Dropping/picking subjects and their implications for the pursuit of Career & Course choices

Subject	This subject is essential for	This subject is desirable for	This subject fulfills a requirement for
Ag. Science	N/A	Agricultural Science, Farming, Veterinary, Environmental Science, Food Science, Food Production.	a laboratory Science subject requirement for study in the medical or allied health fields or professions. Check prospectuses of individual colleges to verify if it is recognized. Not accepted for Medicine in UCCa science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level You need a science subject (Biology best) for PE & Maths in DCU
Accounting	Not essential but <u>very</u> <u>desirable</u> for>>	Accounting courses, Business courses apart from Economics, Actuarial Math, and some Business management courses. Useful if self employed- e.g. as a hairdresser or mechanic. Also for careers where budgeting or financial management are required.	Institute of Accounting Technicians Apprenticeship in Ireland (IATI) - Passes must be obtained in English and at least one subject from Mathematics or Accountancy.
Biology	Not essential but <u>very</u> <u>desirable</u> for>>	Nursing & the study of allied health professions-Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary, Beautician, Massage Therapist, also for the study of P.E. & Biology or PE & Maths Teaching (DCU)	a laboratory Science subject requirement for study in the medical or allied health fields or professions. a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level You need a science subject (Biology best) for PE & Maths in DCU
Business	N/A	Business or management or Retail courses. Also for setting up your own business or for careers where budgeting or management are required, also for Economics and social policy areas of study.	N/A
Construction studies	very desirable for>>>>>>>	Architecture, Architectural Technology, Engineering, Construction, Industrial Design, Product Design and Technology related courses, trades and related employment e.g. fitter, toolmaker, carpenter, welder.	a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level Materials & Engineering Technology with concurrent Teacher Education requires Grade D3 at Higher or Ordinary Level (or Grade C3 or above at Ordinary Level) in one of the following: Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Physics with Chemistry, Engineering, Technical Drawing, Technology, Construction Studies, Agricultural Science, Biology. For ESB, Aer Lingus Aircraft Maintenance engineer/mechanic, Bus Eireann apprentice you need a practical subject i.e. Construction, TG
DCG/Technical Drawing	HC3 required for Design & Technology Education at Letterfrack Also very desirable for>>>>	Architecture, Architectural Technology, Engineering, Construction, Industrial Design, Product Design and Technology related courses, trades and related employment e.g. fitter, toolmaker, carpenter, welder.	a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level For ESB, Aer Lingus Aircraft Maintenance engineer/mechanic, Bus Eireann apprentice you need a practical subject i.e. Construction, TG
Chemistry	Dentistry, Veterinary, Dietician in DIT Medicine in UCC Also very des <u>irable</u> for>>	Nursing, Paramedic, Environmental Health, Forensic Science, Toxicology, Science, Toxicology, Science Teaching	a laboratory Science subject requirement for study in the medical or allied health fields or professions. a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level You need a science subject (Biology best) for PE & Maths in DCU

Geography	N/A	Social Studies, Social Care, Social Policy, Economics, Town Planning etc	N/A
Subject	This subject is essential for	This subject is desirable for	This subject fulfills a requirement for
History	N/A	Archaeology, Art History, Art & Design, Tourism & Heritage Studies, History Teaching.	N/A
Music	Music- CIT, NUIM, DCU,TCD	Music Technology courses- AIT, NUIM. For sound engineering courses, also helpful for Primary Teaching- St. Pat's/Mary Immac/Marino/Maynooth.	N/A
Physics	Theoretical Physics in TCD (H£).	Radiation Therapy, Radiography, Physics, engineering, Industrial Design, Product Design, Engineering or construction, electrician, occupational therapy, Science Teaching	a laboratory Science subject requirement for study in the medical or allied health fields or professionsa science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level You need a science subject (Biology best) for PE & Maths in DCU
Engineering	very desirable for>>>>>>>	Architecture, Architectural Technology, Engineering, Construction, Industrial Design, Product Design and Technology related courses, trades and related employment e.g. fitter, toolmaker, carpenter, welder.	a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level Materials & Engineering Technology with concurrent Teacher Education requires Grade D3 at Higher or Ordinary Level (or Grade C3 or above at Ordinary Level) in one of the following: Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Physics with Chemistry, Engineering, Technical Drawing, Technology, Construction Studies, Agricultural Science, Biology. For ESB, Aer Lingus Aircraft Maintenance engineer/mechanic, Bus Eireann apprentice you need a practical subject i.e. Construction, TG
Art	For most Art/Design courses (x IADT) that do not require portfolios you need to have done Art.	Art Courses- see note in the grey box.	To do a portfolio, it helps to have taken art.
Home Economics	Home Economics Teaching	Nursing, Beauty Therapy, Hairdressing, Social Care, Social Science, Hotel & Catering, Cookery, Chef, Environmental Health, Health Promotion. Food and Nutrition studies. Opthalmic dispensing Dublin.	Home Economics NOT regarded as a Laboratory Science subject. a Science subject requirement for study in the medical or allied health fields or professions & some Science courses. Check prospectuses of individual colleges to verify if it is recognized. This can be an issue especially with phys/chem & UCAS UK applications
Economics	Not essential but desirable for>>	Social Science, Economics & Business at third level	
Politics	Not essential but desirable for>>	Arts, Law, Social Care, Social Work	
Technology	Not essential but <u>desirable</u> for>>	Architecture, Architectural Technology, Engineering, Construction, Industrial Design, Product Design and Technology related courses, trades and related employment e.g. fitter, toolmaker, carpenter, welder.	a science/maths/technology subject for studying some engineering, technology courses at third level Materials & Engineering Technology with concurrent Teacher Education requires Grade D3 at Higher or Ordinary Level (or Grade C3 or above at Ordinary Level) in one of the following: Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Physics with Chemistry, Engineering, Technical Drawing, Technology, Construction Studies, Agricultural Science, Biology. For ESB, Aer Lingus Aircraft Maintenance engineer/mechanic, Bus Eireann apprentice you need a practical subject i.e. Construction, TG
*Computer Science	Not essential but <u>desirable</u> for>>	Computing, Software, Games Design, Networks Administration	
New Subject PE	Not essential but <u>desirable</u> for>>	PE Teaching. Sports related courses	NOTE: This subject is not considered a science subject or a lab science subject for the purposes of minimum entry requirements

Language & Honours Requirements

Subject	This subject is essential for	This subject is desirable for	This subject fulfills a requirement for
English	Higher English is a requirement for most Journalism courses. O4 or H7 req. for Primary teaching	N/a	A 1st language Higher in English, Irish or Maths is required for Nursing studies and study in some colleges and universities- check prospectuses
Irish	Primary Teaching (Minimum H4)	Teaching & Civil Service Jobs, The Gardai	A 2 nd language (ordinary or higher).
French or Spanish, or German	Need a foreign language for some courses e.g. business & a language- check individual college prospectuses	Study of Arts with a language or business with a language	A 3rd language. (NUI colleges- NUI Maynooth, NUI Galway, UCC, UCD, RCSI, St Angela's Sligo, NCAD) require a 3rd language-(1=English, 2=Irish and 3=another language). This is true with the exception of most Science, Engineering, Nursing and IT/Computer courses. Needed for Medicine, Architecture, Veterinary Med UCD, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy (apart from in UL).
Maths	O4 or H7 req. for Primary teaching. Check individual courses & college prospectuses to verify where higher level maths is required. Foundation level maths is not accepted for entry to most CAO courses	Good grades in ordinary or higher Maths is desirable for the study of Engineering, Maths or Science related fields (including Electrical & Engineering Apprentices)	For the Institute of Accounting Technicians in Ireland (IATI) passes must be obtained in English and at least one subject from Mathematics or Accountancy.

Points to note: In addition to these requirements students who go on to do their Leaving Certificate and want to go on to college have to have enough honours subjects and passes to do so. See below for further details-.

To do an Honours Degree (Level 8) students must (usually) have done six subjects for the LC and must obtain 2xH5 & 4xH6/O7 or better. O6/H7 or higher in Maths & English or Irish. So effectively the basic absolute minimum that you need is 2 higher and 4 ordinary levels.

To do an Ordinary Degree (Level 7)- 5 X O6/H7 or better. Subjects required: O6/H7 or higher in English or Irish. Foundation Level Mathematics is accepted on some level 7 courses to satisfy the minimum entry requirements but not for points usually.

To do a Higher Certificate (Level 6)-O6/H7 in English or Irish. For most courses you need O6/H7 in Maths or higher. Some will accept foundation Maths.

Please note that as well as having enough pass and honours subjects the points system is also used to help colleges to choose which students they let in. This is necessary as there may be 100 students competing for 25 places

To do a level 5 programme or PLC Course you need- to have a Leaving Certificate standard or Level 4 QQI

To join the Gardaí-

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS **CHANGE FROM 2022**. You need to be proficient in either or i) the Irish language ii) the English language

Naval/Army Cadet- must have Irish & another language

Must possess a minimum of Grade H4 in 4 Higher Level papers, and, Grade 02 in 2 Ordinary Level Papers or Grade H7 in 2 Higher level papers.

A candidate's educational qualifications must include a minimum of Grade 06 at

• Ordinary level or H6 at Higher Level in the following subjects: (i) Mathematics (ii) Irish. NUI matriculation exemptions apply. (iii) English. Candidates whose first language is not English must satisfy the English language requirements in accordance with NUI Matriculations.

General recruit in Army - *Subjects taken at Foundation Level Leaving Certificate are not considered equivalent for entry to this competition.

For SOLAS or apprenticeships you need- to be at least 16 years of age and have a minimum of grade D in any five subjects in the Junior Certificate or equivalent. However, employers may require additional minimum qualifications- especially maths for Electrical Apprenticeships

10 good reasons to do a PLC

- 1. Cost- usually around 400 with a few exceptions e.g. beauty therapy where you need to spend up to €800 on a kit
- 2. A year to make choices definite
- 3. Another route into college- for Leaving Certs & Level 4 QQI
- 4. Work experience opportunities
- **Extra certs-** e.g. SAFEPASS, FAI, HACCP, Water Safety
- 6. Learn to study and complete assignments
- 7. Grant available for PLC
- 8. Less likely to drop out- 1 in 6 students who go from Leaving Cert to 3rd level drop out, just 1 in 12 going from PLC drop out.
- 9. Smaller classes
- 10. Not as academic as 3rd Level