



University College Dublin
College of Science



Why UCD?

- Top 2% World University
- Ireland's largest and most international university
- Emphasis on Research and Innovation
- Safe, modern campus in Dublin, capital city of Ireland
- Extensive accommodation options with 24 hour security
- 1 hr flight from London

MSc Actuarial Science PG Diploma Actuarial

Why is this course for me?

Since its foundation in the 19th century the Actuarial Profession has been recognised as the leader in financial risk management. By combining mathematical and financial skills with the highest standards of integrity, actuaries are uniquely placed to meet the challenges of an increasingly complex financial world. Qualification as an actuary is rigorous but new actuaries can look forward to a rewarding and challenging career with a highly respected global profession.

The MSc/Post Graduate (PG) Diploma in Actuarial Science at the internationally recognised UCD School of Mathematical Sciences can fast-track your career as an actuary. The programmes are designed to allow you to obtain exemptions from the Core Technical (CT) 1-8 examinations of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (UK) which can significantly reduce the time taken to qualify*. In addition UCD is renowned for its research in mathematics and actuarial science and you will have the opportunity to explore issues at the forefront of actuarial science today.

As a student of the UCD School of Mathematical Sciences you will be part of a vibrant academic community dedicated to the highest standards of teaching and research. Courses will be held on the UCD campus which provides state-of-the-art facilities for teaching and research.

** UCD is currently seeking agreement from the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (UK) that students of the MSc/PG Diploma in Actuarial Science are eligible for exemptions from their CT examinations. Students who apply for the MSc/PG Diploma will be informed of the decision of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (UK) as soon as possible.*

What will I study?

You will develop an understanding of the theory and principles underlying actuarial science. The programme provides a solid foundation in mathematics, statistics, economics and finance for future actuarial studies. The MSc covers a full year and is divided into three semesters. Semesters 1 and 2, from September to May, cover the syllabus of the CT subjects 1-8 of the examinations of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (UK). Depending on your background you will select between five and eight of the CT subjects to study. If you have



prior actuarial exemptions you may choose to study all or part of the syllabus for the examination Core Applications 1 (CA1)*. The programme is therefore suitable for students with no prior exemptions and for students who wish to add to existing exemptions they already have.

Upon successful completion of semesters 1 and 2 you may pursue an individual thesis on a current topic in Actuarial Science under the supervision of a member of the School of Mathematical Sciences for the award of MSc. The thesis is undertaken between June and August and allows you to develop an understanding of how the actuarial theory and principles covered in the CT subjects are applied in practice. In addition in semester 3, depending on your earlier subject choices, you will have the opportunity to study advanced courses in finance at the world class UCD Smurfit School of Business. Alternatively on completing semesters 1 and 2 you may opt to be awarded the PG Diploma in Actuarial Science instead.

** No exemptions are offered from the examinations of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in respect of CA1.*

Admission

We expect applicants to have a very good foundation in mathematics and/or statistics and to have the equivalent of an Irish first class or upper second class honours degree in a quantitative area such as mathematics, statistics, computer science, finance, economics or engineering.

Unless you have done your primary degree through English in an English speaking country you must be able to demonstrate sufficient proficiency to undertake the MSc or PG Diploma in English. The minimum requirement for English is an IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6 in each section or equivalent.

The MSc covers 12 months from September to the following August. The duration of the PG Diploma is nine months from September to the following May. The closing date for receipt of applications is 30th June preceding the September you are applying for entry. If you are an overseas student you are advised to submit your application form as soon as possible in order to allow sufficient time to obtain any necessary visas. Information on fees and how to apply can be obtained from: www.ucd.ie/international.

Career Opportunities

As a graduate of the MSc or PG Diploma in Actuarial Science you can look forward to a career ranging from the traditional areas of insurance and pension consultancy to the rapidly expanding areas of investment and enterprise risk management. Successful graduates can expect early responsibility in their chosen career and the opportunity to work in a variety of challenging roles. The Actuarial Profession is a global profession with actuaries in demand in Europe, America, Asia and Australia.