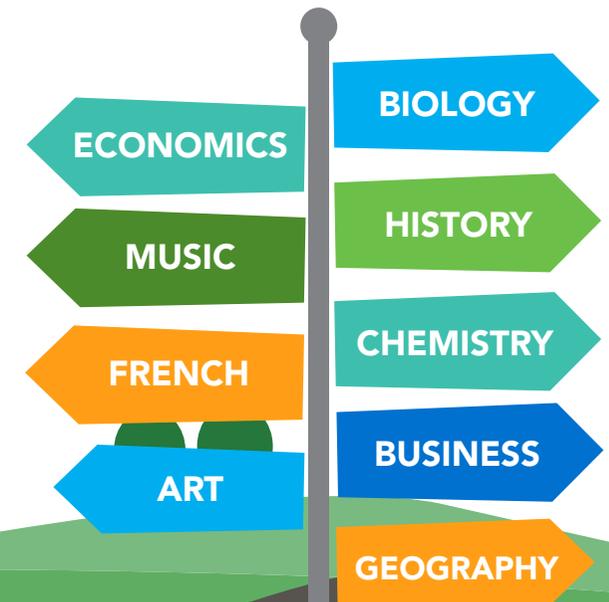


MY SUBJECT CHOICE HOW TO CHOOSE?



AIMS



In this lesson you will:

- Explore subject choice in senior cycle.
- Examine what needs to be considered when choosing subjects in senior cycle.
- Find out where you can get more information on all of the subjects.

OUTCOMES



At the end of this lesson you will be able to:

- Make a more informed decision in relation to subject choice.
- Identify what needs to be considered when choosing senior cycle subjects.
- Find where you can get more information on senior cycle subjects.



SUBJECT CHOICE

Most students will take seven leaving cert subjects... but, there are many different pathways through senior cycle.

Core subjects for students include:

- English
- Maths
- *Irish
(unless a student has a D.E.S.exemption)

You will then choose additional options.

WHAT SUBJECTS WILL I BE CHOOSING FROM?

- Art
- Arabic
- Accounting
- Agricultural Science
- Applied Maths
- Ancient Greek
- Biology
- Business
- Construction Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Classical Studies
- Design & Communications Graphics
- Economics
- French
- Geography
- German
- Hebrew Studies
- History
- Home Economics
- Italian
- Japanese
- Latin
- LCVP Link Module
- Music
- Physics
- Physics & Chemistry
- Physical Education
- Politics & Society
- Religious Education
- Russian
- Spanish
- Technology
- Your school might have other options also.



**WHAT DO I NEED
TO CONSIDER
WHEN CHOOSING
SUBJECTS?**

THREE FACTORS TO CONSIDER



1. INTEREST

You should choose subjects that you are genuinely interested in as you are most likely going to enjoy studying those subjects and do well in them.



2. WHAT I AM GOOD AT

Which are the subjects you do best in?



3. FUTURE OPTIONS

In addition to the core subjects (English, Irish and Maths) there are other subjects that are essential for some college courses and the world of work.

LET'S LOOK AT 1 & 2



MAKING A WISE CHOICE

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF

What subjects are you most interested in?

What subject are you likely to be best at?



- Remember that the senior cycle requires a great amount of work over two years.
- It will be easier to work hard if you have chosen, in so far as possible, subjects you like.

1. CONSIDER SUBJECTS YOU ARE ACTUALLY INTERESTED IN



- Do you love culture and speaking different languages? Well then studying a foreign language is an obvious choice. Are you interested in how the human body and other living organisms work? Do Biology!
- Try to avoid subjects you are not interested in because there is no point doing a subject that you'll end up falling asleep in and not bother studying because you don't particularly like it.
- There's absolutely no point in choosing a subject just because your buddy is doing it.
- For example, if you didn't like a subject at junior cycle, you might regret doing it if you choose it in senior cycle.
- Decide what is right for YOU!

2. CONSIDER SUBJECTS YOU ARE GOOD AT



- If there is a certain subject you loved in junior cycle and you were strong at it you should do that subject in senior cycle.
- You will feel confident in this subject in senior cycle and you can be almost certain that you'll do well in it.
- You will feel confident in this subject in senior cycle and you can be almost certain that you'll do well in it.
- How do I know if I'm good at a subject?
- However only do this subject if you like it! There is no point in doing a subject that you're really good at if you absolutely hate it; in this case, there is no point in you being unhappy in a class for two years.

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING



1. INTEREST

You should choose subjects that you are genuinely interested in as you are most likely going to enjoy studying those subjects and do well in them.



2. WHAT I AM GOOD AT

Which are the subjects you do best in?



3. FUTURE OPTIONS

In addition to the core subjects (English, Irish and Maths) there are other subjects that are essential for some college courses and the world of work.

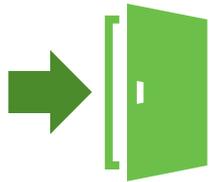
SUBJECT CHOICE AND YOUR FUTURE

If you are applying for opportunities in the future, you might need certain subjects....



ENTRY TO FUTURE OPTIONS

3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER



1.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



2.

SPECIFIC COURSE/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

(may involve interviews, portfolios etc.).



3.

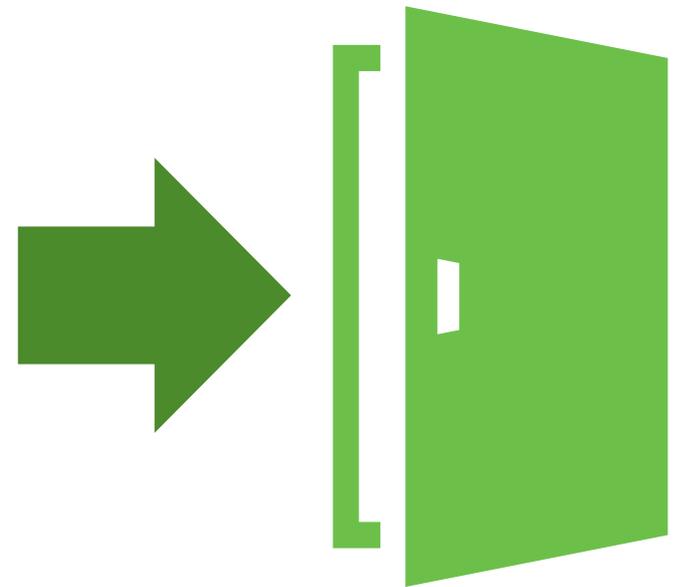
POINTS

(points are not required for many options after post-primary school).

1. MATRICULATION (MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR H.E.I.S)

The Matriculation Requirement is the minimum academic requirements for entry that a Third Level College requires from a student.

So, what subjects do I need to be doing for my Leaving Cert before I can apply to X college?



2. REQUIREMENTS

Particular options may require grades certain subjects:

Some examples are:

- Primary Teaching requires H4 in Irish (60%)
- Engineering in Trinity requires a H4 in HL Maths (60%)
- Business in DCU requires an O4 or H6 in Maths (60% or 40%)
- Maths might be required for some apprenticeships or PLCs.





**HOW DO I FIND
OUT IF I NEED
A SPECIFIC
SUBJECT?**

REQUIREMENTS

There are many websites where you can find information about what subjects are required for different options.

They include:



College Websites



www.qualifaxie



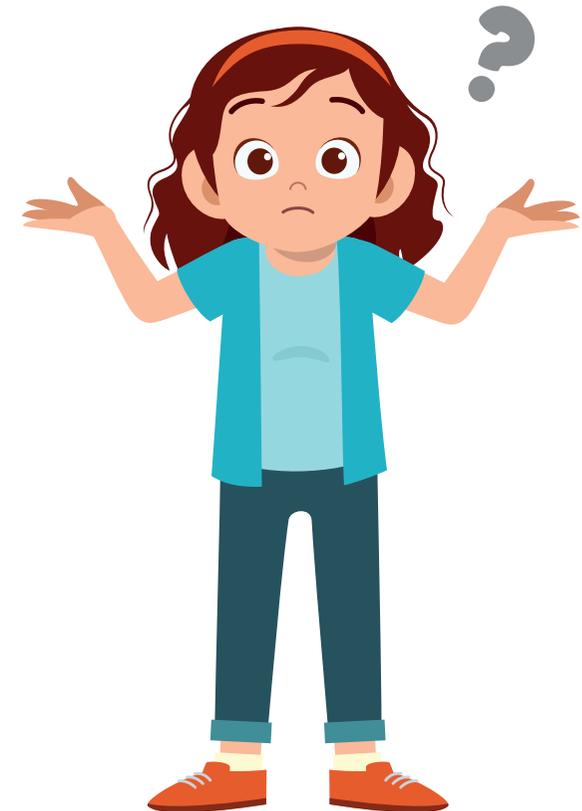
www.careersportal.ie



**WHAT IF I DO NOT
KNOW WHAT
I WANT TO DO IN THE
FUTURE?**

**IF YOU DO NOT KNOW
WHAT YOU WANT TO
DO IN THE FUTURE**

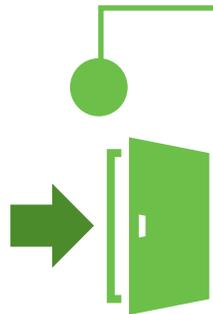
Speak to your Guidance Counsellor and discuss your options.



WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE FUTURE?



3 FACTORS TO CONSIDER



1.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



2.

SPECIFIC COURSE/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

(may involve interviews, portfolios etc.).



3.

POINTS

(points are not required for many options after post-primary school).

TAKE YOUR TIME

Helpful Tips

- Choosing the right subjects is an important decision that should not be taken lightly.
- You need to research your options and find out as much as you can about each option before choosing it.
- Don't be afraid to ask teachers, senior students, siblings, parents, friends etc. for help! They will give you a great insight into what the subject is really like!



BAD REASONS FOR CHOOSING



Helpful Tips

- Who you expect will be teaching the subject.
- What your friends are doing.
- Rumours from older brothers/sisters or friends about what is an “easy” subject - a subject is only easy if you are good at it.
- Be wary of biased advice.

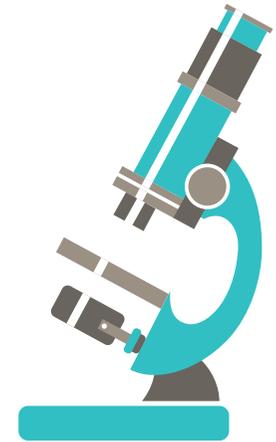
FOREIGN LANGUAGES



Helpful Tips

- Many students will study a continental language.
- Students often choose a third language because it is a requirement for matriculation for many of courses in the N.U.I colleges.

A NOTE ON SCIENCE SUBJECTS



Helpful Tips

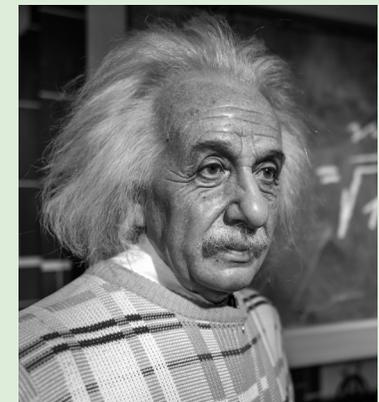
- Choosing a subject in the field of science is also a popular choice.
- Having a science subject is a requirement for some courses so it is good to be aware of these before dropping science from your list.
- Be aware that most courses in healthcare professions require a science subject e.g. nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy. Additionally some medical courses require two science subjects such as Dentistry and some courses in medicine.

**GIVE YOURSELF A FAIR
CHANCE TO SUCCEED....**

Remember

“ Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid. ”

A. Einstein



**WHERE CAN I GET MORE
INFORMATION ON ALL
OF THE SUBJECTS?**



CONSOLIDATION OF LEARNING

Can you...

- Make a more informed decision in relation to subject choice.
- Identify what needs to be considered when choosing options for senior cycle.
- Find where you can get more information on senior cycle subjects.