



2023

Coláiste Bríde

Senior Cycle  
Subject Choice

*Aisling McDonald*  
*(Guidance Counsellor)*

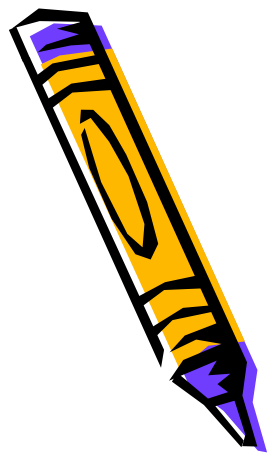
# Agenda

- Address the importance of subject choice for the Senior Cycle.
- Guide students/parents/guardians in making informed decisions about selecting Senior Cycle subjects.



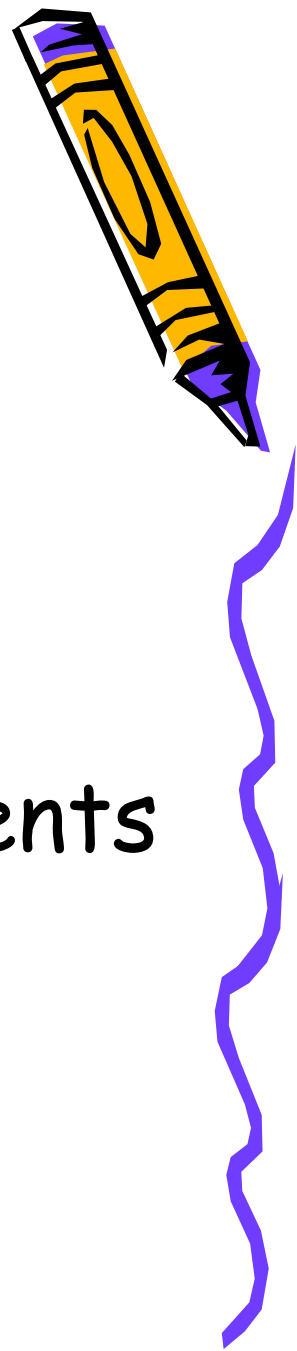
# Start by Consulting

- Subject Teachers
- Guidance Counsellor
- Senior Students
- Parents/Guardians
- Siblings
- LC Text books, Exam papers, Websites



# Make Choices Based on ...

- Aptitudes (DAT/JC results)
- Interests
- Career Aspirations
- Third Level Entry Requirements
- High Grades
- Balanced Approach

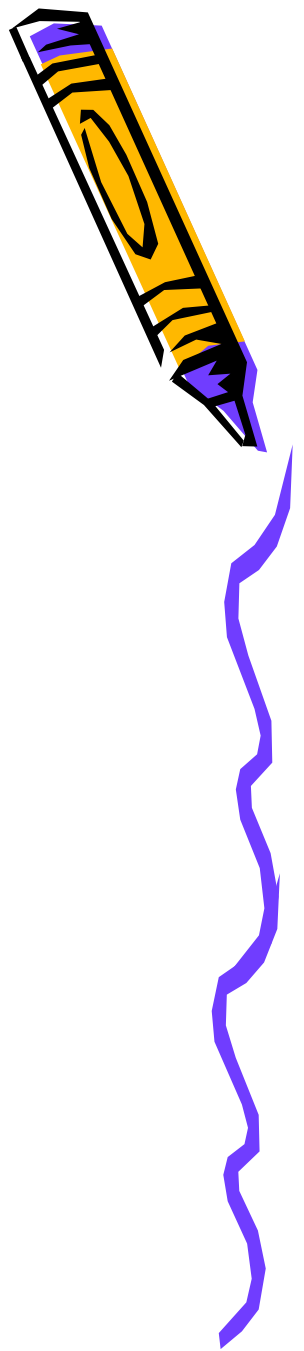


# Leaving Certificate

Students study 7 Subjects  
for the Leaving Certificate

3 Core/Compulsory

4 Optional



# 3 Core/Compulsory Subjects



English → Ordinary, Higher

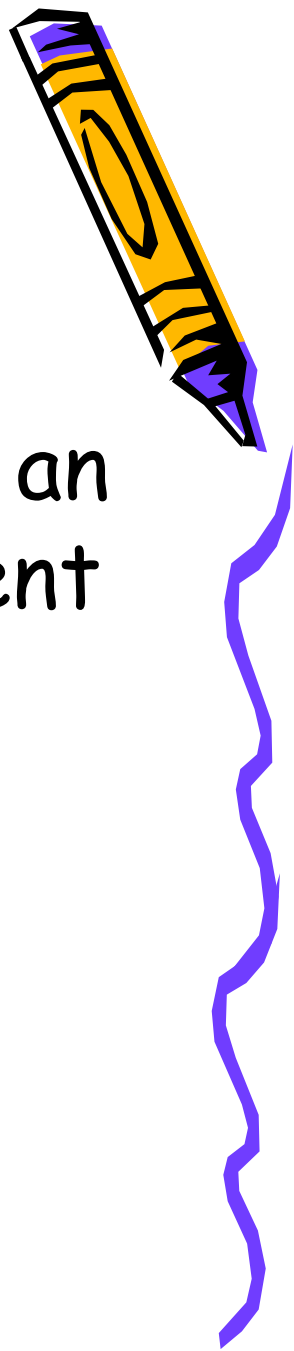
Irish → Foundation, Ordinary, Higher

Maths → Foundation, Ordinary, Higher



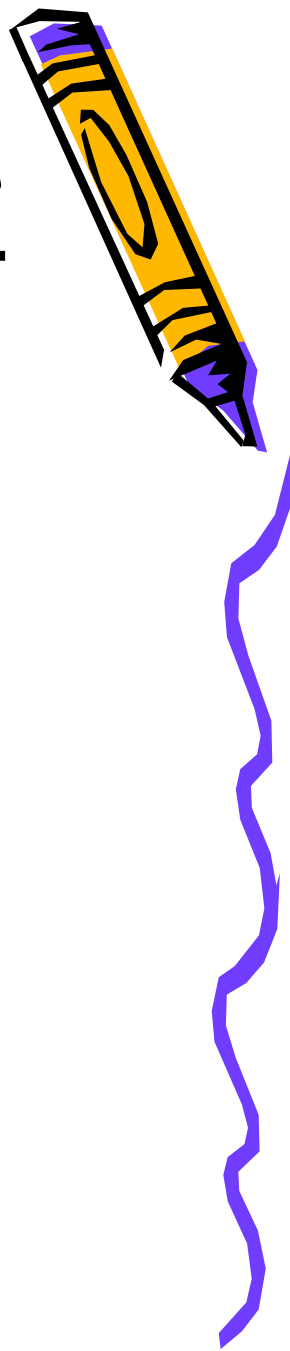
# Applied Maths

Applied Maths is also available as an optional subject (pending sufficient numbers)



# Optional Subject Groupings

- Languages
- Science
- Business
- Artistic
- Humanities
- Social





# Hurdles to Third Level Education



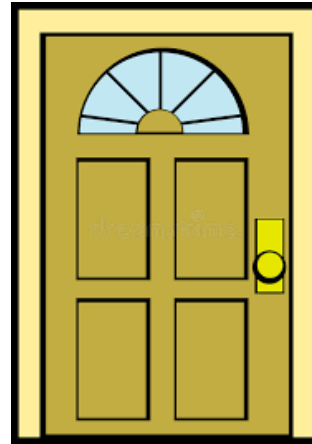
- 1) **M**inimum Entry Requirements
- 2) **S**pecific Course Requirements
- 3) **P**oints

**M**y **S**ore **P**oints!



# 1 Minimum Entry Requirements

- "Matriculation requirements"
- What you have to have before you can be considered at all.



# Minimum Entry Requirements Example



- SETU Waterford - Bachelor of Arts Degree (Hons) [2023]

2 Subjects: H5

4 Subjects: O6/H7

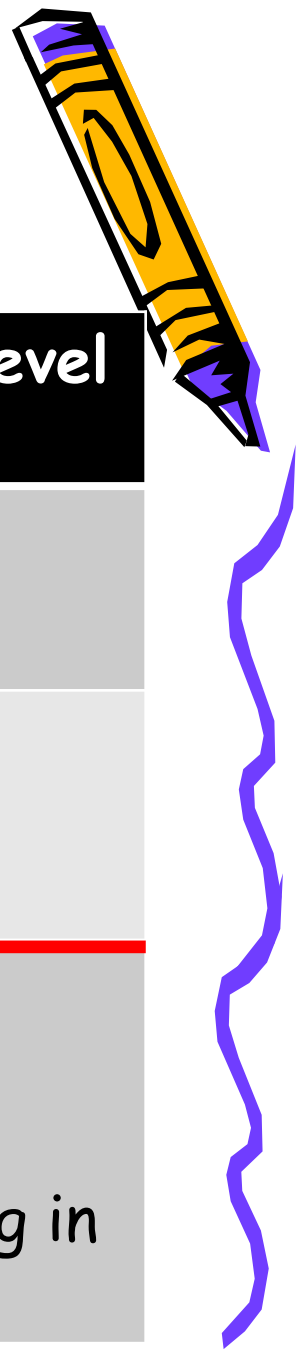


6 Subjects

English or Irish: O6/H7



# Standard Minimum Entry Requirements



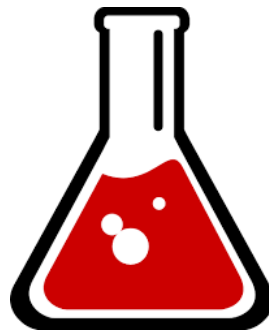
Min. Entry Requirements	Qualification Title/Level
2H5 grades 4O6/H7 grades	Honours Degree (Level 8)
5O6/H7 grades	Ordinary Degree (Level 7) & Higher Certificate (Level 6)
3H5 grades 3O6/H7 grades	Honours Degree in Certain Institutions/Courses (e.g., Primary Teaching in Trinity)



## 2 Specific Course Requirements



- These are particular subjects or combination of subjects that you must have to get a place in a *specific* course.



# Example of Specific Course Requirements



- Veterinary Medicine in UCD [2023]

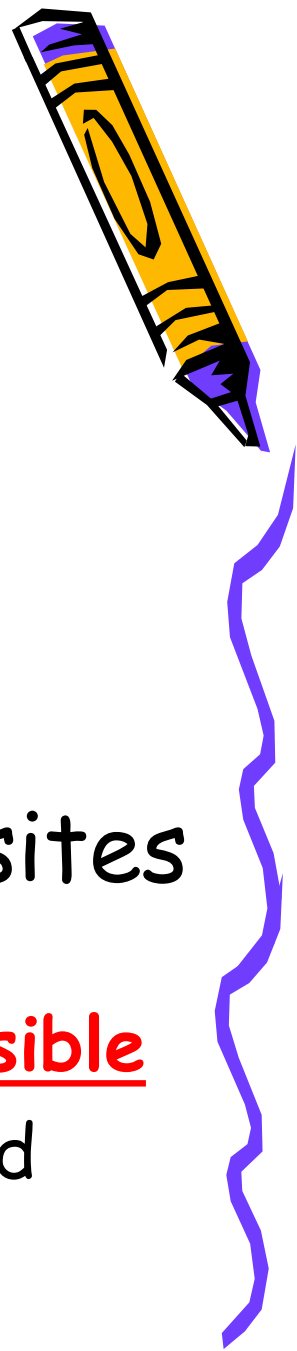
**Minimum Subjects: 2H5 & 4O6/H7**

**Specific Course Req.:** English O6/H7, Irish O6/H7, Maths O6/H7, A Third Language O6/H7, **Chemistry (H5)**.



Other: 30 hrs animal handling experience.

# Checking Entry Requirements

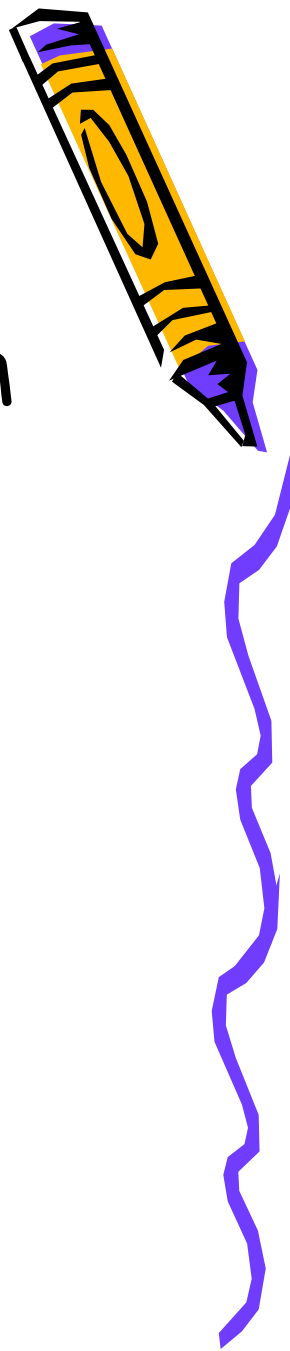


- These can be found in:
  - 1) College prospectus
  - 2) College websites
  - 3) Qualifax/Careersportal websites
- Each student is personally responsible for checking all Minimum Entry and Specific Course Requirements!



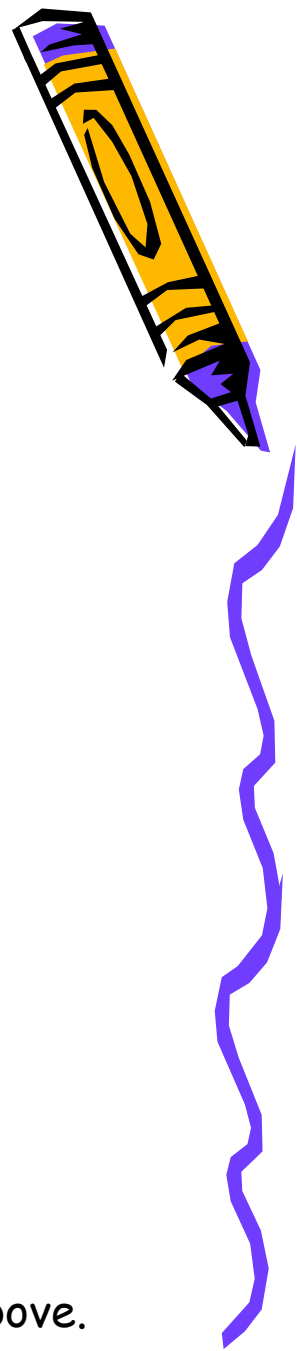
# 3 Points

Those who meet the minimum entry and specific course requirements are allocated places on the basis of points gained from their SIX best subjects.





# Grades & Common Points Scale



## Higher Level

Grade (%)	Points
H1 (90-100)	100
H2 (80<90)	88
H3 (70<80)	77
H4 (60<70)	66
H5 (50<60)	56
H6 (40<50)*	46
H7 (30<40)	37

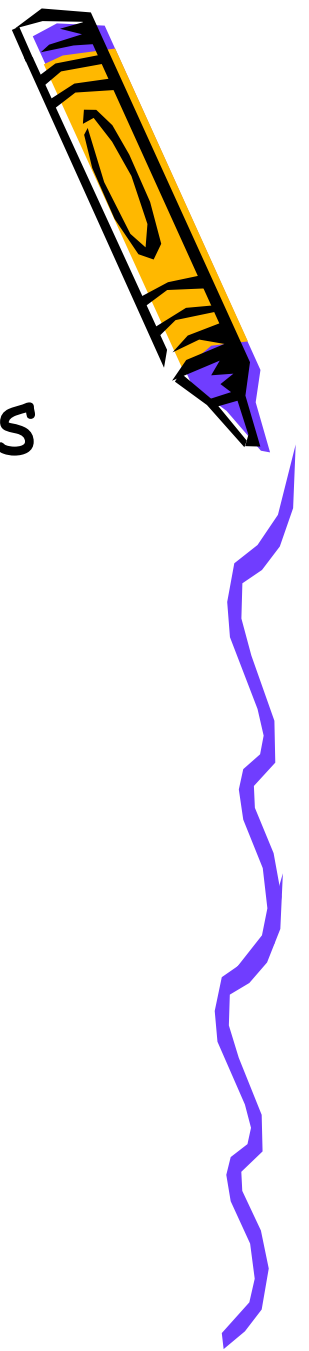
## Ordinary Level

Grade (%)	Points
O1 (90-100)	56
O2 (80<90)	46
O3 (70<80)	37
O4 (60<70)	28
O5 (50<60)	20
O6 (40<50)	12



\*25 Bonus points are awarded for HL Maths for H6\*and above.

# LCVP Link Modules



- All HEIs award points for results in LCVP Link Modules, in place of a 6<sup>th</sup> subject.

Grade	Points
Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28





# LCVP Acceptance



- LCVP is a Senior Cycle Programme and not a 'Subject'.
- LCVP may not be acceptable for meeting Minimum Entry Requirements.
- Example: Honours Bachelor Degree requires 6 subjects.





# LCVP Acceptance



- Important if you have a reduced number of Leaving Certificate subjects (e.g. 6)
- Especially relevant to students not studying Irish.
- Speak to Ms. Murphy (SEN Co.) if unsure.



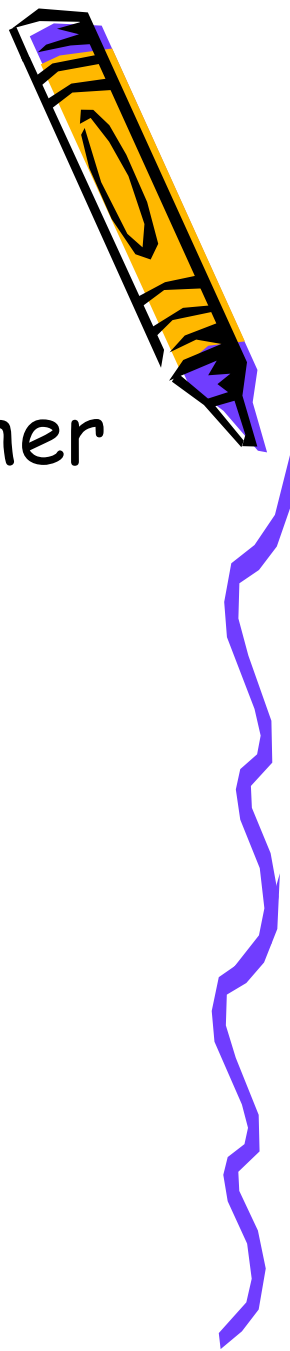
# Foundation Level

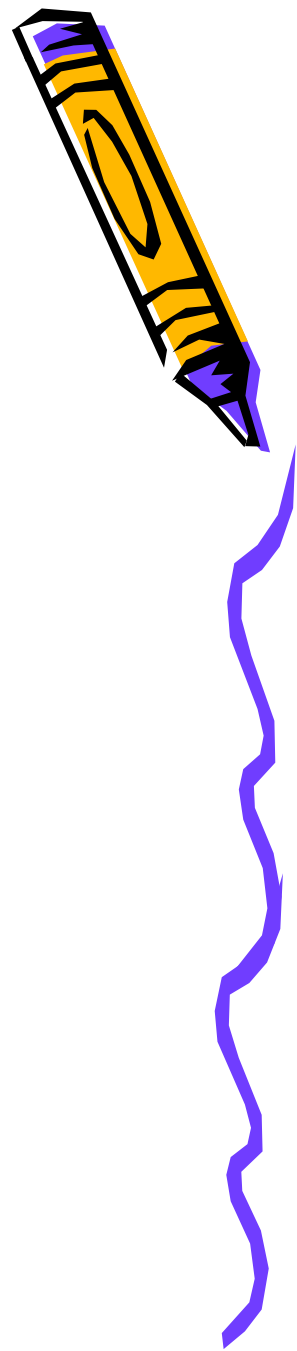
- Check with course provider whether Foundation Level subjects are:

1) Acceptable

2) Awarded points

(e.g. Foundation Level Maths)





# Languages Group

French, German



# Language Pointers

As well as English and Irish a **Third Language** is required for many of the courses in colleges of the National University of Ireland (NUI)\*

\*UCD, UCC, NUI Galway, Maynooth University, Shannon College of Hotel Management, RCSI, NCAD, Burren College of Art, IPA.



# Exceptions to Third Language Requirement



Third Language not required for courses such as:

- Nursing
- Engineering
- Science
- Agriculture
- NCAD will accept Art instead of the third language, etc.





# NUI Exemptions



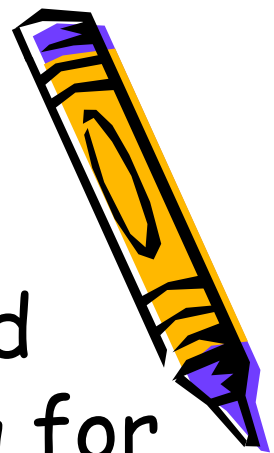
Any 6<sup>th</sup> Year student who is not taking Irish and/or a Third Language in the L.C. & intends to apply to an NUI college may need to apply to NUI for a language exemption (Irish and/or a Third Language).

N.B.

- See [www.nui.ie](http://www.nui.ie) for further information.



# Other College Exemptions

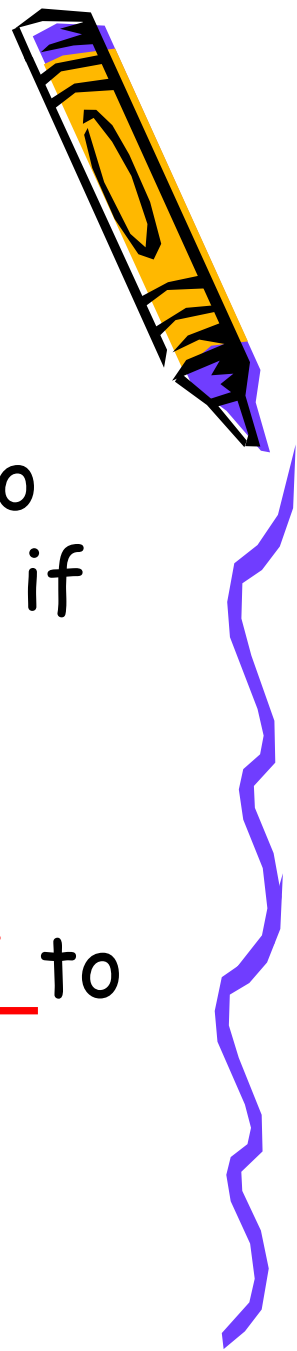


- If a student has an Irish and /Third Language Exemption, and is applying for a course(s) in a non-NUI college where Irish/Third language is an essential requirement, an application for that exemption needs to be made to EACH COLLEGE (e.g. University of Limerick, Trinity, etc.)



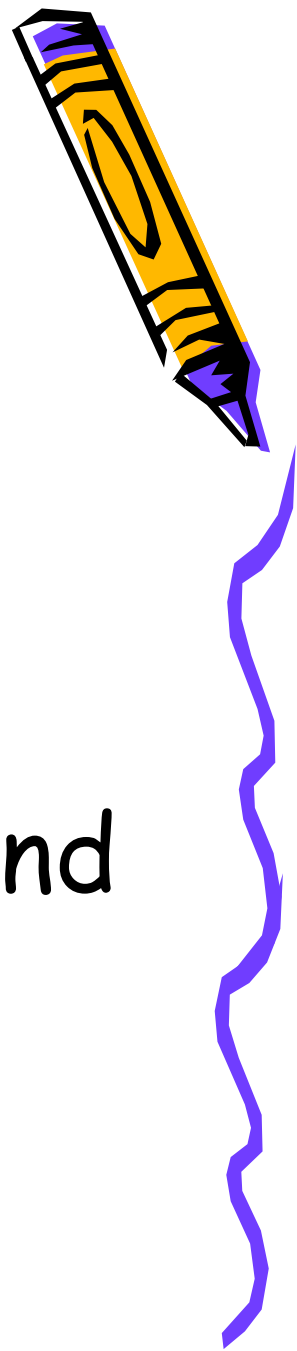
**N.B.** Contact each college for their individual application process!

# Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SEN)



- Students are encouraged to speak to the SEN Co-ordinator (Ms. Murphy) if unsure about Exemptions/Subject Choice.
- N.B. It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to apply for any exemption(s) required!





# Science Group

Physics, Chemistry, Biology and  
Agricultural Science

(Laboratory Sciences)



# Science Pointers



If applying for anything in the Engineering, Medical, Paramedical (Radiography, Physiotherapy, Human Nutrition/Dietician, Pharmacy, Medical Laboratory Science, etc.) or Science areas at Universities you need to pass at **least one** Laboratory Science subject.



# Science Pointers Cont....

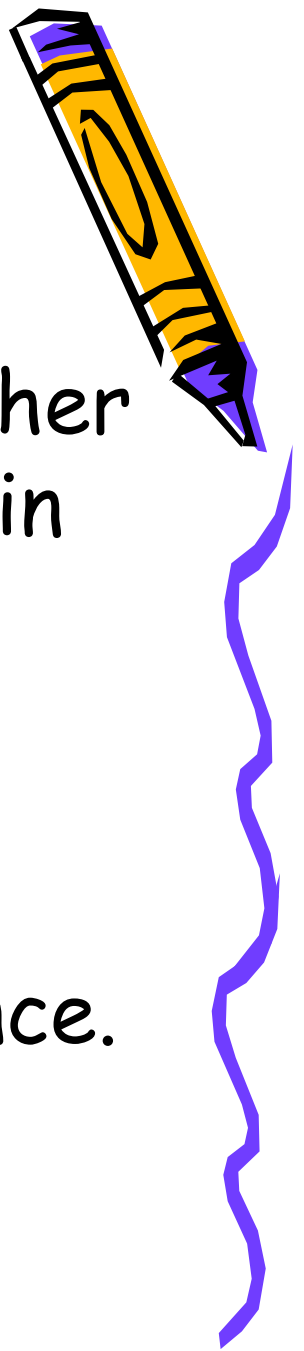


- You need a Science subject for Nursing (Biology advisable).
- Some courses require TWO **Science subjects** (e.g. Medicine, and Dentistry in UCC require a H4 in **Chemistry** and a H4 in **Physics** or **Biology**).



Additional requirement: HPAT Ireland (Medicine)

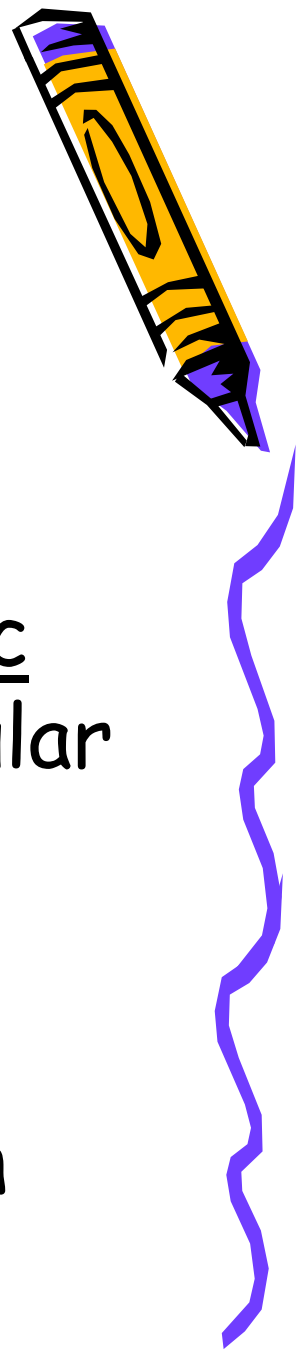
# Science Not Required



- Technological Universities (TUs) - Higher Certificate/Ordinary Degree courses in Science or Engineering do not require science, but it would be useful.
- Universities - Arts, Commerce, Social Science, Law, etc. do not require science.



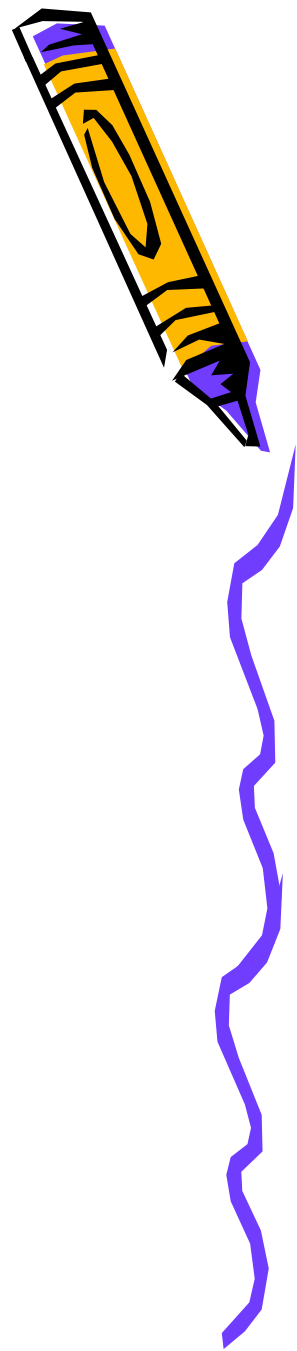
# Agricultural Science



- Although Agricultural Science is accepted as a laboratory science subject by Third Level colleges it may NOT always meet the Specific Subject Requirements of a particular course.
- E.g. Medicine in Trinity will not accept Agricultural Science in combination with Biology.







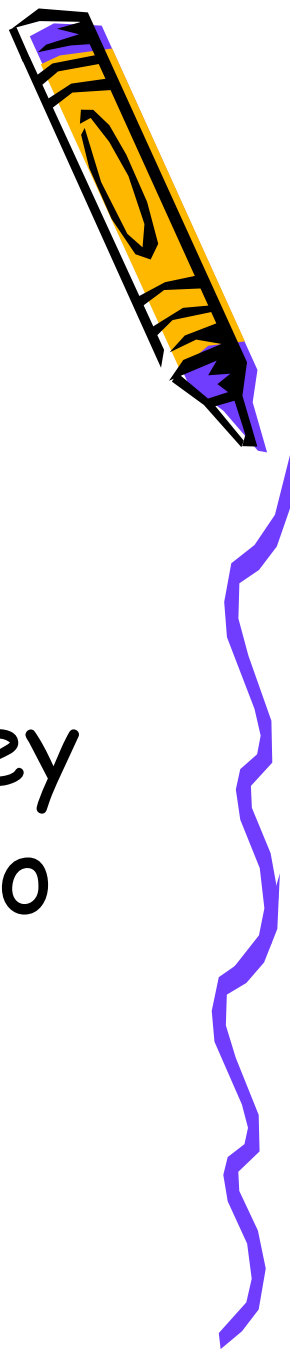
# Business Group

Accountancy, Business,  
Economics



# Business Pointers

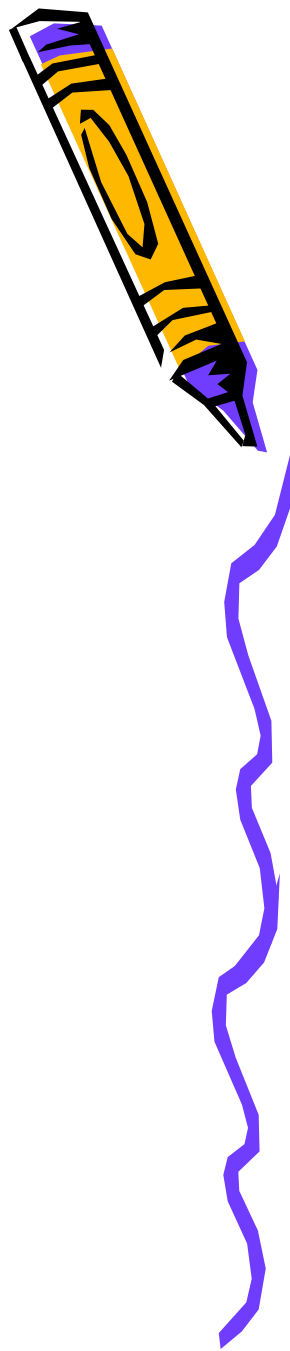
None required for most  
Business, Marketing or  
Commerce courses, but they  
would help if you wanted to  
do such a course.



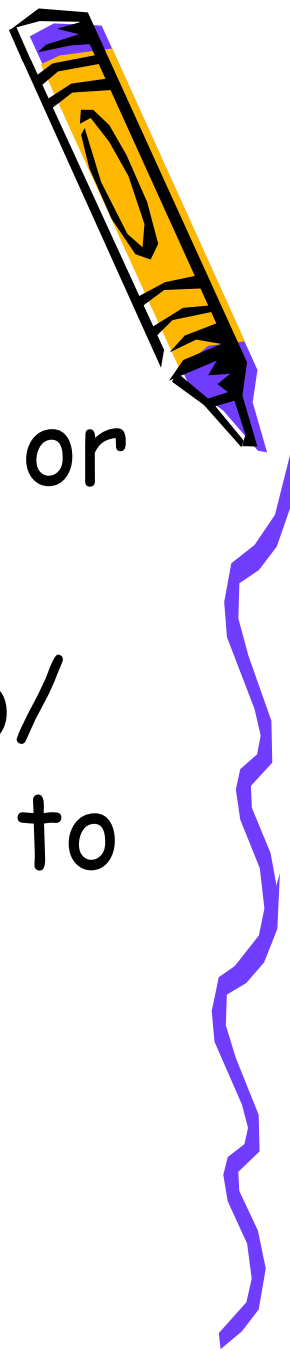


# Artistic Group

## Art, Music



# Artistic Pointers



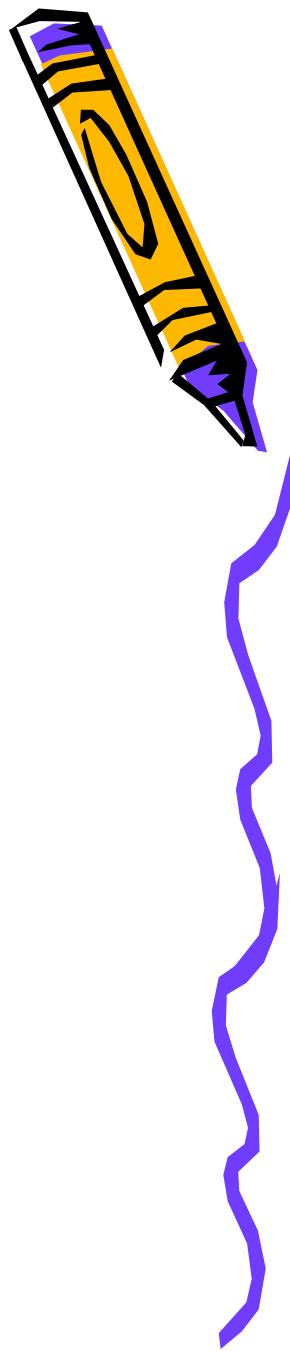
Not always essential for Art or Music courses, but recommended as a portfolio/ audition/ music test is likely to be a requirement.





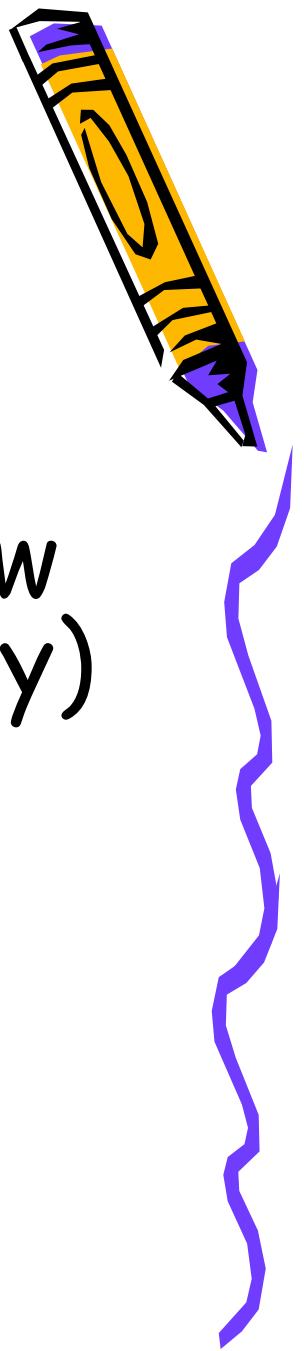
# Humanities Group

## History, Geography



# Humanities Pointers

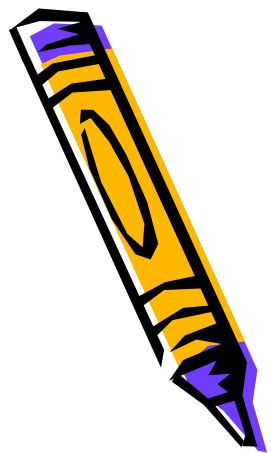
Getting to understand your world either in terms of how it got to be this way (History) or how it is laid out and utilised (Geography) is an important factor in any education.





# Social Group

Home Economics, Religion,  
Physical Education

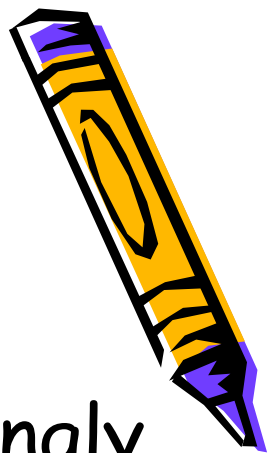


# Social Pointers

**Home Economics** is not compulsory for any course, but strongly recommended for H.E. teaching.

**Religion** is not a requirement for any course, but recommended for further study in this area.

**Physical Education** is not a requirement for any course, but recommended in advance of further study.





# How Many Optional Subjects?

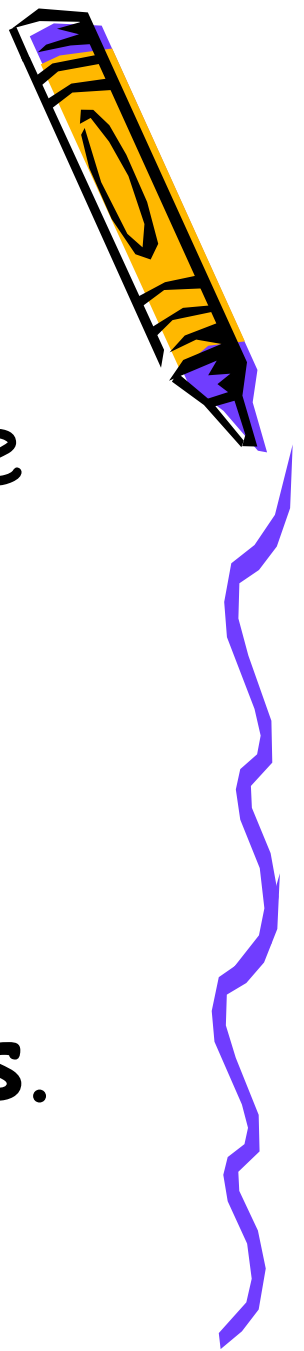


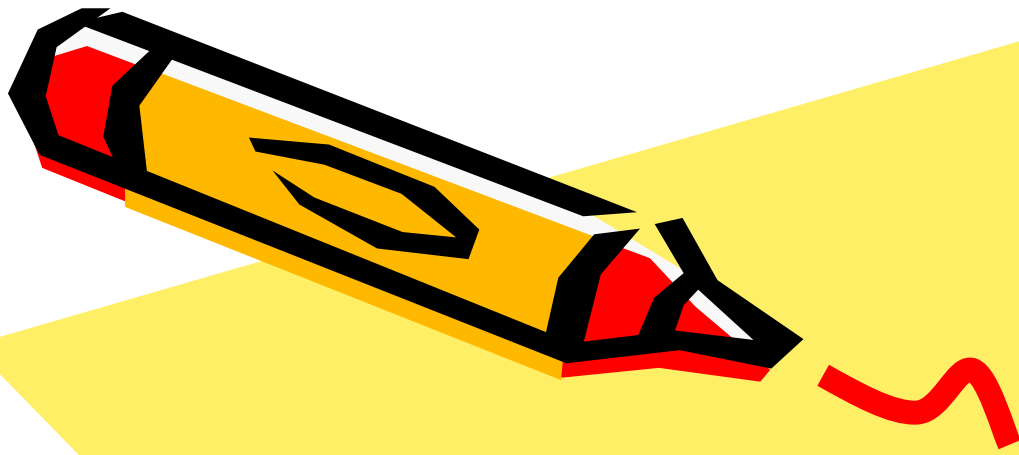
- Each student must Choose 4 Optional Subjects.
- Students are strongly advised to include a Third Language as one of these; as it will help to keep options open.



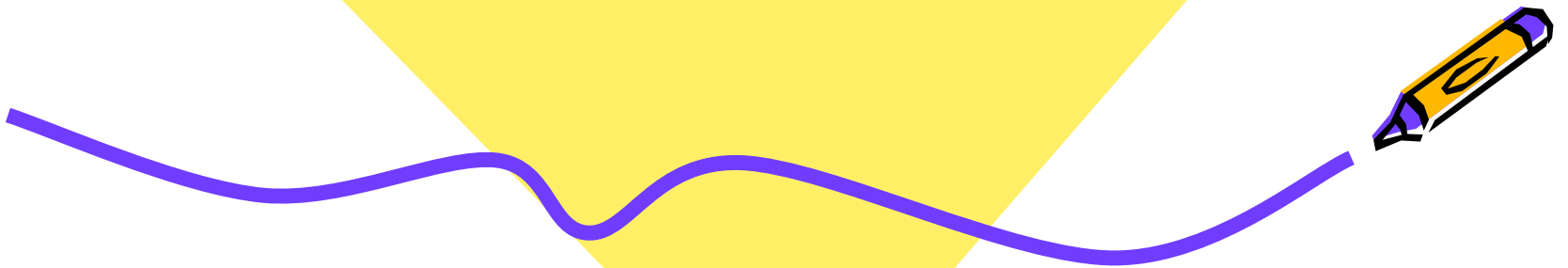
# Subject Level and Demand

- All optional subjects can be taken at either **Higher or Ordinary Level**.
- Optional subjects available pending **sufficient numbers**.





# I.T. Resources



# I.T. Resources



- **Qualifax** - [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
  - Search for Entry and Course Requirements; Courses
- **CareersPortal** - [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
  - Guide to Leaving Certificate Subject Choices
  - LC Subjects
  - Three Leaving Certificates (e.g. LCVP)
  - LC Subjects & Career Choice
  - LC Subjects & Grades, etc.



- **NCCA** - [www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie)





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## 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.



[Search all Courses](#)



[Take an Interest Assessment](#)



[Check a Qualification](#)

# Useful Tools

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## There are a number of useful tools

The [Points Calculator](#) is particularly relevant to students who have not yet taken their Leaving Certificate. You can enter your expected results to see how they compare to the points required by applicants in recent years.

The [Interest Assessment](#) is suitable for everyone to give an indication of areas or types of work that would match your interests.

[Minimum Subject requirements](#) provides an easy way to see the effect of taking / not taking particular subjects at Junior or Leaving Certificate.

Click on the links in red above, or use the menu on the left.

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[back to top](#)

A photograph of a diverse group of young people, likely students, smiling and waving their hands. The photo is framed with a white border and a soft blue glow.

[International Students](#)

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[View My Tagged Courses](#)

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[Subject Choice](#)

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[Where are the jobs?](#)

## Subject Req



[View Search Help](#)

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

- A Science Subject
- A Second Language
- A Third Language
- Accounting
- Agricultural Economics
- Agricultural Science
- Ancient Greek
- Applied Mathematics
- Arabic
- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry**
- Classical Studies
- Construction Studies
- Design and Communication Graphics
- Economics
- Engineering
- Chemistry

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

Only show  
courses from this  
CAO course

Any



## Select Courses To View

---

**There is a total of 205 courses that match your search requirements. Please select one of the options below to view your results.**

**Show me the courses that:**

- ☒ Definitely requires: Subject Chemistry.- Total of 7 courses
- ☐ May require: Subject Chemistry. - Total of 198 courses
- ☐ Does not require Subject Chemistry. - Total of 1377 courses

**View Courses**

**New Search**

---



**Search Criteria: Subject Chemistry. (Definitely need subject).**

Showing 1 to 7 of 7 results

Code	Course	Course Provider
CK702	<a href="#">Dentistry</a>	<a href="#">University College Cork</a>
TU870	<a href="#">Human Nutrition &amp; Dietetics - Grangegorman</a>	<a href="#">TU Dublin - City</a>
CK707	<a href="#">Medical &amp; Health Sciences</a>	<a href="#">University College Cork</a>
CK701	<a href="#">Medicine - Undergraduate Entry</a>	<a href="#">University College Cork</a>
CK703	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>	<a href="#">University College Cork</a>
RC005	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>	<a href="#">Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland</a>
DN300	<a href="#">Veterinary Medicine - Undergraduate Entry</a>	<a href="#">University College Dublin</a>

Course Name	Dentistry			
Course Provider	<a href="#">University College Cork</a>			
Course Code	CK702			
Course Type	Higher Education CAO			
Qualifications	Award Name	NFQ Classification	Awarding Body	NFQ Level
	Degree - Honours Bachelor (Level 8 NFQ) <a href="#">More info...</a>	Major	National University of Ireland	Level 8 NFQ
Apply To	CAO	<h3>Points History</h3>		
Attendance Options	Full time, Daytime			
Location (Districts)	Cork City			
Qualification Letters	BDS			
Duration	5 years			
Specific Subjects or Course Requirements	LEAVING CERTIFICATE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS			
	Minimum grade H4 in Chemistry and H4 in either Physics or Biology. Minimum grade O6/H7 in four other subjects. Subjects must include Irish, English, another language and Mathematics.			
	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT Students are subject to Garda vetting and Fitness to Practise.			

# Career all



Join  
to create a  
Career Profile

Members Apps

Education

Careers

CAO Calculators



COURSE FINDER CAO



COURSE FINDER PLC



PROGRESSION ROUTES



FETCHCOURSES (FET)



SCHOLARSHIPS



COLLEGE PROFILES



JUNIOR CERT SUBJECTS



LEAVING CERT SUBJECTS



SUBJECT GRADES EXPLORER

Courses

Careers

ors

Site Search

by Course Title or Code...

by



SEARCH NOW

## Summary

## Grades Awarded

## Course Overview

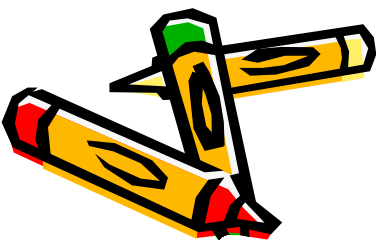
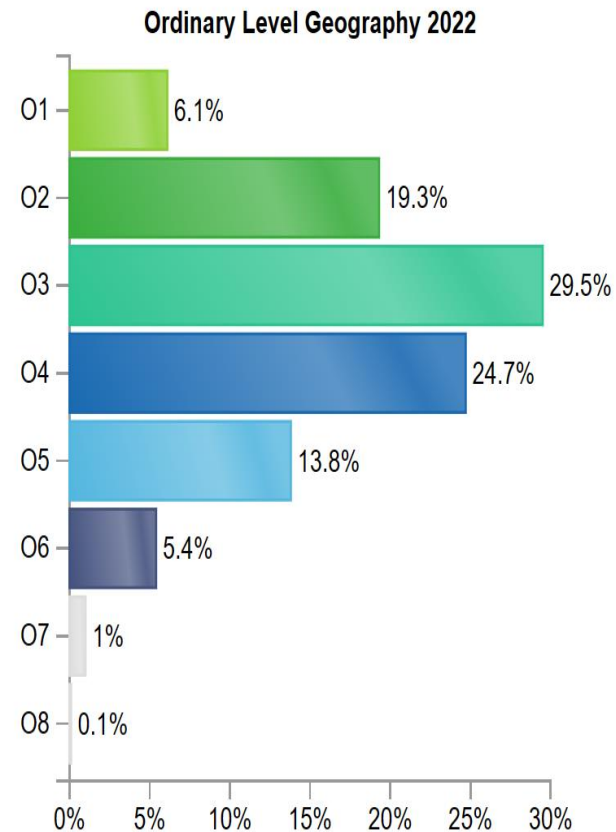
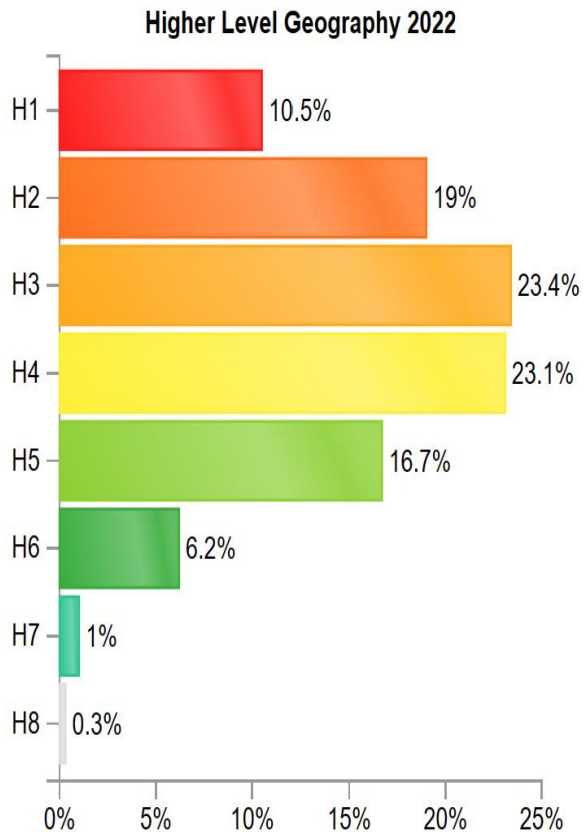
## Course Content

## Exam Structure

## Career Possibilities

## 3rd Level Requirements

# Grades Awarded



# Summary

- 7 Subjects
  - 3 Compulsory
  - 4 Options
- Specific subject requirements are usually for a Third Language or a Science subject(s), so these will keep most of your options open.
- Look at interest and aptitudes and choose subjects you like and can do well in.



THE CHOICE IS YOURS TO MAKE - GOOD LUCK!

# Contact

- Parents/Guardians/Students are always welcome to make an appointment with the Guidance Counsellor.

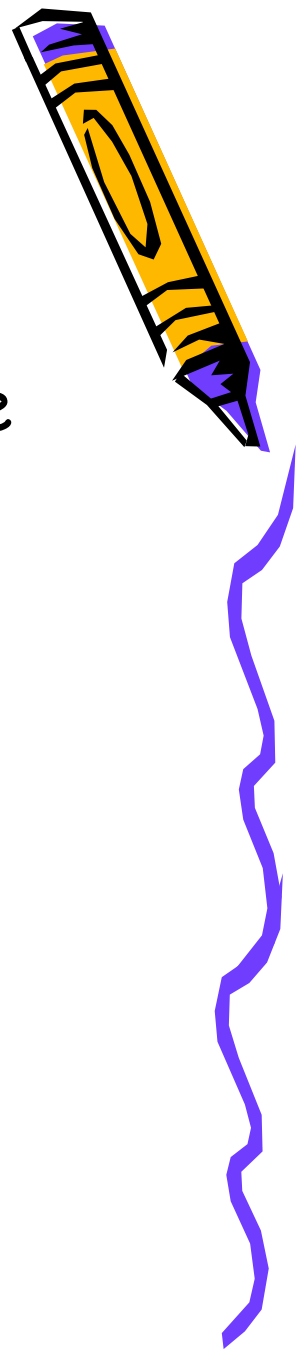
➤ Teams 'Chat' facility



➤ [aisling.mcdonald@colaistebride.ie](mailto:aisling.mcdonald@colaistebride.ie)



➤ Phone: (053) 9234245





A cartoon illustration of a character with a large head and a wide, open mouth, appearing to be shouting or cheering. The character is wearing a dark, sleeveless top. They are emerging from a large, white envelope that is open at the top. The character's right arm is raised, holding a rectangular sign that says "Thank You!" in red, stylized text. The character's left hand is resting on the edge of the envelope. The entire scene is set against a plain white background.

Thank  
You!