

Coláiste Abbáin



5th Year Subject Options

Leaving Certificate

- 7 exam subjects
- 3 compulsory subjects:
 - English
 - Irish
 - Maths
- 4 optional subjects from the following:

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Accounting

Higher & Ordinary Level

Topics

1. The conceptual framework of accounting
2. The regulatory framework of accounting
3. Accounting Records, i.e.
 - ❖ Double Entry Book-keeping
 - ❖ Bank Reconciliation Statement
 - ❖ Control Accounts Suspense Accounts
4. Sole Traders
5. Company Accounting
 - ❖ Share Capital, Reserves & Loan Capital
 - ❖ Financial Statement of Limited Companies
 - ❖ Appreciation of Annual Reports of Public Limited Companies
6. Special Accounts
 - ❖ Manufacturing Accounts
 - ❖ Stock
 - ❖ Club Accounts & Accounts of Service Firms
 - ❖ Departmental Accounts
 - ❖ Farm Accounts
7. Incomplete Records
8. Cash Flow Statements
9. Analysis & Interpretation of Financial Statements
10. Management Accounting – Costing & Budgeting
11. Information Technology & Computer Applications in Accounting

Additional Information

- ❖ The current Accounting Leaving Certificate syllabus overlaps in content with Stage I of the professional Accountancy examination.
- ❖ As a subject it provides students with specific business and knowledge, which should be very useful on leaving school.

Careers

Accountancy; Auctioneering; Auditing; Banking; Clerical work; Hospital administration; Hotel management; Receptionist; Insurance; Market research; Quantity surveyor; Taxation consultant; Management; Marketing; Computers; Advertising; Business law.

Agricultural Science

The study of soil science, crop production, genetics, animal science, animal production. Accepted as a science subject (some exceptions).

Assessment:

- Leaving Cert Exam 75%
- Coursework 25%

Higher & Ordinary Level

Agricultural science is the study of the science and technology underlying the principles and practices of agriculture. Plants and animal types associated with agriculture are studied, and investigations are undertaken into such aspects as soil, ecology, plant and animal physiology, farm crops, farming practices, genetics and microbiology.

Why Study Agricultural Science?

Agricultural Science is still a very popular subject among students in Ireland and reflects our agricultural background, this subject proves popular among students who are looking to study Veterinary, Science or Medicine in college.

Course Overview

This subject aims to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes concerning the factors that affect the long-term well-being of agricultural resources, and places emphasis on the managed use of these resources. It is steadily growing in popularity every year. It is recognised as a laboratory science subject for almost all 3rd level courses including nursing.

It can be a good study to subject with Biology and/or Geography due to the overlap in course content. Some experience of farming would be desirable.

Course Content

The course consists of the study of a variety of aspects of agriculture under the following headings:

- Soils
- The general structure and function of plants
- Farm crops – cereal and roots

- Farm crops – grassland
- Trees and shelter
- Structure and function of the animal body
- The cow, the sheep, horse, and pig
- Farm buildings (for school assessment only)
- Farm-house environment (for school assessment only)

Exam Structure

The examination in Agricultural Science consist of:

- Terminal examination paper
- Assessment of the work of the candidate during the course under the headings: identification of plant and animal types associated with agriculture; practical experience with crops, livestock, house and farmyard layouts; investigations carried out related to ecology, soil science, animal physiology, plant physiology, genetics and microbiology.

Career Possibilities

Careers in this area include:

- Green keeping
- Horticulture
- Food Science
- Agricultural Advisers
- Agricultural Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Forestry, Farming
- Marine Science
- Careers in Renewable Energy
- Teaching

Art

Involves Life Sketching, Design, Imaginative Composition or Still Life and History of Art.

Assessment:

- 10 week Project: 50%
- Still Life Drawing Exam 13%
- Written exam: 37%

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

- I. Imaginative Composition or Still Life
- II. Design for a specific craft such as fabric-printing, calligraphy, linoprinting, embroidery, weaving, pottery, modelling, carving and publicity design.
- III. Craft Work:
Design in the actual material for a craft such as linoprinting, bookcrafts, hand printed textiles, embroidery, pottery, weaving, puppetry, calligraphy, carving, modelling and art metalwork.
- IV. Life Sketching.
- V. History & Appreciation of Art.
Section 1: Art in Ireland (from Prehistoric times to the present)

Section 2: European Art (from 100A.D. to the present)

Section 3: Candidates will be given an opportunity to discuss topics based on everyday visual experience in their own environment.

Additional Information

- ❖ Art is desirable, and for some courses essential: Art & Design, Architecture and Industrial Design. [Studio work (practical drawing) is an essential part of courses in Architecture and Industrial Design].

- ❖ Students are encouraged to create a Portfolio if they want to pursue an art course at college: National College of Art and Design, Dun Laoghaire College of Art and Design.

Careers

Advertising; Antiques; Architecture; Crafts; Environmental designer; Fashion; Furniture; Gallery & Museum work; Graphic design; Industrial design; Photographer; Marketing; Occupational therapist; Primary teacher; Printing & publishing; Sculptor; Video production; Textile design; town planning.

Biology

Higher & Ordinary Level

Topics

Characteristics of living organisms, cell structure, diversity of living organisms, physiological progress, microbiology, genetics, co-ordination, reproduction and development, the soil and ecology.

Practical Work is an integral part of this course. Higher level candidates do a more in-depth study of some topics than ordinary level candidates.

Additional Information

- ❖ This is a science subject that forms a knowledge base for hundreds of careers ranging from oceanography and ecology to medicine and biotechnology. It can also be studied for enjoyment and the understanding of nature. It is specified for many nursing courses; for some third-level courses a Science subject is essential; two science subjects are necessary to study Medicine in TCD.

Careers

Agriculture; Ambulance driver; Audiologist; Biochemist; Biologist; Chiropodist; Dentist; Food science technician; Geneticist; Horticulturist; Medical/Laboratory technician; Medicine; Microbiologist; Nurse; Occupational Therapist; Optician; Pharmacist; Pharmacy Technician; Physiotherapist; Psychologist; Radiographer; Speech therapist; Veterinary surgeon; Zoologist.

Business

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

- Section A: People in Business.
(Unit 1) Introduction to people in business; people and their relationships in business; conflicting interests and how they are resolved.
- Section B: Enterprise
(Unit 2) Enterprise: Introduction and definition of enterprise, entrepreneurs, and enterprise skill.
- (Unit 3) Managing 1: Introduction and definition of management, managers and management skills, and management activities.
- (Unit 4) Managing 2: Household and business manager, human resource management, changing role of management, and monitoring the business.
- (Unit 5) Business in action: Identifying opportunities, marketing, getting started, and expansion.
- Section C: Environment
(Unit 6) Domestic environment, categories of industry, types of business organisation, community development. Business and the economy, government and business, and social responsibilities of business.
- (Unit 7) International environment, introduction to the international trading environment, European union, and international business.

Careers

Industry; Business; Accounting; Banking; Hospital Administrator; Hotel management; Insurance; Store Management; Stock-broking; Sales; Marketing; Merchandising; Customs & Excise; Taxation; Law.

Chemistry

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

An introduction to atomic structure and the particle nature of matter, the periodic table and the history behind it. The course also covers concepts such as thermochemistry, rates of reaction, redox reactions and an in-depth look at carbon and organic chemistry. All students cover these topics, while higher level students encounter a more in-depth study. A number of experimental techniques are covered including titrations. Distillation and chromatography.

Higher-level students do a more in-depth study of each topic than ordinary level candidates.

Additional Information

The world of chemistry involves everything we use, wear, consume, including medicines, plastics, and foodstuffs' preservation. Chemistry is all around us, from items we use every day to the invention and manufacture of drugs to combat disease. Studying chemistry could provide the first steps into a career in forensic medicine, brewing technology, food technology, chemical engineering and the research and development of eco-friendly products such as bio-fuels.

As a subject it offers a wide range of options in the scientific field ranging from brewing technology to patent work and from science technician to food processing.

Chemistry is essential for Human Nutrition and Dietetics (DIT), Dentistry (UCC) and Medical Laboratory Science Diploma~ Bio-Chemistry (DIT)

Careers

Agriculture; Architect; Brewing technologist; Chemist; Dental surgery; Dietician; Doctor; Chemical engineering; Food science Technologist; Fuel technologist; Health inspector; Industrial Chemist; Nurse; Optician; Pharmacist; Physiotherapist; Polymer scientist; Radiographer; Forensic Scientist; Photographic processing; Cosmetic science.

Classical Studies

The study of the civilisation of Ancient Greece & Rome

No knowledge of Greek or Latin necessary

**Assessment:
Leaving Cert Exam**

Leaving Certificate classical studies is concerned with the civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome in all their manifestations and with their continuing influence on the modern world. It includes history, literature, art and architecture, drama and philosophy.

Classical Studies may be studied at Ordinary or at Higher level. The fundamental unit of both levels is the topic.

There are ten topics prescribed for examination.

Leaving Certificate classical studies is assessed at Ordinary and Higher levels, through a written examination.

Continental Languages

French / German

Higher & Ordinary Level

- ❖ Knowledge of a continental language is highly desirable and many third level institutions offer opportunities to students to study in Europe during their course.
- ❖ They may spend their third year in a European college and proficiency in the language in which the course is taught is necessary, e.g. Commerce & French.
- ❖ Graduates with degrees in computing and languages are very marketable in the present economic climate.
- ❖ A continental language is required to gain entry into any NUI college. Furthermore, an increasing number of courses at Third Level include the study of a continental language.

Careers

Administrator; Archivist; All International Careers e.g. Marketing; Computers; Linguist; Civil Service; Travel & Tourism; Catering; Translator; Journalism; Librarian; Trade; European Union Posts.

Construction Studies

Assessment:

- Leaving Cert Exam – 50%
- Practical Exam – 25% – (student makes a small item out of timber under exam conditions.)
- Project – 25% – (student makes a building detail, a scale model of a building or a craft piece.)

Higher & Ordinary

This examination consists of three parts:

1. A written paper including a compulsory drawing question.
(300 Marks Higher and 200 Marks Ordinary)
2. A Practical Test (150 Marks)
3. An assessment of Workshop/Laboratory work or projects. (150 Marks)

Topics

Part 1.

Construction theory and drawings, historic development of buildings, substructure, superstructure, internal construction, service & external works, heat, illumination & sound in buildings.

Part 2.

Practical Skills; Tools & Processes (Construction of joints, etc)

Part 3.

Course Work & Projects

Pupils must submit the following:

(A) Workshop/laboratory course work reports on assignments carried out, e.g. characteristics of hard and soft woods, etc.

Or

(B) The result of one of the following projects undertaken during the course. A project may be:

(i) A building detail, incorporating a minimum of three craft practices.

Or

(ii) A building project relating to craft practice.

(iii) A written/drawn project relating to the craft heritage or the architectural heritage or the built environment.

Additional Information

- ❖ A pass in one of the following; Technical Drawing, Engineering or Construction Studies is necessary for entry to Woodwork & Building Technology courses.

Careers

Architecture; Auctioneering; Building Construction; Building management; Carpenter; Civil & Structural engineering; Electrician; Estimator; Heating & Ventilation Technician; Quantity Surveyor; Town planning.

DCG

Involves sketching, board and T-square, computer aided design, presentation technique, information and communication technology, graphics in design and communications.

Assessment:

- Terminal Exam– 60%
- Portfolio – 40%

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

The examination consists of two parts. Candidates must attempt Part I and either A or B in Part II

Part I: Plane and solid Geometry

Part II:

- A. Engineering Applications (Engineering drawing, layout of drawings, etc.)
- B. Building Applications (Building Drawing Practice, layout, etc.)

Additional Information

- ❖ This subject is desirable for engineering and technology courses, architecture and apprenticeships.

Careers

All engineering and engineering technician careers; Aircraft technician; Architecture; Army & Air corps apprenticeship; Cartographer; Industrial designer; Graphic Designer; Maintenance & Service personnel; Mechanic; Structural design; Printing; Town planner; Draughtsperson; Industrial engineer.

Engineering

Involves the study of a wide range of mechanical engineering processes, materials and technological applications.

Assessment:

- Terminal Exam – Higher 50% / Ordinary 40%
- Practical Exam – Higher 50% / Ordinary 60%

Higher & Ordinary

There are two sections in this syllabus:

1. Workshop Processes.

There are 150 Marks for a practical examination and 150 marks for workshop/laboratory work and projects:

Topics

Health & safety, benchwork, heat treatment of metals, plastics processing, fabrication and finishing of metals, machining & manufacture of small tools.

2. Materials & Technology

(There is a written paper which carries 300 marks at higher level and 200 marks at ordinary level.)

Topics

Health & safety, classification and origin of metals, structure of metals, iron and steel, heat treatment of metals, corrosion of metals, materials testing, plastics, joining of materials, machining, metrology, and manufacturing processes and technology.

Additional Information

- ❖ This subject gives students a good foundation in technology and is desirable though not essential for engineering, technological and apprenticeship courses. It is particularly helpful for Teaching of Engineering Technology - University of Limerick.

Careers

Mechanics; Aircraft technician; Army/Air corps Apprenticeship; Electronics; Fitter; Mechanical production; Structural and Civil Engineer; Metallurgy; Service and Maintenance Personnel; Technical Sales; Toolmaker; Industrial design.

Geography

The study of people and their environment.

Assessment:

- Leaving Cert Exam 80%
- Field Study 20%

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

Section A: Map Work: The study of Ordnance Survey maps.

Section B: Physical, Social & Economic Geography:

Physical: Common rocks of the earth's crust; weathering, erosion, climate and weather, ocean currents, and major soil types.

Social: The nature and distribution of major world cultural areas, the colonial heritage, world distribution and density of population, settlement patterns, and communication networks.

Economic: Primary, secondary and tertiary industries, trade.

Section C: Regional Geography

A study of Ireland, Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark.

Section D:

Field studies of the local region or of a particular section of local geography.

Additional Information

- ❖ Geography fulfills one of the two science subject requirements for Science and Pharmacy courses in TCD.

Careers

Civil engineering; Construction; Town planning; Architecture; Meteorology; surveying; Mineralogy; Horticulture; Auctioneering; Estate agency; Forestry; Market research; Statistics; Archaeology; Cartographer; Marine officer; Geologist; Pilot; Quantity surveyor; Travel & Tourism.

History

A study of the past, how & why events occurred.
Good ability in reading and essay writing is essential.

Assessment:

- Leaving Cert Exam 80%
- Research Topic 20%

Higher & Ordinary

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To develop knowledge and understanding of human activity in the past.
2. To promote understanding of the present through the development of a historical perspective on issues of contemporary importance.
3. To develop knowledge and understanding of Irish, European and world history.
4. To develop students' understanding of historical concepts.
5. To provide students with a perspective of change in a world of change.

Skills of history

1. To develop an awareness of different interpretations of particular historical issues.
2. To develop a range of research skills essential for the study of history.
3. To develop an appreciation of the nature and variety of historical evidence.

Preparation for life and citizenship

1. To develop the ability to think critically.
2. To develop positive values associated with the study of history.
3. To develop in students an appreciation of the society in which they live and of other societies, past and present.
4. To develop in students an informed and critical awareness of their historical inheritance.

Objectives Knowledge and understanding

Students should acquire knowledge and develop understanding of

- the specific listed elements of the topics studied
- how the actions and experiences of previous generations have helped influence the world of their successors
- how elements of the Irish history topics studied fit into a broader international context. Depending on the topic in question, that context may involve consideration of such aspects as - the British dimension - the European dimension - the global dimension - the Irish diaspora
- human activity in the past, from a variety of perspectives. In studying human activity in the past, attention should be given to the experiences of women. The main forms of activity to be studied may be categorised as follows: - administrative - cultural - economic - political - religious - scientific - social.

Preparation for life and citizenship

Through their study of history, students should acquire a unique combination of skill and understanding, which will contribute to their personal growth as individuals and help to prepare them for life and work in society.

1. Students should develop the ability to think critically by making judgements based on an evaluation of evidence.
2. Students should develop positive values associated with the study of history. They should learn to be thorough in the collecting of information and accurate in its recording
 - be aware of bias and strive to be objective
 - be able to look at a contentious or controversial issue from more than one point of view.
3. Students should learn to evaluate their historical inheritance through the study of history from a variety of perspectives.

Careers

Politics; Journalism; Local Government; Sociology; Archaeology; Barrister; Civil service; Teacher; Law clerk; Researcher; Solicitor; Garda; Tourism; Broadcaster; Librarianship; Genealogy; Travel & Tourism.

Home Economics ~ (Scientific & Social)

Teaches students life skills & attitudes needed to live in consumer orientated society.

Assessment

- Leaving Cert Exam 80%
- Course Work 20%

Higher & Ordinary

Scientific:

1. Food Constituents: Protein, lipids, carbohydrates, vitamins, water and enzymes.
2. Human Physiology: A study of the following body systems: Circulatory, respiratory, glandular and digestive.
3. Microbiology: Micro-organisms, yeasts, bacteria and hygiene.
4. Food Preservation:
5. Nutrition Meat, fish, eggs, fats and dairy products.

Social

1. The Family.
2. The Home: A study of the family in contemporary Ireland, the social context of the family and the principles and practices of home management.

Additional Information

- ❖ The study of Home Economics complements the study of Biology.
- ❖ It is particularly useful for further study in teacher training for Home Economics, nursing and CERT courses
- ❖

Careers

Catering; Baking; Beautician; Chef; Child care; Consumer adviser; Dietician; Environmental designer; Fashion designer; Hotel management; Institutional management; Nursing; Occupational therapist; Social worker; Textile designer; Nursery & Pre-School management; Teaching - Special Education.

Music

Involves Performance, Listening, Composing

Assessment:

- Practical Exam – solo or group (up to 50%)
- Leaving Cert Exam -combined written and aural

Higher & Ordinary

Topics

- This syllabus provides an opportunity for students who wish to continue their music education in the classroom context.
- The syllabus is offered at two levels: Higher and Ordinary. The Higher level includes the Ordinary level requirements but a greater depth of knowledge understanding and skill will be necessary for the higher level candidate.
- The structure of the Music syllabus at Leaving Certificate level follows the Junior Certificate outline with three essential activities in performing, composing and listening.
- Supporting skills and studies are included under one or more of these headings:
 - Rudiments /Theory of Music.
 - Music Reading.
 - Analysis of four prescribed scores.
 - Dictation.
 - Melody writing.
 - Irish music.
 - Historical eras.
 - Contextual and stylistic knowledge.
- Each student is required too study all three essential activities, each with a 25% weighting. The remaining 25% is allocated to an elective study in one of the three areas, depending where the student's talents lies

Additional Information

- ❖ Music is essential for entry into BA Music in Maynooth College. UCC, Cork school of Music and TCD have entrance tests for music. The WIT (Waterford Institute of Technology) and the DIT (College of Music) have an audition for their course in Music.

Careers

Entertainment; Orchestra; Librarianship; Speech therapy; Dance; Film & Theatre; Instrument maker; Teacher; Occupational Therapist; Television & radio production; Sound Engineering; Programme Director; Music Software Programmer; Music Management; Newspaper Critic; Recording Engineering.

Physical Education

- **Assessments**
 - Exam 50%
 - Performance assessment 30%
 - Physical Activity Project 20%
- **Outline of Leaving Certificate Physical Education**
 - In strand 1 the students learn about different theoretical perspectives that impact optimum performance and how to apply this understanding to a range of different activities
 - in strand 2 students learn about contemporary issues in physical education and how different people experience physical activity and sport

Key skills needed for successful participation in LCPE

The Learner must have the ability to:

- process information
- communicate effectively with peers and teacher
- being personally effective (having the ability to reflect and provide feedback)
- think creatively and critically
- work well with others