

# Leaving Certificate Subject Choice

January 22 2015

# Agenda

- How to choose subjects
- The importance of:

Essential subjects versus Relevant subjects

# Senior Cycle Subject Choice

- Students take 7 subjects for Leaving Cert
- English, Irish (unless exempt) and Mathematics are required subjects
- 4 optional subjects are then chosen from the list available to each student

# Senior Cycle Subject Choice

- Beyond the core subjects
  - English, Irish & Mathematics - very few courses and jobs require specific subjects.

Language and science subjects would be the exception.

# Senior Cycle Subject Choice

Select 6 subjects from:	Accounting
Art	Business
History	Economics
Geography	Agricultural Science
DCG	Biology
Technology	Chemistry
Language	Physics

# Languages

- Students can continue their chosen third language. (French, German or Spanish).
- A third language is an entry requirement for the following NUI Colleges:-
  - UCC – University College Cork
  - UCD – University College Dublin
  - NUI Galway – National University Galway
  - NUI Maynooth – National University Maynooth
  - RCSI – Royal College of Surgeons Dublin

# Exceptions to this NUI rule:

- Engineering courses
- Science courses
- Agricultural Science courses
- Nursing courses

# Other Considerations

- DCU – Dublin City University – will accept Irish or English for admission
- UL – University of Limerick – will accept English plus another language eg. Irish
- TCD – Trinity College Dublin – will accept English plus another language eg. Irish
- Institutes of Technology will accept English or Irish
- \*unless colleges state otherwise.



# Other Language Requirements

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ■ Primary Teaching         | HC3 Irish                |
| ■ Language Degree/         | HC3 relevant<br>Language |
| ■ Journalism               | HC3 English              |
| ■ NUI College Requirements | OD3 Language             |

# 1 Science Subject Required:

- 1 science subject required for:
- Most Science, Medical, Engineering, Sport Science courses.

# 2 Science Subjects Required:

- Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy at UCC 2HC3\*
- Pharmacy at Trinity 2HC3\*  
(includes Geography)
- Dentistry, Medicine at Trinity HB3 + HC3
- Physiotherapy, Human Genetics at Trinity 2HC3
- Science at Trinity 2HC3
- Medicinal Chemistry at Trinity 2HC3
- Phys & Chemistry +Applied Math 2HC3
- UK Paramedical Courses

# Agricultural Science

- Not required for entry purposes to any college
- But could benefit those who wish to study agriculture
- Warning: TCD will not accept Biology and Agricultural Science together

# Biology

Required for:

- Genetics at UCC HC3
- Human Health and Disease TCD HC3

# Chemistry

## Required for:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| ■ Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy at UCC | HC3 |
| ■ Veterinary Medicine at UCD           | HC3 |
| ■ Human Nutrition and Dietetics at DIT | HC3 |
| ■ Pharmacy at Trinity                  | HC3 |
| ■ Public Health and Nutrition at DIT   | HC3 |

# Physics

Required for:

- Theoretical Physics at Trinity HB3

# First Yr Agricultural Science UCD

- Animal Biology and Evolution
- Cell and plant biology
- Introductory Chemistry
- Intro to the chemistry of pesticides
- Maths for Agriculture
- Physics for Agricultural Science
- Information skills and computer applications
- Intro to Agricultural economics and business



# Business Subjects

- Accounting – Only required for 1 course  
NUI Galway B. Commerce (Accounting)
- Business – Not required by any college for entry purposes
- Economics – Not required by any college for entry purposes

# First Year Business Studies UL

- Microeconomics
- Management Principles
- Principles of Accounting
- Business Information Management
- Communications
- Macroeconomics
- Principles of Organisational Behaviour
- Managerial Accounting
- Marketing
- Business Maths

# Technical Subjects

- Technology – Not required for entry to any college
- Design and Communication Graphics – Not required for entry to any college
- Does not mean the above subjects would not have relevance for Technology, Architecture and Engineering courses.

# General Subjects

- Art – only required for entry on to some art courses
- Geography
- History

# Some Considerations

- All subjects have a value
- It is better to excel in subjects that are liked than to be mediocre in perceived “good” subjects.
- Choose subjects that are both essential and relevant.
- Is the subject attractive for points purposes.

# Senior Cycle Subject Choice

- What subjects are they interested in? – Students do better in subjects they like.
- What subjects are they good at? –attitude is as important as ability.
- Pay careful consideration to required and helpful subjects for the future.
- If unsure of a career keep options open.

# Subject Choice

- Subject Choice is part of **initial Career Choice**
- Career choice is part of **career management**
- Career Management is a lifetime process

# More Information

- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie) for information on third level courses and minimum subject requirements
- [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie) for informaion on curricula
- [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie) which contains a library of past papers



Good Night and Thank You.