



# Lifelong Learning

Fitting learning  
around your life



University College Dublin  
University for All

---

# Contact us:

E. [all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie)

T. 01 716 7123

W. [www.ucd.ie/all](http://www.ucd.ie/all)

Follow us @ucdforall



---

# Contents

---

Welcome to UCD Lifelong Learning	1
Meet the Team	2
How to book a course	3
Fee Concession	8
Taster Week August 2025	9
Autumn 2025 Courses	11
Spring 2026 Courses	35
Frequently Asked Questions	57

---

---

# Welcome

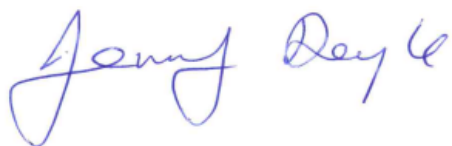
## Welcome to our Lifelong Learning Programme 2025-2026

Welcome to our 2025–2026 Lifelong Learning Programme. UCD is proudly designated as an Age Friendly University and, we are committed to making education accessible and supporting learners of all ages and backgrounds. Lifelong Learning lies at the heart of UCD's mission to broaden access and nurture a diverse, inclusive, and thriving community, inspired by UCD's first Rector, John Henry Newman's vision of education as a lifelong journey of personal and intellectual growth.

Our programme, developed in partnership with UCD Schools and cultural partners, offers a diverse range of engaging courses across subjects such as Art Appreciation, Literature, History, Music, and Philosophy. Our dedicated tutors are deeply committed to delivering engaging and supportive learning environments that foster curiosity and growth, while our staff work tirelessly to ensure a seamless and positive student experience throughout your learning journey.

This year, most courses will be delivered face-to-face, with some available online for added flexibility. We're excited to introduce new courses at locations like Airfield Estate and the National Print Museum, as well as fresh subjects including Physics and Politics. We'd also be delighted to welcome you to our free taster events in August and January, along with monthly free tasters offered throughout the year. These engaging events provide a great chance to connect with fellow learners and experience a preview of the wide range of courses available.

We believe lifelong learning enriches lives, builds connections, and brings enjoyment at every stage.



**Dr Jennifer Doyle**

Head of ALL Operations & Flexible Learning



---

# Meet the Team



**Dr Jennifer Doyle**  
Head of ALL Operations & Flexible Learning



**Lucy Kelly-Crimmins**  
Senior Executive Assistant



**Dr Ciarán Leinster**  
Senior Executive Assistant



**Adelaide Scenti**  
Senior Executive Assistant



**Irina Pilos**  
Access Operations Project Officer

The Operations Team will support students with their queries by phone, email or in person.

---

# How to book your course?

## Returning Students

We appreciate all our students who return to our Lifelong Learning programme every year, you can follow the steps below or ring us on 01 716 7123.

---



Booking for autumn and spring 2025-26 will open on the **16th July**.

You can book your course online through our website:  
[www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/applying/lifelonglearning/](http://www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/applying/lifelonglearning/)

---

If you cannot remember your password, you can get your password reset by clicking the 'Forgot My Password' link below your log-in. Unfortunately, we don't have access to reset your password.

---

You can book by phone on 01 716 7123. Please note that bookings are very busy during the first few days and we'll do our best to respond to voicemails, however, your place is not guaranteed until your booking is confirmed.

---

Some classes fill quickly and to avoid disappointment we recommend that students book as early as possible. Classes without minimum numbers will be cancelled, this usually happens a week before the class is due to commence.

---

# Booking - step by step

Save the Date -  
Booking opens on **16<sup>th</sup> July**.



Anyone can  
book a course.

Join us for  
the launch  
of our 2025-26  
programme on  
**15th July**

You can book your course online  
through our website:  
**[www.ucd.ie/lifelonglearning](http://www.ucd.ie/lifelonglearning)**



Classes will either be  
online or face to face  
and clearly marked on  
the brochure.

If you attend an online course,  
the link you receive at the  
start will be valid for the  
duration of course.



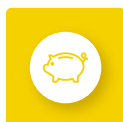
Our opening hours are  
Monday-Thursday 9:00-1:00pm  
and 2:00-5:00pm and Friday  
9:00-1:00pm during term.

The email reconfirming the details of your  
class will be sent before the first session or a  
Zoom link inviting you to your  
scheduled session. The UCD Access  
& Lifelong Learning Team will send  
you an email reconfirming the  
location, day and time of your class.



If you book your class within 24  
hours of the course commencing  
please contact **[all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie)**  
to receive the Zoom link or  
classroom location.

Concessions  
are available  
to staff, alumni and  
those in receipt of a  
non-contributory pension.  
Please ask us about  
concessions at the  
time of booking.



---

## Your Tutor

UCD Access and Lifelong Learning is privileged to work with highly expert and committed tutors and lecturers, selected not only for their subject expertise but also for their genuine passion for lifelong learning. You can find more information about your course and tutors on our website before booking.

## Are there any concessions available on course fees?

Unemployed Lifelong Learning students and those in receipt of a non-contributory pension may be eligible for a 33% concession on fees. Similarly, those whose annual income is less than €15,000. UCD staff, alumni and UCD Club Members are eligible for a 10% fee concession.

To avail of your concession, please call 01 7167123 to book over the phone. We cannot apply fee concessions retrospectively or via online booking as it must be applied at the time of booking.

## Contact Us

**Email:** [all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie)

**Phone:** 01 716 7123

**Visit:** [www.ucd.ie/lifelonglearning](http://www.ucd.ie/lifelonglearning)

**Follow us:** @ucdforall



Sign up to our mailing list to receive regular email updates by scanning the QR code.











---

# Lifelong Learning Fee Concession 2025-2026

---

UCD Access & Lifelong Learning is dedicated to creating an inclusive, welcoming environment for all our programmes. Our Lifelong Learning fee concession offers full fee waivers for any of our short, interest-based courses. You can choose any available course, and we will cover the cost. Eligible students can apply for one course per academic year.

Please note, this concession is means-tested and requires supporting documentation with your application.



## Applications for Autumn 2025-26:

Open - 11th August 2025

Close - 26th September 2025 at 5pm

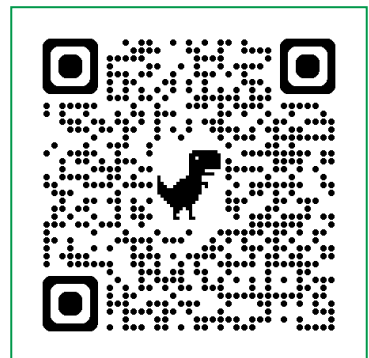


## Applications for Spring 2025-26:

Open - 7th January 2026

Close - 23 January 2026 at 5pm

To learn more please visit our website  
by scanning the QR Code.



---

# Taster Week August 2025

## Ireland in the 1960s: An Overview

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Morgan Wait	<b>Time:</b> 10:30-11:20	<b>Day:</b> Tuesday
<b>Date:</b> 19th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

## Rebels in Literature

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Cathy Bergin	<b>Time:</b> 12:00-12:50	<b>Day:</b> Tuesday
<b>Date:</b> 19th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

## UCD: A History

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Jeremiah Garsha	<b>Time:</b> 14:00-14:50	<b>Day:</b> Tuesday
<b>Date:</b> 19th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

## AweSums: The Majesty and Magnificence of Mathematics

<b>Tutor:</b> Prof Peter Lynch	<b>Time:</b> 10:30-11:20	<b>Day:</b> Wednesday
<b>Date:</b> 20th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

## Who do you think you are? An introduction to Irish family history

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Thomas Tormey	<b>Time:</b> 12:00-12:50	<b>Day:</b> Wednesday
<b>Date:</b> 20th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

---

## America: A Global Leader in the 21st Century?

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Sarah Feehan	<b>Time:</b> 14:00-14:50	<b>Day:</b> Wednesday
<b>Date:</b> 20th August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

---

## 1948: The First Arab-Israeli War

<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Time:</b> 10:30-11:20	<b>Day:</b> Thursday
<b>Date:</b> 21st August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

---

## Frame by Frame: Exploring Cinema Through Practice

<b>Tutor:</b> Benjamin Cook	<b>Time:</b> 12:00-12:50	<b>Day:</b> Thursday
<b>Date:</b> 21st August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	

---

## Six easy pieces: Physics made understandable

<b>Tutor:</b> Chiara Maria Mariani	<b>Time:</b> 14:00-14:50	<b>Day:</b> Thursday
<b>Date:</b> 21st August 2025	<b>Location:</b> UCD ALL Learning Space	



We'll have more free tasters throughout the year. Join our mailing list for more information on upcoming events.

# Autumn 2025

---

## Applied Languages

---

### AE-LNG103 French Language (Post-Beginners)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Mariana Saad	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 17:00-19:00	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov		

This class is for those who have completed a beginners' course in French or have had some exposure to French, at school or in a French-speaking region. It will be beneficial to those who would like to further their skills and vocabulary. Topics covered include foods, hobbies and daily routines. An overview of French culture and lifestyle will be provided. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be used and interaction in French will be encouraged. The aim is to enjoy using your French!

---

**A most engaging, interesting and fun class. A wonderful way to learn some practical Italian in a friendly environment.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Italian Language (Post-Beginners)**

---

## AE-LNG104 Italian Language (Beginners)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Pamela Di Sotto	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

This course is aimed at those with no prior knowledge of Italian who would like to be able to understand basic everyday expressions and phrases in Italian. You will learn to introduce yourself, to talk about your interests, preferences and interact in a simple way with speakers of Italian. Topics covered include foods, hobbies and daily routine. An overview of Italian culture and lifestyle will be provided. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be introduced and basic interaction in Italian will be encouraged.

---

## AE-LNG206 Italian Language (Intermediate)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Pamela Di Sotto	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov		

This course is aimed at those who have completed beginner and post beginner levels of Italian and would like to progress their level of Italian to communicate more fluently in Italian. You will learn frequently used expressions and structures related to areas of everyday life. You will be able to travel more comfortably to Italy for business or pleasure and interact on familiar topics with speakers of Italian. The class will be conducted, as much as possible, in Italian. Topics covered include travel, traditions and Italian culture. An overview of Italian culture and lifestyle will be provided. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be introduced and basic interaction in Italian will be encouraged.

---

---

## AE-LNG102 Spanish Language (Beginners)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Mercedes Camara	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20 Nov		

This course is designed for complete beginners who want to understand and use basic everyday Spanish. You'll learn how to introduce yourself and others, and engage in simple conversations. The class will be conducted largely in Spanish to support immersive learning. Topics include family, food, and hobbies, with a focus on developing all four language skills - speaking, listening, reading, and writing - while building confidence in basic communication.

---

## AE-LNG207 Spanish Language (Intermediate)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Mercedes Camara	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 30 Sept, 7, 14, 21, 28 Oct, 4, 11, 18 Nov		

This course is aimed at those who have completed beginner and post-beginner levels of Spanish and would like to progress their level of Spanish to communicate more fluently. You will learn frequently used expressions and structures related to areas of everyday life. You will be able to travel more comfortably to Spain for business or pleasure and interact on familiar topics with speakers of Spanish. The class will be conducted, as much as possible, in Spanish. Topics covered include travel, traditions and Spanish culture. An overview of Spanish culture and lifestyle will be provided. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be introduced and basic interaction in Spanish will be encouraged.

---



# Art Appreciation

## AE-AN400 Aspects of European Art from the late Renaissance to Neoclassicism

<b>Tutor:</b> Carla Briggs	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 12 Wednesdays	<b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-20:30	<b>Dates:</b> 10, 17, 24 Sept, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov		

This course explores aspects of 16th, 17th and 18th century European cultural and art history through a trio of broad themes that step away from main artists and stylistic developments to afford a different perspective on art of the early modern period. The lecture series will consider developments in attitudes towards the enterprise of patronage and collecting, the growth of portraiture as a genre and as a reflection of societal and cultural change, and finally it will explore the place and role of women in the art world as they worked on a par with male counterparts albeit contrary to contemporary social conventions.


**This was a very accessible course for someone with no background in art history. The lecturer was so knowledgeable and engaging making it a very enjoyable experience.**

**— Lifelong Learner, European Women Artists, 1500 to 1800**

---

## AE-AN607 For the love of Modernism: Ireland's relationship with Modern Art from the 1920s to 1980s

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Jessica Fahy and the National Gallery of Ireland	<b>Location:</b> Online with the National Gallery of Ireland	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-19:15	<b>Dates:</b> 7, 14, 21 Oct, 4, 11, 18, 25 Nov, 2 Dec (No class 28 Oct)		

This course explores the complex relationship between the Irish state and the rise of Modernism in the visual arts. In the early decades of the Free State and Irish Republic, Modernist artists faced resistance from both the state and art institutions, with their work often viewed as unskilled or morally questionable due to its break from Academic traditions. Art was expected to be both technically accomplished and morally acceptable, reflecting a lack of trust in the public's ability to engage with new artistic ideas. Despite this, Ireland often showcased avant-garde artists internationally to project a modern, progressive image. The first Rosc exhibition in 1967 brought major international artworks to Dublin, alongside ancient Irish pieces. Later editions included living Irish artists, sparking a surge in state-funded commissions, which were not always welcomed by the public, an attitude that still lingers today.

---

\*\*Recordings of this course will be available as well as a transcript upon request.

## AE-HN616 Introduction to Letterpress Printing: Theory and Practice

NEW COURSE

**Tutor:** Various tutors in conjunction with the National Print Museum

**Location:** The National Print Museum

**Duration:**  
4 Mondays

**Fee:**  
€115

**Time:** 11:00-13:00

**Dates:** 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct

Explore the craft and heritage of letterpress printing in this hands-on course at the National Print Museum. Learn about the history of printing in Ireland, type design, and the workings of traditional presses. Through guided tours, expert demonstrations, and practical workshops, you'll gain foundational skills in typesetting, proofing, and linocut printing, creating keepsake prints along the way. No previous experience necessary, and curiosity and creativity encouraged!

The additional €10 fee will cover the cost of materials used in week 3 & 4 for letterpress and linocut printing.



---

## AE-AN506 The Art and Architecture of the Georgian Period (1714-1830)

---

**Tutor:** Jessica Fahy

**Location:** dlr LexIcon Library

**Duration:** 8 Thursdays

**Time:** 10:30-12:30

**Dates:** 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20 Nov

**Fee:**  
€195

This course will trace the development of art and architecture on the British Isles from 1714 to 1830, during the reign of four King Georges, a time when the art world changed dramatically. Wealthy travellers who went on the Grand Tour amassed great collections from continental European and even brought back artists to decorate their extravagant country houses. British and Irish artists were in competition with this favouritism of non-native art and consequently formed the Royal Academy and the Royal Hibernian Academy to draw attention and give prestige to home ground talent. The artworks, buildings, furniture and even gardens designed and produced reflect a time of great social change that saw the growth of cities and the beginning of the Industrial revolution as well as political and social revolt in Ireland and in the American colonies. Some of the artists to be discussed include William Hogarth, Joshua Reynolds, Thomas Gainsborough.

---

\*The last class may include a trip to the National Gallery of Ireland.





**Did you know?**  
The dlr Lexicon library opened in 2015 and with over 4 million visitors to date is Dublin's busiest library.

---

## AE-AN508 Printmaking and Irish Visual Culture from 1850 to 1950

<b>Tutor:</b> Louise Nolan	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov		

This course explores Irish printmaking from the post-Famine era to the mid-20th century, beginning with the Celtic Revival and the rise of nationalism in the arts. It examines Land League publications, the work of Yeats family at Dun Emer and Cuala Press, and revolutionary print materials including the 1916 Proclamation. Moving on to investigate the visual culture of Irish nation building and concludes with a visit to the National Print Museum.


---

## Environment

---

### AE-HN525 Living with Wildlife

**NEW COURSE**

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Holly English	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 4 Mondays	
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct		

When people think of wildlife, they often picture exotic species in remote landscapes. But we are surrounded by wildlife, even in our cities. This course is an introduction to urban ecology. We will explore the different strategies animals use to survive and even thrive in Dublin, with examples of how animals like foxes and gulls adapt their behaviour to find food and avoid danger in the city.

---



# Film

## AE-LN517 Film and Filmmaking

**+ FREE TASTER**

**Tutor:** Benjamin Cook

**Location:** Belfield

**Duration:** 8 Wednesdays

**Time:** 18:00-20:00

**Dates:** 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov

**Fee:**  
€195

This 8-week hands-on program opens up film and filmmaking to everyone—whether you're a film lover or a budding filmmaker. You'll dive into the craft by watching, discussing, and collaborating, blending theory with practical work to understand how film works—and how you can apply those insights across your creative projects. Led by an experienced filmmaker, you'll explore key techniques, themes, and film history through a hands-on, "learn by doing" approach.

# History

## AE-HN115 A History of Dublin through Walks and Talks

**Tutor:** Áinle O'Neill

**Talks:** Thursdays

**Walks:** Saturdays

**Location:** Belfield

**Location:** Various locations

**Time:** 19:00-21:00

**Time:** 10:00-12:00

**Dates:** 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct

**Dates:** 4, 11, 18, 25 Oct,  
1 Nov


**Fee:**  
€195

**Duration:** 5 Thursday talks and 5 Saturday morning walks

Many of us take walking tours of foreign cities, yet we seldom stop and observe our own capital city. This course covers how Dublin grew from a small river crossing to the second city of the British Empire. The walks on Saturday and the Thursday talks aim to give participants an appetite for further exploration of Dublin.

## AE-HN522 A History of UCD


**+ FREE TASTER**

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Jeremiah Garsha	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> <b>€195</b>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

University College Dublin, as both a campus and an institution, has a rich and storied history. In this course we will learn the history of UCD through a blend of lectures, talks, and walks around campus. We will learn of UCD's contribution to the Irish War of Independence, protest movements across the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and the relocation of the campus from city centre to Belfield.

## AE-HN520 America since 1945: A Global Power

**+ FREE TASTER**

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Sarah Feehan	<b>Location:</b> dlr Lexlcon Library	<b>Duration:</b> 6 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> <b>€160</b>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10 Nov		

This course will focus on America's role on the world stage from the end of the Second World War to the present. We will consider America's economic, political, military, geopolitical, and cultural power and how all of these have contributed to America being a dominant force globally since 1945. This course will examine America's motivation for becoming involved in various global issues and events over the course of the twentieth century. We will ask whether America becomes involved in such issues and events to protect American freedom and interests around the globe or has it, as it has claimed, a greater goal of ensuring the freedom and stability of other nations also.

The course does not presuppose an in-depth knowledge of American history or politics.

---

## AE-HN526 Decisive Decisions of World War Two

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> Dundrum Pastoral Centre	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	<b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 14:00-16:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

During World War Two, the leaders of the main combatant nations made key strategic decisions that impacted on the course of the war. From the invasion of Poland to the use of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, the various war leaders influenced the lives of people around the world. This course will focus on the causes and consequences of decisions made by various leaders, including, Churchill, Hitler, Roosevelt, Stalin and Tojo.

---





## AE-HN521 From Lemass to Dickie Rock: the History of Ireland in the 1960s

**+ FREE TASTER**

**Tutor:** Dr Morgan Wait

**Location:** The National Library of Ireland

**Duration:** 8 Mondays

**Time:** 11:00-13:00

**Dates:** 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov

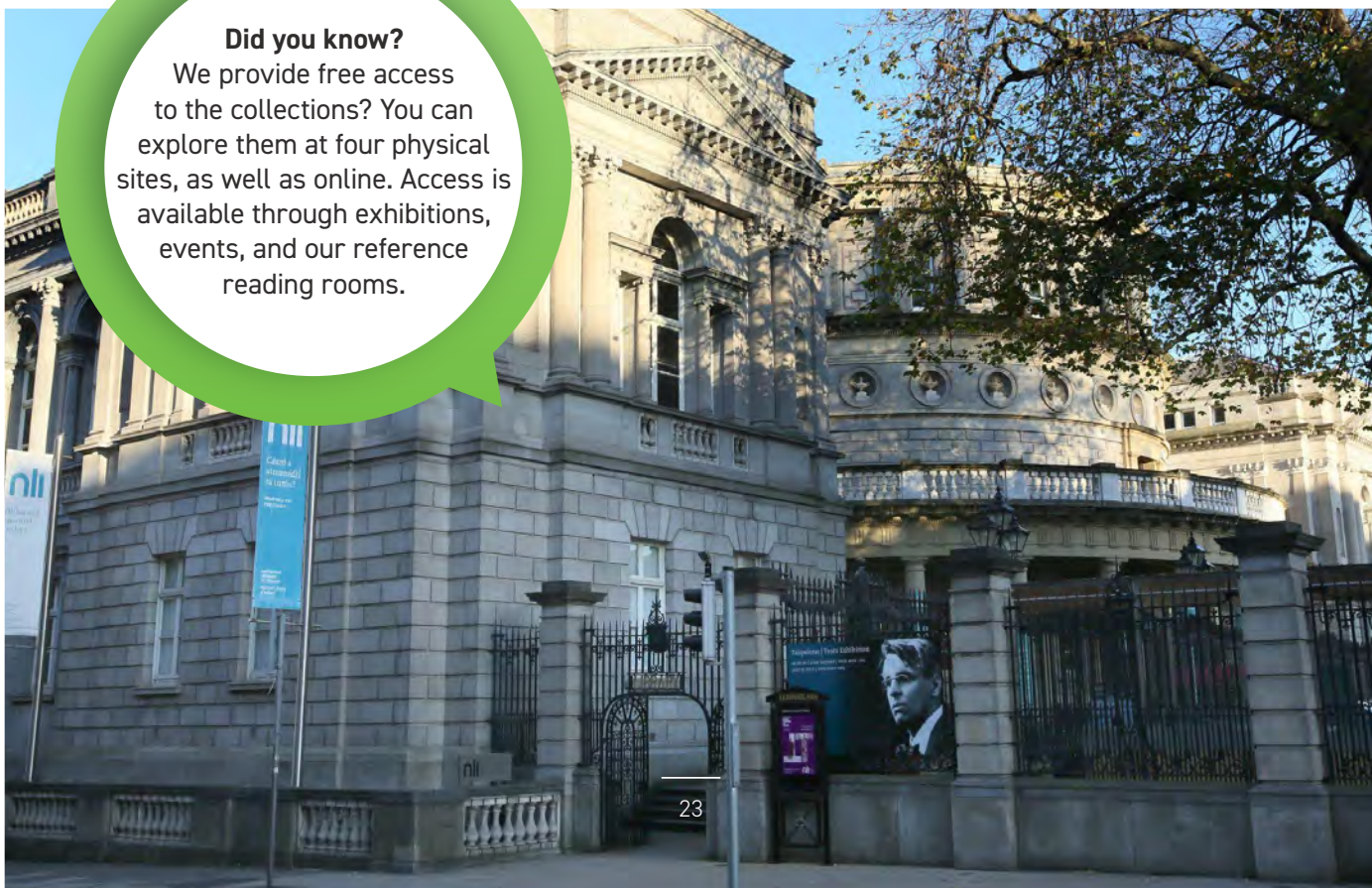
**Fee:**  
€195

The 1960s were a critical period in Irish history which saw the nation interacting with new phenomena from the hippies, to The Beatles, to Dickie Rock. The nation also had to grapple with the women's rights movement and civil rights movement in Northern Ireland while simultaneously dealing with other political and economic changes.

This course will explore the history of this pivotal decade.

### Did you know?

We provide free access to the collections? You can explore them at four physical sites, as well as online. Access is available through exhibitions, events, and our reference reading rooms.



## AE-HN527 The Arab-Israeli Conflict 1948 – 1995

**+ FREE TASTER**

**Tutor:** Michael Doran

**Location:** dlr Lexlcon Library

**Duration:** 8 Tuesdays

**Time:** 10:30-12:30

**Dates:** 30 Sept, 7, 14, 21, 28 Oct, 4, 11, 18 Nov

**Fee:**  
€195

Since 1948, military and political tensions between Israel and the Arab world have played a central role in shaping the modern Middle East. This course explores the key developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including major events such as the 1967 Six-Day War and the 1973 Yom Kippur War. It will also examine the influence of key figures like Golda Meir and Yasser Arafat, offering insight into how leadership, diplomacy, and regional dynamics have impacted the course of the conflict.

**An opportunity to acquire knowledge and  
socialise in a relaxed environment.**

**— Lifelong Learner, A History of the Middle East 1850-1948**

---

## AE-HN528 The Wild West: Myth and Reality


<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> Online	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:30-17:30	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov		

The 'Wild West' and its history is one of the main influences in shaping the American character. During the second half of the 19th century, white settlers migrated into the West's vast landscape. The harsh reality of the 'Wild West' was transformed into legendary stories of cowboys, Native Americans, gunfighters and cavalry soldiers. Characters such as Sitting Bull, Custer and Annie Oakley became world famous. This course will examine the myth and reality of the 'Wild West'.

---

## AE-HN400 Who do you think you are? An introduction to Irish family history

 **FREE TASTER**

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Thomas Tormey	<b>Location:</b> Dundrum Pastoral Centre	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	
<b>Time:</b> 11:30-13:30	<b>Dates:</b> 30 Sept, 7, 14, 21, 28 Oct, 4, 11, 18 Nov		


This course offers an introduction to researching family history in Ireland. It acquaints learners with the methods and sources required for this research. It places a strong emphasis on examining online Irish genealogical sources, including census, civil, church, land and even DNA records. The course covers practical research tips as well as the historical background to these sources. It will be ideal for anyone who wants to get involved in researching their own family's history.

---



# Irish, Celtic Studies and Irish Folklore


## AE-HN529 Ireland in the Medieval World

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Linda Doran	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20 Nov		

This course is an introduction to early Irish society and culture. We will examine Irish society, its laws, and economy. We will consider the influence of the Roman world, including the arrival of Christianity. Irish clergy played an important role in the church in Britain and on the Continent and we will visit the 'Words on the Wave' exhibition in the National Museum of Ireland which illustrate this contribution.

## Literature

## AE-LN513 James Baldwin's America

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Ciarán Leinster	<b>Location:</b> Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI)	<b>Duration:</b> 6 Thursdays	
<b>Time:</b> 11:00-13:00	<b>Dates:</b> 2, 9, 16 Oct (No class 23 and 30 Oct), 6, 13, 20 Nov		

James Baldwin's contribution to American public life and letters in the 1950s and 1960s was almost unmatched - along with powerful, passionate novels, he wrote some of the century's finest personal essays, represented the cause of Civil Rights in the media, and was a prolific literary and cultural critic. This class will explore his greatest writing in fiction, non-fiction, and the theatre, and contextualise Baldwin in America and the wider world in the turbulent times in which they were written.

---


## AE-LN514 Dublin's Joyce

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Niels Caul	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19 Nov		

James Joyce claimed Dublin could be reconstructed from *Ulysses*, but his earlier works *Dubliners* and *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* are equally engaging representations of the Hibernian metropolis. This course will recontextualise Joyce's first two prose works in the broader context of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Irish writing's depiction of "dear, dirty, Dublin."

---

## AE-LN512 Two Extraordinary Writing Lives: Edna O'Brien and Jennifer Johnston

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Jana van der Ziel Fischerova	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		


This course considers the work and legacy of two major Irish writers, Edna O'Brien and Jennifer Johnston. Coming from different backgrounds, rural Catholic versus urban Anglo-Irish, they both addressed challenging themes in their works. O'Brien critiqued vehemently the position of women in Irish society, while Johnston engaged with the contradictions of Irish identity, shining light on various forms of violence.

---

---

## AE-LN515 Poets and Places in a Changing Ireland

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Evan Jameson	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

Looking closely at a range of landmark poems, this course will explore the fascinating lives and unforgettable work of some of twentieth-century Ireland's greatest poets and the places they helped to immortalise. We will examine how specific locations in rural Ireland, in inner-city and suburban Dublin, and in the North, shaped a host of great talents, from WB Yeats and Patrick Kavanagh to Eavan Boland and Paula Meehan, and how in turn their poems reflected momentous changes in Irish society.

---

**These classes have been second to none. Has been a great joy learning alongside others with similar interests.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Ireland and Emigration: Narratives of Identity, Displacement, Belonging**

## AE-LN516 Rebels in Literature

+ FREE TASTER


<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Cathy Bergin	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

What makes a literary rebel? Do the famous rebels of fiction really challenge the power structures of their times? How do literary narrators encourage us to root for the rebel, and can we resist this position? In this course we interrogate fictional rebels. Our authors include Charlotte Brontë, F. Scott Fitzgerald, George Orwell, Margaret Atwood and Claire Keegan. No prior knowledge or skills are required for this course beyond an interest in literature and/or rebels!

## Maths

### AE-XN111 AweSums: The Majesty and Magnificence of Mathematics

+ FREE TASTER

<b>Tutor:</b> Prof Peter Lynch	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

Mathematics is vital in our modern world: technology, communications, engineering, aviation, computing and artificial intelligence all use maths in essential ways. Maths is also crucial for architecture, biology and medicine, and is intimately connected with music. We will present the historical development of key mathematical ideas and illustrate the importance of maths in music, astronomy, weather and climate forecasting and the visual arts. Anyone can enjoy the elegance of brilliant logical arguments and appreciate the beauty of mathematical structures and symmetries without being a skilled creator of new theorems. The exposition will emphasise key ideas, avoiding intricate technicalities.


# Music

## AE-MN500 Hatch, match & dispatch: exploring the soundtrack of life

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Fiona Baldwin	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 30 Sept, 7, 14, 21, 28 Oct, 4, 11, 18 Nov		

Music is a universal language that profoundly shapes our life experiences, emotions, memories, and cultural identities. This course will critically examine the diverse genres of music that provide a soundtrack to our lives at pivotal moments, from the cradle to the grave. Moving beyond the Western musical canon, we will explore diverse traditions and genres, and uncover how different societies use music to mark personal and collective milestones.

## AE-MN501 Beginner's Music Theory for Amateur Choral Singers

<b>Tutor:</b> Caoimhe O'Neill	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

This course will provide a basic introduction to music theory, focussed specifically on choral music, to assist those who sing in choirs but don't read music. Topics covered will include rhythm, pitch, tonic sol-fa, notation, dynamics, articulation, key signatures, and musical terms and symbols used in choral music. Become a better choir member in just 8 weeks!



A photograph of a garden path leading to a house, framed by a blue speech bubble. The path is made of stone steps and is flanked by lush greenery and purple flowers. A metal archway is visible in the background.

**Did you know?**  
Established in 1894 by  
the Overend family, the  
Airfield Estate was entrusted  
to the people of Ireland in  
1974 by sisters Letitia  
and Naomi Overend

A photograph of a stone wall with the text 'airfield estate' and purple flowers in the foreground. The wall is made of rough, grey stones. In the foreground, there are several tall purple flowers and some green foliage. The background is slightly blurred, showing a road and some trees.

airfield  
estate



# Sustainability

## AE-HN523 Living in a Sustainable World

NEW COURSE

**Tutor:** Dr Paul O'Keeffe **Location:** Airfield Estate **Duration:** 4 Wednesdays

**Time:** 10:00-12:00 **Dates:** 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct

Fee:  
€105

This course is for those who like to discuss current affairs and want to learn more about sustainability challenges that increasingly affect the way we live. During the course we will explore what sustainability means to ourselves, our country and the wider world. Each week we will focus on a different sustainability related theme and explore the narratives and debates that surround it. From food security to climate change, these discussion-based classes will draw on Airfield Estate's expertise in developing and promoting sustainable food and agriculture practices to better understand how humanity can live in a more sustainable way.

## AE-HN524 Smart Eating: Nutrition and Sustainability Made Simple

NEW COURSE

**Tutor:** Dr Aoibhín Moore Heslin **Location:** Airfield Estate **Duration:** 4 Wednesdays

**Time:** 14:00-16:00 **Dates:** 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct

Fee:  
€105

Join us at Airfield Estate, Dublin's sustainable food hub, for an engaging and informative 4-week course on nutrition for health and sustainability. Each weekly session will be interactive and collaborative, featuring talks from our experts in nutrition and food, small group discussions, walk-and-talk tours of our working farm and gardens, sample snacks, food demonstrations, and take-home resources with practical tips and simple recipes. This course is for anyone curious about where their food comes from, how it affects their health and the environment, and how to make food choices that support health and sustainability.

# Philosophy

## AE-QN503 A brief history of philosophy

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr. Angelo Bottone	<b>Location:</b> Newman House, St Stephen's Green	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 11:00-13:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

Explore the key thinkers and ideas that have shaped human thought, from Ancient Greece to modern times. This course introduces major philosophical movements in an engaging, accessible way, encouraging discussion and reflection. No prior experience is needed, just curiosity and an open mind. Discover how philosophy's big questions about life, truth, and justice remain deeply relevant today.

# Politics

## AE-QN502 How political changes outside of Ireland affect it

<b>Tutor:</b> Paul McAndrew	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct (No class 27 Oct), 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov		

Ireland's history and development have always been shaped by global political shifts. This course explores how international events; like Brexit, U.S. foreign policy, EU integration, the UN, and conflicts impact Ireland's economy, migration, and diplomacy. The aim is to highlight Ireland's interconnectedness with the world, examining how external power dynamics influence domestic policies. By studying these relationships, we gain insights into Ireland's adaptive strategies in an ever-changing political landscape.





**I love having the opportunity to learn more about topics I'm interested in, and meeting other people who share those interests.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Reading Dublin**

# Spring 2026

---

## Applied Languages

---

### AE-LNG204 Italian Language (Post-Beginners)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Pamela Di Sotto	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 26 Jan (No class 2 Feb), 9, 16, 23 Feb, 2 (No class 9 and 16 Mar), 23, 30 Mar (No class 6 Apr), 13 Apr		

This course is aimed at those with some knowledge of Italian who would like to continue their understanding of basic everyday expressions and phrases in Italian. You will learn to provide details on yourself and your life and interact in a simple way with speakers of Italian. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be introduced and basic interaction in Italian will be encouraged.

---

**I enjoyed every moment of the Italian class for  
Beginners and Post Beginners.**

— Lifelong Learner, Italian Language (Post-Beginners)

---

## AE-LNG101 Refresher French (Intermediate)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Mariana Saad	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 17:00-19:00	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4 (No class 11 and 18 Mar), 25 Mar, 1 Apr		

This course aims to help you develop your ability to communicate fluently with speakers of French. Reviving your knowledge of French will help you understand frequently used expressions and structures related to areas of everyday life. You will be able to travel more comfortably to France for business or pleasure. The class will be conducted in French and will focus on topics relevant to travel to regions where French is spoken. Topics relate to French culture, customs, sightseeing, etc. Basic interaction in French will be encouraged. The course is aimed at those who have studied French for a minimum of two years.

---

## AE-LNG203 Spanish Language (Post-Beginners)

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Mercedes Camara	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb, 5 (No class 12 and 19 Mar), 26 Mar, 2 Apr		

This course is aimed at those with some knowledge of Spanish who would like to continue their understanding of basic everyday expressions and phrases. You will learn to provide details on yourself and your life and interact in a simple way with speakers of Spanish. The class will be conducted, as much as possible, in Spanish. Topics covered include professional activities, description of accommodation and travel and an introduction to cultural events and traditions. All four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing will be developed and basic interaction in Spanish will be encouraged.

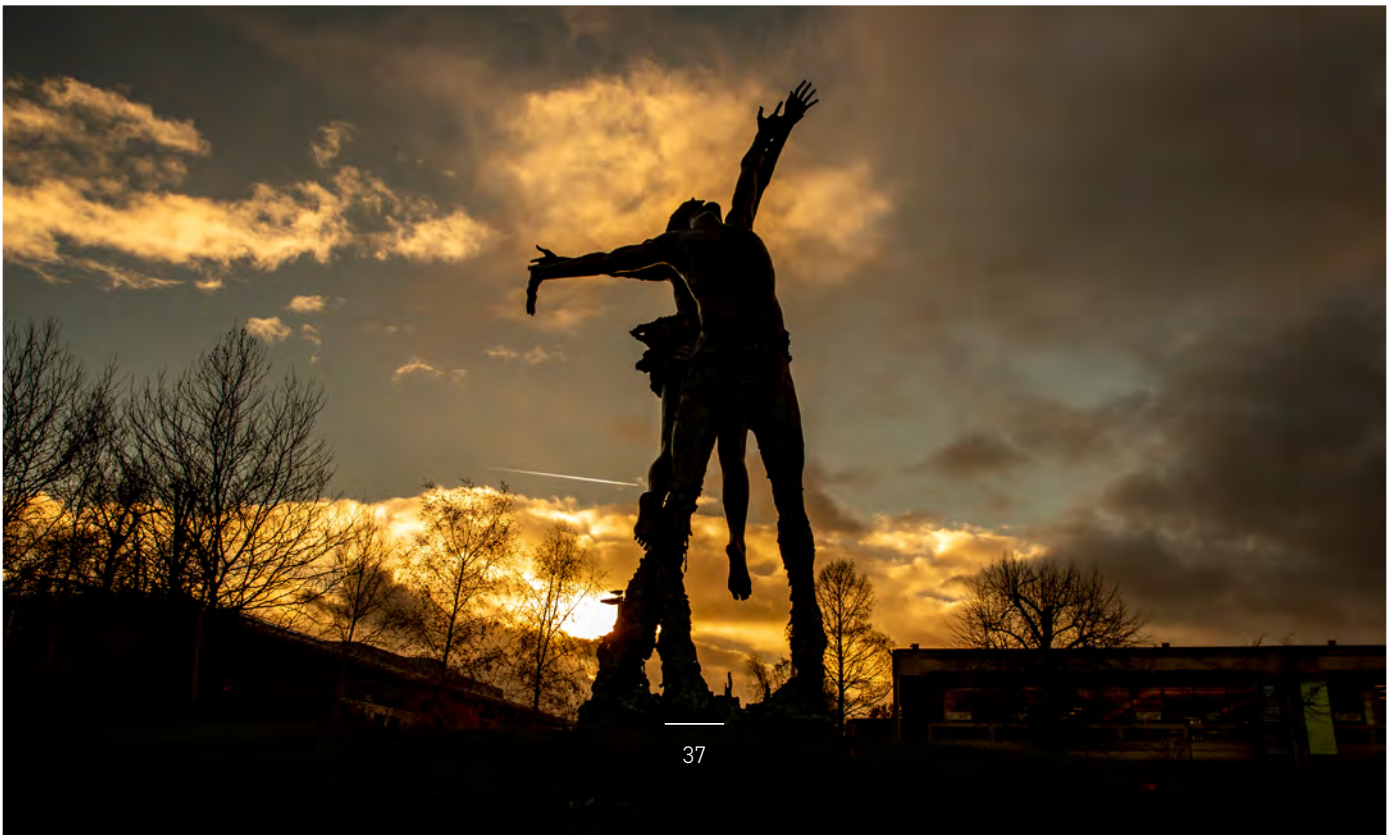
---

# Archaeology

## AE-HN618 The Archaeology of Dublin: an evolving story

<b>Tutor:</b> Paul Duffy	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb, 5, 12, 19 Mar		


This module will explore the rich archaeology of the nation's capital through a wide range of recent excavations and studies that are re-shaping the story of Dublin. Through discoveries such as prehistoric burials, Gaelic monastic sites, Hiberno-Norse suburbs, lost medieval abbeys, early town planning, Georgian theatres and circuses through to nineteenth century markets, prisons and workhouses, this module presents the lived reality and changing landscapes of Dublin's many historic communities.



# Art Appreciation

---

## AE-AN603 19th Century French Art: From Revolution to Impressionism

<b>Tutor:</b> Jessica Fahy	<b>Location:</b> National Gallery of Ireland	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	
<b>Time:</b> 14:00-16:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10 (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

Some of the most dramatic changes in western art happened in the 19th century in France, this course will follow this development through the history of the time and artist movements from the revolutionary zeal of Neoclassicism to the groundbreaking innovations of Impressionism. Artist included: David, Ingres, Delacroix, Géricault, Courbet, Bonheur, Millet, Monet, Morisot.

---

## AE-AN608 Light and Vision: The Irish Stained Glass Renaissance (1800–1950)

<b>Tutor:</b> Louise Nolan	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10, (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

Explore Ireland's rich tradition of stained glass from 1800 to 1950 in this six-week course. Through lectures and site visits, discover the artists, studios, and movements that shaped the Irish stained glass renaissance. From the Gothic and Celtic revival periods to An Túr Gloine and modernist innovations, this course highlights figures like Sarah Purser, Harry Clarke, and Wilhelmina Geddes while examining the cultural, spiritual, and political forces behind their luminous work.

---



# Classics

## AE-JN601 An Introduction to Ancient Greek Art and Architecture

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Jessica Doyle	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10, (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

In this introduction to Greek art and architecture, we will explore the rich visual culture of ancient Greece. From Bronze Age palaces to Classical temples and Hellenistic sculpture, we will examine key works in their social, religious, and historical contexts. Our classes will provide a deeper understanding of how the ancient Greeks used art to express identity, power, piety, and creativity. No prior knowledge of the ancient world is required.

**It's so enjoyable to go out and learn  
a new subject while meeting other  
learners and have chats.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Reading Homer: A Guide to The Iliad  
and The Odyssey**



# History

## AE-HN500 A History of Dublin - More Walks and Talks

<b>Tutor:</b> Áinnle O'Neill	<b>Talks:</b> Thursdays	<b>Walks:</b> Saturdays	<b>Fee:</b> €195
	<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Time:</b> 10:00-12:00	
	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb	<b>Dates:</b> 31 Jan, 7, 14, 21, 28 Feb	
	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Location:</b> Various locations	

**Duration:** 5 Thursday talks and 5 Saturday morning walks

This course covers themes of Pre-Viking Dublin; Housing, Food, Health, Firefighting, Water Supply, Universities, Immigration and Transport over 1,000 years of Dublin history.



---

## AE-HN610 Assassinations That Changed Modern Irish History

---

**Tutor:** Dr Edward Burke

**Location:** Belfield

**Duration:** 6 Tuesdays

**Fee:**  
€160

**Time:** 18:00-20:00

**Dates:** 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, Mar

---

Since the late 19th century, high-profile assassinations in Ireland have precipitated political shockwaves and left profound legacies. This course examines a series of killings – including the murder of Lord Mayo, viceroy of India, the Phoenix Park murders, followed by the killings of Lord Mayor Tomás Mac Curtain, the McMahon family, Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, General Michael Collins and Lord Louis Mountbatten during the War of Independence, Civil War and the Troubles of the 20th century. It demonstrates the aims of the perpetrators, as well as the (foreseen and unforeseen) political consequences of these events.

---


**Edward is a great presenter who is passionate about the subject matter and at the top of his game. Always welcomes participation and questions from the audience. I found the course very rewarding.**

**— Lifelong Learner, The War for the North, 1920-1922**

---

## AE-HN611 China: The Rise of a Global Power 1949-1997

---


<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> To be confirmed	<b>Duration:</b> To be confirmed	
<b>Time:</b> To be confirmed	<b>Dates:</b> To be confirmed		

In 1949, the People's Republic of China was established under the leadership of Mao Zedong. A new era in Chinese history had begun. In the years that followed, China would undergo significant economic and social change, especially during the years of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution. By the 1980's the leadership of Deng Xiaoping would bring about reforms which laid the basis for an economic transformation. A new Superpower was emerging.

---

## AE-HN612 Downfall – The Defeat of Nazi Germany 1944-1945

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> Dundrum Pastoral Centre	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	
<b>Time:</b> 14:00-16:00	<b>Dates:</b> 26 Jan (No class 2 Feb), 9, 16, 23 Feb, 2, 9, 16, 23 Mar		

By 1944, the course of World War Two had shifted in favour of the Allies but much of Europe still remained under Nazi control. This course will examine the desperate conflict that brought about the total defeat of Nazi Germany with reference to key events such as D-Day, Operation Bagration and the Battle of the Bulge. The slow advance of the Allies ensured that the end of the Third Reich would occur in a Berlin bunker.

---

---

## AE-HN194 Four Suburban Walks

---

**Tutor:** Áinnle O'Neill

**Location:** Various Locations

**Duration:** 4 Thursdays

**Fee:**  
€105

**Time:** 10:00-12:00

**Dates:** 12, 19, 26 Mar, 2 Apr

The four walks cover some of the most interesting suburban areas of Dublin, which developed over the 18th and 19th centuries - Rathmines, Phibsboro, Liberties and Dún Laoghaire. We will cover the fascinating social, political and economic history of these areas as we make stops at points of interest.

---

**Lifelong learning courses provide an opportunity to explore and learn about a wide range of very diverse and well selected topics. Great tutors and very interesting fellow classmates add to a valuable and worthwhile experience.**


**— Lifelong Learner, Protest, Patriotism and American Presidential Elections 1960-2024**



---

## AE-HN609 The (Dis)United States of America: Difference, Disparity and Division in Modern America

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Sarah Feehan	<b>Location:</b> Online	<b>Duration:</b> 6 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> €160
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 26 Jan (No class 2 Feb), 9, 16, 23 Feb, 2, 9 Mar		

America is a vibrant nation drawing together peoples from diverse cultural, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds. Together they are the United States of America, however within these United States there is also difference and disparity which has often led to division, division that though present since the foundation of the nation, has deepened and widened as America has moved into the twenty-first century. As America prepares to celebrate 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence this course will explore issues which have been divisive in America since its establishment including race, immigration, and political, social and economic inequality.

We will analyse how issues such as immigration, economic inequality, religion, race, and civil rights have been addressed by different groups in American society throughout the period. We will critically assess how, in trying to address the differences and disparities that exist, political and social leaders have shaped America over the last 100 years. The course does not presuppose an in-depth knowledge of American history or politics.

---

---

## AE-HN613 The Fall of the USSR: The Emergence of Modern Russia

---

**Tutor:** Michael Doran

**Location:** To be confirmed

**Duration:** To be confirmed

**Fee:**  
TBC

**Time:** To be confirmed

**Dates:** To be confirmed

On December 26th 1991, the Soviet Union was formally dissolved after nearly seventy years of its existence. This event marked the end of an astonishing sequence of events that brought an end to one of history's greatest powers. This course will examine the last years of the Soviet Union and the doomed attempts of Mikhail Gorbachev to reform its political and economic system. We are still living with the consequences of these events.

---

**My lectures from Michael on all subjects have been so enjoyable. They are the highlight of my week. I only wish I had known about his lectures years ago.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Winston Churchill: A Political Life**

---

## AE-HN614 The Vietnam War: 1954-1975

---


<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> Online	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 15:30-17:30	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4, 11, 18 Mar		

In April 1975, the image of the last helicopter lifting off the roof of the US Embassy in Saigon came to represent the futility of American involvement in Vietnam. This course will examine the causes, development and consequences of the Vietnam War. It will cover the period from the collapse of French control to the end of US support for South Vietnam. The conflict will be examined from the perspective of all sides involved in the conflict.

---

## AE-HN615 World War Two: The Intelligence War – Spies and Code-breakers

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Michael Doran	<b>Location:</b> Online	<b>Duration:</b> 6 Wednesdays	 <b>Fee:</b> €160
<b>Time:</b> 15:30-17:30	<b>Dates:</b> 15, 22, 29 Apr 6, 13, 20 May		

During World War Two, one of the most important conflicts did not occur on the battlefield but shaped its outcome. This was the intelligence war. Spies had always been a part of warfare but advances in technology allowed for improved methods of intelligence gathering. This course will examine the role of espionage and military intelligence in deciding the outcome of the war. This will include topics such as Bletchley Park, the Abwehr, Richard Sorge and Virginia Hall.

---

# Irish, Celtic Studies and Irish Folklore

---

## AE-HN617 The Art of the Folk Narrative

<b>Tutor:</b> Aoiffe Kenny-Deegan	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4, 11, 18 Mar		

This course will explore the art of the folk narrative including folktales and legends. Starting with the history of how folktales are collected and categorised and then delving into how they can be investigated using a variety of methodologies and academic frameworks including but not limited to those exploring the style, structure, psychology and coded messages of the folktale. It will focus primarily on Irish folktales and legends as found within the National Folklore Collection.

---

## AE-HN619 Vikings in the Celtic World


<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Linda Doran	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb, 5, 12, 19 Mar		

This course will consider the Viking experience of the Celtic-speaking lands and how they, through both confrontation and collaboration, had a transformative impact on that world between c. 780 – 1020. The Vikings were a silent people and it is through the eyes of those they encountered that we see them. Our enduring images of Vikings are based on sources from the Celtic world.

---

# Literature

## AE-LN611 How To Read Short Stories

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr David McKinney	<b>Location:</b> To be confirmed	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	
<b>Time:</b> To be confirmed	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb 4, 11, 18 Mar		

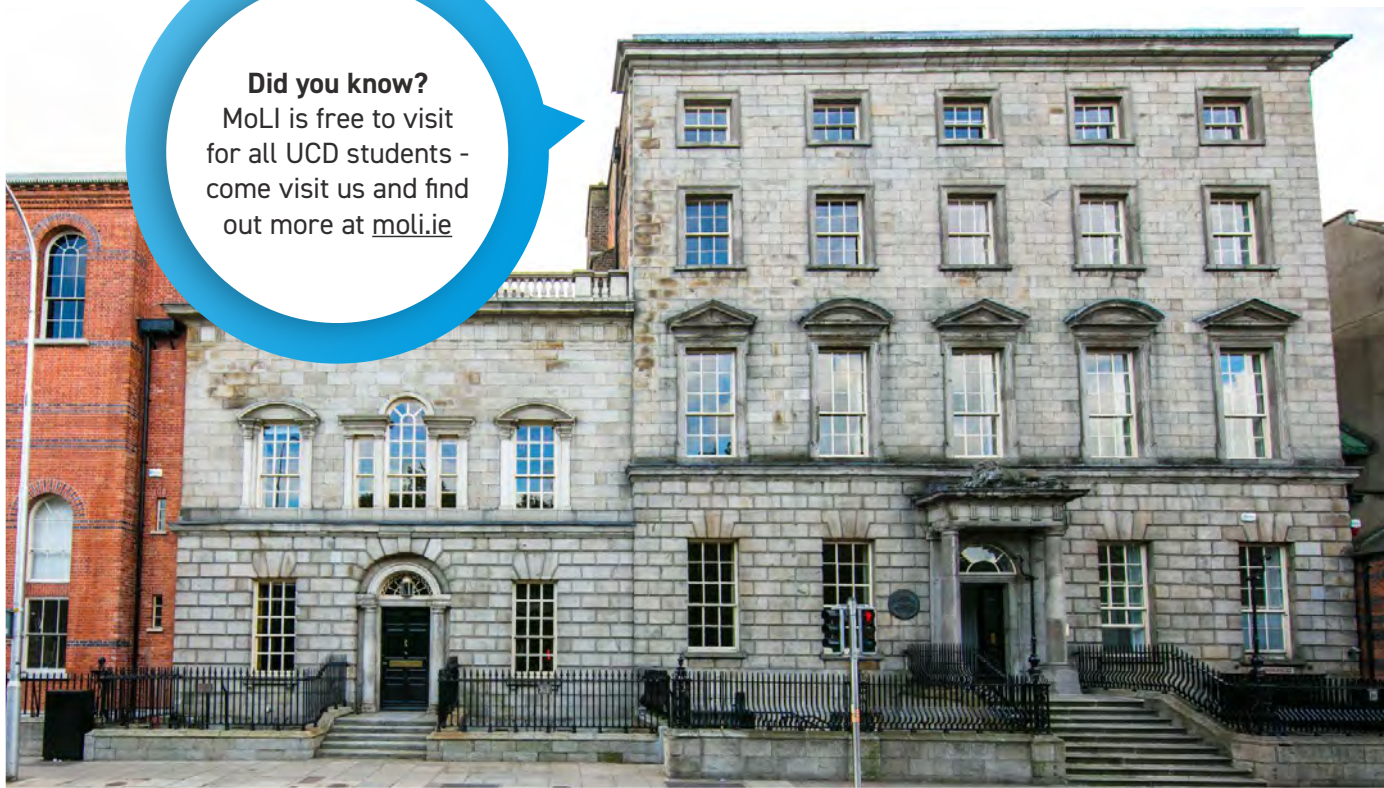
How are short stories written, and how are they supposed to be read? What do they tell us about the human condition, and the culture in which they were written? What makes an Irish, or American, short story, and where do they come from? Through an examination of four iconic short story writers, this course provides students with important analytical tools with which they may deepen their understanding and appreciation of this notoriously elusive (yet very popular) form. Through an examination of four iconic short story writers, this course provides students with important analytical tools with which they may deepen their understanding and appreciation of the short story form.

**I absolutely loved the Funny Irish Writers course  
- Dr McKinney was a superb guide to the works of  
writers - both new and re-discoveries. Stimulating  
and inspiring, a highlight of the week.**

**— Lifelong Learner, Funny Irish Writers**




**Did you know?**  
MoLI is free to visit  
for all UCD students -  
come visit us and find  
out more at [moli.ie](http://moli.ie)



---

## AE-LN612 Contemporary Irish Writing

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr David McKinney	<b>Location:</b> Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI)	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	
<b>Time:</b> 11:00-13:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb, 5, 12, 19 Mar		

Irish society has undergone radical change since the latter part of the twentieth century, but how has it dealt with such seismic shifts as globalisation, the Celtic Tiger, the financial crash, and evolution in its understanding of gender and sexuality? How does it deal with urban areas versus rural areas? What are the major trends in Irish writing now? This module offers students an exciting opportunity to examine and appreciate a range of contemporary writing, including film, drama, short stories, and poetry, by some of Ireland's best-loved and most acclaimed modern writers.

---

## AE-LN511 Irish Drama - The Abbey and beyond

<b>Tutor:</b> Garrett Fagan	<b>Location:</b> The National Library of Ireland	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 10:30-12:30	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4, 11, 18 Mar		

Ireland is one of the world's leading theatre nations - this course will show you why that reputation is deserved. We will explore Modern Irish drama from before the founding of the State to the present day and its continuing role in reflecting and shaping Ireland and ideas of Irishness. Students will engage with over a century of Irish drama from before the founding of the state to the present day. Irish drama will be presented as a vibrant and living cultural tradition in Ireland. The student's own theatre going will be enriched as will their wider reading and understanding of Irish society and history.

---



---

## AE-LN613 Irish Literature Before and After Independence

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Loic Wright	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10, (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

This course will examine the development of Irish literature alongside the development of the Irish nation. Beginning in the late 1880s with the Irish Literary Revival and ending in 2020, this course considers how Irish literature responded to social changes covering Ireland as a colony, a newly-sovereign nation, and a globalised culture. Authors studied will include W. B. Yeats, James Joyce, Seamus Heaney, and Edna O'Brien. Texts covered will include short novels, short stories, plays, and poetry.

---

## AE-LN610 Literature and Social Change: The Power of Storytelling

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Jana van der Ziel Fischerova	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10, (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

This course considers literature as an art form, as well as a force that has the potential to drive social change. Two Irish writers – Roddy Doyle and Colum McCann – have made it their job to spread the message about the importance of storytelling. We shall read some of their best, critically-acclaimed writings, and discuss their work in the fields of human rights and education. Then we shall conduct an informed evaluation of the role of literature in our contemporary society.

---

---

## AE-LNG205 The Mystery of the Italian Classic and Tyrone's Rebellion

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Eric Haywood, UCD Adjunct Assoc. Prof. of Italian Studies	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 6 Wednesdays	<b>Fee:</b> €160
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4 Mar		

England's Elizabeth I imposed on her godson John Harington (the inventor of the flush toilet and a Catholic sympathiser) the "penance" of translating into English Ludovico Ariosto's enormously popular chivalric romance Orlando Furioso. When he then went to Ireland to fight in the Nine Years War, Harington offered and read from a copy of his translation to Elizabeth's arch-enemy The O'Neill. Treachery or soft diplomacy? What was so special about Ariosto, and the translation?

---

## AE-LN609 The Theatre of Samuel Beckett

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Alan Graham	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Wednesdays	<div><b>Fee:</b> €195</div>
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 28 Jan, 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb, 4, 11, 18 Mar		

This course introduces students to the innovative ways in which the work of Samuel Beckett challenges the traditions of western theatre. In tracing the development of Beckett's work, the course examines the dramas which established his international reputation in the 1950s, the daringly experimental theatre of the 1960s and early 1970s, and the moving ghostliness of Beckett's final plays.

---

---

## AE-LN248 One Dublin One Book 2026

---

<b>Tutor:</b> Garrett Fagan	<b>Location:</b> Pearse Street Library	<b>Duration:</b> 4 Wednesdays
<b>Time:</b> 11:00-13:00	<b>Dates:</b> 1, 8, 15, 22 Apr	

**Fee:**  
€105

This course ties in with events in the 'One Dublin, One Book festival' 2026. We will focus on the book chosen for 'One Dublin One Book' which will be announced in early Spring 2026. As well as discussing the book, we will look at its context: the history, community and writing of Dublin. No prior knowledge or skills are required for this course beyond an enjoyment and an interest in reading and in finding out more about your city.

---



# Music

## AE-MN601 Soundtracks and Showstoppers: The Evolution of music for the Stage and Screen

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Fiona Baldwin	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Tuesdays	<b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 19:00-21:00	<b>Dates:</b> 27 Jan, 3, 10, 17, 24 Feb, 3, 10, (No class 17 Mar), 24 Mar		

This course explores the role of music in theatre, film, and TV, tracing its historical development and cultural impact. From Ancient Greece to late medieval Dublin to Broadway and Hollywood, discover how music has been employed across the centuries to enhance storytelling and engage viewers. Each week, you will examine film scenes, take part in guided listening and interactive discussions, analyse iconic scores, and learn more about the behind-the-scenes techniques that help to shape a narrative. Whether you are a theatre lover, film enthusiast, or simply 'musically curious', this course offers a fascinating journey into sound and spectacle.


**This lifelong learning course was enjoyable, very informative and has given me a new outlook on music.**

— Lifelong Learner, Hatch, match & dispatch: exploring the soundtrack of life



# Philosophy


## AE-QN500 John Henry Newman and Philosophy

<b>Tutor:</b> Dr Angelo Bottone	<b>Location:</b> Newman House, St Stephen's Green	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Mondays	 <b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 11:00-13:00	<b>Dates:</b> 26 Jan (No class 2 Feb), 9, 16, 23 Feb, 2, 9, 16, 23 Mar		

This course explores the philosophical contributions of John Henry Newman, focusing on his views on faith, reason, liberal education and ethics. We will examine key texts like “The Grammar of Assent” and “The Idea of a University,” discussing Newman’s thoughts on religious belief, the role of education, and moral conscience. Through lectures and discussions, students will gain insight into Newman’s influence on modern theological and philosophical thought.

# Physics

## AE-XN500 Six easy pieces: Physics made understandable

<b>Tutor:</b> Chiara Maria Mariani	<b>Location:</b> Belfield	<b>Duration:</b> 8 Thursdays	 <b>Fee:</b> €195
<b>Time:</b> 18:00-20:00	<b>Dates:</b> 29 Jan, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb, 5, 12, 19 Mar		

Explore the fundamentals of physics through the engaging and accessible teaching style of Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman. In this six-week course, we will delve into key concepts such as atoms, energy, gravity, and quantum behavior. Inspired by Feynman’s approach, each session emphasizes clear explanations, everyday examples, and simple demonstrations—no advanced math required. Whether you’re new to science or returning after some time, this course offers an approachable and insightful introduction to the physical world.



The UCD Lifelong Learning programme is wonderful. I have participated over many years and never miss the opportunity to learn more. The courses cover a wide range of subjects. The lecturers are very professional and always engaging. It is always good to participate with like minded people, sharing the joy of new found knowledge.

— Liam Roche



# Frequently Asked Questions

---

## **What can I expect from my Lifelong Learning course?**

Lifelong Learning is open to all and provides a chance to explore a subject without any examination. You do not need to have attended further education or meet any formal education requirements to enjoy these classes.

---

## **Where are Lifelong Learning courses held?**

Lifelong Learning courses are held on the Belfield campus, at partner cultural venues, and online. Course details including location, day, and time are available in the brochure, on our website, and on your receipt. A final reminder will be sent a few days before your class begins.

---

## **Is there parking available?**

Parking varies by location and may be limited. At Belfield, parking is free after 5:00pm, except in premium-rate or UCD Sports and Fitness spaces. Clamping is in operation, so students must park in designated spaces only. Where possible, we recommend using public transport.

---

## **I have accessibility needs, who do I inform?**

When booking your course, please indicate if you have any specific accessibility needs. If your accessibility changes during the course, please let us know by emailing [all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie)

---

## **I can't remember my password for an online booking. What can I do?**

Unfortunately, we cannot reset your password for you. But if you click on the 'Forgot my Password' link below your log-in, our colleagues in IT Services will be able to reset it for you.

---

## **How will my class be delivered?**

Most of our classes are delivered in person, with some offered online via Zoom. The format of each class is clearly indicated in our brochure.

---

---

**How do I get the Zoom link for my online class?**

UCD Access & Lifelong Learning will email you a recurring Zoom link the day before your online class starts. This link will be valid for the full duration of the course, click it to join each session. If you book online within 24 hours of the class starting, please contact [all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie) to ensure you receive your link in time.

---

**I want to book an online class, but I'm worried about my digital skills.**

If you're unsure about your digital skills, we're here to help. We can advise on the basic technical skills needed for online classes, share useful tips, and, if needed, arrange a one-to-one session with a team member or one of our Digital Ambassadors. Just get in touch, we're happy to support you.

---

**Where can I get a reading list for my course?**

Booklists or reading lists are available online alongside the course descriptions. Your tutor can also guide you as to which reading might be most suitable, so please wait for the start of your course before making any purchases.

---

**What if my class is cancelled?**

Classes are rarely canceled due to low enrollment. If this occurs, we will notify you in advance and offer an alternative course or a full refund.

---

**Class postponed due to illness or unforeseen circumstances.**

On rare occasions, classes may be postponed due to tutor illness or unforeseen events like bad weather. We'll try to reschedule at the same day, time, and location as soon as possible. If not feasible, the class may be held via Zoom.

---

**What is our refund policy?**

Under consumer legislation, goods and services bought online may be cancelled and a refund sought on a written request within 14 days from the date of receipt of payment. However, the right to cancel the contract and seek a refund may be lost in certain circumstances, including where the contract has been performed. By booking a Lifelong Learning course online, you are aware that Access and Lifelong Learning will proceed with the delivery of the course on the prescribed date and if the course is fully delivered, or you have accessed course materials, within 14 days of your online booking, you will lose your right to cancel and seek a refund.

---





**UCD Access and Lifelong Learning offers a number of other part-time study options:**

## University Access

UCD University Access Courses are empowering, part-time foundation programmes designed to help adult learners and young adults take their first step into higher education. Access to Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences & Law (AHSSL) and Access to Science, Engineering, Agricultural Science & Medicine (SEAM+) help students to build academic skills and confidence in a supportive environment. Open to mature students and eligible young adults (AHSSL only), successful completion can lead to guaranteed entry into select UCD degree programmes. With dedicated support, scholarships, and a welcoming community, UCD's Access Courses are a fantastic opportunity to unlock your potential and embrace university life.

---

## Open Learning

UCD Open Learning is a flexible study option which allows learners to explore a wide range of undergraduate modules without committing to a full degree. It's ideal for personal enrichment, career development, or a stepping stone into higher education. Students can choose from over 450 modules and study at their own pace. Students can undertake a Progression Pathway to a degree programme or can exit with either a University Certificate or Diploma in Open Learning.

---

## More Information

Visit our website: [www.ucd.ie/all](http://www.ucd.ie/all) or complete our Interactive Guide to help you decide which programme works best for you:







### **UCD Access & Lifelong Learning**

Level 1, James Joyce Library Building  
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4  
D04 V1W8, Ireland

### **Rochtain agus Foghlaim ar feadh an tSaoil UCD**

Áras an Leabharlann, An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath,  
Belfield, Baile Átha Cliath 4

E. [all@ucd.ie](mailto:all@ucd.ie)

T. 01 716 7123

W. [www.ucd.ie/all](http://www.ucd.ie/all)

Follow us @ucdforall

