



University College Dublin
University for All



Age-friendly
University
Global Network

Part-Time Programme
2023-24



University Access courses for Mature Students 2023-24



University College Dublin
University for All

University Access courses for Mature Students 2023-24

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Welcome to our University Access Programme

Welcome to Ireland's longest established University Access programme. We are delighted that you are considering studying with us in 2023 to prepare for the exciting prospect of a degree programme at UCD.

UCD welcomes and highly values our mature students. We are delighted to provide foundation courses to get you started on a life-enhancing educational journey. You will be pleased to hear that UCD Access and Lifelong Learning (ALL) is a leader in the field of lifelong learning and in supporting mature students in their return to learning, and preparation for university. We aim to provide a stimulating and supportive setting, where you will feel comfortable in approaching members of the Access team for guidance and direction. Our goal is to introduce you to many happy years of learning at UCD. The purpose of these courses is to pave the way for adult learners to progress in their educational journey into UCD. So, join our learning community in the great adventure that is the life of a mature student, we will be with you every step of the way!



Bairbre Fleming

DR BAIRBRE FLEMING
Deputy Director
UCD Access and Lifelong Learning
Chair of PATH Open Learning group

Welcome from our Access Mascot

OBAAT, our elephant access mascot whose name derives from the African proverb ‘The way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time’, prompts us to take on big tasks by breaking them into manageable pieces. Your first step to realising a long-held ambition to attend university may be reading further here, getting in touch, or applying directly for your place on either Access to AHSSL or Access to SEAM. Whichever way, I will look forward to hearing from you.

Slán go fóill / bye for now,



OBAAT
our Access Mascot

What are Access courses for mature students?

Access courses are **year-long, part-time, foundation courses** which are designed to introduce students to studying at UCD. The Access courses are open to mature students - meaning those over the age of 22 on January 1, 2023. **We offer two university Access courses:**

- Diploma in Access to Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences & Law – **Access to AHSSL**
- Diploma in Access to Science, Engineering, Agricultural Science & Medicine, and Veterinary Medicine – **Access to SEAM**

How to apply

Apply through our online application system:

www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/applying/universityaccesscourses

What next?

Once you have applied for the course, we will be in touch with you to invite you to attend occasional webinars where you will meet staff and former Access students who will give their top tips and tricks and address any pre-entry queries you may have. More information is available in the relevant section for Access to AHSSL and Access to SEAM.

Scholarships

We are pleased to offer **Scholarships - known as Cothrom Na Féinne** – for both Access courses, which offer a substantial reduction in fees, or a free place.

Full information is available at:

<https://www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/scholarshipsandfinancialsupport/>

Academic Calendar 2023-24

Dates are subject to change. Be guided by our website and updates closer to the time - www.ucd.ie/all

Event	Date
ALL Welcome and AHSSL Bootcamp	September 2023 - Expect to be alerted closer to the time
Autumn Trimester - Teaching term	Monday, 18 September – Friday, 1 December 2023 (11 weeks)
Exam period	Saturday, 9 December – Thursday, 21 December 2023
Spring Trimester - Teaching term	Monday, 22 January – Friday, 8 March 2024
Fieldwork/Study period	Monday, 11 March – Sunday, 24 March 2024
Teaching term	Monday, 25 March – Friday, 26 April 2024
Revision	Saturday, 27 April – Friday, 3 May 2024
Exam period	Saturday, 4 May – Friday, 18 May 2024

**Access
to Arts,
Humanities,
Social
Sciences &
Law - AHSSL**

Welcome from the UCD College of Social Sciences & Law

I am delighted to welcome you to Access to Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Law, and to UCD. Congratulations on your decision to take this programme. It will offer you the opportunity to develop the skills you need to thrive in a university environment and also introduce you to a range of fascinating subjects. UCD is the leading centre for education and research in Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Law in Ireland and our beautiful and vibrant campus is an exciting place to study. We are proud of our excellent teachers and the collaborative and supportive environment on campus.

Our aim is to support you as you take this first step as a university student and to encourage you to use it as a springboard into one of our degrees. You will be following in the footsteps of others who have come from this Access programme and gone on to achieve amazing things both in UCD and beyond. Who knows where it will lead you?



PROFESSOR COLIN SCOTT
College Principal, College of Social Sciences and Law,
Vice-President for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

What is Access to AHSSL?

Access to AHSSL is the oldest Access course in Ireland and is designed to prepare mature learners for successful study at university.

The Access course is a Special Purpose Level 6 Award. Our programme is student centred and will offer you support and guidance throughout your Access year. You will experience a range of teaching approaches including group work, case studies, reviews, and in-class discussions in supportive large and small group settings. A variety of assessment methods are used including reflective journals, presentations, essays, and exams to help you discover your learning style. During your Access year, you will have the opportunity to sample lectures and make informed choices about your CAO application and next steps. As a University Access Student, you will also be welcome to avail of additional academic skills workshops, digital literacy sessions and the range of supports offered by the ALL Centre.

Progression

Students who achieve a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.6 or more can apply for a guaranteed minimum number of places on the following degree programmes in UCD. Where there are more qualified applicants for entry (i.e., students with a GPA greater than 2.6) than there are places, the allocation will be made by the highest GPA.

- **BA Arts (CAO code DN520)**
- **BA Humanities (CAO code DN530)**
- **BSc Social Sciences (CAO code DN700)**
- **BSocSc Social Policy and Sociology (CAO code DN750)**
- **BCL Law (CAO code DN600)**
- **BSc Criminology with Psychology (CAO Code DN620)**

In addition to meeting the required standard on the course, you must be eligible to apply on the grounds of mature years and make an application through **the CAO**.

University Access results are valid for two years only i.e. results from this year are valid for entry in this year and next year only.

From age 22 to 102!

Anyone aged **22 or more on January 1, 2023**, may apply for this Access course. This means that you will meet the age requirement of being at least 23 on the 1st of January when starting your degree. There is no upper age limit.

Course fee

Course fee: **€850**

Scholarship fee: **€425**

Scholarships

For information and to apply see:

<https://www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/scholarshipsandfinancialsupport/>

Guidance

Before applying for Access to AHSSL, please take the time to read the material on our website: www.ucd.ie/all

Contact access@ucd.ie with any queries.

Applying

Applications are made online, directly to UCD. Please note that there is **no application fee** for Access to AHSSL.

Once you have submitted an online application you will be invited to come and meet with us for a brief, informal interview. During this time, you will also be asked to produce a short written piece. This written piece will form the basis of a conversation where we can explore how the course meets your needs and expectations. The interviews are an opportunity for you to discuss your study plans, as well as allowing us the space to discuss whether the access course will suit you at this point. After the interview, you will be informed of whether you are being offered a place on the course.

Interviews are typically scheduled during June, July, and August by arrangement.

Deadline for applications to Access to AHSSL:

20 August 2023 (later applications may be considered).

Course structure

You will take **6 modules** over the academic year, with modules available mornings or evenings. You may mix morning and evening modules. The course is divided into core study skills modules and optional modules in academic subject areas. You will be assessed in all six modules; each module carries 5 credits.

You must gather 30 credits to complete the course.

Students register for a maximum credit load of 15 in each trimester.

Core Modules

The core modules in Access to AHSSL are key to your success as a university student. We have been working with Access students for decades and have established that the key to a positive outcome is study skills. How you study, and the habits you develop during the year, will sustain and support you as you progress through UCD. Our Study Skills are taught in a positive and accessible way. You will learn the key approaches and skills you need to be an effective and engaged student.

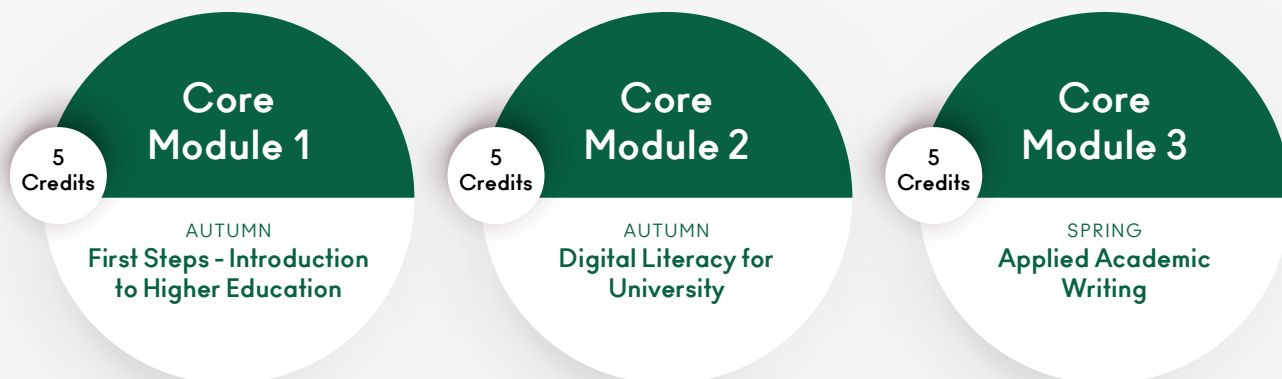
You can then put your skills into practice with your optional subjects. There are additional free academic workshops and supports you can also use to support your learning on the University Access course.

These three core modules are compulsory for all students.

1. First Steps - Introduction to Higher Education - Autumn
2. Digital Literacy for University - Autumn
3. Applied Academic Writing - Spring

In the autumn trimester, you will register for **two** core study skills modules **First Steps in Higher Education** (5 credits) **and Digital Literacy** (5 credits) along with **one** optional module.

Core Modules



Optional Modules

Students must complete three optional modules. Choose from the following:

- Making History – **only available in the autumn trimester** (5 credits)
- Introduction to Archaeology (5 credits)
- Ways of Reading (English Literature) (5 credits)
- Introduction to Law in Ireland (5 credits)
- Introducing our Social Worlds (5 credits)

In the spring trimester, you will register for **one** core study skill module **Applied Academic Writing** along with **two** optional modules from the above optional module list.

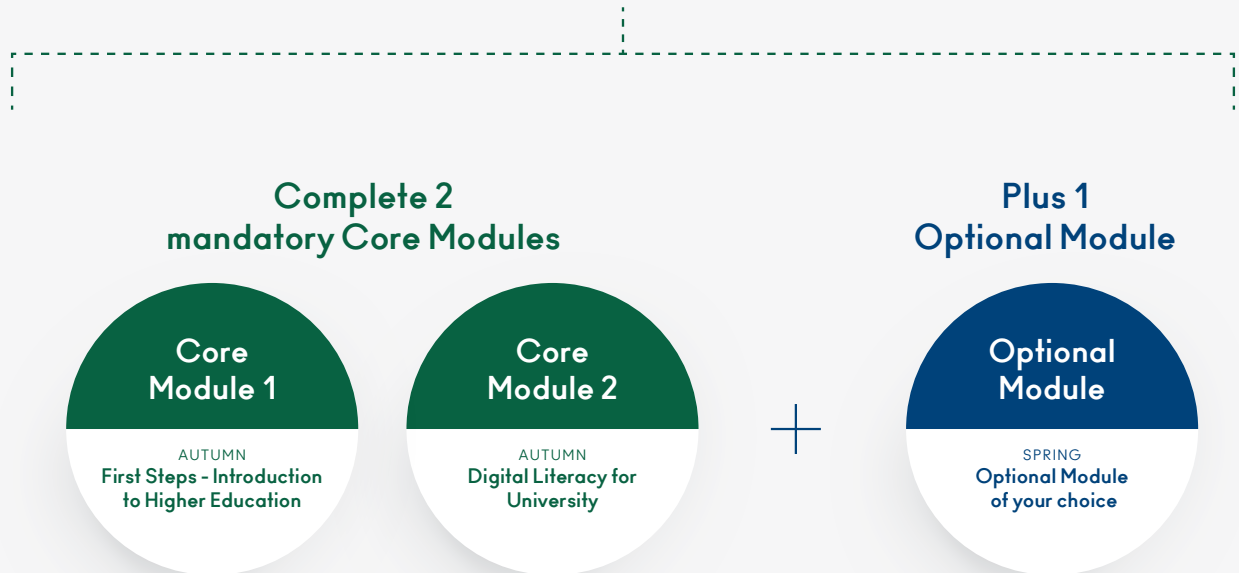
See Course Structure on our website for more information on the optional modules.

Optional Modules

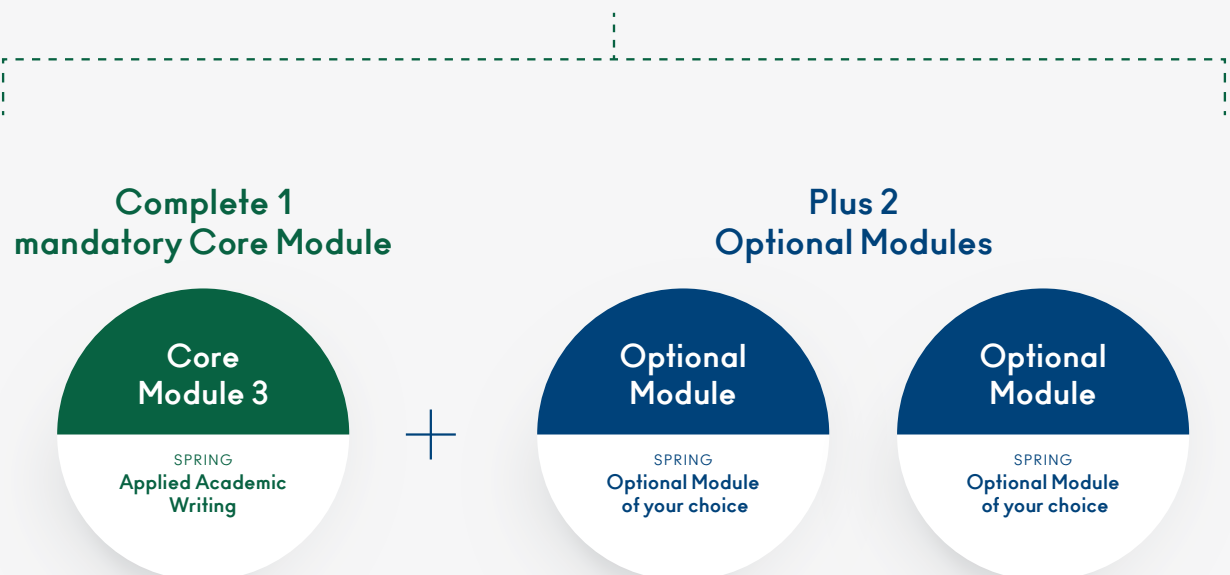


Course Structure - summary

Autumn Trimester



Spring Trimester



Timetable

Trimester 1

Day time

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00		First Steps – Introduction to Higher Education (Core)	First Steps – Introduction to Higher Education (Core)		
11:00					
12:00		Digital Literacy (Core)	Digital Literacy (Core)		

Evening

18:00		Digital Literacy (Core)		Ways of Reading: English Literature (Optional)	
19:00		First Steps – Introduction to Higher Education (Core)			
20:00					

Timetable

Trimester 2

Daytime					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00		Applied Academic Writing (Core)			
11:00		Introduction to Archaeology (Optional)	Ways of Reading: English Literature (Optional)	Introduction to the Law in Ireland (Optional)	
12:00					
Evening					
17:00				Applied Academic Writing (Core)	
18:00				Introduction to our Social Worlds (Optional)	
19:00					

You will find a lot of information about UCD Access and Lifelong Learning, and the courses and services we offer on www.ucd.ie/all

Don't forget, if you are unsure about anything please email access@ucd.ie

**Access to
Science,
Engineering,
Agricultural
Science,
Medicine, &
Veterinary
Medicine -
SEAM**

Welcome from the UCD College of Science

A very warm welcome to SEAM - the UCD Access programme into Science, Engineering, Agricultural Science and Medicine. UCD is a long-established university with a global reputation for excellence, and this is particularly so in these discipline areas. You will find that UCD provides an inclusive environment, in which diversity is embraced and where new ideas to solve global problems are warmly welcomed. There has never been a better time to study one of the SEAM disciplines, and our degrees offer unparalleled opportunities for each of you to develop your knowledge and advance your career ambitions. The time spent at university is also about making new friends, connections and networks, which will serve you well throughout your time with us and beyond. I personally look forward to meeting and teaching many of you, and I wish you the very best as you embark on this exciting journey of discovery.

Best wishes,



PROFESSOR JEREMY C SIMPSON
College Principal & Dean of Science

What is Access to SEAM?

This Access course is a Special Purpose Level 6 Award. Our programme is student centred and will offer you support and guidance throughout your Access year. You will experience a range of teaching approaches including lectures, laboratory experience and in-class discussions in a small class group setting. This course is designed to prepare adults, who may not have the formal qualifications, for successful study at university, particularly in the areas of Science, Engineering, Agricultural Sciences, Medicine or Health & Safety. We are delighted to be also offering a progression route to Veterinary Medicine this year.

Our aim is to:

- Facilitate you in finding a degree course that best suits your aptitude and interest.
- Give you the confidence and skills necessary to plan and organise study for your particular needs.
- Provide you with analytical skills to fully understand the material presented in all subject modules.
- Equip you with the skills and confidence to take on a degree course in Science, Agricultural Science, Engineering/Architecture, Medicine, or Veterinary Medicine.

Progression

Students who achieve a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.08 or more can apply for a guaranteed minimum number of places in the following degree programmes at UCD. Where there are more qualified applicants for entry (i.e., students with a GPA greater than 3.08) than there are places, the allocation will be made by the highest GPA.

- **Bachelor of Science (CAO code DN200)**
- **Bachelor of Computer Science (CAO code DN201)**
- **Bachelor of Agriculture CAO code (DN250/ DN261)**
- **Bachelor of Engineering (CAO code DN150)***
- **Medicine (CAO code DN400) ****
- **Veterinary Medicine (CAO code DN300) *****

* Entry to Engineering is also contingent on obtaining an A- or higher in each of the mathematics modules.

** Entry to Medicine is also contingent on obtaining a minimum grade of A- in the module “Introduction to Chemistry, Physics & Biology”. Applicants will be required to submit a learning journal and obtain a minimum HPAT Ireland score of 150. Two places will be offered per year and will be allocated on a competitive basis. Applicants to this course should also note the following guidelines: [Access to Medicine](#).

*** Entry to Veterinary Medicine is also contingent on obtaining a minimum grade A- in the module ‘Introduction to Chemistry, Physics & Biology’. A minimum of 60 hours of Animal Experience, with one or more species, will be required. The animal experience should be within the past two years. Applicants will be required to submit a report reflecting on this experience and their interest in the Veterinary profession. Applicants will be interviewed to assess their Critical Thinking, Communication Skills and their Interest and Knowledge of the Veterinary profession and the veterinary course. Two places will be offered per year and will be allocated on a competitive basis.

The above is not an exhaustive list; all applicants are also referred to the UCD Prospectus. In addition to meeting the required standard on the course, you must be eligible to apply on the grounds of mature years and make an application through [the CAO](#). University Access results are valid for two years only i.e. results from this year are valid for entry in this year and next year only.

From age 22 to 102!

Anyone aged **22 or more on January 1, 2023**, may apply for this Access course. This means that you will meet the age requirement of being at least 23 on January 1, when starting your degree. There is no upper age limit.

Course fee

Course fee: **€1,800**

Scholarship fee: **€600**

Scholarships

For information and to apply see:

<https://www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/scholarshipsandfinancialsupport/>

Guidance

Before applying for Access to SEAM, please take the time to read the material on our website: www.ucd.ie/all

If you have any further queries, please get in touch:

access@ucd.ie

Applying

There are four steps in applying to the Access to SEAM course, there is no application fee for Access to SEAM:

1. Complete an Online Application
2. Attend four pre-entry maths workshops (including a maths assessment)
3. Attend a pre-entry science lecture (including a short written assignment)
4. Interview

Deadline for applications to Access to SEAM:

Tuesday, 12 July 2023

Attendance at the workshops, lectures, and interviews is mandatory. These will take place on the following dates:

Event	Date
Maths Workshops - offered online (Including a maths assessment)	Saturday, July 16 at 10:00 Monday, July 18 at 18:00 Wednesday, July 20 at 18:00 Saturday, July 23 at 10:00
Science Lecture (Including a short written assignment)	Tuesday, July 26 at 18:00
Interview dates	Wednesday 27 / Thursday 28 July

Timetable

Access to SEAM is offered on Monday and Wednesday evenings (6 – 9pm) and on Saturday mornings (10am - 1pm).

Course modules

All modules are compulsory for all Access to SEAM students, the credit load is 30 credits. To complete the course successfully students must pass all modules and gather 30 credits.

- **Flipped Classroom SCI00010 (10 credits)**
- **Mathematics 1 MATH00030 (5 credits).**
This module must be passed before a student can progress to Maths 11
- **Mathematics 11 MATH00040 (5 credits)**
- **Intro to Chemistry, Physics & Biology SCI00020 (10 credits)**

See Course Structure on our website for more information on the optional modules.

You will find a lot of information about UCD Access and Lifelong Learning, and the courses and services we offer on www.ucd.ie/all

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UCD Access & Lifelong Learning

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Rochtain agus Foghlaim ar feadh an tSaoil UCD

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

