

LEAVING CERTIFICATE POINTS SCORING SYSTEM:

Percentages	Grade	Higher	Ordinary	<i>Inc. HL Math bonus points</i>
90-100	1	100	56	125
80-89	2	88	46	113
70-79	3	77	37	102
60-69	4	66	28	91
50-59	5	56	20	81
40-49	6	46	12	71
30-39	7	37	N/A	-

LCVP Link Modules

Grade	Points
Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28

USEFUL WEBSITES:

www.qualifax.ie www.careersportal.ie
www.cao.ie www.nui.ie
www.apprenticeships.ie www.solas.ie
www.hairdressingapprenticeships.ie
www.getalifetourism.ie www.military.ie
www.qqi.ie
www.careersnews.ie & College websites

STAYING INFORMED:

All students should sign up to www.careersnews.ie. This is a very valuable resource, not only for up to date careers news, but also for study skills, time management, interesting articles and videos, etc.

CHANGE OF MIND DEADLINE: September 2021

- Students will be allowed to change their options choice, in early September 2021 (date TBC) by requesting a transfer from the Career Guidance Office during the morning drop in service only.
- This request is granted subject to a space being available in the requested subject.

WHAT NOW?

Students should prepare for their vocational guidance meeting with a guidance counsellor by thinking about and researching their choices. If, after their guidance appointment they still have questions, they should call to Ms. Morrin/ Ms. Power during the morning drop in service 09.55—10.10 Monday to Thursday.

*Scoil Mhuire gan Smál,
an Bhlárna*



*Fifth year subject choice booklet
2021
for students and parents*

Contents	Page No.
Established Leaving Cert Optional Subjects	3
National Universities of Ireland (NUI)	3
NUI Recognised Colleges	3
College of a Constituent University	3
L.C.V.P. Subject Groupings	4
Subject Choice - What you need to consider before choosing?	5
College and Course Entry Requirements	6
College Entry Requirements - some examples	6
Course Entry Requirements - some examples	7
How do I choose in order to cover the majority of options?	7
Accounting	8
Agricultural Science	9
Applied Maths	10
Art	11
Biology	12
Business	13
Chemistry	14
Construction Studies	15
Design & Communication Graphics	16
Economics	17
Engineering	18
French	19
Geography	20
German	21
History	22
Home Economics (Scientific & Social)	23
Link Modules (L.C.V.P)	24
Music	25
Physics	26
Technology	27
Leaving Certificate Points Scoring System	28
Useful Websites	28
Staying Informed	28
Change of Mind Deadline	28
What now?	28

TECHNOLOGY

If I want to study Technology in my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Ability to integrate design into various forms of Technology project coursework.
- Problem Solving Skills
- A prior knowledge of Information Technology and Materials Technology would be an advantage.
- A link to Junior Cycle Engineering, Materials Technology Wood or Graphics would be helpful but not a necessity.
- Ability to use Microsoft Word or Publisher to produce a portfolio accompanying LC project.
- Be able to work in a safe and controlled manner in the workshop.

What does the subject entail?

- An ability to work with 2D and 3D Computer Aided Design programs such as Solid works.
- Working with CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) machines such as a Laser Cutter and 3D printer and understand the importance and relevance of these used in modern Technology.
- Understanding the importance and advancement technology has made on the world we live in.

Assessment:

- Written exam - 50%
- Project - 25% completed during November to March of 6th year
- Portfolio - 25% completed during September to March of 6th year.

Assignments during Course:

- Practical workshop
- Research, design and completion of 2 classroom based projects
- Solid works Assignment.
- Theory

Career Note:

The subject is very useful, but not essential for Technology at Third Level.

Technology is useful for careers in the following areas: Aircraft Technician, Apprenticeships, Computer Hardware Engineer, Computer Aided Manufacture Specialist, Digital Media, Engraver, Engineering Teacher, Graphic Designer, Fabricator, Fitter, Information Technologist, Industrial Design, Industrial Operator, Mechanics, Mechanical Production, Metal Work Teacher, Network & Computer System Administrators, Manufacturing Systems Manager, Service and Maintenance Personnel, Structural and Civil Engineer, Technicians, Technical Sales, Technology Teacher, Web Designer, Welder, etc.

PHYSICS

If I want to study Physics for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to measure physical quantities
- Be able to work safely in a lab
- Be able to use a calculator properly
- Be able to present information in a tabular, graphical, written and *diagrammatical* form
- Be able to learn experiments and use data appropriately
- Be fairly good at maths (B at O.L or above)

Leaving Certificate Physics V's Junior Certificate Physics:

- More practical work, which makes the theory come alive
- More focus on how physics relates to ordinary and familiar things

Assessment:

- Written Exam

Assignments during Course:

- Experiments
- Write up experiments
- Learn theory - definitions and formulae

Career Note:

Physics is useful for careers in the following areas : Architecture, Biophysicist, Computer Careers, Dentist, Doctor, Engineering, Health Inspector, Marine Radio Operator, Medical Laboratory Technician, Meteorologist, Naval Service, Nurse, Pharmacist, Physicist, Physics Teacher, Photographic Technician, Pilot, Radiographer, Scientific Laboratory Technician, Scientific Research, etc.

The Established Leaving Certificate Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál, Blarney 2021

This is a two year programme of general education. It is not a preparation for any one job or career. Students take a minimum of 7 exam subjects, three compulsory - Irish, English and Maths, and four optional.

Optional Subjects:

Business Group

Accounting
Business
Economics

Language

French
German

Scientific Group

Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Agricultural Science
Applied Maths

Social/Artistic Group

Art
Geography
History
Home Economics (Social
& Scientific)
Music

Technology Group

Construction Studies
Engineering
Design & Communication Graphics
Technology

National Universities of Ireland (NUI)

University College Dublin
University College Cork
National University of Ireland, Galway
National University of Ireland, Maynooth

NUI Recognised Colleges

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Institute of Public Administration

College of a Constituent University

St. Angela's College, Sligo
National College of Art and Design
Shannon College of Hotel Management
Burren College of Art
Institute of Banking

For a full list of Higher Education Colleges in Ireland go to www.heai.ie

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (L.C.V.P.)

Students who study ordinary level Maths have the option of doing L.C.V.P. This programme gives a strong vocational dimension to the Leaving Certificate, combining the virtues of academic study with a new and dynamic focus on self-directed learning, enterprise, work and the community. See page 24 on Link Modules for further details.

Vocational Subject Groupings (as specified by Dept. of Education & Science)

Specialist Groupings:

- 1 Construction Studies; Engineering; DCG (Any Two)
- 2 Physics and Construction Studies or Engineering or DCG
- 3 Ag. Science and Construction Studies or Engineering or DCG
- 4 Ag. Science and Chemistry or Physics
- 5 Home Ec.; Ag. Science; Biology (Any Two)
- 6 Home Ec. and Art
- 7 Accounting; Business; Economics (Any Two)
- 8 Physics and Chemistry
- 9 Biology and Chemistry or Physics
- 10 Biology and Ag. Science
- 11 Art and DCG

Services Groupings:

- 1 Engineering or Construction Studies or DCG and Accounting or Business or Economics
- 2 Home Ec. and Accounting or Business or Economics
- 3 Ag. Science and Accounting or Business or Economics
- 4 Art and Accounting or Business or Economics
- 5 Music and Accounting or Business or Economics

NB: It is **not a good idea** to choose your subjects so that you can do the L.C.V.P., however, if you are eligible for the LCVP because of the subjects you choose then you should definitely consider doing it as it does provide the opportunity to develop key transferable skills essential in today's workplace and the opportunity to attain valuable CAO points.

MUSIC

If I want to study Music for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to perform individually and/or in groups (instrumental/singing)
- Have good listening skills
- Be interested in learning how to compose, using notation and technology - you will compose your own pieces of music.

Leaving Certificate Music V's Junior Certificate Music:

- The course follows on from the course at Junior Certificate level.
- You may use Music Technology in your practical.

Assessment:

- Practical Exam - can be up to 50%
- Listening and Written Exam - 50%

Assignments during Course:

- You will study the 4 set works in detail and submit written exercises
- You will have the opportunity to develop your instrumental skills and/or develop your singing voice, as well as enjoy group performance
- There will be an opportunity for you to develop your own musical ideas
- You will spend time listening to a wide range of musical styles
- You will study music notation, melody writing and harmony

Career Note:

Music is useful for careers in the following areas: Actor, Aerobics instructor, Arranger, Composer, Dancer, Disc Jockey, Entertainment, Film Studies, Folklore Studies, Instrument Maker, Library Work, Music Shop Sales, Sound Engineering, Speech Therapy, Music Therapy, Occupational Therapist, Physical Education, Primary/Secondary Teacher, etc.

LINK MODULES (LCVP)

Requirements for the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, which is of two years' duration, are as follows:

- Students take 7 Leaving Certificate subjects, including Irish.
- Two of Leaving Certificate subjects must be selected from one of the designated Vocational Subject Groupings—these are groups of Leaving Certificate subjects which link naturally together (See page 2)
- They must follow a recognised course in a Modern European Language, other than English or Irish.
- They must study two additional Link Modules, Preparation for the World of Work and Enterprise Education.

Preparation for the World of Work:

Research and investigate local employment opportunities; develop your job-seeking skills such as letter writing, CV presentation, interview techniques; gain valuable practical experience of the world of work; interview and work shadow a person in a career area that interests you.

Enterprise Education:

Organise study visits to local business and community enterprises; meet and interview enterprising people on site and in the classroom; plan and undertake interesting activities that will build self-confidence, creativity, initiative and develop your team-work communication and computer skills.

Assessment:

- Written Examination in May (40%)
- Portfolio of Coursework (60%)

Career Note:

The Link Modules are activity-based units of study which are designed to help students make connections between school and community, study and future career, enterprise and the business of making a living. They are recognised in points terms by the majority of Institutes of Technology and Universities:

Grade:	Points
Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28

What you need to consider before choosing?

All Subjects are Equal

There are many factors that need to be taken into consideration when making subject choices and the decision must not be taken lightly. However, it is important to draw your attention to the fact that all subjects, except honours maths, are equal e.g. a H1 in Art is as valuable as a H1 in Physics for Engineering - one may be more useful than the other when studying Engineering at third level, but they are both scored the same for points. ***Just make sure that you have the required subjects for entry into the course and college you are aiming for.***

The Exception: Honours Maths

****All Universities and ITs are awarding a bonus of 25 points to students who achieve a grade H6 or above in higher level maths.***

Choose subjects based on:

- Interest - If you are genuinely interested in the subject content you will find it easier to study the subject and, therefore, you will get better grades.
- Aptitude/Ability - consider your achievements to date in the Junior Certificate or class tests.
- Possible career paths - some subjects are essential for certain courses and careers. There is more information about this on pages 6 & 7.

Taking up a subject not studied to Junior Certificate

Although it is not essential to have taken certain subjects at Junior Certificate level in order to study them for Leaving Certificate, it is advisable, as students who have no previous experience of a subject going into Leaving Certificate are usually at a disadvantage. If a student wants to take up a subject they have not studied for Junior Certificate they should firstly, **and most importantly**, speak to that subject teacher; then take a look at the text books and speak to a student that studied the subject for their Leaving Certificate.

College and Course Entry Requirements:

When researching individual courses there are two factors to look for - basic entry requirements to the college and specific course entry requirements. These are separate requirements and are both essential to be eligible for the course of your choice. It is advisable to check college websites for these requirements, however, www.qualifax.ie and www.careersportal.ie are very good websites for a quick research. Qualifax has a minimum subjects facility in the 'Useful Tools' section. There is also a huge amount of information Careers Portal regarding subject choice.

College (Basic) Entry Requirements:

Some Examples:

- ♦ For all NUI Colleges: (See page 3 for list)
A minimum of 6 subjects - 2H5 and 4 O6/H7 grades to include Irish, English and a third language.
NUI colleges have dropped their third language requirement for many of their engineering, science, agricultural and food science programmes. **You need to check each course and colleges e.g. Biotechnology in NUI Galway does require a third language.** In general Health science courses in NUIs require a third language. A third language is not a requirement for any nursing programmes. Art or DCG is acceptable in place of the language for students entering NCAD.
- ♦ Trinity College Dublin:
A minimum of 6 subjects - 3 H5 & 3 OH6/H7 grades to include English, Maths and another language.
- ♦ University of Limerick:
A minimum of 6 subjects—2 H5 & 4 O6/H7 grades to include English, Maths and another language.
- ♦ Institutes of Technology - Level 8 Degrees:
A minimum of 6 subjects - 2 H5 & 4 O6/H7 grades to include Maths and English or Irish.
- ♦ Institutes of Technology - L. 6 Cert & L. 7 Degree:
A minimum of 5 subjects - 5 O6/H7 grades to include Maths and English or Irish.
- ♦ Cadetship Army
A minimum of 6 subjects - 3 H5 & 3 O6/H6 grades to include English, Irish, Maths and third language.
Cadetship in Army Equitation School, Naval Services & Air Corps all have different entry requirements.

HOME ECONOMICS - (Scientific & Social)

If I want to study Home Economics for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- 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 problem solve
- Be able to discuss topics and work in teams

Leaving Certificate Home Economics V's Junior Certificate Home Economics:

- Consumer studies that covers everyday consumer decisions e.g. insurance, mortgages, savings, credit, etc.
- Practical cookery assessed through written exams only
- 3 Electives—students choose 1 to complete from Home Design & Management, Textiles, Fashion and Design or Social Studies
- 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 and Resource Management

Assessment:

- Written exam 80%
- Course work journal pre-submitted in October/November of Leaving Certificate –20%

Assignments during Course:

- Practical Work/draft practical work
- Work Sheets
- Group work/ Discussion Work
- Project work.

Career Note:

Home Economics is useful for careers in the following areas: Baking, Beautician, Catering, Chef, Child Care, Consumer Adviser, Confectionery, Demonstrator of food, wines, etc., Dietician, Environmental Designer, Food Science, Hairdressing, Health Inspector, Home Management, Home Economics Teacher, Home Economist, TV & Radio, Marketing, Advertising, Nutritionist, personal trainer, etc.

HISTORY

If I want to study History in my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to analyse and interpret facts and opinions and use them to support your own views
- Be able to discuss a statement taking into account arguments “for and against”
- Be able to learn facts, statistics and legal clauses /acts
- Be able to learn how to extract information from primary documents/ maps
- Be able to write a concise, clear, logical and interesting argument
- Really like reading and writing

Leaving Certificate History V's Junior Certificate History:

- Junior Certificate looked broadly at History from the Stone Age to the 20th century. Leaving Certificate will focus on the late 19th and 20th century.
- The course will cover both Irish and European History looking at personalities, events and their influences especially European wars. Motives will be analysed and alternative actions sought.
- American, African and Asian history will also be looked at.
- More focus will be placed on improving writing skills.

Assessment:

- A Project on a special topic will be completed and returned to the Department before students sit their final exam worth 20%
- Final Exam - documents (prescribed case studies) similar but more complex to the Documents Section of the Junior Certificate; map work and essay style questions at H.L or Paragraphs at O.L.

Assignments during Course:

- Essay writing
- Project for exam
- Summary writing
- Map work

Career Note:

History is useful for careers in the following areas: Archaeology, Barrister, Broadcaster, Civil Service, English Teacher, Garda, History Teacher, Historian, Journalism, Judge, Law, Librarian, Museum Work, Researcher, Politics, Prison service, Sociology, Tourism, Trade Union Official, University Professor, Writer, etc.

Course Entry Requirements:

Some Examples:

UCC Undergraduate Medicine - H4 in Chemistry and in either Physics or Biology, O6/H7 in English, Irish, another language and Maths. ***Students must also complete the HPAT in year of entry.***

Engineering UCC - H4 in Maths or H4 in Applied Maths & H6 in Maths, O6/H7 in a lab science.

Primary School Teaching, Mary Immaculate College requires H5 in not less than 3 subjects. Further requirements are H4 in Irish, O4/H7 in Maths, O4/H7 in English

College and Course Entry Requirements vary from course to course and from college to college. **IT IS UP TO YOU TO DO THE RESEARCH!**

How do I choose in order to cover the majority of options?
IRISH, ENGLISH, MATHS...

+ FRENCH/GERMAN

- If you want to study in any NUI
- If you want to become a Cadet in the Army
- Certain courses e.g. International Business with Language (MTU) Language & European Studies (Cork College of Commerce)
- IBEC & Engineers Ireland strongly recommend all students take a language

+ SCIENCE SUBJECT(S)

At least ONE science subject is essential for entry to most university science, medical, engineering, paramedical, technology courses, nursing, etc.

What Science Subject do I choose?

- *Biology and/or Chemistry are more useful for medical, nursing, food Science and Agriculture fields.*
- *Physics and/or Chemistry are more useful for Engineering and Science Fields.*

+ 2 SUBJECTS THAT YOU LOVE AND ARE REALLY GOOD AT.

All information correct as of 26/02/20

ACCOUNTING

If I want to study Accounting in my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Problem solving skills
- Good time management
- Good attention to detail
- Good organisational skills
- Like figures and numbers - NB: you do not have to do higher level maths to do higher level accounting

Leaving Certificate Accounting V's Junior Certificate Business:

- Follows on from the basic book-keeping and accounting elements of Junior Certificate Business
- Management Accounting is covered

Assessment:

- Written Exam

Assignments during Course:

- Accounting Questions
- Learn by doing

Career Note:

Accounting is good preparation for business related occupations, but is not essential.

Accounting can be useful for careers in the following areas: Accountancy, Administration, Advertising, Anybody Self Employed, Auditing, Banking, Book-keeping, Building Society Work, Business, Business Law, Business Teacher, Cashier, Clerical Work, Farming, Hotel Management, Insurance, Marketing, Market Research, Production Management, Purchasing Work, Quantity Surveyor, Receptionist, Sales Representative, Store Management, Taxation Work, Tourism, etc.

GERMAN

If I want to study German for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able and willing to develop oral, aural, writing and reading skills in German so that you can develop confidence in a foreign language
- Have interest in the German culture
- Be able to learn independently

Leaving Certificate German V's Junior Certificate German:

- More focus on oral work
- Continuation of other skills development
- Need to do some work everyday to become very familiar with language

Assessment:

- Oral Exam - 25% in H.L., 20% in O.L.
- Aural Exam - 20% in H.L., 25% in O.L.
- Written Exam on reading comprehension and writing ability - 55%

Assignments during Course:

- Regular participation in oral and aural class work
- Reading Comprehensions and writing exercises

Career Note:

You must have a foreign language for entry to all colleges of the National University of Ireland i.e.. UCC, UCD, NUI Galway and Maynooth. *(However, recently these colleges have dropped that requirement for many of their engineering, science, agricultural and food science programmes. A third language is also not a requirement for nursing programmes. Art is acceptable in place of the language for students entering NCAD.)* You also need a foreign language to become a Cadet in the Army or Air Corps. Certain Industries and employers think very highly of candidates with foreign language skills.

German can be useful for careers in the following areas: Air Steward/Stewardess, Air Traffic Controller, Au Pair, Bilingual Secretary, Business, Careers in Export, Chef, Courier, Hotel Management, Hotel Receptionist, Human Resources, International Marketing, Importer, Interpreter, Journalist, Librarian, Translator, International Driver, Ground Hostess, Pilot, Tourism, Travel Agent, Work in the Department of Foreign Affairs, etc.

GEOGRAPHY

If I want to study Geography for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to develop geographical and vocational skills
- Be interested in active citizenship
- Be able to use information and communications technology

Leaving Certificate Geography V's Junior Certificate Geography:

- Builds on the experience of the student at Junior Certificate, introducing Geographical Investigation
- Develops the limited experience of regional Geography at Junior Cycle and allows the student and teacher to specialise on a number of regions

Assessment:

The revised Leaving Certificate syllabus for senior cycle Geography was first examined June 2006:

- Ordinary Level: short answer questions and multi part questions
- Higher Level: short answer questions, multi part question and essay type questions
- Both levels will have separate written exam papers –80%
- 20% for report on Geographical Investigation

Assignments during Course:

- Class work and homework assignments
- Fieldwork
- Writing up of field work

Career Note:

NB: Geography is presently accepted as a Science subject at Trinity College Dublin for both Science and Pharmacy.

Geography is useful for careers in the following areas: Agriculture, Air Traffic Controller, Anthropologist, Architecture, Archaeology, Cartographer, Civil Engineering, Construction, Conservation Work, Courier, Development Work Abroad, Estate Agent, Forestry, Geologist, Geography Teacher, Guide, Horticulture, International Driver, Market Research, Marine Officer, Meteorology, Mineralogy, Pilot, Statistics, Surveying, Town and County Planning, etc.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

If I want to study Agricultural Science for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Have an interest in animals
- Have access to a farm
- Biology - though not essential, would be very suitable as a second Leaving Certificate Science Subject
- Be able to learn and understand terms

Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science V's Junior Certificate Science:

- Much more detailed than the Junior Certificate Science
- The project Component can be worth 25% of the final exam
- The exam format is quite different to that of the other Leaving Certificate Science subjects - more writing!

Assessment:

- Project 'Individual Investigative Study (IIS)' submitted by April of LC 25%
- Written Exam 75%

Assignments during Course:

- Writing up experiments
- Theory and its practice to be learned
- Complete research and progress reports for the IIS

Career Note:

Agricultural Science can be useful for careers in the following areas: Agri-journalism, Brewing Technology, Dairy Scientist, Dietician, Environmental Inspector, Farmer, Farm Manager, Food Science Technology, Forestry Inspector, Horticultural Work, Laboratory Work, Renewable Energy, Science Teacher, Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary Surgeon, etc.

APPLIED MATHS

Who should think about studying Applied Maths?

Applied Maths can be taken at Higher and Ordinary Level. It is typically studied by students who have achieved a high grade at Junior Cert Maths, but this is not essential. The most important thing is that you enjoy studying maths, and you like the challenge of trying to solve mathematical problems.

What skills would I need?

A lot of Junior Cycle skills are useful in Applied Maths, especially those that focus on problem-solving, design, communication skills and technology. You would have practised these skills a lot in Mathematics, Science, Business Studies and Coding, as well as other subjects.

Assessment:

The course will change in September 2021.

80% of your final grade will be your final written exam at the end of Leaving Cert, and 20% of your final grade is made up of a modelling project that you study as coursework during your final year.

In the written exam, you will have a choice of a range of questions, so if you found one topic quite difficult you can leave it out.

Careers:

Applied maths would be required for most types of engineering, especially Civil and Mechanical Engineering.

Other careers where it would be useful are: architecture, biophysicist, Computer careers, marine radio operator, medical laboratory technician, meteorologist, naval service, pharmacist, physicist, physics teacher, photographic technician, pilot, radiographer, scientific laboratory technician and scientific research.

FRENCH

If I want to study French for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able and willing to develop oral, aural, writing and reading skills in French so that you can develop confidence in a foreign language
- Have interest in the French culture
- Be able to learn independently

Leaving Certificate French V's Junior Certificate French:

- More focus on oral work
- Continuation of other skills development
- Need to do some work everyday to become very familiar with language

Assessment:

- Oral Exam - 25% in H.L, 20% in O.L.
- Aural Exam - 20% in H.L, 25% in O.L.
- Written Exam on reading comprehension and writing ability - 55%

Assignments during Course:

- Regular participation in oral and aural class work
- Reading comprehensions and writing exercises

Career Note:

You must have a foreign language for entry to all colleges of the National University of Ireland i.e.. UCC, UCD, NUI Galway and Maynooth. (*However, recently these colleges have dropped that requirement for many of their engineering, science, agricultural and food science programmes. A third language is also not a requirement for nursing programmes. Art is acceptable in place of the language for students entering NCAD.*) You also need a foreign language to become a Cadet in the Army or Air Corps. Certain Industries and employers think very highly of candidates with foreign language skills.

French can be useful for careers in the following areas: Air Steward/Stewardess, Air Traffic Controller, Au Pair, Bilingual Secretary, Business, Careers in Export, Chef, Courier, Hotel Management, Hotel Receptionist, Human Resources, International Marketing, Importer, Interpreter, Journalist, Librarian, Translator, International Driver, Ground Hostess, Pilot, Tourism, Travel Agent, Work in the Department of Foreign Affairs, etc.

ENGINEERING

If I want to study Engineering in my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Problem solving skills and practical skills
- Interest in Engineering as a discipline
- Neatness, accuracy and attention to detail
- It would be an advantage to have studied Metal Work to Junior Certificate Level, but not a necessity

Leaving Certificate Engineering V's Junior Certificate Metal Work :

- Builds on the practical skills acquired at Junior Certificate
- Similar topics covered in greater depth
- Theory is more detailed in Leaving Certificate

Assessment:

- Written exam - 50% in H. L., 40% in O. L.
- Project - 25% in H. L., 30% in O. L. - completed November to March of 6th year
- Practical Exam in May of 6th year - 25% in H. L., 30% in O. L.

Assignments during Course:

- Workshop Practical
- Research, design and construction of projects
- Class work based on learning new skills
- Theory

Career Note:

The subject is very useful, but not essential for Engineering at Third Level.

Engineering is useful for careers in the following areas: Aircraft Technician, Army/Air Corp, Apprenticeships, Engraver, Engineering Teacher, Fabricator, Fitter, Industrial Design, Industrial Operator, Mechanics, Mechanical Production, Metal Work Teacher, Service and Maintenance Personnel, Structural and Civil Engineer, Technicians, Technical Sales, Toolmaker, Welder, etc.

ART

If I want to study Art for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to give a personal response to experiences, ideas and pieces of art
- Be able to write a discursive essay
- Be able to work from memory, imagination and direct observation
- Be able to use and understand the art and design elements
- Be able to use a variety of topics, materials, media and equipment

Leaving Certificate Art V's Junior Cycle Art:

- The main difference is the opportunity to study Art History and Appreciation
- Practical work expands and develops on from work undertaken in Junior Cycle
- Drawing skills are emphasised and developed to a more professional level

Assessment:

- Written examination in Art History and Appreciation 30%
- Practical Examination : 20 %
- Course Work: Section A (still life or imaginative composition) 25%
- Course Work: Section B (craft piece or design piece) 25%

Assignments during the course:

- Course Work: 10 week project involving a workbook and production of 2 art pieces
- Art History and Appreciation: 3 sections to exam a) Irish Art b) European Art and c) General Appreciation e.g. Gallery Visits
- Life Drawing: Drawing from the human form.

Career Note:

A portfolio will probably be needed for entry to a Third Level Art Course. Art is acceptable in place of the language requirement for students entering NCAD. Art is either necessary or useful for the following careers: Advertising, Art Teacher, Architecture, Beautician, Cosmetics Consultant, Crafts, Fashion, Florist, Furniture Design, Gallery and Museum Work, Graphic Design, Hairdresser, Interior Design, Marketing, Occupational Therapist, Painting and Decorating, Photography, Picture Restorer, Primary Teacher, Printing and Publishing, Sign Writer, Textile Design, Television work, Video Production, etc.

BIOLOGY

If I want to study Biology for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Be able to learn and understand facts, terms, principles and ideas
- A good command of English is useful
- Be able to carry out practical work - Lab and fieldwork - safely
- Be able to record and interpret information
- Be able to understand experimental techniques

Leaving Certificate Biology V's Junior Certificate Biology:

- Much more detail
- A wider range of topics to cover

Assessment:

- New syllabus since September 2002 with three units: (1) study of life; (2) the cell; (3) the organism with 22 mandatory activities.

Assignments during course:

- Experimentations followed by write-ups
- Field ecology

Career Note:

Biology can be useful or necessary for careers in the following areas: Agriculture, Agriculture Research, Ambulance Driver, Beautician, Biochemical, Biologist, Biology Teacher, Catering Superintendent, Chiropodist, Conservation Worker, Cosmetic Consultant, Dairy Scientist, Dental Hygienist, Dental Technician, Dentist, Dietician, Doctor, Food Science Technician, Forester, Hairdresser, Health Inspector, Horticulturist, Laboratory Assistant, Marine Biologist, Medical Laboratory Assistant, Microbiologist, Nail Technician, Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Oceanographer, Optician, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Psychologist, Radiographer, Speech Therapist, Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary Surgeon, Zoologist, etc.

ECONOMICS

If I want to study Economics for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Have an interest in the economy
- Have an interest in the current affairs
- Be able to analyse and interpret information

Leaving Certificate Economics V's Junior Certificate Business:

- It follows on from the basic foundations set down in Junior Certificate Business Studies

What is Economics?

Economics is a social science, this is it is the study of human behaviour. Economics is divided into two sections:

- Micro-economics is the study of individual markets i.e. buyers and sellers agree on a price. The price helps decide who gets the goods and services and what factors of production are employed.
- Macro-economics deals with matters affecting the wealth of the whole community call Gross National Product. You will study Banking, International Trade and Finance, the EU, the role of the government in the economy, etc.

Assessment:

- Written Exam - 2½ hours 80%
- Research Study—20%

Assignments during Course:

- Research Study Report 20% of final assessment
- Continuous assessment exercises
- Case studies linking the theory to the real world

Career Note:

Economics is very useful, but not essential, in order to study Economics at Third Level.

Economics can be useful for careers in the following areas: Accounting, Administration, Banking, Business, Business Teaching, Commerce, Economics, Engineering, Financial Services, Government, IT, Journalism, Management, Marketing, Politics, Social Work, Stock broking, Trade Unions, etc.

DESIGN & COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

If I want to study Design & Communication Graphics for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Problem Solving Skills
- To work neatly and accurately
- Keen interest in design and technical graphics

Leaving Certificate Design & Communication Graphics V's Junior Certificate Technical Graphics:

- Continuation of work studied at Junior Certificate level.
- Engineering Applications.

Assessment:

- Written Exam - 60%
- Solid works project - 40%

Assignments during Course:

- Solid Works assignments
- Theory work

Career Note:

Design & Communication Graphics is very useful, not essential, for Architecture or Engineering Courses. It is accepted instead of a third language for course in National College of Art and Design

Design & Communication Graphics is useful for careers in the following areas: All Engineering and Technical Careers, Aircraft Technician, Architecture, Army, Air Corp, Bricklayer, Carpenter, Cartographer, Construction Studies, Draughtsman, Fitter, Industrial Designer, Maintenance and Service Personnel, Mechanic, Plumber, Structural Design, Technical Sales, Toolmaker, Town Planner, Welder, etc.

BUSINESS

If I want to study Business for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Have an interest in Business and Enterprise
- Be able to analyse and interpret data
- Be able to write discursive essays

Leaving Certificate Business V's Junior Certificate Business:

- At Leaving Certificate you will look in more detail at issues like people involved in Business, Enterprise, Industrial Relations and Marketing

Assessment:

- Written Exam

Assignments during course:

- Continuous assessment exercises
- Case studies on local, national and international Business

Career Note:

Business is very useful, but not essential, in order to study Business at Third Level.

Business can be useful for careers in the following areas: Accounting, Administration, Banking, Book-keeping, Business, Clerical work, Company Secretary, Economics, Hotel Management, Industry, Insurance, Law, Management, Marketing, Purchasing, Sales, Self Employment, Taxation, etc.

CHEMISTRY

If I want to study Chemistry for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Have adequate practical skills in order to carry out the mandatory experiments
- Be able to work safely in the laboratory
- Be able to draw graphs and diagrams
- Familiarity with calculator use
- Be able to learn and understand facts and terms
- Be reasonably good at maths

Leaving Certificate Chemistry V's Junior Certificate Chemistry:

- Much more detailed
- Much more practical work and related theory
- New topics e.g. Organic Chemistry, Thermo chemistry

Assessment:

- Written Exams only - incorporates assessment of practical work which was carried out during the course

Assignments during Course:

- Writing up experiments
- Problem solving exercises
- Theory to be learned (including definitions)

Career Note:

Chemistry can be useful or necessary for careers in the following area: Archaeologist, Brewing Technology, Chemistry Teacher, Cosmetic Science, Dairy Scientist, Dental Craftsperson, Dental Hygienist, Dentist, Doctor, Dietician, Engineer, Food Science Technology, Forensic Scientist, Forestry Inspector, Health Inspector, Industrial Chemist, Laboratory Work, Nurse, Optician, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Pilot, Radiographer, Speech Therapist, etc.

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

If I want to study Construction studies for my Leaving Certificate, what aptitudes do I need?

- Experience of Technical Graphics, Materials Technology (wood), Metal Work and/or Art would be useful, but not essential
- Ability to work safely in a workshop
- Ability to take clear instructions
- A genuine interest in the Built Environment
- An ability to pick and complete projects

Leaving Certificate Construction Studies :

- This subject does not have a Junior certificate equivalent. Some see it as a follow on from Materials Technology (Wood).
- The subject deals with all aspects of building a home
- Covers renewable resources - energy efficient homes, insulation, damp proofing, forces and loads, etc.

Assessment:

- Written theory exam - 50%
- Project/Portfolio - 25%
- Practical exam - 25%

Assignments during Course:

- Project work throughout two years.
- Written Assignments

Career Note:

Construction Studies can be useful for careers in the following areas : Architecture, Auctioneering, Bricklaying, Construction Studies Teacher, Building Management, Carpenter, Civil and Structural Engineer, Electrician, Environmental Designer, Fire Fighter, Heating and Ventilation Technician, Insurance, Metal Work Teacher, Painter and Decorator, Plasterer, Quantity Surveyor, Site Clerk, Technical Sales, Town and County Planning, etc.