



University College Dublin
www.ucd.ie/acshs

SOCIAL SCIENCE

DN550

Social Work path

Environmental Policy path


Development Studies path

Human & Organisational path

Rights, Justice & Society path

Crime & Social Order path

Social Media path

A wide-angle photograph of a modern building with a large glass facade, illuminated from within. The building is situated behind a body of water, and its lights and structure are clearly reflected on the calm surface. The scene is set at night, with a dark sky and some distant lights visible.

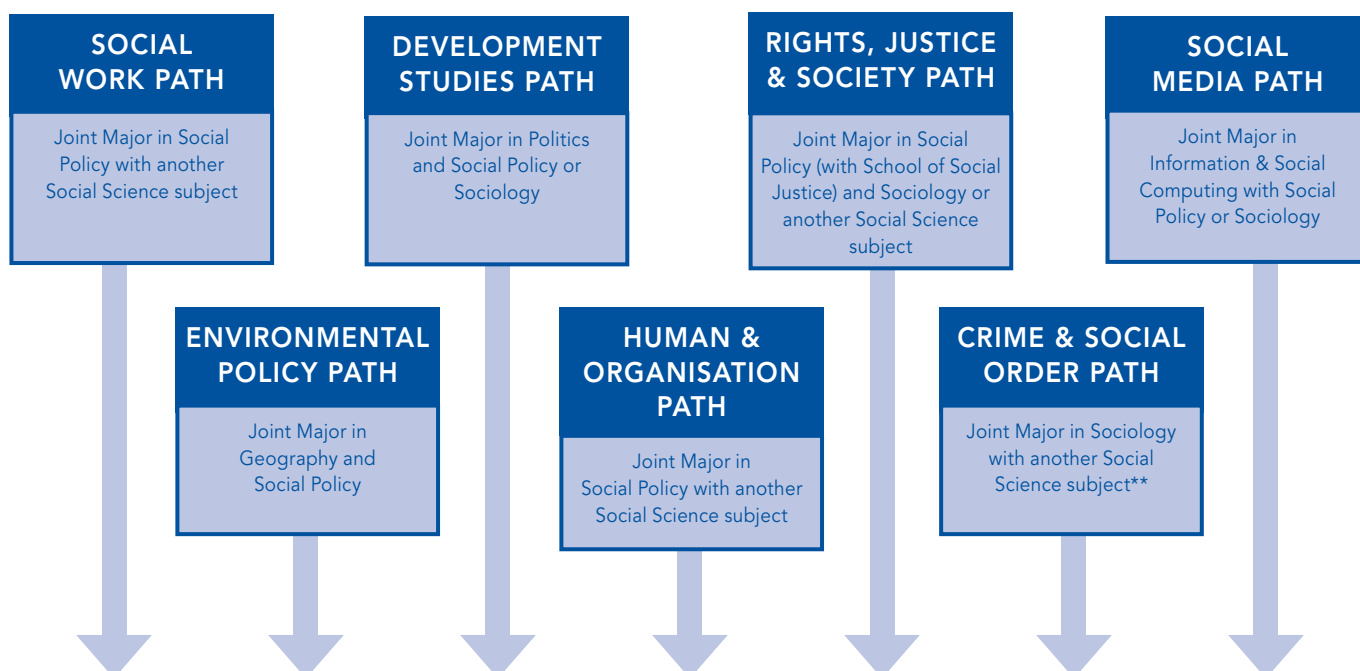
Sociology, Social Policy
Politics, Geography, Economics
Archaeology, Philosophy
Information and Social Computing
Social Justice, Psychology

Studying UCD Social Science

STAGE 1 Foundation Year Subjects

Politics	Economics	Geography	Sociology CORE SUBJECT	Social Policy CORE SUBJECT	Information & Social Computing	Psychology*	Archaeology	Philosophy
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STAGE 2 Choose your Path



CAREER & GRADUATE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Master of Social Work, Youth & Community Work Studies	Master of Planning, Housing Policy, Env. Policy, Dev. Studies	Master of Development Studies, Development Practice, Human Rights, Public Policy	Master of Business Studies, Marketing, HR, Industrial Relations	Master of Public Policy, Equality Studies, Women Gender & Society, Sociology	Master of Social Policy, Sociology, Equality Studies	Master of Information & Library Studies, Sociology, Social Policy
CAREERS Professional Social Work Counselling Community Work Probation	CAREERS Urban Planning Housing Policy Env. Policy Development Work Abroad	CAREERS Irish & International NGOs Agencies of the EU and UN Irish Aid Programme	CAREERS Human Resource Management Business Marketing Industrial Relations	CAREERS National & International Public Service NGOs Community Work	CAREERS Crime Prevention Youth Work Community Work	CAREERS Professional Librarianship Information Manager Researcher

*Psychology is not available as a Joint Major subject in Stage 2 Social Science

** Special Note on this Path: If you think you might be interested in a career in the Probation Service you should take a Joint Major in Social Policy as Probation Officers in Ireland are professionally qualified social workers



ABOUT SOCIAL SCIENCE DN550

Social & Policy
Geography
Sociology
Social Policy
Politics
Archaeology
Economics
Information
Philosophy
Psychology
Geography

The UCD Bachelor of Social Science degree offers you the opportunity to explore and understand the society in which you live. In this degree programme you will examine the complexities of social life and see how individuals and groups live and work together. You will also explore how best to respond to individual needs and to the particular requirements of marginalised members of society.

Social Science at UCD:

- > Small-group teaching exclusively for Social Science students
- > Supports students with individual academic advice to help them choose the Social Science study Path most suited to their needs and skills
- > Allows students to progress to careers that are in demand in growth areas both nationally and internationally
- > Offers excellent Paths towards a variety of graduate degree programmes. Social Science students progress to a wide variety of graduate studies in different UCD schools including the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business and other national and international universities
- > Under UCD Horizons students may choose a number of elective modules from disciplines across the university
- > UCD is Ireland's largest university, with unrivalled opportunities for study, sports and social activities, as well as superb support services and scholarship opportunities.

STUDYING SOCIAL SCIENCE

Your first year experience

From your first year, you will start to acquire abilities and skills on the BSocSc programme that prepare you for your future studies and for challenging careers in all areas of professional life. Apart from your core modules in Social Policy and Sociology, you will receive all the support and academic advice you need to help you choose the most appropriate combination of subject modules for your career or graduate study choices. Smaller tutorial groups within your programme will help you to get to know people and make new friends.

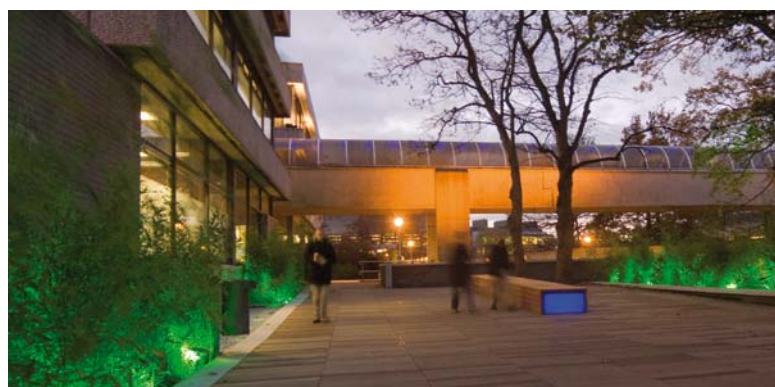
In Stage 1 students take 12 modules from a range of subjects in the Human Sciences. As well as taking four core modules in both Social Policy and Sociology, students can also take optional modules from Politics, Geography, Psychology, Economics, Information and Social Computing, Archaeology and Philosophy. Academic advice is available for students to help them choose the most appropriate mix of subjects for their career choices and to allow them progress to the Path of undergraduate and graduate study most suited to their career needs.

Your second year and choosing your Path

In Stage 2 students choose from one of seven study Paths. In each of the study Paths, students continue with chosen subjects that they have begun studying in Stage 1. Included in their study Paths are a range of optional modules from within and outside Social Science including law, business studies and specific, relevant psychology modules. Their choice of modules is tailored to the type of career Path which matches their particular interests. Students either directly enter the labour market or progress to graduate study leading to a range of interesting and rewarding careers.

International study opportunities

Students have the option of taking a four-year BSocSc (International) degree that incorporates an extra year's university study abroad as an integral part of the programme. BSocSc students may apply to enter the international programme and, if accepted, they have the opportunity to attend one of a range of European universities the following year.



To find out more about studying
Social Science at UCD please visit
[https://myucd.ucd.ie/courses/
social-science.ezc'](https://myucd.ucd.ie/courses/social-science.ezc)

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

> Social Work Path

Careers in professional social work, counselling, health service management and community work

> Environmental Path

Careers in urban planning, housing policy, environmental policy and international development work

> Development Path

Careers in Irish and international NGOs, agencies of the EU and UN, Irish aid programmes.

> Human and Organisational Path

Careers in human resource management, business, marketing

> Rights, Justice and Society Path

Careers in national and international public service, non-governmental agencies, community service.

> Crime and Social Order Path

Careers in justice, youth work, community work, addiction studies

> Social Media Path

Careers in professional librarianship, information management, research.



SOCIAL WORK PATH

Joint Major in Social Policy with another Social Science subject

This Path offers the opportunity to study Social Policy and another Social Science subject and to take a specialist series of modules that provide an introduction to social work theory and practice in areas such as child welfare and child protection, physical disability, intellectual disability, mental health, physical illness, probation, vulnerable older people and those who are dying or are bereaved.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of
Social Work

Master of
Community Work

CAREERS

Professional Social Work

Counselling

Community Work

About the Social Work Path

The Social Work Path prepares students for graduate professional training in social work and provides them with the opportunity to test out their interest in becoming a professionally qualified social worker. Social work is practiced in a variety of settings including child welfare and child protection, probation, hospital-based social work and social work in addiction, mental health, disability and vulnerable older people. Students on the Social Work Path are given an introduction to social work theory and practice and the opportunity to learn about how social work is practiced in the many different settings in which social workers are employed. Students also get the opportunity to participate in skills workshops where they will learn some introductory interviewing and counselling skills.

Careers Opportunities

There are a wide range of organisations, public service, local authority and non-government agencies employing social workers in Ireland. The fact that the professional training is generic, not confined to a particular client group, allows social workers to move from one area of practice to another over their career. The fact that the professional qualification is at Masters level means that it is accepted for practice in a wide range of countries including the USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Graduate Study Opportunities

This Path offers a gateway to the UCD Master of Social Science (Social Work) and to Master of Social Work programmes in other Irish universities offering post-graduate professional training in social work.



GAVIN MULHALL

BSocSc, MSOCSC (Social Work)
Community based Social Worker

As a 17 year old completing the Leaving Cert the only thing I was sure of was that I wanted to work with people in a meaningful way, so I chose to apply for the Social Science degree programme in UCD. During the degree, I studied Sociology and Social Policy (as well as a number of modules in Politics and Economics) which focused my interests towards the Social Work Path as a career path.

Following on from the degree programme, I was well prepared to work with Focus Ireland for a year supporting those who had been homeless to live a more dignified, independent life in new housing. This allowed me to gain valuable, direct experience which encouraged me to return to UCD to complete the Master of Social Science (Social Work).

It was easy for me to imagine going back to UCD for further studies as I found both the Degree and Masters courses hugely rewarding, relevant and interesting. I now work as a Community Social Worker, developing the capacities of communities to improve their own health outcomes.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PATH

Joint Major in Geography and Social Policy

This Path offers the opportunity to study the subjects of Geography and Social Policy and to take a specialist series of modules in Geography, Social Policy and Sociology which examine the link between the environment, economic and social policies, and how this interaction shapes the world in which we live.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of Planning

Master of
Environmental Policy

Master of Housing Policy

Master of Public Policy

CAREERS

Urban Planning

Environmental Policy

Housing Policy

Development work abroad



ELEANOR MAC PARTLIN
BSocSc, MRUP - Town Planner

The Social Science degree in UCD provided me with a good base to develop my interest in our living environment. I particularly enjoyed subjects like Sociology and Social Policy. My time in Social Science gave me an interest in the social aspects of creating places for living and working. These, in addition to the physical and economic considerations, form the basis of town planning.

Upon graduating I knew that I wanted to proceed to a Master of Regional and Urban Planning, and securing my degree in Social Science qualified me for entry to the Masters programme. As a Town Planner I have worked both in the public sector, with a local authority, and in the private sector as a planning consultant. As a planning consultant I regularly work as part of multi-disciplinary teams made up of developers, architects, engineers, urban designers, landscapers, housing associations and other disciplines.

I would recommend the Social Science degree for anyone with an interest in the planning and development of villages, towns and cities. The course offers a broad range of subjects, such as Sociology, Social Policy, Geography and Economics, which are directly relevant to this.

About the Environmental Policy Path

As society becomes more concerned about global and local environmental issues, the focus is turning towards social science to provide new analysis and solutions. The Environmental Path provides students with the knowledge and skills to explore and understand the relationship between the physical and human environments.

Careers Opportunities

Social Science students taking this Path can progress to careers in environmental policy and planning, rural development, urban planning, international and local development work in relation to the environment.

Graduate Study Opportunities

Students taking this Path can undertake a range of postgraduate degrees in UCD including the Master of Urban Planning, Environmental Policy, Housing Policy, Public Policy and Development Studies.

DEVELOPMENT PATH

Joint Major in Politics and Social Policy or Sociology

This Path offers the opportunity to study Politics and either Social Policy or Sociology and to take a specialist series of modules that will focus on issues such as the reduction of inequality and exclusion, the expansion of economic and social choices, the progressive realisation of human rights and the achievement of environmental sustainability.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of Development Studies

Master of Development Practice

Master of Human Rights

Master of Public Policy

CAREERS

Irish and International NGOs

Agencies of the EU and UN

Irish Aid Programme

About the Development Path

The Development Studies Path will allow you to focus on the processes of social, political and economic change taking place primarily – but not exclusively – in the countries of Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. The courses you take will focus on how people's quality of life might be improved in a world characterised by enormous opulence but also by widespread destitution and by threats to both the global economy and to the earth's climate. Modules will focus on issues including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); globalisation; national and regional economic development strategies; ethnic identity and conflict; human rights; the development dimensions of military and security policies; international justice; the politics of genocide; and development trajectories in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America today.

Careers Opportunities

At the end of this Path, students will be: familiar with the current state of debates on development and how best to promote it; knowledgeable about the diversity of the challenges and opportunities facing developing countries; and in a position to undertake further study in development or to work in the development sector. The Path helps students prepare for careers in official and non-governmental agencies, with international agencies such as those of the European Union and the United Nations, or in sectors such as journalism, education and local community development.



DANIELA BACHMANN
Masters Student

Understanding people and how they interact has always been of interest to me. I wasn't entirely sure about the kind of job I wanted to work in for the rest of my life, but studying Sociology, Politics and Social Justice at UCD opened up a whole new world.

I went on to study for a Masters degree in Human Rights at UCD, again with a focus on Development. I tutored undergraduate students in Development and Globalization during my Masters studies, and many of them were surprised at how Development affects their daily lives. I'm hoping to work with NGOs such as Amnesty International or Frontline Defenders in the future. My studies in UCD have prepared me well for what's to come, and I am looking forward to taking the next step.

Graduate Study Opportunities

This Path relates to a number of postgraduate degrees on offer in UCD, including the Master of Development Studies, Development Practice, Human Rights and Public Policy.

HUMAN AND ORGANISATIONAL PATH

Joint Major in Social Policy with another Social Science subject

This Path offers the opportunity to study Social Policy and another Social Science subject and to take a specialist series of modules in Business Administration, Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of Business Studies
Master of Human Resource Management
Master of Industrial Relations
Master of Marketing

CAREERS

Financial sector
Public services sector
Private businesses

About the Human and Organisational Path

The focus in this Path is to provide students with the academic understanding of the key issues involved in management and industrial relations in the context of the sociological and policy issues that can impact on the workplace. Along with the modules in Business Administration, Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management, students on this Path will also have the opportunity to examine areas such as Organisational Psychology and the economic, social and personal impact on individuals of where they work. This will include consideration of the stresses that can arise from the workplace and the nature of a person's job.

Careers Opportunities

Social Science students taking this Path can progress to careers in the business sector in the areas of industrial relations, human resource management and business organisation.

Graduate Study Opportunities

Students taking this Path can undertake study in the UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business or gain professional training in human resource management or industrial relations.



KATE GEOFFROY
Graduate, BSocSc

Studying Social Science at UCD was a good path for me to take as when I finished school I wasn't sure what field I wanted to get into. With the Social Science degree you don't have to make your mind up about a career immediately and there are plenty of different subject options that help you think about what kind of career that you might like. I studied Social Policy and Sociology and in 3rd year I was able to take a business option which included modules in Human Resources and Industrial Relations.

These modules were well taught and I was able to build on my knowledge of Business from Leaving Cert level. I also enjoyed other modules like Social Policy Theory and Comparative Social Policy that helped me understand more about how services and policies are designed in Ireland and how this compares to other European countries.

I have worked in banking since finishing my degree and am really enjoying it. I feel that the different subject choices in the Social Science degree were helpful in guiding me towards pursuing a career in business and hope to return to do a Masters degree in business in the Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business in the future.

RIGHTS, JUSTICE AND SOCIETY PATH

Joint Major in Social Policy (with Social Justice) and another Social Science subject

This Path offers the opportunity to study Social Policy (with Social Justice) in combination with another Social Science subject and take a series of specialist modules in areas such as social class inequalities, gender and feminist issues, global injustices and specific inequalities arising from disability, ethnicity, sexuality, age, care and/or other minority issues.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of Equality Studies

Master of
Women, Gender and Society

Master of Public Policy

Master of Sociology

CAREERS

National and International
Public Service

Non-governmental agencies

Community work



NIAMH BURNS

BSocSc, M Equality Studies

After a year of volunteer work in Chile and still unclear on what I wanted to do, the flexibility of the Social Science degree made it the perfect choice for me. I chose Politics and Social Policy as my majors while also doing modules from the School of Social Justice. I was interested in a variety of global issues and Politics allowed me to develop these interests through a wide range of modules.

The modules from the School of Social Justice allowed me to focus specifically on issues surrounding inequality and global justice which I found extremely interesting and led me to later complete the Master of Equality Studies. Social Science, in particular Politics, was a great foundation for this Masters and I found I already had a basic understanding of many of the issues discussed which made a big difference.

I am now pursuing a career in International Development, and am currently gaining experience in the Irish office of Plan International, a children's charity that works in 50 of the world's poorest countries. I would recommend the Bachelor of Social Science degree with the Rights, Justice and Society Path to anyone interested in learning more about global issues in a flexible and supportive environment.

About the Rights, Justice and Society Path

The world is facing many challenges, not least of which is its own sustainability, due to social inequalities and injustices. Injustice at local, national and global levels can incite people to violence and war at the political level and can lead to disillusionment and despair at the personal level. You can contribute to ensure a more just world, where women are equal to men, where the colour of your skin does not define your moral worth, and where economic equality is a real political objective. The School of Social Justice and the School of Applied Social Science will give you access to a dynamic staff who not only write and teach about issues of social justice, but are also actively campaigning to create a more socially just world. Their research and teaching spans many fields, including social class inequalities, gender and feminist issues, global injustices and specific inequalities arising from disability, ethnicity, sexuality, age, care-giving and/or other minority statuses.

Careers Opportunities

The Rights, Justice and Society Path will give you the knowledge and skills in the area of social justice. It is the one for you if you want to make a difference in the world, and to learn how to work for social justice. Career opportunities in this field are in national and international public service, non-governmental agencies and community work.

Graduate Study Opportunities

This Path relates to a number of postgraduate degrees in UCD including the Master of Equality Studies, of Women, Gender and Society, of Public Policy and of Sociology.

CRIME AND SOCIAL ORDER PATH

Joint Major in Sociology and another Social Science subject

This Path offers the opportunity to study Sociology and another Social Science subject and to take a series of specialist modules on the levels and types of crime in society, how crime rates changes over time, the effects of crime in society, how society defines and responds to crime and the effectiveness of these responses.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of Sociology
Master of Public Policy
Master of Criminology
Master of Social Policy

CAREERS

Justice System
Local Authorities
Youth Work
Addiction

About the Crime and Social Order Path

The Crime and Social Order Path explores the nature of crime in modern society as well as wider debates about justice and social control. It takes a national and international perspective, considering how different societies define and respond to criminal activities and the effectiveness of different models of crime treatment and prevention. It offers different perspectives on crime from the viewpoint of the perpetrators, their victims and the professional groups involved in this area such as the judiciary, the Gardai and the Probation Service. Crime is examined in the physical, economic and social context in which it occurs. The range of modules on offer from Sociology, Social Policy, Politics, Philosophy, Law, Psychology and Social Justice highlights the contribution of a variety of disciplines to understand the range and complexity, its definition, treatment and prevention.

Careers Opportunities

The Crime and Social Order Path helps students prepare for careers in the justice system, including the civil service, local authorities, youth and community work as well as the area of addiction and related fields.

Graduate Study Opportunities

This Path relates to a number of postgraduate degrees in UCD including the Master of Criminology, Sociology, Social Policy and Public Policy.



ETAIN QUIGLEY

BSocSc, MSocSc, Diploma in Legal Studies, PhD Student.

I decided to study Social Science in UCD due to my interest in social organisation. The course offered me a broad range of modules to choose from which in turn encouraged me to explore and develop my interests further. I studied Social Policy and Sociology as an undergraduate student and specialised in Sociology as a Masters student.

The Masters Degree course offered high quality tuition and allowed me to further develop my skills in both theory and applied research. It provided me with an excellent foundation to confidently take my studies to the next level.

The Masters Degree further developed my interest in social organisation. I became especially interested in the area of law and social control and this prompted me to take my studies into the legal realm. I graduated from The Honourable Society of Kings Inns, Diploma in Legal Studies and am at present conducting PhD research at the Institute of Criminology in the School of Law, UCD.

The Social Science Degree offers multiple pathways and allows the student to develop and grow while studying. I would highly recommend this course.

SOCIAL MEDIA PATH

Joint Major in Information and Social Computing with Social Policy or Sociology

This Path offers the opportunity to study Information and Social Computing with Social Policy or Sociology and with specialist modules in areas such as technology, culture and communication, web publishing and creating and publishing digital media content.

FURTHER STUDY

Master of
Library and Information Studies

Master of Social Policy

Master of Sociology

CAREERS

Professional librarianship

Information management

Researcher

About the Social Media Path

The Social Media Path offers students the opportunity to explore the interaction between people and recorded knowledge in terms of its generation, organisation, storage as well as the use of knowledge and information by different individuals and groups.

Careers Opportunities

This Path equips students for careers in the knowledge economy. It is particularly useful for careers in information management, journalism, broadcast media and the public service. Students interested in working as a professional with information products, resources or services in the information/library sector can choose a major in this study Path which offers a professional qualification in Librarianship recognised by the Library Association of Ireland.

Graduate Study Opportunities

Postgraduate courses associated with this Path are the Master of Library and Information Studies, Social Policy, Sociology or Public Policy.



MICHELLE BRIEN

BSocSc (International) MSc
Educational Publishing

I have always been interested in the ways people interact with each other. Information Studies gives you a chance to really explore the influence of information in all aspects of everyday life - in society, in business, and in government - and is a perfect complement to Sociology or Social Policy.

I chose to take the librarianship Path, which provided me with an extra qualification. It also opened a new range of interesting subjects to me, such as knowledge management and information design, which has become so relevant for my current role. I later completed the M.Sc. in Marketing Practice in the Michael Smurfit School of Business, where my background in Sociology and Information Studies gave me a unique perspective into marketing and an advantage in completing market research and communicating the information to clients.

I now work in the international division of the second largest educational publishing company in the world. My role entails creating and sharing marketing information about our educational software solutions and helping our international partners to adapt and localize this information to make it relevant for their culture and education system.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON APPLYING FOR THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE DEGREE

School Leavers

Your first step to Social Science at UCD is to fill out your CAO form with DN550 as your first choice.

For school leavers there are two supplementary admission routes:
The Disability Access Route (DARE) which is an admissions scheme to promote equity of access to higher education for school leavers with a disability.

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is a third level admissions scheme for school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. For more information, please see: <http://www.ucd.ie/openingworlds/ucdaccesscentre/prospectivestudents/>

Mature Applicants

If you wish to apply to DN550 on mature grounds, information on mature student applications is available at www.ucd.ie/prospective.html

Mature students are normally required to take a Mature Student Admission Pathway (MSAP) Test. Information on this test is available at <https://myucd.ucd.ie/admission/mature.ezc>

FETAC

Information for FETAC applicants is available at <https://myucd.ucd.ie/admission/fetac.ezc> and from UCD Admissions <http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/>



For more information, please contact:

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