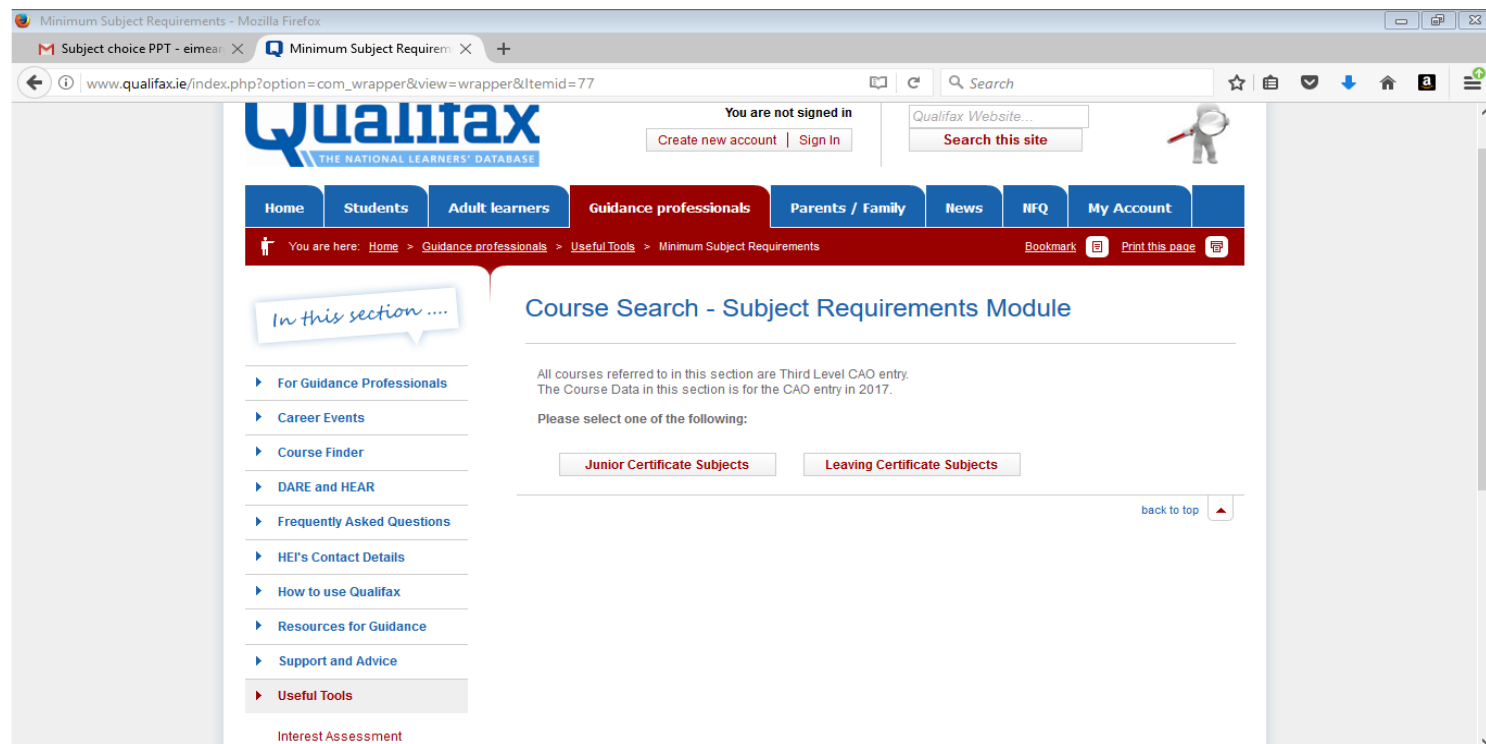


Subject choice



# ‘Useful Tool’ for choosing subjects

- Go to Qualifax.ie and select “useful tools” from list on left hand side.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Qualifax website. The browser's address bar shows the URL [www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=77](http://www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=77). The website header includes the Qualifax logo, a search bar, and a navigation menu with tabs for Home, Students, Adult learners, Guidance professionals, Parents / Family, News, NFQ, and My Account. A red banner below the navigation menu indicates the current location: Home > Guidance professionals > Useful Tools > Minimum Subject Requirements. The main content area is titled "Course Search - Subject Requirements Module" and contains a list of links under the heading "In this section ....". The "Useful Tools" link is highlighted in red. Below this link, the text "Interest Assessment" is visible. The page also features a "You are not signed in" notification and a search bar with the text "Qualifax Website... Search this site".

- Then choose “leaving certificate subjects” and you can select subjects from a drop down menu.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Qualifax website. The page title is "Minimum Subject Requirements - Mozilla Firefox". The URL is "www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=77". The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, Students, Adult learners, Guidance professionals, Parents / family, News, HRQ, and My Account. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: Home > Guidance professionals > Useful Tools > Minimum Subject Requirements. The main content area is titled "Subject Requirements Module" and includes a search filter for "Show me 3rd level courses which may or may not require the following Subject". The filter is currently set to "Any". Below the filter, there are three additional filters: "Only show courses from this CAO course provider:", "Only show courses offered in this Province:", and "Only show courses offered in this county:". The page also includes a sidebar with a "Useful Tools" section containing links for Interest Assessment, Interest Assessment follow up, Minimum Subject Requirements, and Points Calculator 2016. The footer of the page includes "Using 1.17 GB" and "Program Policies".

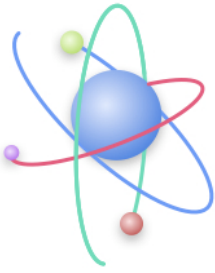
# At least one science subject



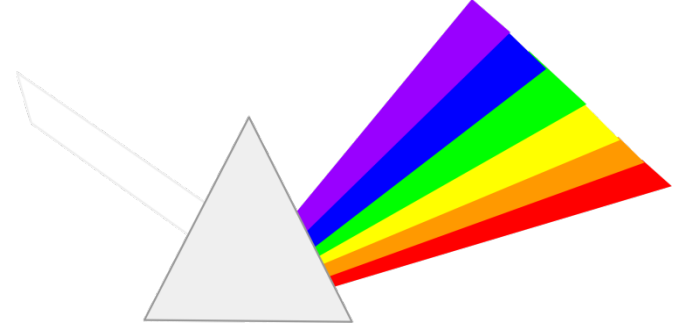
The screenshot shows the Qualifax website interface. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Students, Adult learners, Guidance professionals, Parents / Family, News, NFQ, and My Account. The current page is titled 'Search Courses Results' and displays a search criteria of 'A Science Subject (Definitely need subject)'. It shows 148 results, with the first four listed in a table:

Code	Course	Course Provider
DC204	<a href="#">Athletic Therapy &amp; Training</a>	<a href="#">Dublin City University</a>
DT206	<a href="#">Biomedical &amp; Molecular Diagnostics</a>	<a href="#">Dublin Institute of Technology</a>
CY318	<a href="#">Biopharmaceutical Chemistry</a>	<a href="#">NUI Galway</a>
MH202	<a href="#">Biotechnology</a>	<a href="#">Munich University</a>

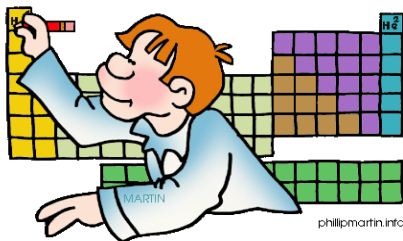
- 148 courses **definitely** require at least one science subject, e.g. Biotechnology, dentistry, some engineering courses, forestry, medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, physiotherapy.



# Physics



- Leaving cert Physics is the most mathematical of the sciences, with many exam questions requiring you to solve a problem using learnt formulas.
- This subject aims to enhance students ability to think logically, observe and understand scientific method.
- The course builds upon the Physics in Junior cert Science and you are required to complete 24 practical experiments throughout the course.
- You **MUST** have physics if you wish to do Theoretical Physics in Trinity.



# Chemistry

- The course includes 28 mandatory practical experiments as well as a written paper including questions on these experiments and examining the theory and applications of chemistry.
- It's really important that you learn your definitions and mandatory experiments as these make up a lot of the marks in the exam and must be learned word for word.
- It is likely to suit you if you apply attention to detail and are able to describe the procedures of experiments and understand vocabulary.
- You **MUST** do chemistry for 8 courses (including dentistry, medicine or pharmacy in UCC, veterinary medicine in UCD or pharmacy in Trinity)

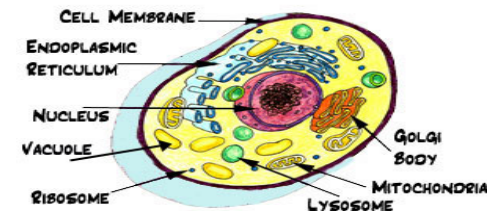




# Biology



- Leaving cert Biology is the most popular of all leaving certificate science subjects and many students pick this as their one science subject.
- However, note that most popular does not necessarily mean easiest. 4.2% of students failed (H8) HL Biology in 2017!
- You **MUST** have biology for Genetics in UCC, Human Health & Disease in Trinity and Veterinary Medicine in UCD but it's important to note that biology would be a distinct advantage for any biology based courses including medicine, nursing as well as environmental sciences or biotechnology.



# Agricultural Science

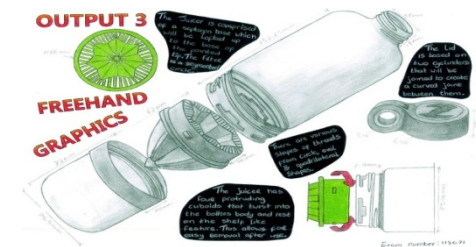
- The study of the science and technology underlying the principles and practices of agriculture. You will study plants and animal types associated with agriculture. Investigations are undertaken into such aspects as soil, ecology, plant and animal physiology, farm crops, farming practices, genetics and microbiology.
- 75% of the marks are going for the written paper. The other 25% is based on an assessment of your work (including investigations and practical experience)
- It's popular among students who are looking to study veterinary, science zoology or agriculture in college but is **NOT** essential for any CAO courses.





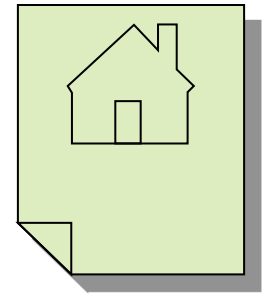
# Design Communication Graphics (DCG)

- This builds on junior cert technical graphics.
- It's assessed by means of two assessment components: a **student assignment at 40%**, of which CAD forms a significant and compulsory element, and an **examination paper at 60%**.
- It provides students with the opportunity for visualizing and comprehending information presented verbally or graphically as well as developing spatial awareness and problem solving.
- It is a useful subject if you are interested in **practical** areas of engineering and construction or apprenticeships which include the study of technical drawings however it is **NOT** an essential subject for any CAO course.





# Construction Studies



- This practical subject gives students hands-on experience working with tools and machinery.
- Three hour written paper =300 marks
- 4 hour practical woodwork exam where the student makes a small item out of timber under exam conditions=150marks
- building project where the student makes a building detail, a scale model of a building or a craft piece. The student also produces a portfolio to accompany the project that they make=150 marks
- Not essential for any CAO course but complements a career in building management, carpentry, electrician, town planning, insurance claims, heating and ventilation and housing management.



# Business



- The learning experiences in business develop students' critical thinking, creative and organisational skills while enhancing literacy and numeracy skills using real-life examples
- Leaving cert business is assessed through **one 100% exam.**
- Business is **NOT** specifically required for entry into any third level course but it would certainly be beneficial for candidates who might be interested in courses or careers in the area of finance, banking, insurance, enterprise, law, communications





# Geography

- The course follows from Junior Cert Geography, and covers very similar topics (such as rocks, soils, oceans, population movements, map-reading, and economic activities) in a lot more detail. There are a large number of optional sections on the course, allowing students to focus on the sections of the course which they like.
- Up to **20%** of the final grade is achieved before sitting the actual examination by completing a report on a geographical investigation.
- Geography is considered as a science subject for courses in Trinity. Geography is **NOT** a requirement for any CAO course.
- It is useful in a wide variety of careers such as town planning, environmental science, engineering, tourism, cartography, meteorology/ weather forecasting and development work.

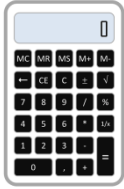




# History

- History aims to record and analyse things which have happened in the past, with an emphasis on both how and why events occurred. It deals with human experience and it is often studied out of personal interest, but also develops important skills such as self-discipline and critical thinking which are of life-long importance.
- Assessment consists of two components: A written examination paper (**80%**) and A research study report (**20%**) submitted around Easter before the June exam.
- History is valuable as a background to studies in journalism, law, town planning, architecture, politics, economics, sociology, art, museum and library work. You do **NOT** need history for any CAO course.





# Accounting



- The learning experiences in accounting develop students' organisational, logical thinking, planning and problem-solving skills for their future life, work and study. It also develops their numeracy skills within the context of business and enterprise.
- It teaches students the bookkeeping side of business but delves deeper, teaching students to analyse and interpret the figures.
- It is assessed through one three hour exam.
- You **must** have accounting for Commerce-Accounting in NUIG but accounting is not essential for accounting courses in other colleges.
- Career pathways might include accountancy, actuarial studies, marketing, business or finance. It would also be an important subject choice for those thinking of starting their own business

## Art

- Can no longer be done outside of school as an extra subject. 50%= 10 week classroom-based project. 12.5%= 1hr life drawing exam. 37.5% 2.5 hour art history written exam.
- Most art courses require the submission of a portfolio. No CAO courses definitely require art as leaving cert subject.

## Home Economics

- Written Exam paper – 80% , Practical Coursework - 20%
- This subject provides a good foundation in careers including Health, Education and Tourism, Clothing and Design and the Food industry, some sample occupations below;

## Music

- The course consists of three main components: (1) Composing (2) Listening (3) Performance , you can pick one of these components to represent 50% of your marks, the remaining two will be worth 25%each.
- Many music related courses will require an entrance exam/interview or audition. Arts- Music in Maynooth, a BA in Music in UCD, or Music teacher in Mater Dei all require music to leaving cert.
- Music is useful for media work or studies, primary teaching, sound engineering, public relations, library work, speech therapy, film, physical education, communications, production, performance and music at third level.

# *Additional subjects*



## Religion

- The exploration of issues such as meaning and value, the nature of morality, the development of diversity and belief, the principles of a just society, and the implications of scientific progress.
- Religious Education would suit a student with an enquiring mind. A student who is interested in history, current affairs, travel and culture and debating the meaning of life.
- Assessed through coursework and exam.
- NOT a required subject for any CAO course but would complement careers in Arts, Law, Journalism, Education, Religious Vocations and Social Work.







# Applied Maths



- The study of practical applications of mathematics to the real world and physical problems. It is typically associated with engineering and physics, but also finds use in economics, finance, business, environmental studies, and even chemistry and medicine.
- Ideal for students who are getting H1s or H2s in HL maths and physics.
- One 2.5hour exam.
- Applied Maths is useful for careers such as Engineering, Physics, Construction, IT, Insurance, Systems Analyst and Architecture but is NOT required for any CAO course.
- Interesting to note it has one of the highest A rates of all subjects.

**MAN  
vs  
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