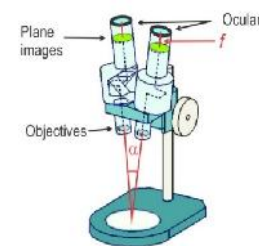
One of Trip Advisor's Top 40 Must-See Universities in the world



Ranked in the top 1% worldwide for the quality of our graduates

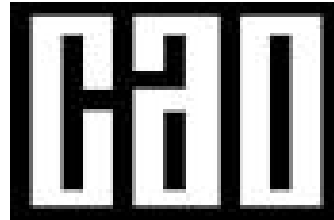


Ireland's first Health-Promoting University



Highest research income per academic (2014)

## Useful links



- [www.ucc.ie/en/study/undergrad/](http://www.ucc.ie/en/study/undergrad/)
- [www.ucc.ie/caolive](http://www.ucc.ie/caolive)
- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)



- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
- [www.facebook.com/uccadmissions](http://www.facebook.com/uccadmissions)
- <https://twitter.com/UCCAdmissions>



Disability Access Route To Education