UCD Open Learning Progression Pathways

Fitting university around your life

University College Dublin
University for All

Contact us:

E.   all@ucd.ie
T.   01 716 7123
W.   www.ucd.ie/all

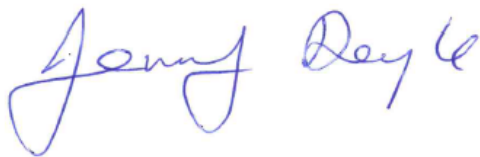Follow us **@ucdforall**

Contents

Welcome to UCD Open Learning

UCD Access and Lifelong Learning offers a flexible and supportive way to ease into university life through our Open Learning programme. UCD Progression Pathways are designed to give you flexibility, choice, and a realistic understanding of our undergraduate programmes.

This route is ideal for a wide range of learners, including those who wish to experience university before committing to a full degree or those who value a flexible and interest-driven approach to learning. The majority of our modules are offered face-to-face and are suitable for those who can attend modules on the Belfield campus.

You will be part of a welcoming community, which includes peer support, dedicated staff, a wide range of supports and world class on-campus facilities. UCD values all its entry routes and our diverse student population because their unique perspectives, experiences, and voices enrich the university community, foster greater inclusion, and help create a more vibrant and equitable learning environment for everyone.

Our team is ready to help you navigate your journey with confidence and ensure you adjust to your new role as a UCD student.

Dr Jenny Doyle
Head of ALL Operations and Flexible Learning

Meet the Open Learning Team

Dr Jennifer Doyle
Head of ALL Operations and Flexible Learning
jennifer.doyle@ucd.ie

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Dr Ciarán Leinster
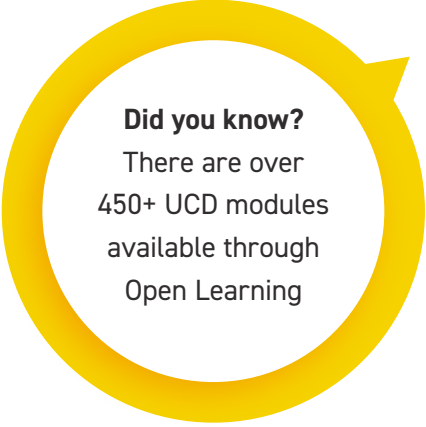Open Learning Coordinator
ciaran.leinster@ucd.ie

How does Open Learning Work?

If you commence an Open Learning Progression Pathway in September and successfully meet the requirements of the programme, you can use it to apply through the CAO for reserved places on 17 different UCD degree programmes.

Open Learning students are fully registered students, with a UCD student card and access to the same world-class facilities and supports as all other UCD students. They are expected to meaningfully take part in their classes and are subject to the UCD Student Charter.

Did you know?
There are over 450+ UCD modules available through Open Learning

You will study modules taken directly from UCD undergraduate degree programmes and build your own timetable by choosing from hundreds of stage one (first year) modules. You will participate in classes, labs, and tutorials with undergraduate students.

Your University Certificate in Open Learning (NFQ Level 7) can be your stepping stone to an undergraduate degree.

```
1  Apply Online  →  2  Prepare for consultation
                           ↓
                     3  Attend consultation  →  4  Accept Offer
                                                      ↓
7  Apply via CAO  ←  6  Attend Check-In Meetings  ←  5  Complete module registration
        ↓
8  Complete Certificate in Open Learning  →  9  Round 0 CAO Offers
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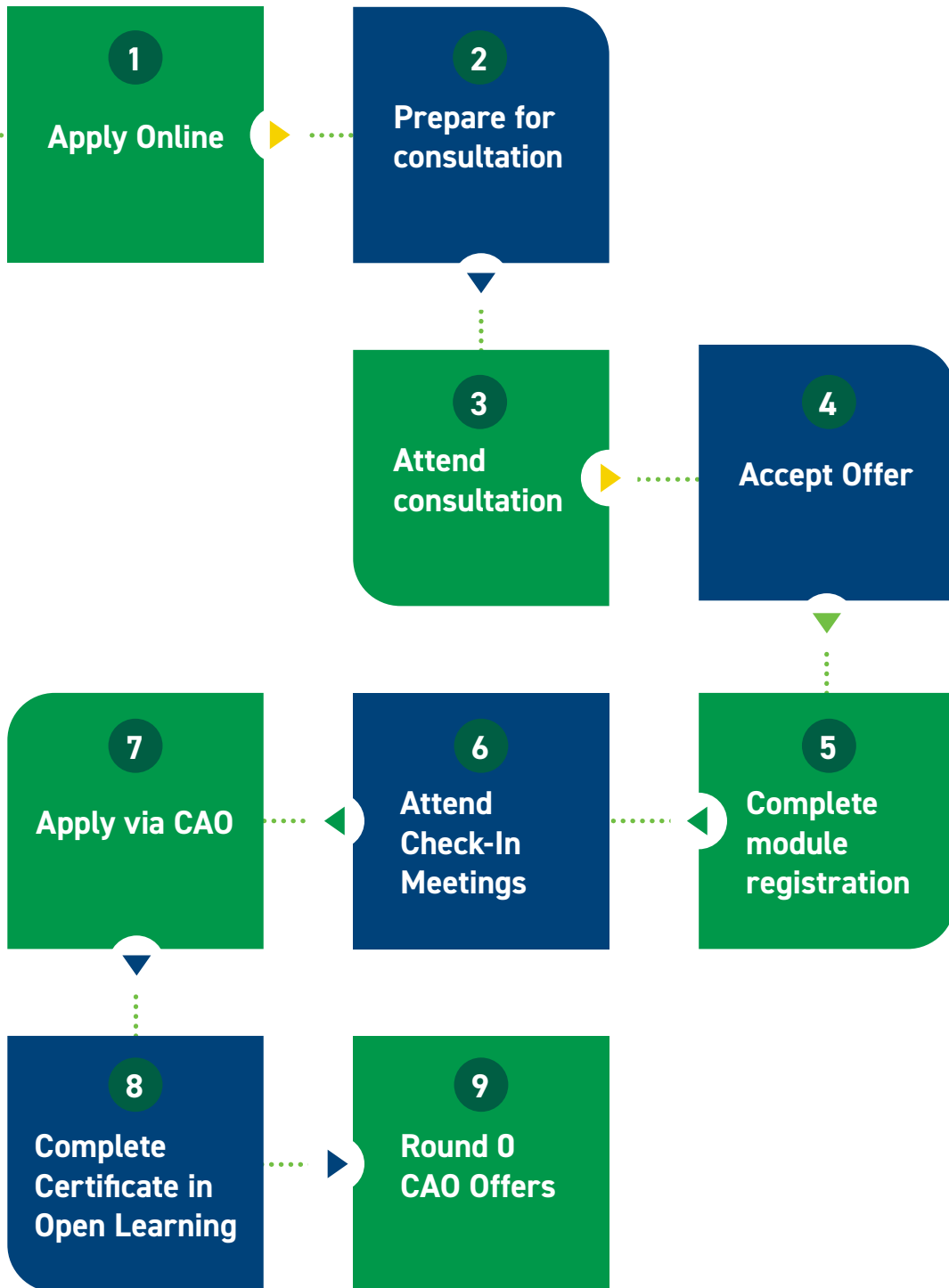
Who is Open Learning for?

An Open Learning Progression Pathway could be for you if:

You would like to experience university life, but are not quite ready to jump into a full-time undergraduate degree just yet.

You would like to explore different subjects and want to see what feels right.

Your education was put on hold or ended earlier than planned.

You are returning to study and want to refresh your academic skills.

You are looking to boost your confidence before diving into a degree programme.

Sula labharann tú, **éist**
Sula dtugann tú breithiúnas, **bi fiosrach**
Sula bhfreagraíonn tu, **déan do mhacnamh**
Sula gcánann tú, **fan tamaill**
Sula gcaitheann tú airgead, **tuill é**
Sula ndéanann tú infheistíocht, **déan fiosrú**
Sula ngéilleann tú, **dean iarracht**

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How to apply

You can start your Open Learning journey by visiting our Open Learning webpage or go to the UCD Application Website - www.ucd.ie/apply

1. Create an Account
- Click "Create Account".
- Fill in your basic details (name, email, etc.).
- Choose a username and password.
- You'll get a confirmation email – click the link in the email to activate your account.

2. Start a New Application
- Log in to your account.
- Click "Start a New Application".
- Choose the right application type: Other.
- Select the following - U008 Open Learning University Certificate.

3. Fill in Your Details
- Personal information (name, address, contact).
- Education background (schools, grades, qualifications).
- English language proof (if needed).
- Supporting documents are not required for this programme.

4. Review and Submit
- Double-check your information.
- Click "Submit".
- While we don't charge an application fee, a deposit is required.

5. Track Your Application
- Log in anytime to see updates.
- UCD will contact you by email to update you on your application.

What happens next - Progression Pathways Consultation

Once you have submitted your application form, we will be in touch to book a consultation with one of our team members. This chat is an important part of the process and is required before you can be accepted onto a Progression Pathway.

Don't worry, it is a relaxed, informal conversation designed to help make sure Open Learning is the right path for you. We will also talk through your module choices and what you are hoping to achieve during the academic year. It is also a great chance to ask any questions you might have.

To help you get the most out of your consultation, we recommend spending a little time on the following before your meeting:

- **Complete the Open Learning Readiness Checker** - (See page 13)
  This is a quick and easy self-assessment that can highlight any areas where you might want to do a bit of prep before starting your journey.

- **Check out the module requirements for your chosen Pathway**
  Each Progression Pathway has specific module requirements. These are the modules you'll need in order to be eligible to move into a degree programme. Choosing the right modules now can set you up for success later on!

- **Read through the module descriptors**
  Want to know when a module is offered or how it is assessed? The module descriptors have all the key info you need to make informed decisions.

Important Information About Your Progression Pathways Offer

We are excited that you are considering a Progression Pathway. However, please note that, due to high demand, not everyone will receive an offer for their preferred pathway. That is why we recommend exploring all your options - just in case.

- Check your Online Application Account regularly to see the status of your application.

- To register as a UCD student, you must accept your offer. This step allows UCD Registry to create your student profile, which is essential for selecting your modules once module registration opens.

- UCD Registry will let you know when it is time to begin choosing your modules. It is likely to be late August or early September.

A few things to keep in mind:

You will only have a limited window to accept your offer.

A non-refundable deposit and the remaining fee balance must be paid by the UCD Fees deadline. Scan the QR code below for more guidance.

Modules are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is a good idea to register as soon as you are able.

Students who accept their offer will receive an invite to our ALL Welcome Day in early September.

Progression Pathways students will have a check-in meeting with a member of the Open Learning Team each trimester to help you stay on track.

Did you know?
Undergraduate programmes have two trimesters per year (autumn and spring). The academic year will finish at the end of April.

Module Selection

You will discuss your module options during your Progression Pathways consultation, but don't worry if you still have questions afterwards, we are here to help. Feel free to reach out to us for more information or you can book a one-on-one appointment.

Choosing the right modules is a big part of setting yourself up for success. Before making your selection, it is a good idea to ask yourself:

What subjects genuinely interest me?

Have I taken the time to read the module descriptors?

What kind of assessment must I complete?

Are there required modules I must register for?

Have I thought about including a Study Skills module to boost my confidence and learning techniques?

Readiness Checker

Our Readiness Checker is designed to help you decide if engaging with a Progression Pathway is for you. Completing it prior to having a consultation with a member of the team is essential in helping you to get the most out of your time with us. You will gain insight into whether you are ready for a UCD Progression Pathway and what is involved in engaging in UCD's learning environment.

UCD's Open Learning Pathway Programme is an excellent way to encourage inclusivity, diversity and opportunity across all backgrounds, abilities and circumstances.

— Cormac Carney

Getting Started

This is a short checklist to help you find out some essential aspects of being college ready for starting your Open Learning journey.
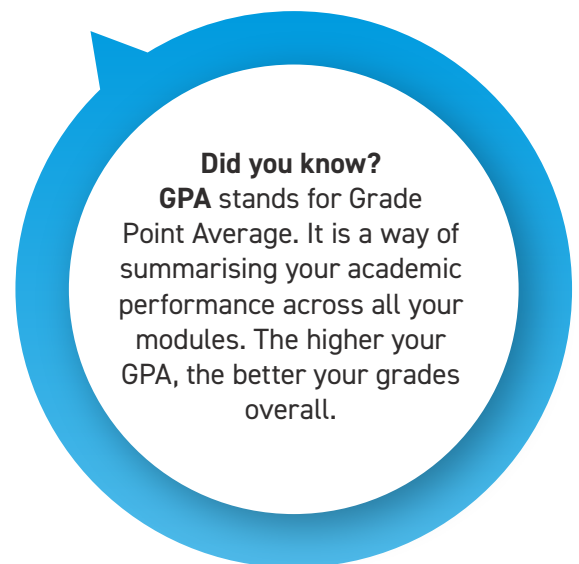
My understanding of Open Learning	Yes	No
I have a clear understanding of how Open Learning works and how it could support my CAO application next year.	☐	☐
I know that I will exit Open Learning with a Level 7 Certificate in Open Learning, if I complete 30 credits.	☐	☐
I have researched the student supports available to me at UCD.	☐	☐
I know that I'll be studying alongside UCD undergraduate students and feel ready for that experience.	☐	☐
I understand the financial and academic commitment of undertaking a programme of study in UCD.	☐	☐

My Motivation / Personal Readiness	Yes	No
I know which academic areas I am most interested in exploring.	☐	☐
I understand that I will have to be self-motivated and study independently.	☐	☐
I have set clear goals for what I want to achieve through Open Learning.	☐	☐
I understand that I will need to be patient and respectful to my peers, support and academic staff.	☐	☐

Progression Pathway	Yes	No
I understand the admission requirements for my chosen programme, including required modules, grades and GPA (Grade Point Average).	☐	☐
I know that if there are more eligible students on my chosen pathway than programme places, places will be allocated on the basis of highest GPA.	☐	☐
I have read the module descriptors for the modules I wish to take and I have reviewed their Assessment Strategy.	☐	☐
I have picked modules at a level appropriate to my level of knowledge of the topic.	☐	☐

My Academic, Literacy & Digital Skills	Yes	No
I have sufficient command of the English language in writing, reading and speaking to succeed in my studies.	☐	☐
I have sufficient command of basic computing skills, including email, accessing online resources, applications and word-processing software.	☐	☐
I am comfortable with online learning platforms and using technology for education.	☐	☐
If it is necessary for my programme I have the fundamentals of mathematics and numerical thinking.	☐	☐
I understand that I will be studying independently.	☐	☐
I am aware of the importance of attending lectures, tutorials, labs and seminars.	☐	☐
I am comfortable participating in discussions and group work.	☐	☐

Managing my time	Yes	No
I know that my time commitments will change when I begin Open Learning and am prepared to change some priorities, if necessary.	☐	☐
I have explored a possible commuting option and the cost/time involved to get to UCD.	☐	☐
I am aware that my time commitments will change when I begin Open Learning and am prepared to change some priorities, if necessary.	☐	☐
I have a sense of the time that I will need to commit to my studies to successfully complete a module.	☐	☐
I understand that engaging in University activities, clubs and societies will help me foster a sense of belonging.	☐	☐

Thank you for taking the time to complete this Readiness Checker. We hope it has helped you to get a clearer picture of what Open Learning involves and what it is like to study at UCD. Take a little time to reflect on your responses, and if you have any questions before your consultation, we are always here to help.

Did you know?
GPA stands for Grade Point Average. It is a way of summarising your academic performance across all your modules. The higher your GPA, the better your grades overall.

UCD College of Arts & Humanities

DN520 BA Joint Honours

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

Programme Requirements

You must complete **6 modules from our offering in order to be considered eligible.**	GPA Requirement **2.6**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **10**

You will get a chance to discuss your options in your consultation, and can see the full list of modules on the Open Learning website.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
HUM10010	**Study Skills in the Humanities**	CCIV10020	**Early Ireland**
AH10160	**Art History in the Making**	ENG10220	**Literature and Crisis**
GRC10170	**Lost Cities of the Ancient World**	HIS10310	**Ireland's English Centuries**

DN530 BA Humanities

This is an innovative, interdisciplinary and multi-subject degree that offers 15 defined courses. It provides coherence and depth to student learning within a carefully structured framework of related subjects. The Humanities degree has the added benefit of offering you ways to diversify your skills.

Programme Requirements

You must complete **6 modules from our** offering in order to be considered eligible.	GPA Requirement ▶ **2.6**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 ▶ **10**

You will get a chance to discuss your options in your consultation, and can see the full list of modules on the Open Learning website.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
FS10010	**Intro to Film & Media**	ENG10220	**Literature and Crisis**
HIS10450	**Radicals and Revolutionaries**	IR10050	**Irish for Beginners**
HUM10040	**Academic Writing in Practice**	GRC10140	**Classical Myth**

UCD College of Business

DN650 BComm Commerce

The UCD Bachelor of Commerce (BComm) degree has a long tradition at the forefront of business and management education in Ireland. It will provide you with a comprehensive and rigorous foundation in core business disciplines, whilst also allowing you to specialise in a specific area of business expertise. It is a globally-recognised degree, designed for ambitious and achievement-oriented students who want to make a significant impact in the business world. Combining strong theoretical understanding with the practical skills needed for graduate employment, students are reassured of a challenging and relevant course for the modern business world.

Programme Requirements

You must complete these 5 core modules and 1 elective in order to be considered eligible.	GPA Requirement 3.08	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 6

There are 5 required modules for this pathway: BMGT10170, MATH10030, LAW10400, ECON10720 and MIS10050.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
BMGT10170	Inside Organisations	ECON10720	Microeconomics for Business
MATH10030	Maths for Business (or MATH00300 Access Maths 1)	MIS10050	Digital Technology in Business
LAW10400	Business Law	LANG10230	Spanish Gen Purp 1

The team is incredible and are there to help you every step of the way, and with an amazing sense of community, buzz and on-campus activities, you'll never be lacking in something to do and people to meet!
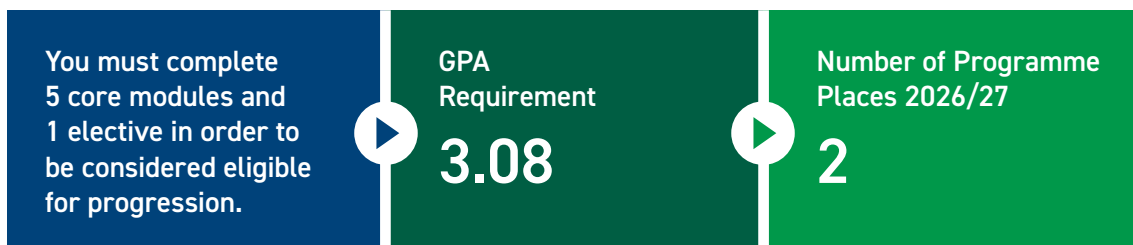
— Hagar Soliman

DN660 BComm Commerce International

The BComm International is a multi-disciplinary Business degree incorporating intercultural competencies and linguistic knowledge, which promote creativity and comprehension of a rapidly evolving world. You will pursue a major in business alongside a minor in a chosen language, combining a flexible business education from Ireland's leading business school with the linguistic skills and multicultural insights required to succeed in the exciting world of international business.

You will get to a high level of language proficiency and cultural sensitivity, enabling you to live abroad for a year and study business through your chosen language during Year 3. This immersive experience, though a demanding challenge, significantly enhances intercultural competencies. These competencies are strongly linked to innovative thinking and creative performance, ultimately increasing employability skills.

Programme Requirements

You must complete 5 core modules and 1 elective in order to be considered eligible for progression.	GPA Requirement 3.08	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 2

There are 5 required modules for this pathway: BMGT10170, MATH10030, ECON10720 and two modules from your language of choice (Chinese, French, German, Spanish, or Italian)*

*Module availability will depend on demand across the chosen School.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
BMGT10170	Inside Organisations	ECON10720	Microeconomics for Business
MATH10030	Maths for Business (or MATH00300 Access Maths 1)	GER10150	German History on Screen
GER10149	Reading German Literature	SOC10060	Ireland in Comparative Perspective

I am grateful for the opportunities Open Learning provided because it showed me what college life would be like, and helped me gain confidence in myself as a student.
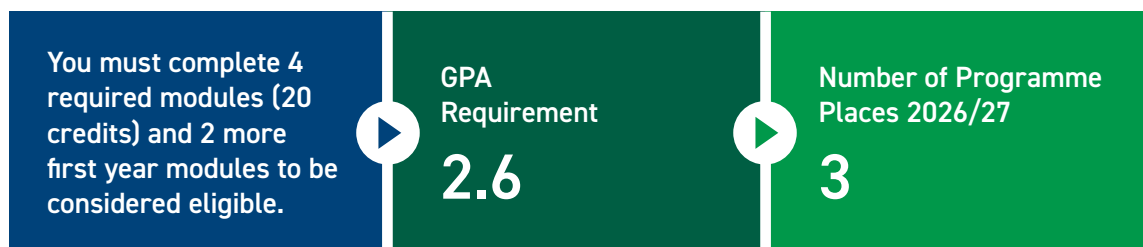
— Mihaly Pal

UCD College of Engineering & Architecture

DN130 BSc City Planning & Environmental Policy

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

Programme Requirements

You must complete 4 required modules (20 credits) and 2 more first year modules to be considered eligible.	GPA Requirement 2.6	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 3

There are 4 required modules for this pathway: PLAN10010, PLAN10040, ENVP10010 and PLAN10100.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
PLAN10010	Introduction to City Planning	ENVP10010	Environment Change & Policy
PLAN10040	Research methods	PLAN10100	Contemporary Issues in Planning
HUM10040	Academic Writing in Practice	ENG10250	Horror Literature

I love the Open Learning programme, it is a fantastic idea if you are thinking of applying to college full time but unsure of the commitment involved.
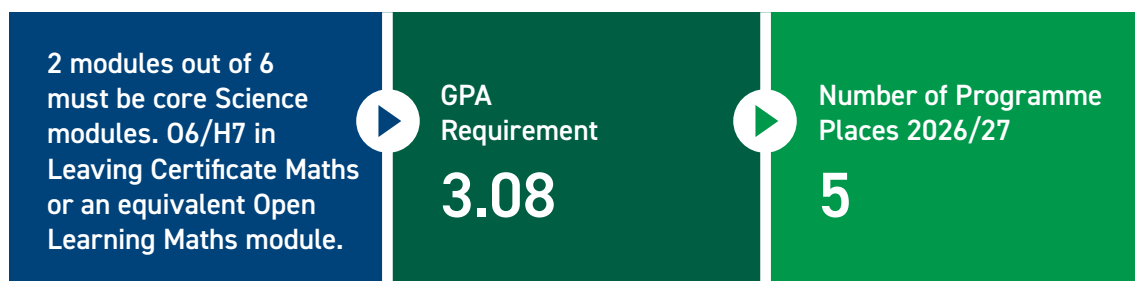
— Annoymous
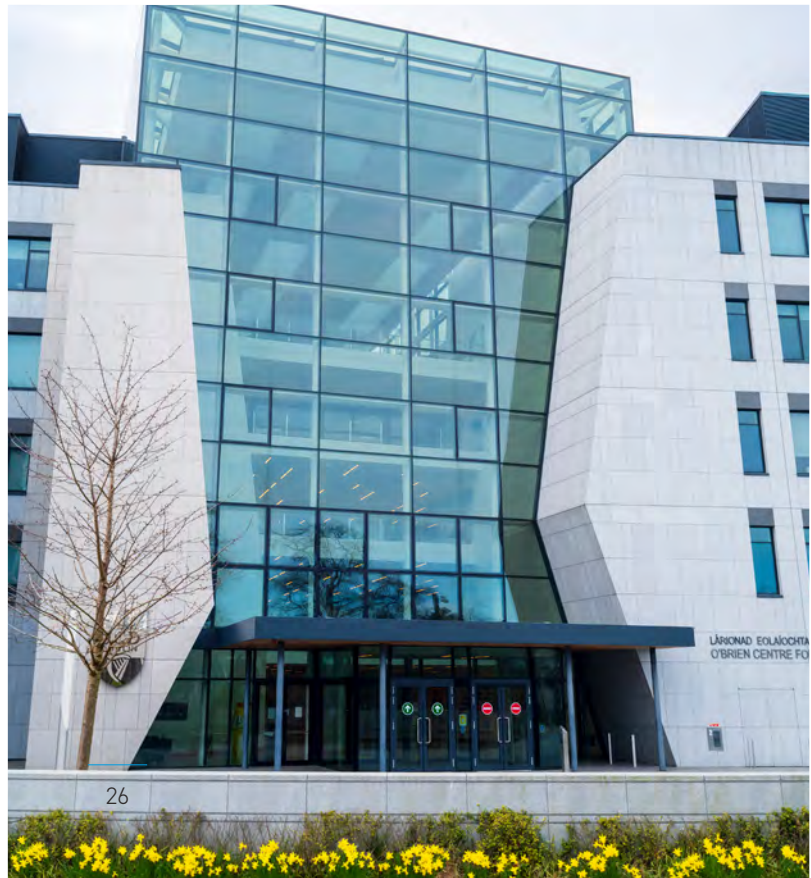
UCD College of Health and Agricultural Science

DN250 BAgrSc Agricultural Science

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

Programme Requirements

2 modules out of 6 must be core Science modules. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Maths or an equivalent Open Learning Maths module.	GPA Requirement **3.08**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **5**

If you require a Maths module, the following are recommended: MATH00030 or MATH00040.

If you don't require a Maths module, you may wish to consider the following choices: MATH10310 or MATH10290.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
MATH10310	Calculus for Science	ANSC10010	Intro to Animal Science
FOR10020	Trees and Forests in Ireland	GEOL10040	Earth, Environment and Society
GEOL10060	Introduction to Earth Sciences	MATH10290	Linear Algebra for Science

DN261 BSc Food Science

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

Programme Requirements

2 Modules out of 6 must be core Science modules. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Maths or an equivalent Open Learning Maths module.	GPA Requirement 3.08	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 3

If you require a Maths module, the following are recommended: MATH00030 or MATH00040.

If you don't require a Maths module, you may wish to consider the following options: MATH00010, MATH10310 or MATH10290.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
MATH10310	Calculus for Science	FDSC10030	Our Food, Our Planet
FDSC10010	Food Diet and Health	GEOL10040	Earth, Environment and Society
PHYC10070	Foundations of Physics	MATH10290	Linear Algebra for Science

DN262 BSc Human Nutrition

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

Programme Requirements

2 Modules out of 6 must be core Science modules. O6/H7 in Leaving Certificate Maths or an equivalent Open Learning Maths module.	▶	GPA Requirement **3.08**	▶	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **2**

If you require a Maths module, the following are recommended: MATH00030 or MATH00040.

If you don't require a Maths module, you may wish to consider either MATH10310 or MATH10290.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
MATH10310	Calculus for Science	FDSC10010	Food Diet and Health
CHEM10010	Introductory Chemistry	FDSC10030	Our Food, Our Planet
BIOL10140	Life on Earth	LANG10100	German Gen Purp 1

Attending UCD has further boosted my confidence to pursue my academic interests.
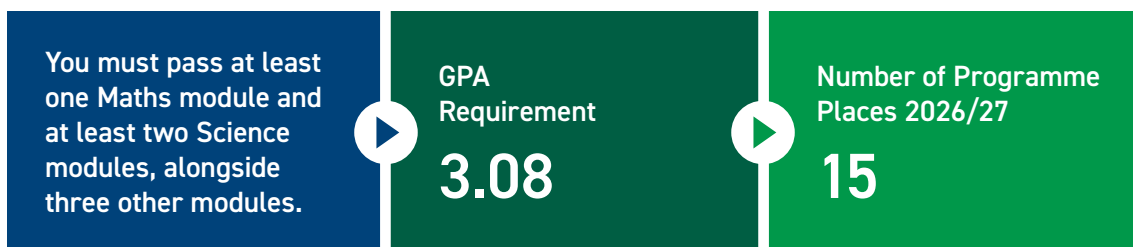
— **Kaytlin Wade**

UCD College of Science

DN200 BSc Science

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

Programme Requirements

You must pass at least one Maths module and at least two Science modules, alongside three other modules.	GPA Requirement **3.08**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **15**

Previous ability in Maths, at minimum Leaving Cert 02/H6 level or equivalent, is highly recommended.

For applicants who have not achieved an O2/H6 grade, or equivalent, in Leaving Cert Maths the following modules are suggested: MATH00030 or MATH00040.

The following modules are also accepted: MATH00010, MATH10310 or MATH10290.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
MATH10310	Calculus for Science	LANG10230	Spanish Gen Purp 1
CHEM10040	The Molecular World	BIOL10070	Biology for the Modern World
GEOL10050	Earth and Humanity	PHYC10200	Conceptual Physics

DN201 BSc Computer Science

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

Programme Requirements

You must pass at least one Maths module and at least two Science modules, alongside three other modules.	GPA Requirement **3.08**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **2**

Previous ability in Maths, at minimum Leaving Cert 02/H6 level or equivalent, is highly recommended.

For applicants who have not achieved an O2/H6 grade, or equivalent, in Leaving Cert Maths the following modules are suggested: MATH00030 or MATH00040.

The following modules are also accepted: MATH00010, MATH10310 or MATH10290.

Sample subject combination

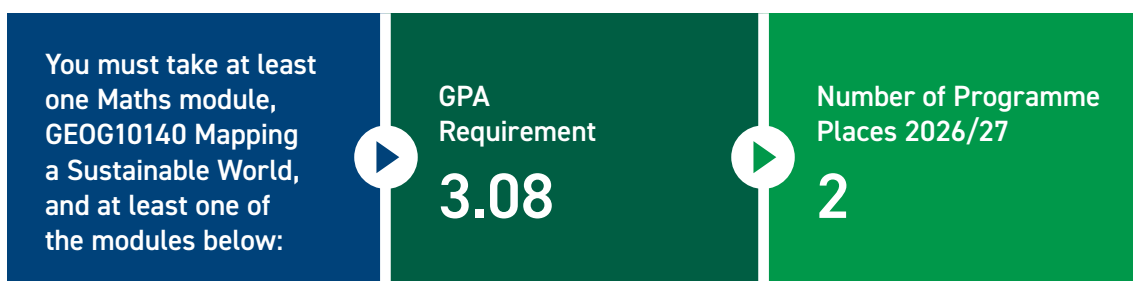| Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
COMP10010	**Introduction to Programming I**	COMP10020	**Introduction to Programming II**
GEOL10060	**Introduction to Earth Sciences**	CHEM10050	**The Basis of Organic and Biological Chemistry**
EDUC10170	**Human Learning**	MATH10290	**Linear Algebra for Science**

DN240 BSc Sustainability

The BSc in Sustainability is an innovative undergraduate degree that aims to equip its graduates with the interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to address sustainability challenges by combining environmental, social and economic perspectives. After a common first year, you will retain an interdisciplinary perspective throughout their degree, but will elect to focus on one of the following:

- Sustainability with Environmental Science OR
- Sustainability with Social Sciences, Policy and Law OR
- Sustainability with Business and Economics

Programme Requirements

You must take at least one Maths module, GEOG10140 Mapping a Sustainable World, and at least one of the modules below:	GPA Requirement **3.08**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **2**

GEOL10060, ECON10040, ENVP10010, GEOL10050, ARCH10150, DSCY10060, GEOG10080, GEOG10100.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
GER10100	German Beginners A	DSCY10060	Energy, Climate Change & Policy
GEOG10140	Mapping a Sustainable World	GEOL10060	Introduction to Earth Sciences
MATH00010	Introduction to Mathematics	SCI10040	Prep for Your Future Career

Open Learning has provided me with a unique opportunity to further my studies and gain more knowledge about what subject areas I'm interested in.
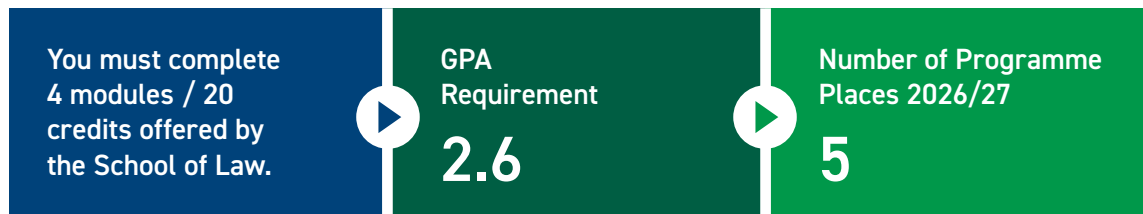
— Ella Power

UCD College of Social Sciences & Law

DN600 BCL Law

UCD Sutherland School of Law, the largest and most diverse law school in Ireland, is committed to the development and creation of new initiatives, to enriching the educational environment of its student body, to working in partnership with the practising legal profession and to establishing a major, well-regarded and authoritative presence in the international legal community.

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

Programme Requirements

You must complete 4 modules / 20 credits offered by the School of Law.	GPA Requirement 2.6	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 5

You may wish to consider some of the following modules: LAW10420, LAW10340, LAW10360 or LAW10350.

Sample subject combination

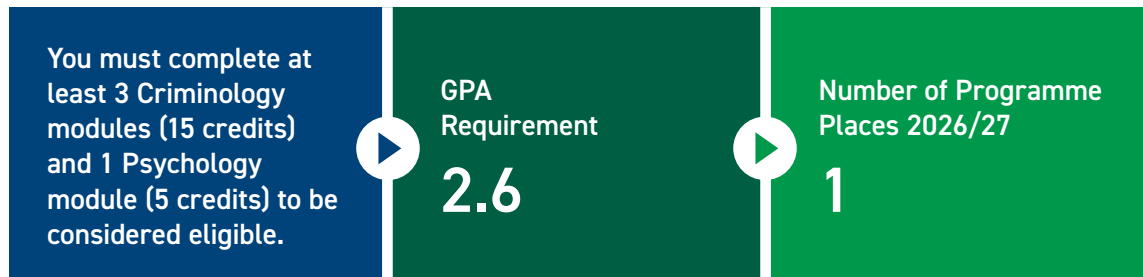| Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
LAW10420	Legal and Professional Skills	LAW10360	General Introduction to the Irish Legal System
EDUC10170	Human Learning	LAW10350	Contract: Vitiating Factors and Remedies
LAW10340	Contract Formation	PHIL10100	Existentialism and Humanism: An Introduction to Continental Philosophy

DN620 BHLAW029 Criminology with Psychology

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

Programme Requirements

You must complete at least 3 Criminology modules (15 credits) and 1 Psychology module (5 credits) to be considered eligible.	GPA Requirement **2.6**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **1**

You may wish to consider the following modules LAW10540, LAW10560, LAW10490 and PSY10050.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
LAW10540	**Introduction to Criminology**	PSY10050	**Introduction to Psychology**
LAW10560	**Academic and Professional Skills**	LAW10490	**Introduction to Criminal Justice**
IDIS00010	**First Steps - Intro to HE**	DSCY10050	**War: Ancient and modern**

DN700 BSc Social Sciences

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

Programme Requirements

You must complete 6 modules from our offering in order to be considered eligible.	GPA Requirement **2.6**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **10**

You will get a chance to discuss your options in your consultation, and can see the full list of modules on the Open Learning website.
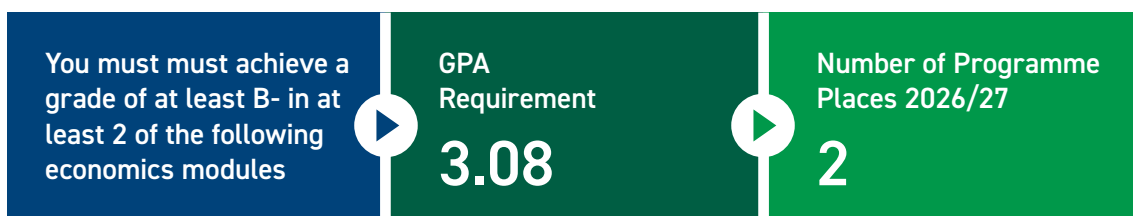
Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
EDUC10170	Human Learning	PHIL10040	Introduction to Ethics
FR10060	French Grammar & Comprehension	ENG10020	Children's Literature
ARCH10010	Exploring Archaeology	INRL10020	Foundations of International Relations

DN710 BSc Economics

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

Programme Requirements

You must must achieve a grade of at least B- in at least 2 of the following economics modules	▶	GPA Requirement **3.08**	▶	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **2**

We recommend you take either ECON10770 or ECON10040 before selecting any other economics modules.

Other economics modules you could consider are ECON10760, ECON10720 or ECON10030.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
ECON10770	Introduction to Economics	ECON10040	Economics & Sustainability
ECON10030	Intro to Quantitative Economics	SPAN10130	Hispanic Cultures & Societies
MUS10220	Popular Music	HUM10040	Academic Writing in Practice

My favourite part of Open Learning has been getting to taste-test different areas of study. It has given me a more detailed understanding of the world we live in.
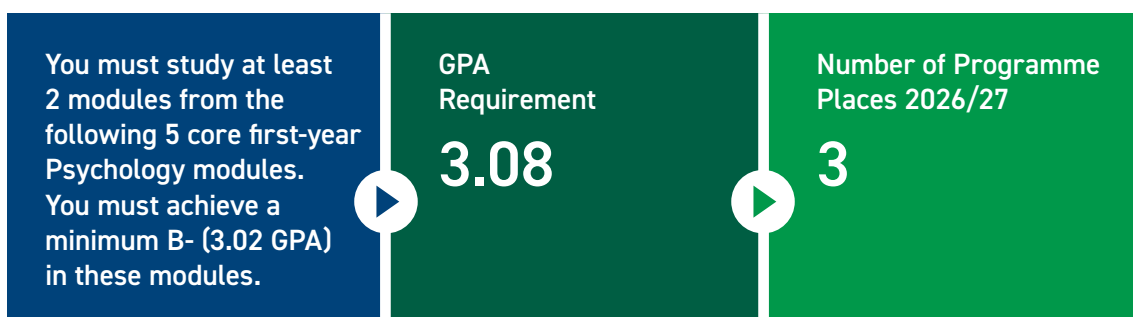
— Rebecca Tofvesson

DN720 BSc Psychology

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

Programme Requirements

You must study at least 2 modules from the following 5 core first-year Psychology modules. You must achieve a minimum B- (3.02 GPA) in these modules.	GPA Requirement **3.08**	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 **3**

You can consider taking two of the following modules PSY10040, PSY10050, PSY10060, PSY10080 or PSY10090.

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
PSY10060	Brain and Behaviour	PSY10050	Introduction to Psychology
PSY10080	Introduction to Social Psychology	PSY10090	Introduction to Applied Psychology
ENG10180	Comics and Fantasy	DSCY10160	Refugee Displacement

DN750 BSocSc Social Policy & Sociology

The UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice is a centre of excellence for research, teaching and professional training in social policy, social work, equality studies and gender studies. We offer diverse degree programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level, community outreach certificate programmes, Continuous Professional Development modules, and research degrees in social work, social policy and social justice.

Our research is interdisciplinary, international in scope and influences policy and society. Teams and colleagues work on a range of topics (e.g. housing, families, child welfare, health care, migration, social justice movements) and have received funding from prestigious sponsors such as the Irish Research Council and the European Union.

Programme Requirements

You must pass at least one core Social Policy module and one core Sociology module from Stage 1 of the BSocSc Social Policy and Sociology degree. You must pass a Study Skills module, e.g. IDIS00010 First Steps.	GPA Requirement 2.6	Number of Programme Places 2026/27 5

Sample subject combination

Autumn Trimester		Spring Trimester	
IDIS00010	First Steps	SOC10070	Sociological Analysis and Research Design
SPOL10010	Social Policy Theories and Concepts I	GEOG10100	People, Places, Regions
ECON10770	Introduction to Economics	HIS10440	The United States, 1776-1991

Student & Financial Supports

Open Learning Student Support

As an Open Learning student, you will have access to a range of supports designed to help you settle in and make the most of your university experience.

Did you know?
Over 500 students attend our ALL Welcome every year.
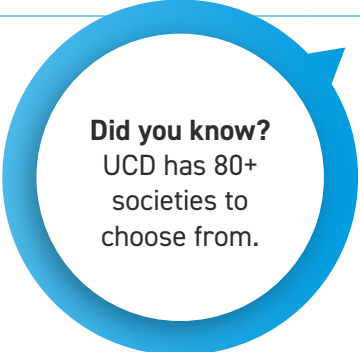
Our **ALL Welcome** in September and follow-up orientation sessions with the Open Learning Team.

Throughout the academic year we offer:

▶ **Drop-in sessions** twice a week in each trimester and bespoke appointments.

▶ Mid-Trimester **check-in meetings** with a member of the Open Learning Team.

▶ **Regular emails** about information on upcoming events and deadlines, as well as signpost to other Student Supports.

▶ We strongly encourage you to **join clubs and student societies**, as well as using our **Sports Centre**, **five libraries** and **scenic woodland walks**.

Did you know?
UCD has 80+ societies to choose from.

Academic Supports

There are numerous academic supports available to students:

Academic Skills Workshops	Enhance your study techniques, time management, and exam preparation through workshops offered by UCD Access & Lifelong Learning.
ALL Digital Ambassadors	Get help with technical queries and enhance your digital learning skills through support from Digital Ambassadors.
UCD Writing Centre	Receive free one-on-one tutoring to improve your academic writing, including essay structure, referencing, and clarity.
UCD Maths Support Centre	Access assistance from experienced tutors for a range of mathematics and statistics modules.
UCD Library	Utliise five libraries with extensive resources, study spaces, and online collections. Library staff are available to assist you in navigating these resources.

Health, Guidance and Advice

UCD Student Health Service	Provides on-campus medical, psychological and psychiatric care for registered students of the University.
Chaplaincy	Offers student support, pastoral care, and spiritual direction.

Disability Support

The UCD Disability Service offers supports to students with a disability or a significant ongoing illness. If that is you, you are encouraged to connect with the service to explore the academic and exam supports available to help you succeed.

To get started, simply book a Needs Assessment with the Disability Team after you complete your Open Learning registration by emailing disability@ucd.ie.

Supports include

Needs Assessment	To access supports, students must provide documentation of their disability and attend a Needs Assessment meeting with the ALL team.
Reasonable Accommodations	Tailored supports such as extra time in exams, assistive technology, and classroom accommodations are available.
Support Continuity	Once registered, supports typically continue each academic year without the need for reassessment, unless there is a break in studies.

Financial Supports for Open Learning Students

Part-Time Student Support Fund

This fund assists part-time students from low-income households. You may receive up to €325 annually, with an additional €325 available for those who are parenting. To qualify, your course must lead to a higher education award (Level 6–10).

Think Again Scholarship

Designed for students returning to education, this scholarship offers up to €1,000 per year for part-time students. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and provide supporting documents. The scholarship can be used flexibly to support your studies.

Sanctuary Programme

This programme supports refugees, asylum seekers, and individuals with leave to remain, offering fee reductions and additional supports.

Please note

Find out more about our specific support funds by using the QR code.

- Open Learning modules cost €525 per 5 credit module.
- 30 credit Certificate in Open Learning - €3,150 in total.
- Open Learning is not eligible for SUSI funding.
- To apply for these supports, you may need to provide income documentation, such as a Statement of Liability or social welfare statements.

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.

Lifelong Learning

UCD has a long tradition of offering a vibrant and unique Lifelong Learning Programme, they are short, non-credit bearing courses for adult learners eager to explore new ideas in a relaxed, exam-free setting. The programme includes subjects like appreciation, literature, history, philosophy, languages, and creative writing. Courses are taught by expert tutors and designed to be engaging and participative. With both in-person and online options, it's easy to find a course that fits your schedule. UCD is proudly an Age-Friendly University, welcoming learners of all ages. Whether you're returning to learning or just curious, this is your chance to grow and connect through education.

More Information

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

UCD Access & Lifelong Learning
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University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4
D04 V1W8, Ireland

Rochtain agus Foghlaim ar feadh an tSaoil UCD
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Belfield, Baile Átha Cliath 4

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