



In Summary

Business is a **broad subject** and provides students with a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in **Business, Marketing, Law, Enterprise and Management**.

Business Studies in Junior Cycle provides a good foundation for Leaving Certificate Business.

The course is divided into **FIVE** strands:

- **Investigating Business**
- **Exploring the Business Environment**
- **Understanding Enterprise**
- **Leading in Business**
- **Being Informed & Making Informed Decisions**



Who should Study it?

- Students who like to **stay alert** to what is happening in the **general business world**
- Students who have an **organised mind** and likes to answer questions in **bullet points**, rather than in long essay format.
- Students who might want to **run their own business** in the future.

Career interest area most suited

Enterprising Administrative



"For those who have an interest in business and current affairs and have an up to date knowledge of the economic environment"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	1 Paper 60% of Marks	1 Paper 60% of Marks
Practical	-	-
Project	Common Brief 40% of Marks	Common Brief 40% of Marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Business **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- [Advertising, Marketing & Public Relations](#)
- [Business Management & Human Resources](#)
- [Public Administration, Politics & EU](#)
- [Clerical & Administration](#)
- [Banking & Financial Services](#)
- [Tourism & Hospitality](#)
- [Leisure, Sport & Fitness](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Sales](#), [Insurance Practitioner](#) and [Recruitment Executive](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Business Administration, Business & IT and Payroll & Business Law*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sector including *Advertising & Marketing, Communications and Business Management & International Business*

Sample Careers

[Business Analyst](#)
[Marketing Executive](#)
[Human Resources Manager](#)
[Social Media Specialist](#)
[Project Manager](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In Summary

Accounting provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills of **financial management** necessary for managing **personal and basic company accounts**.

Business Studies in Junior Cycle provides a good foundation for Leaving Certificate Accounting.

The key elements of the Accounting course include-

- **Company/Farm/Club/Manufacturing Accounts**
- **Financial Statements Preparation, Analysis and Interpretation**
- **Budgeting, Break-even Analysis, Cost Classification, Accounting Theory and Principles**



Who should Study it?

- Students who have a good **aptitude for numeracy** and like working with figures.
- Students who like to **analyse and interpret data** and who like things to be in order within a **defined set of rules**.
- Students who have an interest in the world of **business and finance** or might want to **run their own business** in the future.

Career interest area most suited

Administrative



"For those who enjoy working with data and details and checking facts and figures with clear routine and instructions"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	100% of Marks	100% of Marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Accounting **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system **except for** *Commerce-Accounting* in **University of Galway**.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- [Business Management & Human Resources](#)
- [Clerical & Administration](#)
- [Banking & Financial Services](#)
- [Physics, Mathematics & Space Science](#)
- [Sales, Retail & Purchasing](#)
- [Accountancy & Taxation](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Accounting Technician](#) and [International Financial Services Associate](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Accounting & Finance, Accounts Administration and Payroll & Financial Studies*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Accounting, Actuarial Mathematics and Law & Accounting*

Sample Careers

[Accountant](#)

[Actuary](#)

[Financial Advisor](#)

[Taxation Consultant](#)

[Financial Trader](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In Summary

Economics provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary for understanding **how the Irish and global economies function**.

Business Studies in Junior Cycle provides a good foundation for Leaving Certificate Economics.

The key elements of the Economics course include-

- **Supply & Demand**
- **Costs and Market Structures**
- **National Income and the Multiplier**
- **Inflation, Money, Banking and Monetary Policy**
- **International Trade, Balance of Payments and the Euro**
- **The Government, Fiscal policy and Taxation**



Who should Study it?

- Students who have an interest in **how economics affects our lives** and like to **keep track of real world situations**.
- Students who have an **aptitude for Business** and take **an interest in Current Affairs and listen to the News**.
- Students who like to **apply relevant economic theories to particular issues**.

Career interest area most suited

Administrative



"For those who enjoy keeping up with current affairs and have an interest in how economics affects our lives"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	80% of Marks	80% of Marks
Practical	-	-
Project	20% of Marks	20% of Marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Economics **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- [Construction, Architecture & Property](#)
- [Business Management & Human Resources](#)
- [Public Administration, Politics & EU](#)
- [Banking & Financial Services](#)
- [Physics, Mathematics & Space Science](#)
- [Sales, Retail & Purchasing](#)
- [Transport & Logistics](#)
- [Accountancy & Taxation](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in

International Financial Services Associate/Specialist/Advanced Specialist

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *International Banking Services, FinTech-Financial Technology Skills and Banking & Financial Services*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Economics & Finance, Commerce and international Economics*

Sample Careers

[Economist](#)
[Investment Banker](#)
[Financial Controller](#)
[Risk Analyst](#)
[Pensions Advisor](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Engineering

In summary

Engineering is the study of **Mechanical Engineering**.

It is a natural follow-on from *Engineering* in Junior Cycle.

The subject deals with many aspects of engineering processes including-

- **Strand 1 - Engineering Processes**
- **Strand 2 – Automation and Control Systems**
- **Strand 3 – Design Capability**
- **Strand 4 – Engineering Principles and Energy**



Engineering

Practical
Group

Who Should Study it?

- Students who have an aptitude for an an interest in **design** and **practical work**
- Students who are strong in **maths** and **science**
- Students who have good **problem-solving** and **teamwork** skills
- Students who want to work on exciting **real-world projects** and **design better solutions**

Career Interest Type Most Suited

REALIST



"The true designers of the world, for those who appreciate how things are made"

How this subject is examined for the Leaving Certificate

	Weighting	Level
Design & Manufacture Project	50% of marks	Common Brief
Written Examination	50% of marks	Higher and Ordinary Levels

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

This subject **doesn't appear to be an entry requirement currently** for any CAO courses. However, this can change, so it is essential that you check entry requirements with college websites for any course you are applying for.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- [Art Craft & Design](#)
- [Construction, Architecture & Property](#)
- [Information Technology \(IT\)](#)
- [Maritime, Fishing & Aquaculture](#)
- [Earth & Environment](#)
- [Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician](#) and [Civil Engineering Technician](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Engineering Technology, Pre-university Engineering, Civil Engineering and Mechatronic & Electronic Engineering*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sector including *Aerospace Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Engineering (Common Entry) and Fire Safety Engineering*

Sample careers

[Aerospace Engineer](#)
[Biomedical Engineer](#)
[Software Engineer](#)
[Polymer Engineer](#)
[Structural Engineer](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Construction Technology

In summary

Construction Technology is the study of the **Built Environment**.

It is a natural follow-on from *Wood Technology* and has close links with *Applied Technology, Engineering* and *Graphics* in Junior Cycle.

The subject deals with all aspects of the building process from

- **Strand 1 – The Built Environment**
- **Strand 2 – Design, Materials, and Craft Skills**
- **Strand 3 – Building Fabric**
- **Strand 4 – Services and Control Technology**

Who Should Study it?

- Students who have an interest in **practical, hands-on** subjects.
- Students who have an **aptitude for working with tools** and **machinery**.
- Students with creativity to **design and create** their own project piece.
- Students interested in **technology** and the **built environment**.

Career Interest Type Most Suited

REALIST



"Those who enjoy work that involves 'doing' and being hands-on with visible (tangible) results for their efforts"

How this subject is examined for the Leaving Certificate

Assessment Component	Weighting	Level
Exploring the Constructed Environment	30% of marks	Common Brief
Craft Skills Assessment	20% of marks	Common Prescribed Task
Written Examination	50% of marks	Higher and Ordinary Levels

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

This subject **doesn't appear to be an entry requirement currently** for any CAO courses. However, this can change, so it is essential that you check entry requirements with college websites for any course you are applying for.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- [Architecture, Construction & Property](#)
- [Art Craft & Design](#)
- [Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Carpentry](#), [Plumbing](#) & [Electrician](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Architecture, Construction Studies, Construction Technology - Pre-Apprenticeship and Renewable Energy Systems*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Architecture, Construction Management, Quantity Surveying, Engineering, Design, Planning, Education, Manufacturing and Management*

Sample careers

[Building Engineer](#)

[Architect](#)

[Construction Manager](#)

[Surveyor](#)

[Structural Engineer](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

DCG involves developing a student's comprehension and ability in relation to the **design** and **analysis** of both **2-Dimensional** and **3-Dimensional graphics**.

It is a natural follow-on from *Graphics* in Junior Cycle.

The graphics and designs are communicated by the student using-

- **Freehand Sketching Skills**
- **Traditional Draughting Equipment**
- **Computer-aided Design (CAD)**



Who should Study it?

- Students who have a **creative eye** and an interest in Graphics & Design.
- Students who have an **aptitude for understanding the design process** of **2D** and **3D**.
- A basic knowledge of using **ICT** and the fundamentals of **maths/geometry** are very useful for this subject.
- Students with creativity to **design and create** their projects.

Career Interest type most suited

Creative



"The true designers of the world, for those who appreciate how things are made"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	60% of marks	60% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	40% of marks	40% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Design & Communication Graphics **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Art, Craft & Design
- Construction, Architecture & Property
- Computers & IT
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Toolmaker](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as:

3D Design & Graphics
Architectural Technology
Design
Computer-aided Draughting & Design

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including:

Architecture & Design
Product Design & Innovation

Sample Careers

[Architect](#)
[CAD Technician](#)
[Graphic Designer](#)
[Modelmaker](#)
[Toolmaker](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Home Economics

Social
Group

In summary

Home Economics is concerned with the **management of resources** to meet the **Physical, Emotional, Intellectual, Social and Economic** needs of **Individuals and Families**.

Leaving Certificate Home Economics is very closely related to *Home Economics* in Junior Cycle.

Students study THREE Core Areas:

- **Food Studies**
- **Resource Management and Consumer Studies**
- **Social Studies**

And select ONE elective area from:

- **Home Design and Management**
- **Textiles, Fashion and Design**
- **Social Studies**



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Why Study it?

- Students who enjoy **making things, doing things** and **knowing how things work**.
- Students who studied HE at Junior Cycle and are interested in studying **Health, Nutrition, Textiles & Design, Science** or **Social Studies** in college.
- Students who would like to learn more about **essential life skills** that will help them to **manage their own lives**.

Career Interest type most suited

Social



"For those who enjoy making & doing things and knowing how things work in order to manage their own lives"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	80% of marks	80% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	20% of marks	20% of marks

What is it about?

Home Economics **is a requirement** for entry to related 3rd level **Home Economics** courses. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Farming, Horticulture & Forestry
- Biological, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Science
- Clerical & Administration
- Healthcare
- Leisure, Sport & Fitness

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Butcher](#), [Commis Chef](#), [Chef de Partie](#) and [Sous Chef](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Food Science, Nutrition, Health & Wellbeing and Foundation in Social Science & Arts and Food & Bioscience

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: Home Economics Teaching, Home Economics and Public Health Nutrition

Sample Careers

[HE Teacher](#)
[Catering Manager](#)
[Chef](#)
[Food Safety Consultant](#)
[Nutritionist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

The Leaving Certificate History course offers students the chance to study ONE of two discrete fields of study:

Early Modern, 1492-1815

or

Later Modern, 1815-1993

Within each field of study, there are SIX topics from **Irish History** and SIX from the **History of Europe and the Wider World**.

Students will also have the opportunity to complete a **Research Study**, worth 20% of overall marks, which can be about any aspect of history from the period of history chosen.



Why Study it?

- Students who have **strong English language skills** and are comfortable writing **essay type answers**.
- Students who **enjoy and appreciate History**, and would like to improve their knowledge.
- Students who are willing to **invest a lot of time** towards **researching topics**.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative



"History gives students an appreciation for culture and a in-depth understanding of the past"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	80% of Marks	80% of Marks
Practical	-	-
Research Project	20% of Marks	20% of Marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

History **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Education & Teaching
- Security, Defence & Law Enforcement
- History, Culture & Languages
- Community & Voluntary

Related Career/Study Pathways

There are currently no History **Apprenticeships**

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Pre-University Arts and Arts, Culture & History*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Arts, Humanities, Archaeology and History of Art & Architecture*

Sample Careers

[Second Level Teacher](#)

[Museum Educator](#)

[Archaeologist](#)

[Tour Guide](#)

[Genealogist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

Geography aims to develop students' understanding of the **Earth and its people**, and their interest in and appreciation of the **real world significance of geography**.

Unifying Strand – Applying geographical thinking and skills

Strand 1 – The physical environment

Focusses on physical processes and systems, and human interactions

Strand 2 – The human environment

Focusses on key aspects of human geography including human settlement, population, and migration

Strand 3 – The global environment

Focusses on agriculture and fisheries, tourism, globalisation, development and geopolitics



Who should Study it?

- Students who are **curious** about **people, places and the environment**
- Students who like to **understand how our environment developed** and **how human activities affect this**
- Students who are **interested** in **real-world issues** e.g. climate change, migration

Career Interest type most suited

Social



"The study of people and the physical world environment that we live in and the interaction between the two"

Exam Structure

	Weighting	Level
Applied Geography Project	40% of Marks	Common Brief
Written Examination	60% of Marks	Higher and Ordinary Level

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

This subject **doesn't appear to be an entry requirement currently** for any CAO courses. However, this can change, so it is essential that you check entry requirements with college websites for any course you are applying for.

A small number of courses may **recognise Geography as a Science**.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- Farming, Horticulture & Forestry
- Construction, Architecture & Property
- Maritime, Fishing & Aquaculture
- Earth & Environment
- Leisure, Sport & Fitness
- History, Culture & Languages
- Tourism & Hospitality

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeship as a [Geo Driller](#) or in [Sportsturf Management](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Pre-University Arts or Environmental Science, Applied Ecology and Biodiversity, Ecology and Environmental Sustainability

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: Arts, Geography & Geoscience, Sustainability, Geography/Computer Science, Geography/Political Science, Climate & Environmental Sustainability

Sample Careers

[Cartographer](#)
[Ecologist](#)
[Environmental Scientist](#)
[Planner](#)
[Sustainability Advisor](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Music

Artistic and Creative Group

In summary

Music involves developing a series of interrelated musical activities within the **THREE** core areas of musical experience – **Performing, Composing** and **Listening**.

It is a natural follow-on from *Music* in Junior Cycle.

- In **performing**, students can choose from a range of individual and/or group activities.
- In **composing**, students develop an understanding of musical structure and form.
- The **listening** component provides for rich aural experiences through exposure to music of different periods, styles and genres.



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Who should Study it?

- Students who have an **interest in Music**, how it is composed & performed and appreciate others music.
- Students who have an **aptitude for Musical techniques** such as listening, composing & performing.
- Students with the creativity to **perform and create** their own pieces.

Career Interest type most suited

Creative



"For the creative and artistic individuals who want to develop their creativity"

Exam Structure

Assessment Methods		Higher Level	Ordinary Level
	Written Paper	-	-
	Composing	25% of marks	Choice of 50% / 25% of marks
	Project	(Higher Level Elective) – 25%	-
	Oral	-	-
	Aural	25% of marks	Choice of 50% / 25% of marks
	Performance	25% of marks	Choice of 50% / 25% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Music **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- [Art, Craft & Design](#)
- [Education & Teaching](#)
- [Music & Performing Arts](#)
- [History, Culture & Languages](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

There are currently no Music **Apprenticeships**

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Contemporary Music Performance, DJ Techniques & Music Production and Musical instrument Making & Repair*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Audio & Music Production, Irish Music and Music & Sound Engineering*

Sample Careers

[Acoustic Consultant](#)

[Composer](#)

[Music Therapist](#)

[Sound Engineer](#)

[Performing Artist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Art

Artistic and Creative Group

In summary

Art involves developing a student's ability in a range of artistic **techniques, fields** and **disciplines**, as well as the study of **Art History**.

It is a natural follow-on from *Art* in Junior Cycle.

The subject deals with many aspects of the artistic process including-

- **Drawing, Painting and Calligraphy**
- **Sculpture, Metalwork and Pottery**
- **Puppet-making and Embroidery**



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Who should Study it?

- Students who have a **creative eye** and an interest in Art.
- Students who have an **aptitude for artistic techniques** and like to create original pieces of art.
- Students with creativity to **design and create** their own art pieces.
- Students interested in learning the **history of art**.

Career Interest type most suited

Creative



"For the creative and artistic individuals who want to explore art and craft"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	30% of marks	30% of marks
Practical	20% of marks	20% of marks
Project	50% of marks	50% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Art **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system. However, students applying to Art courses will need to submit a **portfolio of art work** as part of the application process. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- [Advertising, Marketing & Public Relations](#)
- [Art, Craft & Design](#)
- [Education & Teaching](#)
- [Music & Performing Arts](#)
- [Fashion & Beauty](#)

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeship in [CGI Technical Artist](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Animation, Art Portfolio Preparation and Ceramics & Design*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *3D Animation, Fine Art and Graphic Design & Moving Image Design*

Sample Careers

[Animator/CGI Artist](#)

[Fine Artist](#)

[Illustrator](#)

[Textile Designer](#)

[MakeUp Artist TV/Film](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Chemistry

In summary

Chemistry is the scientific study of **matter** and how atoms and molecules **behave** and **interact**.

It is a natural follow on from *Science* in Junior Cycle.

There are FIVE strands:

- **Nature of Science** - Understanding and limitations of scientific knowledge.
- **Nature of Matter** - States of solids, liquids and gases.
- **Behaviour of Matter** - Properties and behaviours of matter.
- **Interactions of Matter** - Energy transfer in chemical reactions.
- **Matter in Our World** - Core concepts and fundamental principles of chemistry.



Who should study it?

- Students who have an **interest** in and **aptitude** for **scientific experiments**.
- Students who are planning to study **Pharmacy, Science** or **Medicine** in college.
- Students who have an **understanding of formulas** and how to apply them. Therefore, a **reasonable level of Maths** will be useful for this subject.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative



"The Study of matter, its properties and interactions with other matter and with energy"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	1 Paper 60% of marks	1 Paper 60% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	Common Brief 40% of mark	Common Brief 40% of mark

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Chemistry **may be a requirement for entry to third level** as it is deemed essential to some related courses. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Farming, Horticulture & Forestry
- Healthcare
- Biological, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Science
- Fashion & Beauty
- Maritime, Fishing & Aquaculture
- Animals & Veterinary Science
- Biomedical Technologies & Medtech

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Laboratory Analyst](#) and [Laboratory Technician](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Applied Sciences, Laboratory Techniques and Pharmacy Studies

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: *Analytical & Pharmaceutical Studies, Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmaceutical Science and Science/Applied Chemistry*

Sample Careers

[Chemical Engineer](#)

[Pharmacist](#)

[Laboratory Manager](#)

[Toxicologist](#)

[Clinical Trials Scientist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Physics

In summary

Physics attempts to develop a unified description of how **matter** and **energy** behave and **interact** with each other.

It is a natural follow-on from *Science* in Junior Cycle.

There are five strands;

Unifying Strand - Nature of Science - Understanding and limitations of scientific knowledge

Strand 1 - Forces and Motion: Kinematics and Dynamics - Newtonian mechanics

Strand 2 - Wave Motion and Energy Transfer - Anatomy of a wave, electromagnetism

Strand 3 - Electric and Magnetic Fields & their Interactions - Electric & magnetic fields

Strand 4 - Modern Physics Atomic and Nuclear - Quantum mechanics

Who should study it?

- Students who have an **aptitude for logical thinking** and can express their thoughts **accurately** and in a **concise manner**.
- Students who are planning to study **Engineering, Electrical, Optometry** or **Medicine/Dentistry** in college.
- Students who have an **inquisitive mind** and **wonder how and why**.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative



"The study of Gravity, Speed, Sound, light, movement. The fundamentals of how things work"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	1 Paper 60% of marks	1 Paper 60% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	Common Brief 40% of marks	Common Brief 40% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Physics **may be a requirement for entry to third level** as it is deemed essential to some related courses. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Biological, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Science
- Computers & ICT
- Healthcare
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy
- Physics, Mathematics & Space Science
- Biomedical Technologies & Medtech

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Laboratory Analyst](#) and [Laboratory Technician](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Applied Sciences

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: Physics, Applied Physics & Instrumentation and Theoretical Physics

Sample Careers

[Aeronautical Engineer](#)
[Computational Physicist](#)
[Mechanical Engineer](#)
[Radiographer](#)
[Solar Physicist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



Biology

In summary

Biology is the scientific study of life, both **plants** and **animals**, and the interactions between living things and their environment.

Biology is a natural follow-on from part of the *Science* course in Junior Cycle. The course is divided into FOUR strands:

Nature of Science: - Understanding and limitations of scientific knowledge.

Organisation of Life - Core concepts to explain the organisation and diversity of life.

Structures and Processes of Life - How life functions through a number of processes taking place within cells, organs and systems.

Interactions of Life - Systems of the living world and how they interact.

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Who should study it?

- Students who **enjoyed science** in Junior Cycle and have an **interest** as to **how our bodies function**.
- Students who are planning to study **Nursing, Science, Medicine** or related courses in college.
- Students who have an **aptitude and an interest** for **Laboratory work**.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative Naturalist



"The study of life (plants & animals) and the inter-relationships between them and their environment"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	60% of marks	60% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	Common Brief 40% of marks	Common Brief 40% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Biology **may be a requirement for entry to third level** as it is deemed essential to some related courses. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Healthcare
- Biological, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Science
- Leisure, Sport & Fitness
- Farming, Horticulture & Forestry
- Maritime, Fishing & Aquaculture
- Animals & Veterinary Science
- Earth & Environment

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Laboratory Analyst](#) and [Laboratory Technician](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Applied Sciences, Biosciences and Pre-University Science

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: *Applied Biology, Microbiology, Biomedical engineering, Biotechnology, and Genetics & Cell Biology*

Sample Careers

[Biochemist](#)

[Botanist](#)

[Epidemiologist](#)

[Genetic Engineer](#)

[Microbiologist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

Agricultural Science is the study of the **science** and **technology** underlying the **principles and practices of Agriculture**.

The subject deals with plants and animal types associated with agriculture. Aspects studied include-

Scientific Practices: Evidence, Communicating, Working Safely.

Soils: Classification, Properties and Management.

Grass and Other Crops: Plant Physiology, Classification/Identification, Production (Establishment, Management, Harvesting)

Animals: Animal Physiology, Classification/Identification, Production



Who should study it?

- Students who have an interest in **farming**, while not essential, some experience of farming is desirable.
- Students who are planning to study **Veterinary Science, Science** or **Medicine** in college.
- Students who have an **investigative mind** and would like a better understanding of the **science behind Agriculture**.

Career Interest type most suited

Realist



"For those interested in pursuing Farming, Agriculture, Veterinary and Medicine"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	75% of marks	75% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	25% of marks	25% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Agricultural Science **may be a requirement for entry to third level** as it is deemed essential to some related courses. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- Farming, Horticulture & Forestry
- Biological, Chemical & Pharmaceutical Science
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy
- Animals & Veterinary Science
- Earth & Environment
- Biomedical Technologies & Medtech

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeship in [Farriery](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as:

Agriculture, Animal Science, Horticulture and Animal/Crop Management

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including:

Agriculture, Animal Science and Veterinary Nursing/Medicine

Sample Careers

[Agricultural Advisor](#)
[Agricultural Scientist](#)
[Farm Manager](#)
[Horticulturalist](#)
[Soil Scientist](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

Computer Science is the **study of Computers and Computer Programming**. Computing technology influences every part of society and is **key to our lives**. In this subject students will develop **practical skills** to create functioning **computer applications**.

The course has THREE core strands-

Practices and Principles:

Computers & Society, Computational Thinking, Design & Development

Core Concepts:

Abstraction, Algorithms, Computer Systems, Data, Evaluation/Testing

Computers in Practice:

Interactive Information Systems, Analytics, Modelling & Simulation, Embedded Systems



Who should study it?

- Students who have an **aptitude for Problem Solving** and are **Logical Thinkers**.
- Students who are planning to study **Information Technology, Software Programming** or **Data Analytics** in college.
- Students who have a strong interest in **how computers work** and the **effect technology has on society**.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative



"Understanding the fundamental concepts of Computer Science and technology's role in Society"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	70% of marks	70% of marks
Practical	-	-
Project	30% of marks	30% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Computer Science **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- Computers & ICT
- Physics, Mathematics & Space Science
- Biomedical Technologies & Medtech
- Media, Film & Publishing

Related Career/Study Pathways

Apprenticeships in [Software Developer](#), [Software Solutions Architect](#), [Equipment Systems Engineer](#) and [Cybersecurity](#)

Further Ed (PLC) courses in 3D Game Design, Computer Systems & Networks and Pre-University Computing

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including: *Applied Computing, Computer Science and Computing*

Sample Careers

[Computer/IT Support](#)

[Computer Scientist](#)

[Games Designer](#)

[IT Consultant](#)

[Web Design/Developer](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

The Leaving Certificate French course is one of a number of Modern European Languages that can be studied. The subject requires students to be have experience with the following skills:

- **Oral/Speaking**
- **Written**
- **Aural/Listening**
- **Reading**

A variety of themes are covered, for example: *Family, School, Hobbies, Sport, Current Affairs.* **Grammar** and **Cultural Awareness** are also essential elements of the Modern European Languages course.



Why Study it?

- Students who have a **natural communicative ability** and who may have shown an **aptitude for a language** in Junior Cycle.
- Students who have **an interest in the history, culture and language** of France or other French speaking countries.
- Students interested in **travelling and broadening their horizons.**

Career Interest type most suited

Linguistic



"Learning a language helps give an insight into other cultures and break down barriers"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	55% of Marks	55% of Marks
Practical	-	-
Project	-	-
Oral	25% of Marks	20% of Marks
Aural	20% of Marks	25% of Marks

Why Study it?

A Modern European Language **may be a requirement for entry to third level** and can be used as a 3rd language for entry into **approximately 350 CAO courses**. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Business Management & Human Resources
- Government, Politics & EU
- Education & Teaching
- Banking & Financial Services
- Tourism & Hospitality
- History, Culture & Languages

Related Career/Study Pathways

There are currently no Language **Apprenticeships**

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Pre-University Arts and European Languages Studies*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Arts, Modern Languages and Business/Law degrees incorporating your language choice*

Sample Careers

[Second Level Teacher](#)
[Interpreter](#)
[Translator](#)
[Sales Support](#)
[Language Editor - EU](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In summary

The Leaving Certificate German course is one of a number of Modern European Languages that can be studied. The subject requires students to have experience with the following skills:

- **Oral/Speaking**
- **Written**
- **Aural/Listening**
- **Reading**

A variety of themes are covered, for example: *Family, School, Hobbies, Sport, Current Affairs.* **Grammar** and **Cultural Awareness** are also essential elements of the Modern European Languages course.



Why Study it?

- Students who have a **natural communicative ability** and who may have shown an **aptitude for a language** in Junior Cycle.
- Students who have **an interest in the history, culture and language** of Germany or other German speaking countries
- Students interested in **travelling and broadening their horizons.**

Career Interest type most suited

Linguistic



"Learning a language helps give an insight into other cultures and break down barriers"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	55% of Marks	55% of Marks
Practical	-	-
Project	-	-
Oral	25% of Marks	20% of Marks
Aural	20% of Marks	25% of Marks

Why Study it?

A Modern European Language **may be a requirement for entry to third level** and can be used as a 3rd language for entry into **approximately 350 CAO courses**. See entry requirements for individual colleges.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors-**

- Business Management & Human Resources
- Government, Politics & EU
- Education & Teaching
- Banking & Financial Services
- Tourism & Hospitality
- History, Culture & Languages

Related Career/Study Pathways

There are currently no Language **Apprenticeships**

Further Ed (PLC) courses in areas such as *Pre-University Arts and European Languages Studies*

Higher Ed (CAO) courses across the sectors including *Arts, Modern Languages and Business/Law degrees incorporating your language choice*

Sample Careers

[Second Level Teacher](#)

[Interpreter](#)

[Translator](#)

[Sales Support](#)

[Language Editor - EU](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)

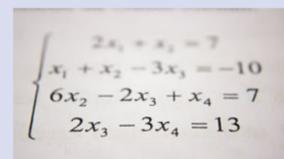


In summary

Applied Maths is the study of the **practical applications of Maths and Physics to real world problems**. It examines the behaviour of objects when placed in various situations.

There is a very good **overlap** with both **Physics** and **Higher Level Maths**. The Core elements of the Applied Maths course include-

- **Circular Motion and SHM Collisions**
- **Connected Particles, Differential Equations and Hydrostatics**
- **Linear Motion and Moments of Inertia**
- **Projectiles, Relative Velocity and Statics.**



Who should study it?

- Students who have an interest in and an **aptitude for Maths and Physics** and the overlap between the two.
- Students who are planning to study **Engineering, Science, IT or Architecture** in college.
- Students who are studying Higher Level Maths and Physics can do very well in Applied Maths.

Career Interest type most suited

Investigative



"A mix of Maths and Physics that deals with the practical applications of mathematics to the real world"

Exam Structure

	Higher Level	Ordinary Level
Written Paper	80% of marks	80% of marks
Practical	20% of marks	20% of marks

Progression after the Leaving Certificate

Applied Maths **is not an essential requirement** for any courses in the CAO system.

This subject would be useful in these **Career Sectors**-

- Construction, Architecture & Property
- Computers & ICT
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy
- Physics, Mathematics & Space Science
- Earth & Environment
- Biomedical Technologies & Medtech

Related Career/Study Pathways

There are currently no-

Apprenticeships in Maths
or

Further Ed (PLC) courses in Maths

Higher Ed (CAO) courses including:

*Mathematics, Mathematical
Physics and Mathematics with
Education*

Sample Careers

[Computational Physicist](#)

[Mathematician](#)

[Statistician](#)

[Second Level Teacher](#)

[Risk Analyst](#)

A full list of available courses is available in the [CourseFinder](#)

A full list of Careers is available in the [CareerExplorer](#)



In Summary

Life, Community and Work is a very practical subject which entails two main modules, Me and My Future, Community and Work, each with two strands.

Me and My Future understanding who they are as a person is an important and foundational step as students begin to explore and investigate a variety of progression opportunities and post senior cycle pathways.

Community and Work students explore the concept of community and the workplace, learning to appreciate the importance of local, national and global community and their roles within it and the workplace.



Modules and Strands

At the end of each strand students complete an **Applied Learning Task** e.g. create and develop a personal statement, create a career progression plan.

As part of the Life, Community and Work course students must complete a **Written Examination (40%)** and **Portfolio in Action (60%)** both at common level.

Module 1 – Me and my Future

Strand 1 - Understanding Myself

Strand 2 - Understanding my Progression Opportunities

Module 2 – Community and Work

Strand 1 - Appreciating my Community

Strand 2 - Engaging with the Workplace

Who should Study it?

- Students who are **practically minded** and enjoy **real-world learning**
- Students who want to **build real-life skills**
- Students who want to **explore future progression pathways**
- Students who enjoy **working in groups** and **engaging with their community**

Career interest area most suited

Enterprising



"For those students eager to develop the personal resilience, social awareness, and practical employability skills"

Exam Structure

	Common Level
Portfolio in Action	60% of Marks
Practical	-
Written Examination	40% of Marks

Grading System

- Life, Community and Work is graded differently to all other Leaving Certificate Subjects.
- Students can be awarded either a-
 - Distinction** (80%-100%/66 points)
 - Merit** (65%-79%/46 points)
 - Pass** (50%-64%/28 points)
- The subject can be used as one of a student's best six grades for CAO purposes. Points are shown opposite

CAO points available from Life, Community and Work

Distinction		66 points
Merit		46 points
Pass		28 points

