

Open Learning

Part-time Programme 2024-25

A HEA PATH funded initiative



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Welcome to Open Learning

Welcome to the 2024/25 Open Learning Brochure. Open Learning brings together four of Dublin's Higher Education Institutions – the Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT), the Marino Institute of Education (MIE), the National College of Art and Design (NCAD), and University College Dublin (UCD) – to offer a flexible, inclusive, and accessible pathway to higher education.

Funded by the HEA's Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH) initiative, Open Learning is a programme that allows you to fit learning around your own life. You can select from over 400 modules across the higher education spectrum.

Open Learning might be for you if you:

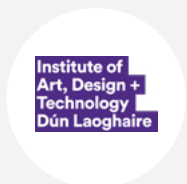
- Have some free time.
- Want an intergenerational university experience.
- Have other commitments that mean you can't study full-time.
- Want to explore what higher education is like before pursuing a full degree.
- Want to experience third level learning and life.
- Want to taste several subjects before committing to full-time study.
- Have previously withdrawn or deferred, but want to stay in a learning environment.
- Are looking for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities.
- Want to develop existing knowledge.
- Want to be part of a third level student community.

There is something for everyone in Open Learning, so take a look through our brochure and see what interests you. There are designated contacts at each institution to answer any question you may have. This is the very first step of an exciting journey, and we are looking forward to welcoming you to IADT, MIE, NCAD, or UCD this year.

Dr Jenny Doyle

PATH Open Learning Project Lead

UCD Access & Lifelong Learning



“

Open Learning is enabling me to realise a life-long dream, to study in my retirement an area of interest that I was never in a position to engage in while I was in full-time employment.

Open Learning at the Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT)



IADT is Ireland's only institute of art, design, and technology with a specific focus on the creative, cultural, and technological sectors. IADT has a unique range of modules available across design, visual arts, humanities, arts management, technology, film, and media. Learners will get the opportunity to experience the creative community environment on our modern and lively campus, and gain knowledge and skills alongside students of degree programmes, in preparation for entering creative industries or undertaking further studies.

Open Learning modules are available in either Semester 1 or Semester 2 of the 2024/2025 academic year, depending on the module. Some modules run for 12 weeks, with one class a week. Others are more intensive over 5 to 6 weeks, with more than one class a week. Classes will be time-tabled between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday. The modules are delivered via a combination of in-person and online, with all modules requiring in-person participation.

Applying

Have a look at our modules below, and once you know what modules you are interested in, complete an application form on the Open Learning page of our website. Our Admissions Team will then get in touch with details on how to register.

Modules

Module	Introduction to Visual & Material Culture
Department	Department of Design & Visual Arts
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	Combination of online and in-person. 12 weeks, once a week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*5 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Visual & Material Culture: Histories & Theories
Department	Department of Design & Visual Arts
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	Combination of online and in-person. 12 weeks, once a week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*5 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Music Industries
Department	Department of Humanities & Arts Management
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person 12 weeks, 3 hours a week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*5 places available CAO dependent)

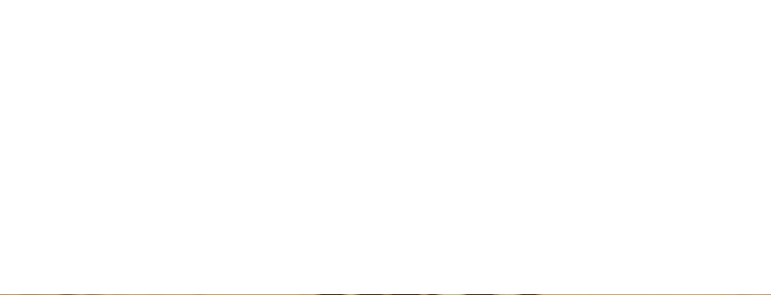


Module	Music Business: Rap & Hip-Hop
Department	Department of Humanities & Arts Management
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person 12 weeks, 3 hours a week
When is it offered?	Semester 2

(*5 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Digital Media & Prototyping
Department	Department of Technology & Psychology
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In person 8 hours a week for 6 weeks Typically time-tabled over 3 days a week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*5 places available CAO dependent)



Module	Web Design
Department	Department of Technology & Psychology
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person 8 hours a week for 6 weeks Typically time-tabled over 3 days a week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*5 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Film and Animation History
Department	Department of Film and Media
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person 3 hours per week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*2 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Film and Animation History II
Department	Department of Film and Media
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person 3 hours per week
When is it offered?	Semester 2

(*2 places available CAO dependent)

Module	Society, Culture and the Image
School/ department	Department of Film and Media
Fees	€375 for audit €500 for credit
Credits	5
Pathway	If learners complete the module for credit they will be exempted from taking the module if they commence the degree programme. Note: acceptance via Open Learning does not guarantee a place on the degree programme. Go to www.iadt.ie for the application process, or contact admissions@iadt.ie
Delivery method	In-person Thursdays, Sept 26 to Dec 12 4 hours per week
When is it offered?	Semester 1

(*2 places available CAO dependent)

Contact

Deirdre Walsh
Access Officer
access@iadt.ie





Open Learning at Marino Institute of Education (MIE)



Marino Institute of Education (MIE) is a dynamic, creative, and innovative higher education institute committed to promoting inclusion and excellence in education. The tranquil, picturesque campus situated off Griffith Avenue on Dublin's northside offers full-time and part-time education to over 1,300 students in the area of education spanning early childhood to adult education.

Open Learning students join our first year student lectures. All lectures take place on campus during the hours of 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Currently, neither MIE nor its accrediting university offers an award on completion of a set of credits. However, taking a module offers a taster for what it might be like to enrol full time on a college course to study aspects of education.

All Semester 1 programmes start in early September and Semester 2 programmes start in January.

Applying

- Our available Open Learning modules are listed here. To apply for a module in Open Learning please see our website.
- Closing date for applications for Semester 1 is **16 August 2024**.
- Closing date for applications for Semester 2 is **20 December 2024**.

Modules

Module	Awakening the Senses: Creativity and the Visual Arts
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	A Nurturing Pedagogy: Care Skills in the Early Years
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Special Education needs in Early Childhood Education
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Developing Movement Skills through Activity and Play
Department	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

Module	Early Childhood Education through the Medium of Irish*
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

Module	Nutrition and Healthy Eating
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

Module	International Policy and Best Practice in Early Childhood Education
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

Module	Literacies in Early Years: Language Acquisition
Programme	Early Childhood Education
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Education and the Arts 1 (Nurturing Creativity)
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Communication for Education (with a focus on adult education)
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1



Module	Adult Education
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Transitioning to Higher Education
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 1

Module	Special Educational Needs 1
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

Module	Technology for Teaching and Learning
Programme	Education Studies
Fees	€500 (for credit) €350 (audit only)
Pathway	No
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Semester 2

“

I enjoy the opportunity offered by Open Learning to explore topics across subjects with which I'd been unfamiliar or out of touch. The interactive, multi-media lecturing techniques and the conduct of workshops are a great support.

Sample Timetable

ECE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00 – 9:50				Awake Senses E Keane Art Room
10:00 – 10:50	Dispositions & Play R Redmond M230	Dispositions & Play M Dobutowitsch M102		Awake Senses E Keane Art Room
10:50–11:10	SOS	SOS	SOS	SOS
11:10–12:00		Nurturing Pedagogy D Mullen M4		
12:10–1:00	Literacies (ECE) J O’Sullivan LECTURE THEATRE	Gníomhaóchtaí	Literacies (ECE) J O’Sullivan M3	
1:00 – 2:00	LÓN	LÓN	LÓN	LÓN
2:00 – 2:50		Dispositions & Play M Dobutowitsch M101		
3:00 – 3:50	Nurturing Pedagogy D Mullen M200		Transitioning to Higher Ed Room TBC	
3:50–4:10	SOS	SOS	SOS	SOS
4:10 – 5:00	Dispositions & Play R Redmond SEB 1		Transitioning to Higher Ed Room TBC	
5:10 – 6:00				

ED Studies	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00 – 10:50				
10:50–11:10	SOS	SOS	SOS	SOS
11:10–12:00	Tech for Teaching and Learning 1 C Reilly Computer Room			
12:10–1:00	Tech for Teaching and Learning 1 C Reilly Computer Room			Eduactional Leadership 1 C Martin SEB2
1:00 – 2:00	LÓN	LÓN	LÓN	LÓN
2:00 – 2:50	Special Education Needs 1 S Kennedy Killian M200		Gaeilge R MacMánais M230	Eduactional Leadership 1 C Martin SEB 2 LÓN
3:00 – 3:50			Intro to Ed. Psychology M Dobutowitsch M7	Special Education Needs 1 S Kennedy Killian M120
3:50–4:10	SOS	SOS	SOS	SOS
4:10 – 5:00			Intro to Ed. Psychology Sem M Dobutowitsch M7	
5:10 – 6:00				

Contact

Helen Johnston
Admissions Officer
admissions@mie.ie



Open Learning at the National College of Art, Design and Technology NCAD

NCAD



Continuing Education in Art and Design CEAD at NCAD offers an extensive range of part-time flexible art, design and photography programmes. CEAD programmes take place in the autumn and summer, day-time and evening. With a student body of over 600, and a programme of approximately 50 courses throughout the year, CEAD caters for a range of levels from beginners to improvers to those seeking a progression route to professional status.

CEAD offers part-time accredited certificates and higher diploma options for mature students. Students who successfully complete a certificate can apply to the part-time Higher Diploma in Art. All part-time programmes are minor awards within the National Framework of Qualifications. Graduates from the Higher Diploma in Art are eligible to apply for advanced entry to the Degree in Fine Art.

University Certificate in Visual Arts Practice Visual Arts Practice is a flexible programme offering students a wide range of studio practice and theory modules. Examples of modules include **Print-Making and Mixed Media, Printed Textiles, Painting and Research Methods, Bronze Casting, Ceramics, Embroidery, Drawing and Sculpture.**

All modules run across both trimesters with classes one evening per week, from 6:30 to 9:00.

Applying

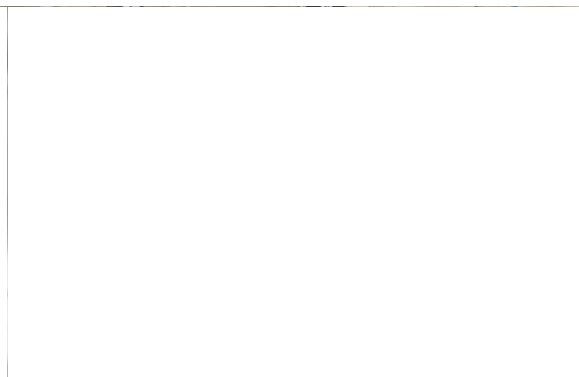
CEAD modules are available to mature students aged 21 plus on 1 January 2024. Complete an application form on our CEAD website www.ncad.ie/continuing-education/part-time-diploma-in-art-design/part-time-continuing-education/audit-credit-courses/

Modules

Module	CEAD1008 Materials, Techniques & Language of Painting
School	School of Education, CEAD
Fees	€600
Pathway	Yes, progression from Certificate to Higher Diploma in Art to Degree in Fine Art
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Trimester 1 & trimester 2

Module	CEAD1007 Exploring Creative Embroidery
School	School of Education, CEAD
Fees	€600
Pathway	Yes, progression from Certificate to Higher Diploma in Art to Degree in Fine Art
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Trimester 1 & trimester 2

Module	CEAD1005 Extending a Visual Language
School	School of Education, CEAD
Fees	€600
Pathway	Yes, progression from Certificate to Higher Diploma in Art to Degree in Fine Art
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Trimester 1 & trimester 2



Module	CEAD1006 – Sculpture & Drawing
School	School of Education, CEAD
Fees	€600
Pathway	Yes, progression from Certificate to Higher Diploma in Art to Degree in Fine Art
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Trimester 1 & trimester 2

Module	CEAD1009 Painting and Visual Research
School	School of Education, CEAD
Fees	€600
Pathway	Yes, progression from Certificate to Higher Diploma in Art to Degree in Fine Art
Delivery method	In-person on campus
When is it offered?	Trimester 1 & trimester 2

Contact

Emer Marron
Admissions Support Officer CEAD
cead@staff.ncad.ie



“

I am lucky enough to be an Open Learner simply to enrich my mind, this is an excellent way to challenge myself with a diverse range of modules available across many schools covering a wide range of subjects.

UCD





Open Learning at UCD

Open Learning allows you to pursue your interests at your own pace, for your own reasons – from passion for a particular subject to general curiosity to an entry route to undergraduate study, we welcome everyone who wants to learn with us.

Because there are no formal entry requirements for Open Learning, we are far more interested in your curiosity, your enthusiasm, and your motivation than we are in any previous exam results.

Our 15 Progression Pathways give options for students to progress to full-time undergraduate degrees, and pursue their interests further. To help you decide if this is right for you, please consult our Readiness Checker – this will give you an idea of the commitment you would be making if you decide to join a Pathway.

You may also want to use Open Learning to get a taste of university life, or simply take a class without assessment – this is all possible with Open Learning, as we value education for its own sake.

Please read this information carefully, and think about whether Open Learning at UCD is the right choice for you. The Open Learning team is here to support you, from application to exam, so if you need any help or information, reach out to us at any time.

We're looking forward to beginning your Open Learning journey with you soon.

Dr Jenny Doyle

Centre Operations Manager

UCD Access & Lifelong Learning

PATH Open Learning Project Lead

How UCD Open Learning Works

Open Learning works by filling available spaces in undergraduate classrooms. You will be able to attend lectures, labs and tutorials, complete assignments, access the library, join clubs and societies, get the support you need, and enjoy every other benefit of being a UCD student.

There are no formal entry requirements, and you apply directly to UCD Access & Lifelong, from **Tuesday 6th August** for single credit or audit modules and from **23rd August** for Progression Pathways students. Our available modules are on our website – make sure to look through them to see what interests you, and you can read core details on each one on their individual **module descriptor pages**.

When you have accepted your offer to study Open Learning at UCD, you will receive an email with details on how to register for your individual modules. You will also be granted a UCD email – this is the **only** way that UCD will contact you, so you need to make sure it is activated and that you check it regularly.

You will also have an online **Brightspace** page where you will see information about your module, from lecture notes to readings. It is vital to make sure that you are comfortable with **Brightspace** and your **SISWeb** student account, so drop in to meet one of our **Digital Ambassadors**, who will talk you through our online systems.

Classes will begin on **Monday 9 September**, and you will need to pay your fees to maintain your place in the programme.

Link in with Jenny for student supports. She offers drop-in sessions every week during the trimester and can also facilitate other consultation sessions. Students on a Progression Pathway must attend one-to-one meetings with Jenny throughout the year.

Meet the Team

Dr Jennifer Doyle

Open Learning Project Lead

Lucy Kelly Crimmins

Senior Executive Assistant

Dr Ciarán Leinster

PATH Open Learning Coordinator

Contact us

E. all@ucd.ie

T. 01 716 7123

W. www.ucd.ie/openlearning

Follow us @ucdforall





15 Progression Pathways

Completing an Open Learning Certificate (6 modules or 30 credits) will allow you to apply through the CAO to 15 full-time degree programmes at UCD. A Progression Pathway is roughly half the amount of work as a full-time year, and each programme has individual requirements, from mandatory modules to a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA).

If you are interested in a Progression Pathway, make sure to look at all the relevant information carefully – you will be responsible for making sure that you are taking the right modules and right amount of credits. You can start applying for a place on a Progression Pathway from Friday **23 August**, and throughout the year we will hold sessions on how to apply to the CAO with your Open Learning Certificate.

Progression Pathways Consultation

After you have applied for a place on a Progression Pathway you will be invited to a consultation with a member of the Open Learning team. This will be a short, informal meeting where you will discuss your motivations, your plans, and how you think Open Learning will be able to fit in and around your life.

It is our chance to meet you and make sure you have the right information to progress, and your chance to ask any questions you might have.

You will be required to complete our Open Learning Readiness Checker before the consultation. This is a handy tool that allows you to be sure that you know what you are committing yourself to with Open Learning – from time commitments to ability to study independently, we want to equip you with the tools to succeed.

Open Learning Readiness Checker

Welcome to the Open Learning Readiness Checker. This is a short checklist to help you find out some essential aspects of being college ready for starting your Open Learning journey. There's no grade. Once you're done, take some time to reflect on your responses. Based on your answers you will find further resources, tips and information available to help you prepare. Ready?

Directions

For each of the five foundation areas shown below, you will find a number of questions. Mark Yes/No accordingly, take some time to review your answers, then scroll down to the bottom to get further tips and information or simply register for one of our information sessions.

My Plan

Area of consideration	Yes	No
I know which academic areas I am interested in studying.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the module/programme objectives and the class format, including the different requirements of lectures, labs, tutorials, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have an idea of the workload that class preparation, assignments, and class itself will require of me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a clear set of goals (eg learn more about a specific subject, try out university life, prepare for a degree, etc) for what I hope to achieve through the Open Learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Progression Pathway

Area of consideration	Yes	No
I understand the admission requirements, grades and GPA (Grade Point Average) I need to achieve for the programme that I hope to study next year.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have explored which modules I can use from Open Learning as a progression into a degree.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have have picked modules at a level appropriate to my level of knowledge of the topic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

My Motivation

Area of consideration	Yes	No
I have a clear idea of how Open Learning could benefit me, personally and/or professionally.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am excited about the opportunity to join Open Learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand that I will have to be self-motivated and study independently in Open Learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the importance of attending lectures and engaging in University activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

My Academic skills

Area of consideration	Yes	No
I have sufficient command of the English language in writing, reading and speaking to succeed in my studies.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am prepared to do the reading required for the college course independently.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel comfortable using the internet and online applications, and if not will commit to improving my skills.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If it is necessary for my programme I have the fundamentals of mathematics and numerical thinking.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand that I will be studying independently.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am aware that there is a range of academic supports at UCD and am willing to seek assistance.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Managing my time

Area of consideration	Yes	No
I know that my time commitments will change when I begin Open Learning and am prepared to change some priorities, if necessary.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have explored a possible commuting option and the cost/ time involved to get to UCD.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I know what my week would look like with college work and other responsibilities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a sense of the time that I will need to commit to my studies to successfully complete a module.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

We hope you found these prompts useful in planning your next steps. Look at your results along with tips and resources to help you on your educational journey towards a Progression Pathway.

Foundation Area	Resources
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Learning Module List.
Future Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MyUCD – check out UCD’s degree programmes.• Hear from our student Access Leaders about how they chose their courses.
My motivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take some time to pause and reflect about why you want to pursue your degree. It might be handy to grab a notebook and pen and scribble down some ideas!
Academic Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consult Digital Ambassadors.• Check out our mini tutorials for key IT Skills.• Academic skills and wellbeing workshops.
Managing my Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check out our masterclass on avoiding procrastination.• Take a look at our workshop on time management.• Take the time to plan your route and your costs getting to and from UCD.

UCD Progression Pathways

Pathway to	Code	Module
Planning & Environmental Policy	DN130	BSc City Planning & Environmental Policy
Agriculture & Food Science	DN250	BAgrSc Agricultural Science
	DN261	BSc Food Science
	DN262	BSc Human Nutrition
Arts & Humanities	DN520	BA Joint Honors
	DN530	BA Humanities
Commerce	DN650	BComm Commerce
Science	DN200	BSc Science
	DN201	BSc Computer Science
Social Sciences & Law	DN600	BCL Law
	DN620 BHLAWO29	Criminology with Psychology
	DN700	BSc Social Sciences
	DN710	BSc Economics - New
	DN720	BSc Psychology
	DN750	BSocSc Social Policy & Sociology

DN130

BSc City Planning & Environmental Policy

If you are interested in both the built and natural environment, and how human actions affect the environment, a degree in City Planning & Environmental Policy offers you a unique opportunity to further your interests. The degree integrates subjects that will deepen and broaden your understanding of environmental, social and economic issues, and sets these in a practical policy context. A degree in City Planning & Environmental Policy provides you with strong analytical skills, as well as the ability to think critically about development and environmental issues. This degree provides the first steps to pursuing a career as a professional planner, urban designer or environmental policy expert.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. Eligible students must complete required modules (20 credits) and two other first year modules.

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 3

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN250

BAgrSc Agricultural Science

If you are interested in growing crops and raising animals to provide food, materials and products that people can use and enjoy, then UCD Bachelor of Agricultural Science programme has a range of exciting pathways to choose from. Our programmes aim to provide students with the knowledge and understanding of key scientific facts, principles, concepts and theories relevant to Agriculture and particularly animal and crop production, food production, forestry, horticulture and related environments and industries. Students are encouraged to think critically, be active, motivated, autonomous learners and to aspire to lifelong learning, leadership and individual career growth and development.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible applicants must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. 2 Modules out of 6 must be from Science programmes. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics or an equivalent Open Learning Mathematics module.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 2

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN261

BSc Food Science

Food Science develops your scientific knowledge of how to produce high-quality, safe and nutritious food for the global market. As a food scientist, you'll have a role to play in all aspects of the food chain, from production at farm level to the retailer and to the consumer.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible applicants must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. 2 Modules out of 6 must be from Science programmes. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics or an equivalent Open Learning Mathematics module.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 2

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.



“

Open Learning gave me the opportunity to experience a variety of modules which meant I could progress to my degree.

– Monica Johanna Caulfield

DN262

BSc Human Nutrition

Nutrition – the interaction between food and health – is becoming increasingly important in society. This degree covers many aspects of nutritional sciences, from biochemistry to molecular and public health nutrition, and also includes topics such as nutrition communication and food regulatory affairs. Upon graduating you'll be able to apply your knowledge to many different areas of the food and health industry.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible applicants must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. 2 Modules out of 6 must be from Science programmes. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics or an equivalent Open Learning Mathematics module.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 1

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN520

BA Joint Honors

This 3-year degree provides an excellent foundation for a range of further study and career options. Joint Honours students choose from a portfolio of 25 different subjects which can be studied in different combinations. Popular combinations include English and History, Film Studies and French, Music and Irish.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. There are no specific module requirements for this programme. Our module list is divided by College – School – Academic level to make it as easy as possible for you to find the right modules for your Certificate.

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 5

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.



UNITE
IN CELEBRATION OF
DIVERSITY

DN530

BA Humanities

This is an innovative, interdisciplinary and multi subject degree that offers 14 defined courses. It provides coherence and depth to student learning within a carefully structured framework of related subjects. The Humanities degree has the added benefit of offering you ways to diversify your skills.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. There are no specific module requirements for this programme but students are strongly encouraged to take Stage 1 (first year) modules. Our module list is divided by College – School – Academic level to make it as easy as possible for you to find the right modules for your Certificate.

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 5

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN650

BComm Commerce

UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business is the leading undergraduate business school in Ireland. Part of UCD College of Business, one of six academic Colleges that together form University College Dublin, it combines the excitement of university life with one of the most progressive education programmes in the world.

Programme Requirements:

Students must take five compulsory modules and can take a sixth module of their own choice.

- **BMGT10170** Inside Organisations
- **MATH10030** Maths for Business*
- **LAW10400** Business Law
- **ECON10720** Microeconomics for Business
- **MIS10050** Digital Technology in Business

*For students that do not meet the standard Maths requirement of H6/O2 they will be required to take the following foundation level maths module: MATH00300 Access Maths 1 during the Open Learning Certificate. They will take core MATH10030 when they progress to the BComm.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 5

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN200

BSc Science

If you have a fascination with natural phenomena and find yourself constantly asking “why?” and “how?”, then you’re well on your way to being a scientist. With an exciting and diverse range of subjects, Science at UCD unfolds a universe of career opportunities for students who have an enquiring mind, an ability to solve problems and a desire to explore new worlds. The first year of the Common Entry DN200 Science course is designed to enable you to sample a number of subjects in your chosen area. The UCD Science DN200 course offers 26 subjects categorised into seven streams.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible applicants must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must pass one Maths module and two Science modules, alongside their three other modules.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 10

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN201

BSc Computer Science

Do you ever wonder how Google, Skype, Internet banking or computer games work? Would you like to develop the next generation of cutting-edge computing technologies? If you're a logical thinker who likes problem solving and you enjoy subjects like mathematics, a degree in Computer Science could be for you. Students have the option to specialise in computer science or computer science with data science.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible applicants must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must pass one Maths module and two Science modules, alongside their three other modules.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 2

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

“

I love the Open Learning programme, it is a fantastic idea if you are thinking of applying to college full time but unsure of the commitment involved.



DN600

BCL Law

The UCD Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) degree enjoys a proud history and an established reputation at home and abroad. The BCL degree allows you to immerse yourself in the study of law, to engage with a range of interesting legal perspectives and to acquire a profound understanding of how law works in theory and in practice.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must complete 3 Criminology modules (15 credits) and 1 Psychology module (5 credits). Eligible students must complete 4 School of Law modules (20 credits)

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 3

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN620

BHLAW029 Criminology with Psychology

Criminology is the systematic study of crime and its control. Criminologists ask what causes crime and how we might best respond to it; and why certain behaviours are criminalised while others are not. This new undergraduate programme brings together expertise in the Sutherland School of Law and the School of Psychology to offer an inspiring interdisciplinary learning experience. Students will develop versatile analytical skills and the ability to compare and contrast different perspectives as they consider crime, punishment, law, psychology and social policy in new and exciting contexts. The programme equips graduates with the tools to be active citizens, professional problem solvers and seekers of social justice.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must complete 3 Criminology modules (15 credits) and 1 Psychology module (5 credits).

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 1

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN700

BSc Social Sciences

Social Sciences students explore society and how people behave as individuals and in groups. With the four-year Social Sciences degree, you choose DN700 at CAO and then select your preferred subject combination. Your subject choices are guaranteed. There are options to change subject choices at the end of first year if you wish. You will gain a deep understanding of each subject you choose to study and develop real world skills in research, communication and leadership.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate. There are no specific module requirements for this programme but students are strongly encouraged to take Stage 1 (first year) modules. Our module list is divided by College – School – Academic level to make it as easy as possible for you to find the right modules for your Certificate.

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 10

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN710

BSc Economics

The UCD School of Economics is Ireland's leading economics department. Our economists are experts with international reputations in a wide range of topics including behavioural economics, macroeconomics, economic history and the economics of health and labour markets. If you are interested in people's behaviour and current affairs, and if you enjoy problem solving and are naturally analytical with good numeracy skills, then economics is an ideal choice for you. The BSc in Economics is a 3-year concentrated programme that provides students with thorough foundations in microeconomics and macroeconomics and their applications across a wide range of areas.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must also have achieved a grade of at least B- in at least 2 Economics modules.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 2

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

“

I love my experience in Open Learning. It's given me the opportunity to decide whether this is what I want for my future.

DN720

BSc Psychology

If you have a questioning attitude and good reasoning skills, you will really enjoy the world opened up by Psychology. Psychology has links to the natural sciences, the social sciences and the arts, so it is likely to appeal to a wide variety of people. The course has core modules that will introduce you to major theories and research methods, and you will also have a chance to choose option modules in specialist areas of psychology (e.g. counselling, clinical psychology and forensic psychology).

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 3.08 in the Open Learning Certificate. Students must study 2 modules from the following 5 Core first year Psychology modules. They must achieve a minimum B- (3.02 GPA) in the 2 Psychology modules.

GPA Requirement: 3.08 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 2

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

DN750

BSocSc Social Policy & Sociology

The Bachelor of Social Science (Social Policy and Sociology) at University College Dublin is the premier honours degree of its kind in Ireland. It is the standard qualification for those working in policymaking and social services and recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. If you are interested in exploring how societies, communities and families work and wish to make a difference to the world, affect cultural change, contribute to public or corporate responsibility, then this course is for you. The degree provides an excellent grounding for a wide range of careers. It is also of interest to applicants who wish to become social workers.

Programme Requirements:

Eligible students must complete 6 modules and achieve a GPA of at least 2.6 in the Open Learning Certificate.

GPA Requirement: 2.6 or higher

Number of Places for 2025/26: 5

If there are more qualified applicants than places available, applicants will be ranked on their Open Learning Certificate GPA.

Open Learning for Mature Students

If you are a mature student (23+) and intend to apply to UCD via the **Mature Years Entry Pathway**, you can choose to take an Open Learning module to support your application. We'd highly recommend that you contact your programme of choice and confirm which module(s) they'd recommend.

Single Credit Options

Open Learning is not just about moving into full-time undergraduate study – we know that many students don't have the time, resources, or interest in that. So if you just want a taste of university life, or want to see if a degree might be the best option for you, you can sign up for just one module – if you like it, you can always do more next trimester!

UCD

A large, three-dimensional white sign spelling 'UCD' is mounted on a grassy hill. The letters are supported by thin green poles. In the background, there are dense green trees, including a large evergreen.

Leabharlann James Joyce Library

The exterior of the James Joyce Library building features a grey facade with the name 'Leabharlann James Joyce Library' in white, sans-serif lettering. The entrance consists of several glass doors with wooden frames. To the left, a pink sign lists amenities like coffee, tea, stationery, and lab coats. To the right, a sign identifies the building as the 'Leabharlann James Joyce UCD James Joyce Library'. The ground is paved with large, light-colored tiles.

SU →
COFFEE/TEA
STATIONERY
ENTRANCE
SANDWICHES
LAB COATS

Leabharlann James Joyce UCD
UCD James Joyce Library

Schools with Open Learning Options

30 different schools in UCD offer Open Learning, with over 400 modules to choose from. There's something for everyone

UCD Centre for English and Global Languages

College of Arts and Humanities

- School of Art History and Cultural Policy
- School of Classics
- School of English, Drama and Film
- School of History
- School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore
- School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics
- School of Music

College of Business

- Lochlann Quinn School of Business

College of Engineering and Architecture

- School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy

College of Health and Agricultural Sciences

- School of Agriculture and Food Science
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems
- School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science

College of Science

- School of Biology and Environmental Science
- School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science
- School of Chemistry
- School of Earth Sciences
- School of Mathematics and Statistics
- School of Physics

College of Social Sciences and Law

- School of Archaeology
- School of Economics
- School of Education
- School of Geography
- School of Information and Communication Studies
- School of Law
- School of Philosophy
- School of Politics and International Relations
- School of Psychology
- School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice
- School of Sociology

Open Learning – Key Dates

Dates	Description
Tuesday 6 August	Applications for single credit / audit Open Learning open.
Friday 23 August	Applications for Progression Pathways open.
Monday 26 August	Consultations for Progression Pathways commence.
2–5 September (TBC)	UCD Access & Lifelong Learning Student Welcome.
Monday 9 September	Start of classes.

“

I'm thoroughly enjoying the ability to dip back into an academic setting at a pace that suits me. Added free time has given me the ability to join societies.

Assessment or Interest

Open Learning is for anyone with a passion for learning, from those who want to progress to a full-time degree to people who wish to study at their own pace.

If you want the pleasure of studying without the stress of assessment, auditing a module may be the best option for you. You would still be expected to attend classes and do any required reading, but there are no exams or essays. Audit modules are also offered at a reduced rate, so they can be a great way to see if you are ready for more study.

You can first register to audit a module, and if you want, change to credit within the first 2 weeks. Please ensure you tick the right option on your application form, and if you want to check before you make this decision, you can contact the Open Learning team by emailing all@ucd.ie. Audit students have all of the same entitlements as credit students, from a UCD student card to library access.

Option	Description
Credit Option	You are committing to participating in the module and taking all assessments. You will receive a credit load upon completion of the module, and be able to access your Academic Transcript online.
Audit Option	This gives you access to all class materials, without having to complete assignments. You will still be expected to contribute to class, and will not receive any credits or qualifications.

Fees

You will pay your fees online, through our UCD student portal, **SISWeb**, after you have registered for your modules in early September.

Open Learning students agree to UCD's Terms & Conditions, and agree to pay their fees by the UCD fee deadlines.

Credit Load	Audit Fees	Credit Fees
5	€375	€500
7.5	€562.50	€750
10	€750	€1,000

Academic Supports

Every year we take a day to welcome students who come to UCD through Access & Lifelong Learning. This is our opportunity to meet you, and show you how we can support you throughout your time at UCD. It is also a chance to connect with fellow students, and begin the relationships that will last your time at UCD and beyond.

Students who are entering via the HEAR, DARE, QQI-FET, Mature, and Open Learning pathways are all welcome to our Belfield campus to get a first taste of UCD life, with campus tours, social events, and an introduction to the key services and supports that will be there for you when you need them- from academic support to Student Advisers.

The ALL Student Welcome will be held in early September, and we will contact students in advance.



Student Supports

UCD is a University for All, where we commit to helping all of our students get what they need to ensure they can make the most of their experience with us.

As an Open Learning student you will get a student card and have full access to our facilities, from the libraries to student societies. This is to ensure that you belong here, and show that you are invited to take part in campus life.

At UCD we have a range of supports, and most students will engage with them at some point. We have a Writing Centre and Maths Support Centre in the James Joyce Library Building.

In UCD Access & Lifelong Learning we also run workshops and seminars on academic and study skills throughout the year, and have videos and digital guides online. If you need any help with computer skills, there is also a team of students, our Digital Ambassadors, who offer free, face-to-face support for all queries, big or small.

Open Learning students with a disability or significant ongoing illness also have the opportunity to receive relevant academic and/or exam supports. To receive these supports, students are invited to complete a needs assessment with a Disability Support Specialist in UCD Access & Lifelong Learning. Students can make an appointment with the Disability Team once they are registered by emailing disability@ucd.ie

Open Learners will also have access to financial support, including the Part-Time Student Support Fund and Support Fund for Students who are Parenting.

Contact the team to get more information on these services.

Glossary

Word	Meaning
Audit	This means completing a module without doing assignments. You will not receive credits for completing it.
Credit	Each module carries credits (unless you Auditing it), which you can add to gain a qualification or progress into full-time study.
Grade Point Average (GPA)	The average score you receive across all of your modules. Your GPA will be a number going from 0-4, and will be used to define your final grade.
Module	A unit of learning, generally covering one broad area, with consistent aims, that typically lasts for 6-12 weeks.
Progression Pathway	At UCD, this means you are studying certain modules to then apply for a place on a full-time undergraduate programme.
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	This system can let you receive credits for work you have done previously, even if it is not on the specific programme. Each institution independently decides its own RPL policy.
Semester	Often used interchangeably with term or trimester, this is half of a full year of study. Most modules will last the duration of one semester.
Trimester	Often used interchangeably with term or semester, UCD has three trimesters, one during the summer. There are no Open Learning modules offered in the summer trimester.



UCD Access & Lifelong Learning
Level 1, James Joyce
Library Building,
University College Dublin,
Belfield, Dublin, D04 V1W8

Rochtain agus Foghlaim ar
feadh an tSaoil UCD
Áras an Leabharlann
An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha
Cliath Belfield,
Baile Átha Cliath 4

