

Subject Choice Form 5

2011-12

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The following information is provided to assist parents and pupils with the choice of subjects for the Leaving Certificate. You may also consult the Guidance Counsellor by appointment or obtain the necessary information directly from the college concerned.

Note: In the event that too few pupils choose a subject for the class to be viable, or if the subject can not be timetabled, the school reserves the right to withdraw the subject. If a class is too full, the school reserves the right to request some pupils to make a different choice. However, the school will always attempt to ensure that pupils' choices are met and the above events are very rare.

How to Choose Subjects

The most important criterion for choosing subjects should be that the pupil likes the subject and will work well at it. This is the best recipe for success in the Leaving Certificate. After that, parents and pupil should consider carefully whether any subject is **essential** as an entry requirement. The enclosed information from the Guidance Counsellor gives an indication of the main ones. If a pupil is unsure of career choice (as many are), more career options may be available if the pupil chooses a balance between Humanities, Business subjects, Languages and Sciences. It is always wise to keep options open. Aptitude tests have been administered to all Form 4 pupils by the Guidance Counsellor. The results of these tests may assist pupils to make their subject choices, although it should be borne in mind that small variations in the different aptitude categories are not significant.

The sort of criteria which should **not** be used in choosing subjects are who the teacher is likely to be, whether a pupil's friends are going to take the subject, whether an older brother or sister liked the subject or rumours about it. Pupils should disregard the type of league tables published in newspapers about which subject gets the most A grades. The differences are relatively small and, unless the pupil has an aptitude for the subject anyway, the national figures will have no bearing on that pupil's performance. If more information on a subject is required than is given here, please consult the subject teacher or borrow the text books in use.

Recommended Text

The *Student Yearbook and Career Directory* by Duddy and Keane (current year) will be supplied by the Guidance Department and charged to the pupils. This book is a very valuable source of information and can also be used as a homework notebook. Students also use a careers textbook in Form 5 which will also be supplied by the Guidance Department to the students (and charged).

The Curriculum for Forms 5 and 6

- All pupils take English, Irish and Mathematics.
- Four** further subjects should be chosen, **one** from each of the four following option groups. The same subjects may not be chosen in two different groups. It should be noted that subjects for which the demand may be small may be later allocated to different groups than those indicated to satisfy the requirements of the greatest number of potential students.

W	X	Y	Z
Accounting Applied Maths Art French Geography	Business Geography History Home Economics Physics Spanish	Biology Chemistry Construction Studies Economics History Music	Biology Classical Studies French German Home Economics Design & Communication Graphics

- In addition two periods per week are allotted to Option Group V, and the subjects timetabled in this group **may** include extra Art, Computer Applications, Geology, extra higher level Irish, Physical Education and Woodwork. The classes in Geology prepare pupils for the Matriculation Examination of T.C.D. **Because of the demanding nature of higher level Irish, pupils taking this subject at Leaving Certificate are strongly recommended to study it during the V Option periods in addition to the normal Irish class periods.** Pupils opting for Geology should be aware that this is a strongly academic course which requires

considerable commitment and hard work.

4. Pupils may do higher or ordinary level papers in all subjects in the Leaving Certificate examination. Higher level papers require both a good standard and consistent work, a level considerably above that needed in the Junior Certificate. Pupils should attempt the higher levels in as many subjects as they can realistically cope with, but avoid overloading themselves. It is possible to change from higher to ordinary level at any stage during the two-year course, but very difficult to change from ordinary level to higher level after the first term in Fifth Form.
5. There are three business subjects offered:- Accounting, Business and Economics. However, it is not normally recommended that a pupil choose all three subjects. Pupils who have not taken Business Studies in the Junior Certificate may start Business or Economics in Fifth Year. However, **pupils starting Accounting at this stage should have taken the preparatory Accounting module in Transition Year, if they have not studied Business Studies for Junior Certificate.**
6. The Leaving Certificate Economics course gives a good basic knowledge of everyday Economics. It tends to be quite academic and provides a suitable basis for further courses in Business Studies. The Business course is more practically based and is of more immediate relevance to students who are intending to commence a job following completion of the Leaving Certificate.
7. No previous knowledge of Latin is necessary in order to undertake the Classical Studies course but pupils taking this subject should have an interest in reading about the ancient world.
8. Construction Studies in Option Y and Design & Communication Graphics in Option Z can best be taken by pupils who have achieved a reasonable degree of competence in Materials Technology (Wood) or Technical Graphics at Junior Certificate or who have gained experience during Transition Year. However, any well motivated pupil should also be able to take up these subjects in Form 5.
9. In addition to choosing Art as a Leaving Certificate subject, students wishing to enter Art college can avail of the extra opportunities offered by Art classes in the V option and by enrolling for the Art portfolio preparation course which takes place after school on one afternoon per week.
10. Spanish can be taken by pupils **who have studied the subject in Transition Year.** Our experience has shown that it is possible for beginners to gain a good Leaving Certificate standard in Spanish provided they have sound basic language ability and are willing and able to give sufficient time to the subject.
11. In assessing individual pupils' choices of subjects, it is helpful to know any career aims they may have, and where known, these should be stated on the return slip.
12. The school does not recommend that pupils take **extra subjects** for certificate examinations, as this may result in the pupil not being able to cover the normal range of subjects properly and may result in lower grades than might otherwise be expected. In any case, only the best six subjects may be counted towards the points total for entry to third level colleges. If a pupil decides to ignore this advice and take an extra subject outside the school, the full details of the course (hours per week, venue, name of teacher) must be supplied in writing to the Principal in order to certify its validity for entrance to the Leaving Certificate.
13. For a number of years the school has offered the new Leaving Certificate **Religious Education** course but insufficient pupils have chosen it to form a class. We are therefore not placing it in a choice box at present as we would try to see which box suited pupils best if there is a substantial number interested in taking the subject. If you wish to take the subject please state that on the choice form in the section which asks about problems making choices.

Remember!

- The number of courses and jobs which require specific subjects is quite small.
- It may be a mistake
 - (a) not to opt for a third language
 - (b) not to opt for a science subject (Practically all science, medical, paramedical and engineering courses require at least a laboratory science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics). Some courses at certificate level in R.T.C's do not.
- To keep all options in the above named areas open in all colleges, it is advisable to choose a second science subject.
- If interested in a specific area check out the admission requirements in the specific colleges:
 - (a) admission to the college
 - (b) admission to the specific course
- This may be the last opportunity to study a subject.
- All Leaving Certificate subjects are available at both higher and lower levels.

Essential subjects

A list of essential subjects is appended to this leaflet.

Parents' Meeting

Parents are invited to attend a meeting at which they can ask questions and share problems with some of the staff. A meeting has been arranged for **Thursday 10 February** at 7.30 p.m. in the Reynolds Hall.

If individual advice is required, a brief letter outlining the problem should be sent to our Guidance Counsellor who will arrange an interview if necessary.

In order to complete the planning of the timetable for next year, it will be essential for us to know each pupil's choice of subjects by **Wednesday 9 March, 2011** and the return slip accompanying this document should be sent back to the office by that date.

V Option courses

(see note 3 on page 1 - these are in addition to the main Leaving Certificate choices)

Additional Art

Students who wish to do art as a non-examination subject may take it in the V option. This course aims to extend the students personal interests and develop hobbies in the Art and Craft area. A full range of art and crafts can be studied - painting and drawing, textile crafts, pottery and modelling, bookcrafts, printing, calligraphy, mural design and mural painting.

Students doing Leaving Certificate Art may also take V option art and have two extra periods a week. Students intending to enter Art college should also enrol for the additional Art Portfolio course which is offered after school on one afternoon per week. Portfolio work may also be done during the two V option periods.

Computer Applications

In this class, students have the opportunity to complete the European Computer Driving Licence, develop desktop publishing skills, produce a student newsletter or website or learn simple programming in Visual Basic.

Geology

Geology is the study of the Earth as a whole, its origin, structure, composition, and history (including the development of life), and the nature of the processes that have given rise to its present state.

Geology is offered at The High School in the 'V' option of the fifth and sixth years with the intention of sitting the University of Dublin (T.C.D.) Matriculation Examination. This examination is recognised as an important means of obtaining points towards entering Trinity College and is also recognised by some British universities. The advantage of this examination is that it is usually held during the week after Easter, and consists of one three hour paper; with the results being released in May. If a student has performed well, he/she will have valuable points before even commencing on the Leaving Certificate examinations in June.

The syllabus followed, is that put forward by the Department of Geology, Trinity College, and covers a wide range of basic Geology. Branches included are: Earth's Structure; Mineralogy; Petrology (the study of rock); Palaeontology (The study of fossils); Structural Geology (faulting, folding, etc.); Economic Geology (coal, oil, etc.); Historical Geology (the study of the past environments of earth's history) and Dating Techniques that are used in Geology.

Geology is useful for many careers. These include: Geologist; Geophysicist; Hydrologist; Cartographer; Engineer; Land Surveyor; Landscape Architect; Soil Scientist; Mining; Oil Exploration; Horticulture; River management, and many others.

Irish - Higher Course additional classes

Any student undertaking Higher level Irish in the Leaving Certificate must also take Irish in the V option choice. A good reason in writing is required by the Year Head if a different choice is preferred.

Physical Education

A variety of physical education activities is undertaken, both indoors and outdoors, including invasion games, net games, racquet games, exercise and fitness programmes.

Woodwork

In the V option, Woodwork is not an examination subject. Pupils tackle a variety of interesting projects with the class usually divided into a number of skill levels. Many of the pupils taking Construction Studies for Leaving Certificate find it very useful to take Woodwork in the V option as it allows valuable time in the workshop to develop their skills and to complete project work.

Leaving Certificate Optional Courses

(see chart on page 1)

Accounting

Success in the subject will require that a pupil has a good knowledge of basic Book-Keeping either from Junior Certificate Business Studies or the Preparatory Option in Transition Year. This means thoroughly understanding Double Entry and how a transaction passes through Books of First Entry to the Ledger from which the Final Accounts and Balance Sheet may be prepared.

The syllabus is broadly the same for Ordinary Level and Higher Level. The two main elements are financial and management accounting. The main topics covered under management accounting are costing and budgeting. Topics in the financial section would include bank reconciliation, control accounts, errors, incomplete records, club accounts, manufacturing accounts, departmental accounts, tabular statements, cash flow statements, analysis and interpretation of accounts of P.L.C.s. There is some mention of accounting in relation to computers and information technology.

The subject is useful for those considering a career in the Business area or going on to study in this area at Third Level. Many professional exams have an Accounting element as part of the course.

It is obviously particularly relevant to those considering Accounting as a career - a qualification which many still regard as a good foundation for higher level careers in industry and commerce.

Applied Mathematics

Despite its name, Applied Mathematics is a theoretical subject. Sometimes called "Maths-Physics", it is really a branch of Physics. It is not a requirement for any third level course, but is advantageous for those who go on to study Physics or Engineering.

It is academically challenging, and is unsuitable for those whose Mathematics is weak.

Art

The course consists of three main areas - Art, Craft & Design, History of Art, Art appreciation.

The Art course consists of still life and life drawing, painting, 3D and work in other media, design and craft.

Crafts available include pottery and modelling, puppetry, textile crafts, batik, printing and calligraphy, ceramics, embroidery, graphic design.

The History of Art course covers both Irish and European Art movements and studies paintings, architecture and design, applied arts and crafts.

It is not necessary to have taken Art at Junior Certificate, or in Transition Year to begin Art in Form 5, though of course it would be an advantage to the student.

Assessment at Leaving Certificate is by a written paper in History of Art, and practical examinations in Life Drawing, Composition and Design/Crafts. As well as preparing for Leaving Certificate, students will be helped to prepare a portfolio for entry to Art College, though this will entail doing a considerable amount of work outside school. Portfolio preparation is not part of the Leaving Certificate course - it is mainly for students wishing to pursue a third level career in art or design.

There are many opportunities for talented and interested students in Degree, Diploma and Post-Leaving Certificate Courses. Job opportunities exist in visual communications film and television, commercial art, craft businesses and in Art, Craft and Design teaching, Arts Administration and Architecture.

Biology

The syllabus introduced in 2002 has been developed in response to current knowledge and application of biology. Account has been taken of the need to include contemporary biological technologies such as DNA profiling and genetic screening. It aims to create in students an awareness of the application of biological knowledge to modern society and to develop an ability to make informed evaluations about contemporary biological issues.

The course covers a wide range of topics, including cell structure and diversity, metabolism, genetics and human and flowering plant anatomy and physiology. The general principles of ecology are studied, and one particular ecosystem is examined in detail. An ecology field trip is arranged in the 5th Year. Particular emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of biology, and there are a number of mandatory activities that each student must carry out for themselves.

Business

The topics to be covered include:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | People in business | - consumers, investors, producers, employers, unions, etc. |
| 2 | Enterprise | - entrepreneur: characteristics, skills, etc. |
| 3 | Managing | - management skills, communication, finance, insurance, tax, accounts, etc. |
| 4 | Business in action | - marketing, ownership, finance, business plans, etc. |
| 5 | Domestic environment | - types of industry, business structures, etc. |
| 6 | International environment | - foreign trade, trading blocs, E.U., etc. |

In summary, it seems that it should provide a general overview of Business.

It would be therefore be of some value from a general educational point of view and particularly relevant to those intending to take a Business related course at third level or to those planning a career in Business.

As far as exam pressures allow, attention will be given to oral work and current topics. As far as possible, the approach will be from a practical point of view.

Chemistry

There are many reasons to study Leaving Certificate Chemistry. Perhaps it is your favourite subject, perhaps it is part of a complementary combination of subjects or a means to an end .

Chemistry is the branch of science that deals with what materials (solids, liquids and gases) are made of and the changes materials undergo. Born from the ancient science of alchemy, modern chemistry influences our lives arguably more than any other single technology. The obvious impact of chemistry is seen in the huge variety of materials we use every day. It is often described as ‘the central science’ and should be considered as complementary to both Biology and Physics.

The Leaving Certificate course is taught in a way that allows extensive experimentation so that you too can experience for the first time the wonder of discovering how substances interact. Laboratory expertise is developed throughout the two years and the balance between theory and practical work helps to make Chemistry both rewarding and enjoyable for those who take it.

Topics studied include: Atomic structure and Bonding, Periodic Table, Chemical calculations, Acids and Bases, Gases, Radioactivity, Environmental Chemistry, Rates of reaction, Equilibrium, Volumetric analysis, Organic Chemistry.

Many careers directly involve a knowledge of Chemistry - for example Biotechnology, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Food Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, Agricultural Science, Pharmacy, Medicinal Chemistry. However, analytical, deductive and observational skills are also developed which are transferable to a wide range of careers.

Classical Studies

What is it?

Homer, Euripides, Alexander, the Parthenon - is this all Greek to you?

The subject Classical Studies takes the student back into the ancient world, all through the medium of English. Topics are studied from the history, art, literature and drama of the Greek and Roman eras.

For whom is it?

Classical Studies will appeal to those interested in reading and writing about the ancient world. No previous knowledge of the Greek or Latin languages is required. It can be taken by itself as an Leaving Cert. subject which will broaden the student’s outlook and knowledge, as well as gaining points for University entrance. The subject is nowadays one of the popular choices in the Arts faculties of our Universities.

Why study it?

The ancient world is one of the foundations on which much of our European civilization is based. This course enables the student to go back to the originals (in translation), and learn the stories and legends which inspired so much in art and literature for the next 2,000 years.

Construction Studies

We live in houses and use buildings every day of our lives. The relationship between people and their buildings, and between buildings and the environment is most important for our well being and for the health of planet earth.

Construction Studies deals with the built environment, primarily focusing on the dwelling house. The technical aspects of construction are covered, as is the relationship of the consumer to buildings. Health, safety and environmental issues are addressed and an awareness of our architectural heritage is encouraged. The course aims to develop the pupils' ability to communicate ideas and information by appropriate methods and to encourage them to apply accurate observation and scientific investigation through the exploration of materials and processes.

While the subject is of special appeal to those interested in pursuing careers in engineering, architecture and the construction industry etc., it is also of immense practical value to the future home owner/occupier. The subject has a theoretical and practical content, including a major project which is undertaken by each pupil as part of her/his Leaving Certificate Examination. It is an advantage to have studied a technical subject in Junior Certificate but students who have not are strongly advised to have taken the foundation courses provided in Transition Year.

Students are assessed in three ways for the Leaving Certificate:-

1. A practical woodwork examination in May of the final year (25%)
2. A project of the student's choice. This can be a craft project related to building or woodwork, an architectural model and written report, or a study of a historical building including a model etc. (25%)
3. A written theory paper (50%)

Design & Communication Graphics

Graphic communication is used in all areas of the modern world. Everything from mobile phones to road signs depends on graphic communication for manufacture and usage. Just as literacy and numeracy have been cornerstones of education and development, graphicacy is now considered an essential skill for interaction with our technological society.

This new subject aims to prepare pupils for encounters with a visual, spatial and technological world. It encourages a creative response from pupils, which makes it a very stimulating course. While the understanding of plane and solid geometry will still have a key role, much more emphasis will be placed on the communication of design ideas and the use of computer aided drafting and design.

The course will be assessed as follows:

1. A course assignment worth 40% of marks in the Leaving Certificate. Computer Aided Design (CAD) will form a significant and compulsory component.
2. A three hour terminal examination paper worth 60% of marks.

This promises to be an exciting, creative and challenging course. It will be of particular interest to pupils considering careers in architecture, design, engineering, graphics, advertising, trades and the built environment but will also appeal to pupils who want to broaden their educational experience. It is an advantage to have studied Technical Graphics for Junior Certificate but students who have not are strongly advised to have taken the foundation courses provided in Transition Year.

Economics

This is a two-year course taught to Higher Level Leaving Certificate.

Some of the topics covered in the Leaving Certificate Economics course are:-

1. Markets. How they operate and how prices are determined
2. Competition. Perfect Competition and Monopoly. What are they? How do they affect consumers
3. The Government and economy. What are the objectives of government economic policy and how do they affect the community?
4. Employment and Taxation.
5. Money, Inflation, Interest Rates and Exchange Rates. What causes changes in Interest Rates and Exchange Rates and how do these changes affect everybody?
6. Trade. Why is trade so important to Ireland? What influences the level of our exports and imports and how do changes in these affect the whole economy?

Benefits from the study of Economics

- a better understanding of current affairs
- more informed about how this country is governed
- be able to understand and interpret information about our economy and the E.U
- be able to collect and analyse information
- learn to think clearly and logically
- learn to form and present a reasoned opinion on economic matters

- understanding of key concepts in economics

This will be to the advantage of the student who continues on to 3rd level for courses in Arts, Science, Engineering, Medicine and Business Studies. In High School the course is taught at Leaving Certificate Higher Level but since the syllabus is common to both levels students are also prepared for the Ordinary Level Paper.

Geography

Geography is more relevant today than ever due to increasing globalisation. The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before and Ireland is constantly affected by global physical, cultural and economic processes.

The Leaving Certificate syllabus focuses on the physical landscape, human landscape and economic landscape making it relevant to many college courses and career paths. The Leaving Cert course also gives students an opportunity to develop transferable skills through practical fieldwork in which the students undertake a research project directly related to the course.

Current concern about physical topics such as climate change, shrinking energy resources and sustainability make geography a very relevant subject to study. Geographers explain and understand the world's weather systems, oceans, biospheres and the way our environment is shaped by wind, water, ice and tectonic activity. From a human perspective, the challenges of rapid population growth, changing migration patterns, economic and social development, human rights and international law offer students the opportunity to study many topical issues relevant in society today.

The Leaving Certificate course syllabus is as follows:

- Core 1 - Patterns and processes in Physical Geography
- Core 2 - Patterns and processes in Regional Geography (Ireland, the EU, Italy, France and the Indian subcontinent)
- Core 3 - Fieldwork research project. This practical field study is worth 20% of the Leaving Certificate grade and is submitted in April of 6th year. It is an opportunity for students to develop practical research and group work skills.
- Elective 5 - Human Geography
- Option 7 - Geoecology

The fieldwork report is worth 20% of the total mark with the remaining 80% allocated to the exam. Students can choose to sit the Higher or Ordinary Level exam paper.

Geography is relevant to many careers such as; Earth Scientist, Meteorologist, Environmental engineer, Urban planner, Pollution analyst, Coastal engineer, Hazard prevention and management, Flood protection management, Public Policy researcher, Health education campaigner, Economic adviser and analyst, Management Consultant, Transport manager, Surveyor, Property or Construction Lawyer, International charity fundraiser, International charity researcher and policy maker, Diplomat, International Lawyer, Aid worker, Urban regeneration officer, Conservation officer, Travel writer, Heritage site manager, TEFL teacher and Local Government positions.

History

The new course for Leaving Certificate History is divided into fields of study from which students will study four topics - two from Irish history and two from the history of Europe and the wider world. The later modern fields of study are from 1815-1993. Political, social, economic and cultural history are all covered, making it very relevant to the world we live in today. Students gain a good understanding of the background to modern politics and of national and international events.

An enquiring mind is a trait of the good history student while the ability to form arguments always backed up with solid evidence is an important outcome of the study of the subject. The skills developed in this course include essay writing, research, and analysis while the preparation of the research component also affords the opportunity to gain experience of independent study.

The course is designed to be taught at ordinary and higher level. There is a greater variety of assessment than in the old course:

- A research study for both ordinary and higher level students which will be completed and submitted before the Leaving Certificate examination. (20% of the final mark will be allocated to the R.S).
- The exam paper at O.L and H.L will have more variety of questions than previously and will also have a documents-based question. (the remaining 80% of the final mark will be allocated to the exam.)

Like most arts subjects, history at university, either studied by itself or combined with other subjects like politics, languages or economics leads on to a wide variety of careers in law, business, teaching, journalism or the civil service including foreign affairs.

Home Economics

The Home Economics course is divided into three core areas and three electives. The core areas are Food Studies, Resource Management & Consumer Studies and Social studies. Classes must also choose one of three electives; Home Design & Management, Textile, Fashion & Design or Social studies.

Practical work is viewed as an integral component of the new syllabus and students complete a practical journal which is worth 20% of their mark. There is a greater emphasis on student involvement in the learning process. The new course is a continuation of the Junior Certificate course. While not essential, it is beneficial to have studied this subject to Junior Certificate level.

Home Economics is an important subject for all young people. It is concerned with the way individuals and families manage their resources to meet physical, emotional, intellectual, social and economic needs. It prepares students of both sexes for life in a consumer-oriented society and provides a good knowledge and skills-based learning foundation for those seeking employment in a wide range of careers.

Modern Languages

Modern languages are popular subject options in 5th Form. Three languages are taught: French, German and Spanish, and pupils may study all three of these if they so wish. French is timetabled to be taught in two options groups in order to assist pupils to attain as great a range of their favoured subjects as possible. The great majority of pupils sit the Leaving Certificate exams at higher level. It is recommended that all students seriously consider taking a modern language (unless they have not previously taken one) in view of the requirement at NUI and many other third level colleges.

Since the introduction of the new Leaving Certificate exam papers in 1997, a great deal of extra emphasis has been laid on oral competence as well as the abilities to understand both the spoken and written language. Pupils develop also a high competence in letter writing. They learn to describe and debate social topics of general interest to young people. Grammar is also not forgotten, but is part of an overall integrated approach.

Pupils are encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunities within the school to go on an exchange or to attend one of the increasingly popular residential courses in Ireland or abroad.

Music

The revised Leaving Certificate syllabus came into operation from September 1997. It is designed to be a continuation of the Junior Certificate. There is a continued emphasis on the integration of the three activity areas; performing, composing and listening.

Performing can be a group or individual activity and may be up to 50% of the assessment. Students will acquire a working knowledge of composing skills, i.e. melodic and harmonic composition including the addition of chord symbols and composing supportive bass and backing chords to a given time. The listening area includes a wide range of music from a Bach cantata to Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen. This syllabus emphasises the importance of active learning and provides a well balanced musical experience. A further option now includes music technology.

Physics

Physics at Leaving Certificate is a mixture of practical work and theory. Why is the sky blue? Where does the earth's magnetic field come from? These are some of the questions that arise in Physics. There are about twenty compulsory experiments to be undertaken by the students themselves.

Topics: Mechanics, Heat and Temperature, Electricity and Magnetism, Electrostatics, Atomic Physics, Waves, Sound and Light, Nuclear Physics and Particle Physics.

Prerequisites: Good algebraic skills.

Career Prospects: Physics deals with the Laws of nature. It is of fundamental importance in technology and vital for courses in engineering and science. Some paramedical courses require a knowledge of physics.

It is essential for Physics (HB) at T.C.D. and Electrical/Electronic Engineering (HC) at D.I.T.

It is useful for careers in: Architecture, Astronomy, Biophysics, Computer Science, Engineering, Geophysics, Health Inspector, Medical Laboratory Science, Medicine, Metallurgy, Meteorology, Nursing, Oceanography, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physics, Photography, Pilot, Radiography, Science Technician, Telecommunications.

Religious Education

The RE syllabus supports the development of the inquiry, thinking, and problem solving skills central to the Leaving Cert

programme. The course aims to explore issues such as meaning and value, the nature of morality, the development and diversity of belief, the principles of a just society, and the implications of scientific progress. The **course** consists of three units:

Unit One

The Search for Meaning and Values

Unit Two - Any two of:

Christianity: Origins and Contemporary Expressions

World Religions

Moral Decision Making

Unit Three - Any one of:

Religion and Gender

Issues of Justice and Peace

Worship, Prayer and Ritual

The Bible: Literature and Sacred Text

Religion: The Irish Experience

Religion and Science

Assessment consists of two components

1. Coursework

2. Terminal written paper

Students' personal faith commitment and/or affiliation to a particular religious grouping will not be subject to assessment.

Possible future courses/careers: Arts, Law, Journalism, Education, Social Work

Essential subjects

- This may mean:**
- (a) a pass in the subject is all that is required
 - (b) a certain grade/level is often required.
 - (c) combinations of certain subjects.

This is not an exhaustive list. It is very important to check matriculation requirements and/or any other specific subject or subject level requirement for the courses you are considering. The school does not take responsibility for the completion or accuracy of this list. It is the responsibility of the individual pupil to check essential requirements. This list is provided as a guideline only.

SCIENCE

1. **B.Sc. in Applied Mathematical Sciences** in D.C.U.
Higher Course Maths + Higher Course in Physics/Chemistry/Biology/Economics
2. **Environmental Health, Analytical Science, Biotechnology, Applied Science and most Third Level Science** courses - a science subject essential. A laboratory science subject is no longer a requirement for Computer Science in UCD.
3. **Human Nutrition** –
Medical Laboratory Science (DIT) Higher Course Chemistry essential.
4. **Nursing** –
A Science subject required - normally Biology (some hospitals require higher level). A modern language is required for the NUI system.
5. **Occupational Therapy, Radiography (T.C.D.)** –
one science subject.
6. **Pharmaceutical Technician** - a science subject essential.
7. **Pharmacy & Science (T.C.D.)** –
Geography accepted as one of the two science subjects. Higher Course Chemistry will be required for Pharmacy.
8. Physics desirable for **Radiography, Meteorology, Naval Cadet, Ophthalmic Optics, and Engineering courses**.
9. Science subject essential to study any of the following at N.U.I.: **Medicine, Veterinary, Science, Agriculture, Food Science, Engineering, Radiography, Physiotherapy** –
Medicine/Dentistry: UCC: Higher Course Chemistry + Higher Course Biology or Physics. Veterinary Medicine UCD: Higher Course Chemistry.
10. 2 Science subjects essential to study any of the following at Trinity College: **Medicine, Dental Science, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Science**.
11. **Speech Therapy (T.C.D.)** –
Higher Course Science or Maths.
12. The third language requirement for **UCD science courses** no longer applies. /over

MATHS

1. **Accounting Technician** - O.L. Accounting accepted instead of Maths in some courses.
2. **Computer** courses - increasingly degree courses require higher Mathematics.
3. Degrees in **Engineering** –
Most Engineering courses require Higher Course Maths. Check course entry requirements in individual colleges. Some UCD courses do not require usual NUI 3rd language requirements.

LANGUAGES

1. **Applied Languages** – Higher Course in languages to be studied.
2. **Journalism** – Higher Course English generally required.
3. The **third language requirement** for some National University of Ireland courses.

ALL OTHERS

1. **Architecture** - the usual NUI requirements and 1 science subject for DIT - Art and/or Design & Communication Graphics desirable
2. **Art** at NCAD: The usual NUI requirements but either a modern language or Art, in addition to the usual portfolio requirement.
3. Business subjects are not essential for entry into any **Business College** but they do provide an excellent foundation for any business career. Marketing courses usually include a language component.
4. **Defence Forces** - Irish or English, + Mathematics or Applied Mathematics, + Continental language (3 C grades and 3 pass grades).
5. **European Studies, Law and European Studies** –
Higher Course in French, German or Spanish.
6. **Hotel and Tourism**: increasingly courses require a continental language.
7. **Primary Teaching** -
Higher Level 'C' Irish

Master chart of essential subjects by college: <http://www.skool.ie/skool/parents.asp?id=2225>

Subject Choice Form 5

2011-12

The High School
RATHGAR • DUBLIN 6

Est.  1870

Principal: **B.T. Duffy, M.A.** Fax • 492 4427
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Name of pupil.....Form.....

Please underline appropriate choices:

Irish	Higher level Ordinary level	Don't know
English	Higher level Ordinary level	Don't know
Mathematics	Higher level Ordinary level	Don't know

Please write in your choice of one subject in each group:

V

W

X

Y

Z

Careers in which you may be interested, in order of preference:

.....

.....

If you were unable to choose all of the subjects you wanted, please indicate your difficulties here:

.....

.....

Signature of Parent.....Signature of Pupil.....

This form must be returned to the office by Wednesday 9 March, 2011 at the latest but should be returned as soon as it is completed.