



# Subject Choice for Senior Cycle

Presentation by Guidance Department  
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# Leaving Certificate

## Leaving Cert + LCVP

- Two year programme
- 7 subjects in total
- 3 Core Subjects & 4 Optional Subjects



### Subject Levels

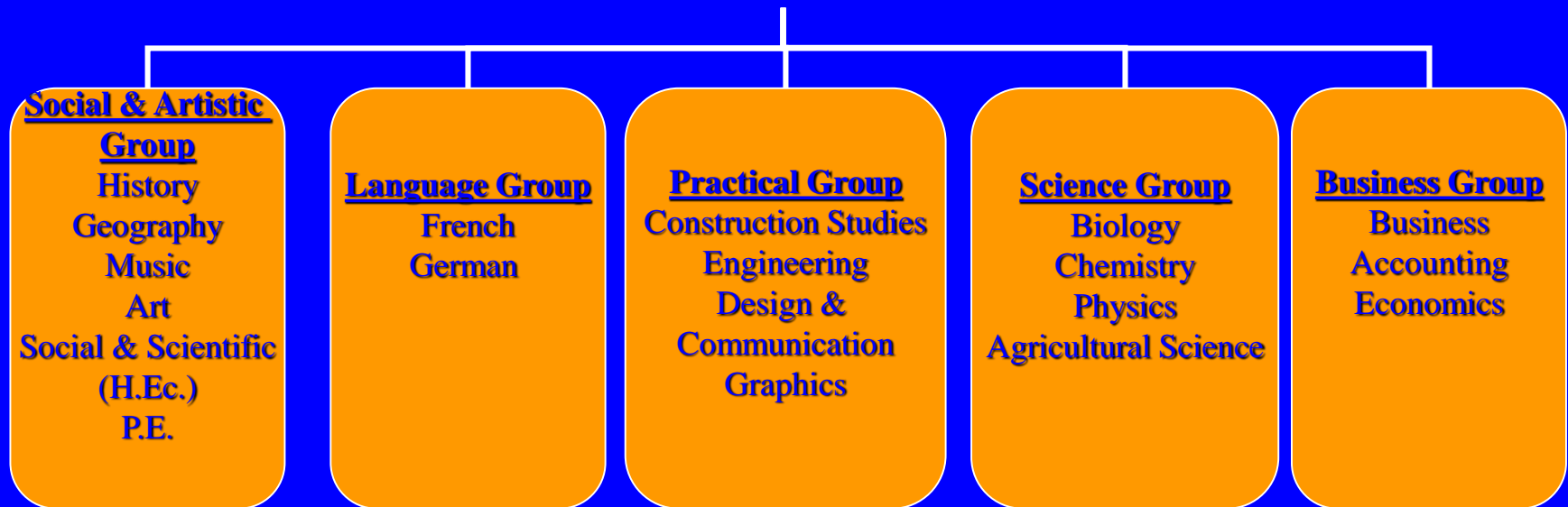
Maths Irish

- Higher, Ordinary or Foundation Level

All other subjects

- Higher or Ordinary Level

# Subjects Offered in CCS



- GOOD CHOICE =
- Have Correct Information
- Give it Time and Thought
- Considers + and - of each option
- Seek and Listen to Advice
- Consider Career Choices

## History

- 20% Research
- 80% Written

## Geography

- 20% Fieldwork
- 80% Written

## Home Economic

- 80% Written Exam
- 20% Practical Coursework



P.E.

- 50% Written Exam
- 30% Performance
- 20% Project

# Music

- 50% Practical
- 50% Written

# Art

- Art History
- **Coursework: (a) Imaginative Composition or Still Life and (b) Design or Craftwork (c) Life Sketching**



## Engineering

- HL -25% Project OL- 30%
- HL- 25% Practical OL-30%
- HL - 50% Written OL- 40%

## Construction Studies

- HL 25% Project OL- 30%
- HL 25% Practical OL- 30%
- HL 50% Written OL- 40%

## Design Communication graphics

- 40% Project
- 60% Written

# Business

## Business

- Ideally, students would have an interest in business and current affairs and would have an up to date knowledge of economic environment.
- An organised and consistent attitude to homework and study would be essential in this subject

## Economics

- Changes implemented in 20/21
- Students who take an interest in the economy, politics, current affairs
- 80% written
- 20% Project new – completed in 6<sup>th</sup> yr

## Accounting

- Mathematical side of Business

Students required to learn off material about molecules and organic & Thermo Chemistry

Certain amount of calculations

Experiments

Chemistry

Study of life

Lot of memory work

Useful for nursing

Biology

Science

Physics

Agricultural Science

Focuses on Scientific Practices crops, soil, farming & animals

75% Written exam  
25% Portfolio

Combination of  
Geography and Biology

Maths and Calculations

Experiments

Good for a career in  
Engineering

# LCVP

Additional subject (8<sup>th</sup> subject)

Max Result - 66points (=H4)

# Some Tips

- **Be aware of similarities & differences in content & approach in subjects**
- (writing,memorising,methodical,practical, creative,abstract concepts)
- Do you like learning things off?
- Do you prefer to work things out?
- Do you like doing research?
- Do you prefer practical things?
- What's your track record in a subject?

## Junior Cycle

Percentage	Grade Descriptor
$\geq 90$ to 100	Distinction
$\geq 75$ and $< 90$	Higher Merit
$\geq 55$ and $< 75$	Merit
$\geq 40$ and $< 55$	Achieved
$\geq 20$ and $< 40$	Partially Achieved
$\geq 0$ and $< 20$	Not Graded (NG)

# Grades in Leaving Cert

Grade MARKS

H1/01 90-100 %

H2/02 80-90 %

H3/03 70-80 %

H4/04 60-70 %

H5/05 50-60 %

H6/06 40-50 %

H7/07 30-40 %

H8/08 0-30 %

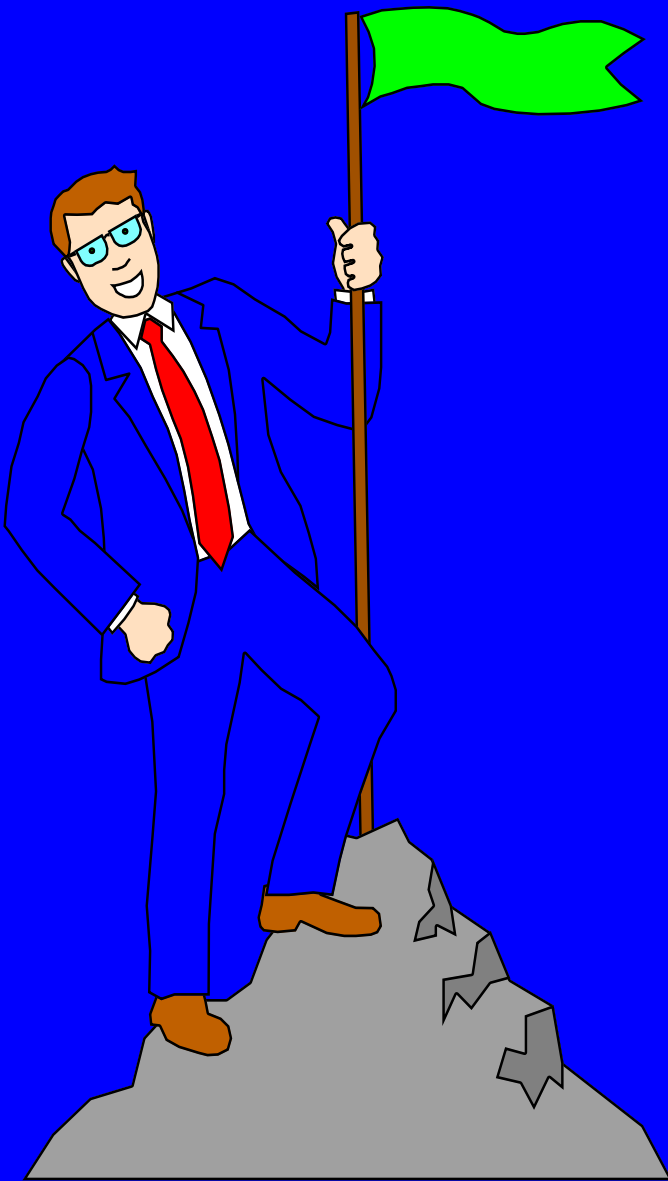
# POINTS ALLOCATION

<u>Grade</u>	<u>MARKS</u>	<u>Honours</u>	<u>Ordinary</u>
H1/O1	90-100	100	56
H2/O2	80-90	88	46
H3/O3	70-80	77	37
H4/O4	60-70	66	28
H5/O5	50-60	56	20
H6/O6	40-50	46	12
H7/O7	30-40	37	0
H8/O8	0-30	0	0



# Leaving Cert is calculated on your SIX best subjects

Higher Level Grades	Higher Level Points	% Bands	Ordinary Level Grades	Ordinary Level Points
H1	100	90-100%	O1	56
H2	88	80-89%	O2	46
H3	77	70-79%	O3	37
H4	66	60-69%	O4	28
H5	56	50-59%	O5	20
H6	46	40-49%	O6	12
H7	37	30-39%	O7	0
H8	0	0-29%	O8	0



## THE POINTS SYSTEM

- Leaving Cert Grades are H/O 1 – H8/O8 in 10% bands
- Students are awarded higher points for Honours Grades.
- The 6 best subjects are calculated to give the students “Points”.
- Then the students are ranked according to their points scores for each course that they apply for.
- From these, the available course places are filled from the top of this ranked

# Third Level Entry Requirements

- What are entry requirements?
- They are what's required by the Third Level Institution to get in.
- They refer to
  - The minimum number of higher or ordinary level subjects required for entry
  - Specific Subjects that are deemed essential/necessary or useful and which may also require a specific grade
  - Points – 6 best subjects in the Leaving Certificate

# Entry Requirements

Universities/ Level 8  
2H5 + 4O6/H7  
Maths, English, Irish,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Language  
Points

IOT's/TU's – General  
Level 7/6 courses  
5O6/H7  
Maths, English or Irish  
Points

Engineering  
Level 8  
H4 Maths  
Lab Science

Primary School  
Teaching  
3H5 + 3O6/H7  
H4 Irish

H4 Chemistry  
Medicine  
Veterinary  
Dentistry  
Pharmacy  
Dietetics

3<sup>rd</sup> Language NUI  
Arts  
Law  
Social Science  
Medicine  
Health Science  
Commerce  
Human Sciences  
The Cadets - Army

UL, TCD, DCU  
Language other than  
English is required

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Language

- Desirable to have a continental language
- Employment Opportunities
- Required by colleges under the National University of Ireland (UCC,UCD, NUIIG, NUIM), Royal College of Surgeons, Shannon College of Hotel/Catering
- University of Limerick, Trinity College, require a Language other than English. Irish will suffice.
- The Technological Universities and Dublin City University require English/Irish.

# No Language Requirement Science & Engineering

- Changes were made within the \*NUI Universities with regard to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Language requirement for Science and Engineering.
- UCD, NUIM, NUIG, UCC do not have the Language requirement for certain Science & Engineering Courses. Check each college website: [www.ucd.ie](http://www.ucd.ie), [www.nuim.ie](http://www.nuim.ie), [www.nuig.ie](http://www.nuig.ie), [www.ucc.ie](http://www.ucc.ie)
- A Language is still a requirement for the Medical & Para-medical areas.

\*UCC,UCD,NUIM,NUIG

# **Nursing Entry Requirements**

## **No 3<sup>rd</sup> Language required**

- 2 HC3 + 4 O or H D3 in the following subjects:
- Irish or English
- Mathematics
- A Laboratory Science subject (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Physics & Chemistry or Agricultural Science)
- Three other subjects



# Science

- A science subject is required for entry into all Science, Medical, Paramedical and Engineering University degree courses.
- Two science subjects are required for some courses.
- Chemistry is a specific entry requirement to some courses.
- A practical subject such as Engineering, Design & Communication Graphics or Construction Studies may be taken instead of a Science subject for some Engineering degree courses.



# Science Essential

SCIENCE

ENGINEERING\*

MEDICINE\*

DENTISTRY\*

VETERINARY\*

PHARMACY\*

PHYSIOTHERAPY

RADIOGRAPHY

NURSING

NAVAL CADETS

ARCHITECTURE

OCCUP. THERAPY

SPEECH THERAPY

SPORTS SCIENCE

MED LAB SCIENCE

DIETETICS

OPTOMETRY

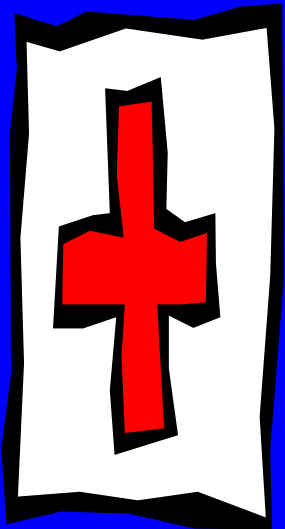
PRODUCTION MGT.

INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

INFO. TECH.

# CHEMISTRY

- PHARMACY
- VETERINARY
- MEDICINE
- DENTISTRY
- HUMAN NUTRITION



## Science

Consider two Science subjects if very interested in a science based Degree

Watch out as a Specific Science  
Subject may be named as  
essential or useful

A specific grade may also be indicated

# Finally choose subjects having

- Interest & enjoyment
- Considered career interests
- Checked subject requirements for 3<sup>rd</sup> level
- Backup choices



# Watch out for.....

- Doing what friends are doing
- I'm the only one who wants to do.....
- Stereotype views of subjects
- Following “teacher, room, reputation, easy, difficult,”
- Not fully informed re subject
- No thought to the future

# Consider the Following:

Liking a subject  
Enjoying a subject  
Achieving at a subject

## MOTIVATION

Willing to put in effort  
Achieve results/points  
Interest translates into career, job,  
work, study



## After final selection

Examine options very carefully to see that career options are kept open.

Check the **essential** requirements for third-level courses of interest.

Be clear on why pupil is not choosing a subject



# Help available

- 3<sup>rd</sup> yrs & TYs spoken to
- Information booklets given
- Subject teachers explaining subjects
- Information in Careers room
- Career Guidance support
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)

