MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY
KNOW NO BOUNDS
MATURE STUDENTS 2020
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In this booklet you will find lots of useful information regarding the application procedure, entry requirements and supports for mature applicants looking to return to learning and complete an undergraduate degree.

MATURE STUDENTS ARE WARMLY WELCOMED AND THEIR PURSUIT OF STUDY AT THIS UNIVERSITY IS ENCOURAGED AND SUPPORTED.
MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY ACCESS PROGRAMME

The Mature Student Office is part of the Maynooth University Access Office. The Maynooth University Access Programme (MAP) encourages under-represented groups to enter third level and provides these groups with support through their time at Maynooth. These groups include under-represented school leavers, mature students, students with disabilities and members of the Traveller community.

MAP is founded on 4 pillars: outreach into the community, promoting pathways into University, easing the transition for incoming students to Maynooth and supporting our current students. MAP’s supports are personal, academic and financial in nature and are designed to promote confidence and independence. Maynooth University is a national leader in both attracting and retaining school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, mature students and students with disabilities.

From a national perspective, MAP has taken a leadership role in developing national policy in the area of widening participation. From an institutional perspective, MAP has developed a number of models of academic support that support transition to higher education of under-represented groups and are acknowledged as innovative models of outstanding good practice.

Sometimes students fall into a number of categories, for example a mature student who also has a disability. At Maynooth, a number of mature students are registered with the Disability Office, some with specific learning disabilities. Because of this, the Mature Student Officer works closely with the Disability Office in setting up the provision of an appropriate set of supports that address both the student’s disability and their status as a ‘mature’ student.

The collaborative approach to providing support within the Access Office means there is a huge wealth of resources at our disposal and this in effect means excellent support provision for all our students.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office
Maynooth University greatly values the particular contribution of mature students to the academic and social environment of the University.

Up to 250 mature students begin their studies here each year. If the opportunity to return to education has presented itself to you, we hope you’ll choose Maynooth University.

Dear Future Maynooth Student,

This booklet is designed to provide you with information regarding the entry process to Maynooth University as a mature student and the services available to support you during your studies. It contains advice, tips and information which should answer many of the questions you may have such as:

- Do I need a Leaving Certificate to gain entry to Maynooth University as a mature student?
- How do I apply to Maynooth University as a mature student?
- What supports are available specifically for mature students?
- What financial supports are available for mature students?
- Is on-campus accommodation available for mature students?

The staff in the Mature Student Office are committed to supporting the learning experience of our students. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to telephone, email or drop in to meet us. We are located in MAP Lodge (W23 F2K8) on the North Campus.

Wishing you every success.

Emer Sheerin
Mature Student Officer

+ 353 1 708 3307
emer.sheerin@mu.ie
YOUR MAYNOOTH EDUCATION

We are proud to have provided generations of students with an excellent education. Building on our proud past, we are constantly adapting what and how we teach to better equip you for the many opportunities and challenges you will encounter in your life and in your career. Maynooth University offers a curriculum and an intellectual, cultural and social environment that provides students with opportunities to reach their full potential.

Because you are living in the diverse and ever-changing 21st century, we know we must continuously enhance the Maynooth Education to even better serve the needs of our students. Our revised curriculum, introduced in September 2016, offers you many opportunities to personalise your degree programme throughout your time with us; we have introduced more subject choice than ever before including a dedicated first year Critical Skills subject, flexible programme pathways, the opportunity to take an Elective and Experiential Learning opportunities to enhance your degree.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/maynootheducation
FLEXIBLE DEGREE STRUCTURE
At the start of second year, most students will have the option to avail of the University’s flexible pathways structure. These flexible pathways allow students to choose how they will study their chosen subjects for the remainder of their degree. The various pathways create significant flexibility within your programme of study. A range of options will mostly be available, although not all options will be available for every subject and every degree.

Students study 60 credits each year at University, your chosen pathway will allow you to divide this 60 credits between the subject(s) you wish to study for the remainder of your degree.

OUR FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS:
DOUBLE MAJOR: Studying two subjects equally to degree level

SUBJECT 1: 30 CREDITS  
SUBJECT 2: 30 CREDITS

MAJOR WITH MINOR: Specialising in one subject to degree level, while continuing with a smaller amount of a second subject

SUBJECT 1: 40 CREDITS  
SUBJECT 2: 20 CREDITS

SINGLE MAJOR: Specialising in one subject to degree level

SUBJECT 1: 60 CREDITS

See the degree pages of the Undergraduate Handbook for details of the progression options available in your preferred programme.

GUIDANCE ON PROGRAMME CHOICES AND OPTIONS AVAILABLE UNDER THE MAYNOOTH EDUCATION:
The Programme Advisory Office is available to assist and advise undergraduate students, including incoming first year students, with programme related decisions you may be unsure about during your time at Maynooth University. The Programme Advisory Office acts as a guide to students as you navigate your own way through your programme options.

Incoming first year students will be briefed by the Programme Advisor during Orientation about

the programme choices you will be asked to make during your academic journey at Maynooth University. Continuing students may also avail of the service if you are unsure about your programme options, for example if you have any questions about flexible pathways, or whether or not to choose to take an Elective. www.maynoothuniversity.ie/programme-advisory-office

FIRST YEAR CRITICAL SKILLS COURSES
At third level it is expected that students will develop skills that will not only enable them to successfully negotiate their university experience but which will also help them in other areas of their lives.

Our 15 credit Critical Skills courses are designed to develop these skills early in our students’ university experience. These optional courses are designed to help first year students to learn, experience, practice and develop various essential skills that will support their ongoing studies.

Expect small classes and active learning. We want to build student confidence by providing a learning environment that is both supportive and academically challenging.

“Critical Skills gives you the opportunity to develop the core skills necessary for university. It is applicable to every subject choice and allows you to fully interact with every lecture. Taking it as one of my first year subjects helped me acclimatise to academia at university level. It has given me the confidence and skills to successfully approach my degree and further learning.” – SARAH KILDEA, THIRD YEAR, BCL LAW AND ARTS
See individual degree information for details on the availability of our 15 credit Critical Skills courses in your preferred degrees.

**SAMPLE 2019/2020 CRITICAL SKILLS MODULES**

- Exploring the Power of Language
- Globalization, Integrating Worlds
- Universal Critical Skills (multiple classes)
- Creative Thinking
- Digital Critical Skills
- Exploring Culture
- Social Analysis of Everyday Life
- Critical Skills for Science
- Critical Skills for Social Science
- Great Ideas that Changed the World

For more details log on to www.maynoothuniversity.ie/critical-skills

**SAMPLE 2019/2020 ELECTIVES**

- Accounting in Society
- Beginning Chinese / German / Spanish
- Creative Technologies and Digital Prototyping
- Community Education
- Continuing French / Spanish / German / Gaeilge / Chinese
- Education Engagement and Equality
- Engaging with Civil Society
- Entrepreneurship, Creativity & Problem Solving
- Film and Screen Studies
- Gender and Sexuality in Society and Culture
- Global Environmental Change
- Great Books
- Introduction to Philosophy, Theory of Mind (AI), and Logical Thinking
- Perspectives of Poverty and Development
- Science Communication: Science and the World

In all cases, the option to take an Elective is subject to timetable compatibility and the requirements of your main subjects; for some students this may mean an Elective may not be compatible with their programme. See the degree pages of the Undergraduate Handbook for details on the availability of Electives in the second year of our programmes.

**SECOND YEAR ELECTIVES**

We are very excited to offer Electives to our second year students as part of the Maynooth Education. An Elective is a great way to enhance your degree by enabling you to develop new skills and knowledge that will complement your chosen programme. Electives allow you to expand your university education by providing the opportunity to study an area outside your chosen degree programme. An Elective is 10 credits and so would make up 1/6 of your study in second year.

Electives allow students to broaden their perspective by studying across disciplines thus learning how to think differently and appreciate different viewpoints. We know employers want graduates who can look at the world in different ways and find creative solutions to challenging problems. Students taking Electives will be introduced to the diverse fields of research underway at Maynooth as well as the excellent lecturing staff throughout the University. You may also choose to take an Elective because you are intrigued by the topic.

For more details log on to www.maynoothuniversity.ie/experiential-learning
IRELAND’S ONLY UNIVERSITY TOWN
Located in the heart of Ireland’s only university town, we are just 25 kilometres from the city of Dublin. Surrounded by the rich heritage and beauty of Kildare, the university town has all you could need and all within walking distance.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Have a question? The most commonly-asked are answered here. If your question doesn’t feature, please let us know.

Who is a mature student?
A mature student is at least 23 years of age on January 1st of the year of entry to a full-time degree at our University. There is no upper age limit. Mature students ranging in age from 23 to 75 are currently enrolled at Maynooth. For part-time degree programmes the age requirement is 21.
Do I need a Leaving Certificate to gain entry as a mature student? 
Generally, no. Mature students apply on the basis of their ‘mature years’. This means that entry to the University is granted on the basis of experience to date – academic, life experience and work history. However mature applicants do need Leaving Certificate for entry into B.Ed (MH001, MH002) and must meet matriculation requirements (but are not competing on points). In addition, where Mathematics is an intricate part of the course chosen, a Leaving Certificate Mathematics (or equivalent) minimum result may be required.

See the Applying section towards the back of this booklet for further details.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/matureapplicants

Are there many mature students in Maynooth University? 
Yes! Maynooth University has the highest percentage of mature students amongst all universities in the country. We have a policy of ensuring that 15% of places for new entrants to first year are available for mature students. This translates in numbers to approximately 250 new mature students arriving on campus each year.

How do I apply to Maynooth University as a mature student? 
Mature applicants must apply through the Central Applications Office (CAO) which can be done online. Alternatively application forms are available from: CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway.

+ 353 91 509 800

www.cao.ie

The closing date for receipt of Irish based applications is 1st February 2020.

Late applications from mature students may be accepted after this date - see www.maynoothuniversity.ie/matureapplicants for updates. Applications may not be made to the CAO after May 1st 2020. Mature applicants to Primary Education degrees MH001 and MH002, who meet the entry requirements, will be requested to submit a supplementary form. For this degree there is also a specific interview process involving Maynooth University, DCU and Marino Institute of Education for these degrees.

What undergraduate degrees can mature students apply for?
Mature candidates can apply for all degree courses provided by the University. Details of these degrees are in the Maynooth University Undergraduate Handbook 2020 and also in the Applying section towards the back of this booklet. Further details are also available at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/level8

Places are reserved for mature students in every degree programme available at Maynooth University.

What is the English requirement where English is not a mature student’s first language?
All candidates are required to satisfy the English language requirement. Candidates whose first language is not English may satisfy the requirement by obtaining one of a range of qualifications. Full details of these are available at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/howtoapply
How do I research information about degrees at Maynooth University?

1. Read the comprehensive information available on all degree programmes in the current Undergraduate Handbook 2020. See also www.maynoothuniversity.ie/level8
   You can also contact the Admissions Office for information on subjects, as well as application and selection procedures for mature students.

2. Research the information posted on the academic departments’ webpages www.maynoothuniversity.ie/departments

3. Contact the Faculty/Department of your area of interest to arrange an appointment.

4. Discuss your options with the Mature Student Office in advance of the application deadline. Request a Mature Student Information Pack from the Mature Student Office or download the publications from the website. We also run a series of Mature Student Information Sessions throughout the year. Details of these are posted on our website at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/maturestudents

5. Attend the undergraduate Open Days which are held over two days at the end of November each year, and also in April and in June. Each day includes a combination of tours of the campus, exhibitions, demonstrations, talks and information sessions. Individual Departments provide short sample lectures on the degrees and subjects they offer. You can talk to students about their academic experiences and the range of clubs/societies available. Staff are also on hand to discuss admission procedures, degree course details, accommodation, transport and anything else that is relevant to your application. Information particularly relevant to mature students is also available.

Please note that as a mature student applicant, the Leaving Certificate entry requirements in the Maynooth University Undergraduate Handbook 2020, and on the website, do not strictly apply to you. These are for guideline purposes and mature students are encouraged to apply.

What is the University’s selection process for mature applicants?

➢ Mature entry to many of our degrees is granted on the basis of an interview which explores the applicant’s suitability for the degree based on academic qualifications and/or life/employment experience.

➢ Our interviews contain a strong advisory element. This enables us not just to assess the applicant’s readiness and suitability for a course, but also to offer advice on subject choice, on what to expect in college and on the more practical aspects of returning to education. For applicants requiring further preparation before commencing their degree, we offer comprehensive advice on their options at interview.

➢ For degrees with special entry requirements, selection of mature students may be on the basis of a written assessment/test, after which a shortlist for interview is compiled.

➢ For some degrees a decision by the University for acceptance or non-acceptance may be made on the basis of the application form
only and so an interview may not be necessary. It is therefore very important that applications are comprehensive and completed correctly and in full. Mature applicants must therefore ensure that they have completed all relevant sections of the CAO application form.

Science degrees at Maynooth University require an aptitude in mathematics and science. Candidates are expected to be able to demonstrate a motivation and aptitude to study science. This may be evidenced by a test and/or interview, in conjunction with previous studies in mathematics and science subjects.

For mature students who wish to study for a degree in Engineering/Robotics, a strong aptitude in mathematics is also required. This may be evidenced by a test and/or interview. In addition, Engineering applicants will also be required to pass the Engineering Maths Exam in August.

The Maynooth University Certificate in Science at Level 6 (see p. 32 & 58) provides an excellent foundation for mature students hoping to study Science or Electronic Engineering at degree level in Maynooth University.

Some academic Departments also have specific requirements regarding individual subjects that form part of their degree programmes. Full details of the requirements and selection process associated with each degree are in the Applying section towards the back of this booklet. A full list of degrees which require a written assessment can be seen at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/matureapplicants

Interviews generally take place between February and May. Written assessments/tests, where required, typically take place at end March/early April. An applicant may be required to complete a short essay or maths course in advance of an offer being made. These courses are free of charge.

Notification of final decisions are issued in June. All communication from the Admissions Office is via email. The official offer of a place is made through the CAO during the summer and this must be responded to by the ‘Reply Date’ indicated on the Offer Notice. It is important that an applicant (or somebody on their behalf) is available to respond to the Offer Notice.

Applicants who are not initially successful are sometimes advised to undertake a preparatory course such as the ‘Return to Learning’ course to assist in their transition back to full-time study. Many of these applicants reapply the following year and are successful in gaining admission. For information on the Maynooth University Preparatory/Foundation Year Programmes, please see p. 58.

What are the fees for taking a degree at Maynooth University?
The Irish Government Free Fees Initiative entitles eligible students to free tuition fees. Irish students who do not already hold a degree, and EU nationals who have been ordinarily resident in an EU Member State for at least three of the five years preceding entry and who do not already hold a degree, should be entitled to free tuition fees. If you are in any doubt as to your eligibility for free fees, check out the ‘Free Fees Initiative’ under ‘Course Fees’ at www.studentfinance.ie
Registration, exam and student services fee
A Student Contribution charge of €3,000 plus a Student Levy of €150 are payable each year (subject to change). Students eligible for a Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) grant are only required to pay the Student Levy but must produce, at registration, evidence of grant eligibility from SUSI. For more information see: www.studentfinance.ie or www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-fees-grants

What financial supports exist for mature students?
All students can apply for a grant under the Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) Student Grant Scheme which is means-tested. Students who are on a Social Welfare payment may be eligible to apply for the Back to Education Allowance. Students on the Back to Education Allowance are not eligible for the Maintenance Grant element of the Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) student grant scheme. However, students in this category should still apply to SUSI in order to have the Student Contribution Charge paid, as otherwise they will have to pay the charge of approximately €3,000 each year (subject to change). For detailed information on financial supports for students, visit the website: www.studentfinance.ie

Student Budgeting Advice Service
This service, provided by the University, offers support with budgeting for university, advice on how to manage money, as well as information on fees, grants, social welfare entitlements and all funding options. www.maynoothuniversity.ie/campus-life/student-budgeting-advice-service

What time commitment is involved in studying for a degree course?
> Students should expect approximately 15 – 17 actual class contact hours per week (more for Science, Engineering, Music, Psychology, Media Studies, languages). These are spread out over the week from Monday to Friday (9am – 6pm).
> In addition to time spent in lectures/tutorials, you will have to plan personal study and research time. Studying for a full-time degree is a full-time commitment.
> Current timetables can be viewed on our website www.maynoothuniversity.ie/exams/academic-examination-timetable Please note that these timetables do not include tutorials and are subject to change. Timetables are finalised in September.

What level of computer skills do I need?
Information technology will play a central role in your time as a student. Skills such as word processing, using PowerPoint, emailing and researching on the internet are very important, as is the ability to access the Library’s learning resources and the University’s virtual learning environment, Moodle. In order to make the most of the resources here at Maynooth University, it is imperative that students possess at least some basic computer skills prior to starting their degree. IT support is available to help students who need extra training in certain areas.

How can I travel to Maynooth University?
We are accessible by public transport from most parts of the country. Maynooth University is well served by two Dublin Bus routes, Dublin commuter and national rail links, Bus Éireann national bus routes, as well as several private daily commuter and weekend coach routes. The University is approximately 30 minutes from Dublin city centre and is easily accessible by car. Further information on bus, train, car travel and timetables is available on the website. www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location
Maynooth University currently offers accommodation to approximately 1,200 students on campus. Prospective students apply through the Accommodation Office for campus accommodation.

+353 1 708 3322
www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation

Students can also book on-campus accommodation for occasional overnight stays. If there is a function you wish to go to on the campus or if you have to stay late in the Library finishing off an essay, or if you commute long distance every day and would like to stay here one or two evenings a week, accommodation options are available.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation/other-accommodation
The Mature Student Office was established in recognition of the University’s commitment to recruiting and supporting mature students.

Emer Sheerin is the Mature Student Officer. Support is provided in the following ways:
ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR MATURE STUDENTS
The Maynooth Access Programme (MAP) seeks to assist new Maynooth University students to successfully transition into university life.

The programme begins with Orientation (Launchpad) which takes place in late August / early September, prior to the main body of students coming to the campus. It aims to provide new mature students with a wide range of information, which will help them cope with the transition to university life and study. New students will be familiarised with the campus and the Library, and will receive information on finance, accessing support, subject requirements and study skills.

ADVISORY SERVICE
The staff in the Mature Student Office see students on an individual and confidential basis to help sort out any issues. It may be that you feel you need some help but you are not sure where to go. We can help identify which support service might best meet your needs. You may just feel you want someone to talk to or you may need advice about personal aspects of study that concern you. Students are welcome to discuss any concerns they have or any area in which they feel that their learning may need extra support. Our office is located in MAP Lodge, (W23 F2K8) on the North Campus. You may call in or make an appointment.

MAP operates a drop-in advice service 12:00 - 14:00 Monday - Friday.

SUPPORTS WHILE YOU STUDY
In addition to individual support and advice, the University assists mature students in their learning through the following resources:

Moodle
The MAP Area in Moodle provides access to advice, study tips, news and opportunities to communicate important announcements, share study skills resources and provide useful information about our services.

Technology
This will introduce you to the latest educational technology (including several really useful tools) and show you how to integrate it into your learning and into your daily life as a student.

Library Information Skills Tutorials (LIST)
These 30-minute sessions provide key skills needed in university on topics ranging from Library Databases to essay writing skills.

The Maths Support Centre (MSC)
This is a free service providing informal, friendly additional support to all undergraduate students. During term time the drop-in centre provides a relaxed, friendly and non-judgemental atmosphere for students who need assistance with any aspect of mathematics or mathematics-related subjects. Students are helped on a first come, first served basis. The Department of Mathematics and Statistics lecturer and MSC Manager is Dr. Ciarán Mac an Bhaird. See the website at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/current-students

em.emer.sheerin@mu.ie
+ 353 1 708 3307
Academic Writing Centre
The Writing Centre offers free, friendly, non-judgemental writing help to any student, undergraduate or postgraduate, regardless of course, degree or level. Students can drop in on their own or in groups to work with tutors on course work or material/topics with which they may be having trouble. Students may also book one-to-one appointments to discuss their writing with peer tutors. In addition, the Centre offers writing workshops, supports writing groups, engages in discipline specific work and carries out research. See www.maynoothuniversity.ie/current-students

Other academic support centres at Maynooth University include:
> Experimental Physics Centre
> Computer Programming Centre
> Irish Language Support Centre

MAP (Maynooth Access Programme)
Academic Advisors
As part of the mature student support programme at Maynooth, each academic department of the University nominates one of its academic staff members as a source of support and advice for mature students and all students supported by the Maynooth Access Programme. MAP Academic Advisors’ experience of the University, and of their own subject, can be drawn upon by a student when they experience subject and study-related problems. In the establishment of MAP Academic Advisors, Maynooth University recognises that mature students and all MAP-supported students may have particular needs in returning to learning that require extra support.

An updated list of the MAP Academic Advisors is available at the beginning of term each year from the Mature Student Office and is posted on the website www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office

Social Activities
The Mature Students’ Society acts as a social and educational support group for mature students. There are over 200 members and a very dedicated committee help organise events, run the weekly meetings and spend the money! Previous events include pub quizzes, wine receptions, annual Christmas get-togethers and Alternative RAG Week. The Society strongly encourages people to join, as this is a great way of meeting other mature students from different years.

Support for Mature Students with Disabilities
There is a wide range of supports for mature students who have a disability. See p. 24 for more details.

Careers Advice
Mature students wanting to explore career ideas, postgraduate study or employment options can avail of the services of the Career Development Centre.
**Academic Advisory Office**
Students seeking particular information on University regulations and progression routes through their degree can avail of the services of the Academic Advisory Office.

**Counselling Service**
The Counselling Service offers a confidential, professional service, free of charge to all students.

**Student Budgeting Advice Service**
The Student Budgeting Advice Service offers support with budgeting for university, managing money, as well as advice on fees, grants, and social welfare entitlements. It also provides advice about the financial supports (internal and external) available to full-time and part-time students at Maynooth University.

**Crèche Facilities at Maynooth**
The Crèche is available to staff and students of the University. Application for a place should be made to the Crèche Supervisor. Contact the Crèche for further details.

**Programme Advisory Office**
The Programme Advisory Office, within the Centre for Teaching and Learning, is available to assist and advise students who are unsure about the decisions they must make in relation to their programme including first year subject choice and second year pathways and electives.

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**Fiona Larkan**
*Job Title: Global Health Director*
*Course: Sociology/PhD*

Fiona Larkan chose the Arts degree at Maynooth, studying Greek and Roman Civilisation, Geography and Anthropology. A few years later Fiona completed her studies here, emerging with a PhD in Anthropology. As a mature student, Fiona appreciated the many services and supports that allowed her to focus on her studies. After graduating with BA degree, she embarked on an MA in Anthropology and from there transferred into the PhD programme, during which time she studied sexuality, risk and choice in Ireland and South Africa. With her PhD completed, Fiona went on to win a prestigious Global Health Research Award, which allowed her to carry out further research on HIV in South Africa. Today, Fiona directs Trinity College Dublin’s MSc in Global Health.

Contact details for all services/supports are available on p. 60
Academic Departments

“In my Department we offer space and time for the student to discuss any issues they have with us in a sympathetic but professional context.”
ACADEMIC ADVISORY OFFICE
“We offer supports to all students on an individual basis whether that is exam support, time management, advocacy for extensions, being a ‘soundboard’.”

“We provide information on subject choices and progression routes through degrees. We also offer advice on study issues with assignment preparation/academic writing.”

ACCESS OFFICE
“Students supported through the Maynooth Access Programme, such as mature students, can drop in for advice and guidance on a range of issues.”

ADMISSIONS OFFICE
“We handle your application and support you from application to admission, via a range of selection processes.”

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
“In the Careers Centre we have a Helpdesk for drop in information, advice and guidance. Our students can book for one-to-one meetings with a Careers Advisor. We also run career-related talks and seminars and set up employer stands.”

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
“We have a Programming Support Centre to help students with programming issues.”

CRÈCHE
“We offer a student rate which is €50 per per week cheaper than the staff rate. Most students can avail of the Student Union Childcare Fund.”

“We offer a government subvention scheme run by DCYA called CCS (Community Childcare Subvention) - this subvention is available for parents who are in receipt of a Social Welfare payment.”

DISABILITY OFFICE
“We have in place a range of supports to ensure that students with disabilities have the same opportunities for participation and success in college as the rest of students at Maynooth.”

“We provide advice on the supports available to students with a disability.”

FEES & GRANTS OFFICE
“We provide advice and assistance in relation to all aspects of fees and grants.”

MATHMATICS DEPARTMENT
“Our Maths Support Centre provides drop-in sessions, workshops and online courses and links.”

MATURE STUDENT OFFICE
“We offer general advice and referrals to other University supports such as SU Welfare Office, Writing Centre, Maths Support Centre, Chaplaincy etc.”

“We act as a signpost to students referring them to appropriate supports - Writing Centre/Library/Student Services/Academic Departments/Student Health Centre, etc.”

STUDENT BUDGETING ADVISORY OFFICE
“We offer advice on Social Welfare payments and options available, appeal situations. We provide advice also on budgeting and managing money more effectively.”

“We provide Information, advice and advocacy service for all finance related matters, support with SUSI grant applications and appeals.”

STUDENT SERVICES
“We link in with other University services such as the Writing Centre, Counselling Service and others.”
MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES/RECOGNITION OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (MUSE)

ARE YOU IN?
LET YOUR EXPERIENCE BOOST YOUR CV!
WHAT ARE THE MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY STUDENT EXPERIENCE AWARDS?
Whilst at MU, you are gaining skills from every area of your life. The Maynooth University Student Experience (MUSE) Awards recognise and reward your contribution to non-credit bearing activities such as work experience, volunteering, club and society involvement, student representation and lots more!

As well as being a fantastic addition to your CV, this Award will help you to articulate the skills you develop on your journey towards becoming a distinctive Maynooth student and future graduate.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COMPLETING AN AWARD?

- Helps you to stand out from your peers
- Enhances your employability skills
- Gives you the confidence to articulate the skills you have gained at MU
- Better self-awareness as you reflect on your achievements

MAP AMBASSADOR REQUIREMENTS

- Current Maynooth University students in good academic standing who are supported by MAP.
- Enthusiastic, motivated, creative, friendly, and possess leadership qualities.
- Offer information, advice and guidance to new students to help them settle into life at MU.
- Represent and promote MAP and Maynooth University at events on and off campus.
- Encourage students and parents at primary, second level, further education and other communities to go to university by sharing your personal experiences.
- Good written, interpersonal, presentation skills and team player.
- Respect the privacy & confidentiality of all.

MAP AMBASSADOR ROLES

Launchpad Orientation Programme
Taking place in September each year, this programme assists all new entrants to Maynooth University coming through the HEAR, DARE, Mature and QQI entry routes. You may be a 1-day, 2-day or 3-day Launchpad MAP Ambassador.

MAP My Way
First semester weekly support programme (beginning September) - you may be involved in facilitating sessions/delivering technology training.

Schools/QQI (FETAC)
MAP Ambassador outreach programme (beginning October) - this role requires additional training and learning how to share your story.

Shadowing Programme
Taking place in February annually, this role involves guiding potential students around sample days on campus and to lectures as they experience a day in the life of a Maynooth student.

Open Days
At the Open Days in November, April and June you will welcome campus visitors and share your experiences as a Maynooth University student.

TWO AWARD LEVELS

MUSE AWARD
At least 50 hours of engagement in one theme

MUSE AWARD ADVANCED
At least 120 hours of engagement in a minimum of two different themes

WORK WITH MAP
There are volunteer opportunities to contribute to the work of the Maynooth University Access Programme (MAP). MAP annually recruits MAP Ambassadors for its outreach and post-entry activities.
We recognise that a disability can impact upon a student’s participation in university life. This is why we work with learners to help ensure that the impact is minimised.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/supporting-students-disabilities

SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Over 6% of the student body at Maynooth comprises those with disabilities. That’s one of the highest participation rates in the country, and we’re doing all we can to get that figure even higher.

Maynooth University strives to create an inclusive campus community where all students are afforded the same opportunities to learn, socialise, participate and progress. The University has a wide range of supports that put you at the centre of your academic journey.

These supports are designed to help you become independent in your learning, thereby easing the transition from school to university and from university into your career.
Students who typically register with the Disability Office include those with the following disabilities:

- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger’s Syndrome)
- Attention Deficit Disorder / Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Blind / Vision Impaired
- Deaf / Hard of Hearing
- DCD - Dyspraxia/Dysgraphia
- Mental Health Condition
- Neurological Conditions
- Speech, Language and Communication Disorder
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Physical Disability
- Specific Learning Difficulties (Dyslexia or Dyscalculia)

Supports available to students with disabilities include:

- A dedicated Disability Advisor in the Disability Office who will work with you to identify the supports you need to help you achieve your academic goals;
- A dedicated person in each academic department, known as a MAP Academic Advisor, to help you with any course-related concerns;
- Technology: introduces students to the latest educational technologies and shows them how to integrate these technologies into their learning;
- Student Central is an academic support programme for students with significant learning needs. Students who typically avail of this support include those with Asperger’s Syndrome, Attention Deficit Disorder or mental health conditions such as depression or severe anxiety;
- Support is tailored to meet the individual needs of the student;
- Your Disability Advisor will work with you to identify appropriate examination accommodations. These might include extra time, a smaller venue or use of educational technology;
- Some students may require support from an Educational Support Worker, such as an academic/personal assistant, a note taker or a sign language interpreter;

Educational technology and training are available through the Assistive Technology Centre (ATC), and selected software is mainstreamed in all computer rooms across the campus.

Visit the Disability Office website for information on the documentation required, the consultants/specialists that can verify a disability, and the age limits on reports. While you can register with the Disability Office at any time throughout your studies, early registration is strongly recommended.

Examination supports:

If you have a disability or specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia), and require examination support for any written tests required when applying as a mature student, please submit supporting documentation by 15th March 2020 to The Disability Office, MAP Lodge, North Campus, Maynooth University, Co. Kildare, Ireland or alternatively submit via email to access.office@mu.ie. Unfortunately we are unable to consider applications for alternative examination accommodation after this deadline.

Contact us for further information about the examination supports and requirements.

Maynooth Access Programme
 mı access.office@mu.ie  + 353 1 708 4600

Daily drop-in hours available in MAP Lodge for any queries in relation to studying with a disability at Maynooth University.
Students are strongly advised to check with: [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) and [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie) for the most up-to-date and detailed information available on sources of funding.
The issue of finance and funding your way through university is clearly very important. Many students are giving up a monthly or weekly wage to go into full-time education. Others may be in receipt of social welfare payments. Students may be getting financial support through parents or partners, while others may have little or no financial support and are relying on grants or welfare payments to get them through. Some students find that university has turned out to be more costly than they first anticipated.

There are different sources of funds that students can apply for, but there are a few points that need to be stressed here, particularly for mature students. In reality there are only two main external sources of finance (if eligible) that go some way towards helping mature students sustain themselves through the academic year:

- **Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI)**
  Student Grant Scheme: www.studentfinance.ie
  There is no such thing as a ‘Mature Student Grant’. All students, regardless of age, apply for a grant under (SUSI) Student Grant Scheme. The grant is means-tested and has two elements: 1) Student Contribution Charge 2) Maintenance Grant.

- **Back to Education Allowance (apply to your local Social Protection Office).** Students on the Back to Education Allowance are not eligible for the Maintenance Grant element of the Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) Student Grant Scheme. However, students in this category should still apply to SUSI in order to have the Student Contribution Charge (formerly Registration Fees) paid, as otherwise they will have to pay this charge which is approximately €3,000 each year (subject to change).

**STUDENT BUDGETING ADVICE SERVICE**
Students experiencing financial difficulties should avail of the Student Budgeting Advice Service. This service offers supports with budgeting for university, managing money, as well as advice on fees, grants, social welfare entitlements and all funding options.

**Internal funding supports include:**
- Student Assistance Fund (SAF);
- Scholarships;
- Short Term Loan;
- Emergency Fund.

**Other Possible Funding Options:**
- **1916 Bursary** - if you are a first time mature student entering college you need to check out the criteria for the bursary at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office/1916-Bursary-Fund
  This bursary is €5,000 per year of study without affecting your SUSI or Social Welfare payment.
- **Uversity** - this is a scholarship system aimed at mature students. Check out www.u-versity.eu
  College can be expensive so consider all options for financial support. Check around your local area as some government bodies and large companies provide student funding e.g. Dublin Port.

Visit the Student Budgeting Advice Service for more information:
www.maynoothuniversity.ie/money-matters
Profile of a Current Student

Maciej Wilhelm Majnusz
BSc Mathematics (with Education)

I came to Ireland with a broken heart in search of a change – change of scenery, people, culture, everything. I had been working in various jobs and travelling for a while.

Eventually Martha, my sister, made me ask myself “What did I want to do with my life?” My answer was “work with children”. So I decided to aim for teaching. I recognised that teaching would be a great profession, one that I would be proud to be associated with, that would enable me also to work and help children. Maths is a subject I was always fond of and seemed to succeed at in school. Recognising my love and enjoyment of the subject and understanding the great difficulty many people have with maths I thought this could be my opportunity. I knew also that there is a demand for maths teachers in Ireland. I picked Maynooth University (MU) because it was so accessible. My dealings with the Admissions Office and the Maynooth Access Programme (MAP) from the outset set me on the right track to achieving my dreams.

I followed MU’s advice, completed the Certificate in Science Programme, one of their preparatory programmes, and was so delighted to get a place on the Maths Education degree course. I am now completing my final year.

My main concern starting out was money. The course was quite demanding and I needed to focus on study Monday to Friday, leaving me very little time for anything else. I worked weekends and all holidays. Summers were spent working, often up to 60 hours per week to save up enough to sustain myself particularly during the school year. Lack of money and time meant I could not look after my mum, who is not in great health, as well as I would have liked to – she had moved to Ireland with my dad to be closer to my sister and me. I often feel bad about not having enough time but I intend to make it up to her later. In hindsight, I now know that there was other help I could have benefitted from, if I had paid more attention to the communication from the University and those emails which highlighted the financial supports available. I could perhaps have reduced my working hours a bit by using the Student Budgeting Advice Service (SBAC) and benefiting from the Student Assistance Fund (SAF).

Another concern for me has been “What If I’m not going to be a good teacher or enjoy it? What if my hard work and sacrifices are for nothing? But college has given me the confidence and belief that all those problems (and others) can be overcome. I now know I need to enjoy the journey itself and live a little, spending more time with people, getting the right balance. This is one of the most important lessons I have learnt in Maynooth - college is NOT all hardship and work.

What I love most is the time I spend with pupils during school placements, experiencing and enjoying their personalities and participating in their journey of learning. I already have so many awesome memories - the enjoyment of discussions we conduct in education classes, and working particularly with my new close friends on the education courses – Lauren, Megan, Daniel and Emma. Having to work regularly in a group has also made me realise and deal with a lot of my shortcomings.

I have come to truly love maths and am amused that some people do not want to play poker with me because they think “I’m too good at maths”.

Five years on, I would now say – don’t look for obstacles, take one step at a time, enjoy the little victories and celebrate them with the wonderful people around you. Help others more and don’t be afraid to ask for help – we all need it sometimes. In other words: do not worry and enjoy the ride.
“I NEVER FELT THAT MY AGE HELD ME BACK IN RELATION TO SPEAKING TO STUDENTS OR WORKING WITH THEM FOR GROUP PROJECTS, AS MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY REALLY DOES HAVE THE ETHOS OF INCLUSION, NO MATTER WHAT AGE.”
Mature students who have been out of formal education for some time often benefit from undertaking a preparatory programme.

Maynooth University offer three such options, all of which have guaranteed offers of places on relevant courses for those performing well and attaining the required grades. The courses are as follows:

> Certificate in Return To Learning (RTL)
> Certificate in Science (see p. 32)
> Think About Teaching (TTT) (see p. 36)

**CERTIFICATE IN RETURN TO LEARNING**

The Certificate in Return to Learning is aimed at people who have been out of formal education for a number of years and who want to experience a university education without having to commit to a full degree. Students who do progress onto undergraduate degrees, often excel in their chosen subjects due to the solid foundation of academic research and writing skills that the course had given them.

This Certificate is run by the Department of Adult and Community Education in Maynooth University who take a very different approach to teaching and learning than many people will have encountered through their previous educational experiences. We value the knowledge that people bring with them from their everyday life and we work with the student to bring them through the learning process. Mature students have life
experience that can be very valuable. Anyone who has been working, either formally or as a full-time parent, learns skills along the way. These could be budgeting, time management or conflict resolution. In addition, being older gives you a different way of approaching problems. All of this can be very useful when returning to education.

In 2018, the course was redesigned to encompass Study Skills, Information and Communications Technology, Sociology and Local History. The new format will enable students to sample subjects from the faculties of Arts and Social Sciences with lecturers who have years of experience in a wide range of academic settings.

The Return to Learning course is more than just about acquiring the mechanical skills that people need to succeed in Higher Education. For many adults the initial step of crossing the threshold of a college can be very daunting. This can be enough to stop a person from even thinking about going to university. These initial concerns about being different to the majority of the students, being expected to know how to do things like use the library or be competent with computers, are dealt with over the foundation year and this element of personal development and confidence building is of central concern to us as adult educators. What the course does more than anything else is allow the student time to come to terms with university life and begin to understand who they are as a learner. This is another reason why our Return to Learning students, who progress onto degree study, do so well – they have learned how to learn.

Participants need to be at least 21 years of age or over on 1st January of the year in which the course commences. Students who achieve a mark of 60% in their final overall grade will be accepted onto MH101 and MH803 without interview.

Please be aware that the age to access full-time undergraduate study as a mature student remains at 23 years of age on 1st January in year of entry (21 years of age for MH801, MH802 and MH803. See p. 56-57 for details).

Course duration: 100 hours part-time over one year. There are a number of options from which to choose:

- Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10.00am - 12.30pm
- Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10.00am - 12.30pm
- Wednesday evenings from 6.00pm - 10.00pm

Classes are small and the learning takes place within the classroom between the students and guided by our facilitators/lecturers.

Our courses have been described as life changing, transformational and the best learning experience that people have ever had.

---

Ann Pepper

“I decided to take on the challenge of third level education when my youngest child was entering secondary school. I hoped to improve my future employment opportunities and to reach my potential in terms of education, as I had not gone to college after leaving school in 1987. The Certificate in Return to Learning course was recommended to me as a way to get onto a degree course once I had achieved a certain grade. I am very happy to say that I have just successfully completed my BA and am certain I would not have managed this without the excellent start the RTL course gave me.”
The Maynooth University Certificate in Science is a great option for mature students who don’t yet meet all the requirements to begin a science degree.

The Certificate subjects include: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering Science, Experimental Physics, Mathematics, Mathematical Physics and Study Skills.

Successful completion of the Certificate in Science (with a minimum overall grade of 60%) allows enrolment on the first year of a number of science degree courses. Successful completion of the Certificate in Science (with a minimum overall grade of 60%) AND success in the Maynooth University Special Mathematics Examination, in April/May and/or August 2021, after independent study, allows enrolment on the first year of the Electronic Engineering MH304 degree.

This Level 6 Foundation Programme for mature students (over 21) is suited to those who are interested in preparing for degrees in science and/or engineering.
Successful completion of this course will also be favourably considered where application is made for other Maynooth University undergraduate courses where entry is not guaranteed.

Designed specifically for mature students, the Certificate in Science includes the extremely important elements of strong academic and study skills support (small class size of maximum 25 students per class) and provides an opportunity to study on a university campus with world class facilities, prior to embarking on a degree course.

Fees for the course are waived for students who qualify for the Back to Education Allowance Scheme.

Almost 300 people have undertaken the course over the last decade with the majority progressing to degrees courses. A recent review of the programme highlighted some of the benefits as including the “sometimes life-changing impact of participation”. Past students shared stories of enriching educational experiences, renewed employment opportunities and progression to postgraduate studies.

Karen Herdman from Kildare was a “stay at home mum with two young sons”, and is now a lecturer in Chemistry at Maynooth, having successfully completed her PhD. She was interested in taking the Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology through Science (MH209). “I was informed that the Foundation Course would give me an automatic place on the Bachelor of Science degree if certain grades were attained. I was interviewed for the course and decided to ‘strike while the iron is hot’. I did a maths introduction course during the summer and started the Certificate course in September”.

Colm Bracken from Meath took the course in 2005 and has worked as a post-doctoral researcher with Maynooth’s Physics Department. Colm is now working as a researcher at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies on a project to develop new telescope detectors, having previously taught at UCD.

He always had an interest in physics and astronomy in particular. “I thought that it would not be possible to study physics at university, but the certificate course offered a route to do this, providing me with a foundation in maths and science that was essential to my success in the degree. I believe I would not have handled the degree material without the preparation from the Certificate in Science”.

The approach to teaching on the course is very much geared towards adults returning to education. Some of the benefits of the course as highlighted by past students include:

> Vital academic preparation for study of science/engineering in a university environment with a great introduction to college life;

> Help with integrating socially, while building confidence and self-esteem;

> Learning about time management and other techniques that aid study.

More information about the Maynooth University Certificate in Science is available on p. 58 or at: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/mature-students/foundation-preparatory-courses/
CURRENT STUDENTS REFLECT ON THEIR TRANSITION EXPERIENCE (FROM CERTIFICATE TO DEGREE)

What did you think of the certificate in science?

“I loved it... very nervous on going back to education... really prepared me especially for maths” – Alicia Michelle Kevin, Bachelor of Science

“Actually fantastic... had my doubts initially... so well prepared for first year in science...” – Giorgio Francesco Rossi, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“Really good... knew maths was going to be a stumbling block... ’tripped me up’ before... but actually got really good at it...” – John Dunne, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“A great experience... Well worthwhile if I had not continued to undergrad” – Kenneth Patrick Farrelly, Bachelor of Science

How was your transition into the Undergraduate Course?

“Definitely not afraid... earned my place... I have never been refused help when I asked for it.” – Alicia Michelle Kevin, Bachelor of Science

“...Getting a taste in the Cert course gave me the confidence to take the science subjects on... I take it one day at a time and do quite well on the exams this way.” – Tomas Bucas, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“During the Cert I got used to using moodle, and the online resources... got to know campus... put me into the right routine, studying etc.” – John Dunne, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“The biggest difference was going from a class of 20 people into a lecture 400 people... I don’t think of the young students as kids anymore, we’re all doing the same thing and helping each other.” – Kenneth Patrick Farrelly, Bachelor of Science

“There are some of those days when you wake up and just don’t feel like studying, but you tell yourself it has to be done.” – Giorgio Francesco Rossi, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering
What are you enjoying most on your university journey?

“I love my lectures... summer internship doing research... received an award for a related competition in Cardiff... joining Pfizer graduate programme starting September.” – Alicia Michelle Kevin, Bachelor of Science

“Being here... I am really proud of coming so far, having never studied science in school.” – Tomas Bucas, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“Made connections with people... have new friends that will be there for years even after university... I came back and did not waste the opportunity.” – Giorgio Francesco Rossi, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“Learning how to code and the maths behind it. Brainstorming and getting us through the tougher problems, often working with the old friends from Science Cert.” – John Dunne, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

What advice would you now give a student starting the Certificate in Science?

“Don’t stress too much. Things will work out in the end.” – Giorgio Francesco Rossi, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“Keep going. Don’t get so worked up about it. Don’t need to get 100% everything.” – Tomas Bucas, BSc Computer Science & Software Engineering

“Don’t worry about whether you’re going to be good enough. When you put the work in, you stop worrying and you enjoy more. Maybe put some more effort into year 2.” – Kenneth Patrick Farrelly, Bachelor of Science
THINK ABOUT TEACHING FOUNDATION COURSE
Think about Teaching is for young adults and/or mature students who have always wanted to become a teacher, but because of family, life, social and/or personal reasons were not able to pursue their dream through the usual education route.

This programme provides a year long preparation course to progress into teaching degrees. It aims to diversify teacher education by recruiting groups currently under-represented in teacher education - these include:

- Irish Travellers
- People in the Care of the State
- Mature Students
- Migrants
- Socio-Economically Disadvantaged groups
- Students with Disabilities

PATHWAYS TO DEGREES
Students who successfully complete the course (with a minimum overall grade of 60%) meet the Irish and Mathematics requirement for their teaching field, will be guaranteed a place in the teaching degree programme of their choice.

Students will decide at application stage whether they would like to do
1. Primary Teaching or
2. Secondary Teaching - Science and Mathematics or
3. Secondary Teaching - Social Science and Arts (History, English etc.)

On completion of course, there will be alternative options for students who do not want to progress into teaching.
1. Primary Teaching stream
Students who want to become primary teachers will attend an intensive programme of Irish language competency that results in meeting the national requirement for entry into Initial Primary Teacher Education; this programme includes placements in a gaelscóil and a 2-week stay in a Gaeltacht. Students will also participate in a mathematics competency classes as well as a programme of supportive, academic development classes that aim to help students embed within the University.

2. Secondary Science and Mathematics Teaching stream
The students who want to become secondary science and mathematics teachers will attend the programme of supportive, academic development classes that aim to help students embed within the University alongside biology, physics, chemistry and advanced mathematics modules.

3. Secondary History/English/All Other Subjects Teaching stream
The students who want to become secondary arts or social science teachers will attend the programme of supportive, academic development classes which aim to help students embed within the University alongside arts and social science introductory courses.

What are the entry requirements for Mature Students?
> Students wishing to undertake primary teaching must have had some Irish language experience and must pass the TEG exam A1 at the interview stage and must pass the TEG A2 exam before entry. An 8-week summer course is offered to support students to pass the A2 examination.
> Students who already have the Irish language requirements for primary teaching will not be required to participate in the TEG A1/A2 programme.
> Students wishing to undertake the Science/Mathematics Teaching stream must have studied mathematics up to Junior Certificate level, or its equivalent.
> Students should also be aware of the Department of Education requirements to teach.

What is the time commitment?
The course is full-time and runs from September to May over one year. There are up to 20 hours of lectures and tutorials each week.

What does the course cost?
The course is free as it is funded by the Higher Education Authority.

How do I apply for the Think about Teaching foundation course?
1. When applications open for 2020 entry, the form will be available for download and can be completed digitally or by hand.
2. Two referees will be required to complete a reference form. Preferable referees will be someone you have known from an education, employment, or voluntary work capacity.

What is the selection process?
All applications are reviewed after which a shortlist is compiled for interview. During the interview, we will explore with you your motivation to become a teacher. In late June, we will write and select students from the pool of eligible applicants based on their application form, references and interview.

What is the Application Deadline for the Think about Teaching foundation course?
The closing date for submitting the application form will be advised on our website www.maynoothuniversity.ie/turntoteaching/think-about-teaching-foundation-course

For further information contact:
Dr Katriona O’Sullivan
✉ turn2teaching@mu.ie ☎ + 353 01 474 7576.
# Applying to Maynooth University

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<th>Programme Type</th>
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LEVEL 8 FULL-TIME DEGREES
AT MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY

See page 24 if you have a disability or specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia) and require examination support for any written tests which may be required as part of your application.

Where a mathematics or language requirement is stipulated in the Undergraduate Handbook 2020 at Leaving Certificate above the pass (O6) level, mature applicants may be required to demonstrate to the relevant Academic Department that they possess the required competency.

OPC = Open choice to any degree stream
If you don’t know which sub-option you’d like to take in one of the following degrees:
> MH212  > MH401  > MH404  > MH502
> MH601  > MH602  > MH803

You can choose OPC (Open Choice) and make up your mind on your chosen degree stream during the first four weeks of semester one (provided you meet the minimum entry requirements for that stream).

See the Undergraduate Handbook 2020 or the website for further details about entry requirements and programme content.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAO Code</th>
<th>MH001</th>
<th>MH002</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-option Code</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>- -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Education – Primary Teaching (Froebel)</td>
<td>Education – Primary Teaching – Gaeltacht Applicants (Froebel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>This degree is designed to prepare students to be primary school teachers. You will take education modules and a school-based placement across all four years of this professional teaching degree, as well as a placement in the Gaeltacht for two fortnight blocks in years two and three of the degree. See the Undergraduate Handbook 2020 for more details.</td>
<td>This degree is designed to prepare students to be primary school teachers. You will take education modules and a school-based placement across all four years of this professional teaching degree, as well as a placement in the Gaeltacht for two fortnight blocks in years two and three of the degree. See the Undergraduate Handbook 2020 for more details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Specific application and interview process involving Maynooth, DCU and Marino Institute of Education.</td>
<td>Specific application and interview process involving Maynooth, DCU and Marino Institute of Education. MH002 is an application route for students who reside in the officially designated Gaeltacht and who use Irish as the normal language of the home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Applications</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Those meeting the entry requirements or taking the Leaving Certificate in 2020 will be requested to submit a supplementary information form.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Those meeting the entry requirements or taking the Leaving Certificate in 2020 will be requested to submit a supplementary information form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University + 353 1 474 7400 <a href="mailto:froebel.department@mu.ie">froebel.department@mu.ie</a> <a href="http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel">www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel</a> Background check by the National Vetting Bureau and a Health Information Form are required.</td>
<td>Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University + 353 1 474 7400 <a href="mailto:froebel.department@mu.ie">froebel.department@mu.ie</a> <a href="http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel">www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel</a> Background check by the National Vetting Bureau and a Health Information Form are required. Applicant details are forwarded to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to determine eligibility for this entry route.</td>
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### Summary of Mature Student Application Information to Full-Time Level 8 Degrees

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CAO Code</th>
<th>MH101</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Name</strong></td>
<td><strong>Subjects available in MH101</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
| The Maynooth Bachelor of Arts Degree |  > Computer Science  
   > Criminology  
   > Economics  
   > European Studies  
   > English  
   > Finance  
   > French  
   > Geography  
   > Greek  
   > Greek and Roman Civilization  
   > History  
   > International Development  
   > Latin  
   > Law  
   > Mathematical Physics |
|  > Mathematical Studies  
   > Mathematics (Pure)  
   > Media & Cultural Studies  
   > Medieval Celtic Studies  
   > Music  
   > Music Technology  
   > Nua-Ghaeilge  
   > Old Irish and Celtic Languages  
   > Philosophy  
   > Politics  
   > Psychological Studies  
   > Sociology  
   > Spanish  
   > Statistics |

#### Subjects – First Year

Choose up to 4 subjects in first year (15 credits each). Arts subjects are organised into 6 groups. Some subjects are available as a double subject (30 credits). Maximum 1 subject per group may be chosen. For full details about subject combinations and double subject options see the Undergraduate Handbook 2020.

First year Critical Skills (15 credits) is available in every group and may be chosen as 1 of your first year subjects.

- **Group 1:** Geography, German, Law, Mathematics (Pure - groups 1 & 3), Philosophy.
- **Group 2:** Business (International), Business (Management), Business (Marketing), Criminology, Greek, History, European Studies (groups 2 & 6).

Students have four weeks at the beginning of first year to choose their subjects. Subject combination limitations apply. See Undergraduate Handbook 2020 for details.

#### Application Procedure

Apply to CAO

#### Selection Procedure

Interview

#### Closing Date for Applications

Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.

#### Additional Relevant Information

The following subjects have extra minimum entry requirements/recommended grades:

- **Accounting/Business subjects/Economics/Finance (O4/H7 Mathematics or equivalent recommended).**
- **Music (H5 or equivalent required): Test administered by the Music Department.**
- **Mathematical Studies/Mathematical Physics/Computer Science, Music Technology, Statistics (O3/H7 Mathematics or equivalent recommended).**
- **Nua-Ghaeilge: (H4 or equivalent required).**
- **Advanced French, German, Spanish requires H4 or equivalent. Tests administered to establish suitability.**
- **Ab initio (beginners) programmes are available in: Chinese, French, German, Greek, Latin and Spanish.**
- **We also offer the unique opportunity to study three of our Arts subjects to degree level - Philosophy, Politics and Economics.**
- **European Studies is a 15 credit subject in Groups 2 and 6.**
- **Students taking Statistics must also take Mathematical Studies or Mathematics (Pure).**

Subject combination limitations apply. See Undergraduate Handbook 2020 for details.

3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option). All students have the option of a 4 year BA International degree.

Up to 100 places in MH101 are reserved for mature student applicants.
### SUMMARY OF MATURE STUDENT APPLICATION INFORMATION TO FULL-TIME LEVEL 8 DEGREES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAO Code</th>
<th>Sub-option Code</th>
<th>Degree Name</th>
<th>Subjects – First Year</th>
<th>Application Procedure</th>
<th>Selection Procedure</th>
<th>Closing Date for Applications</th>
<th>Additional Relevant Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MH103</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>At least 45 credits of Music in first year plus one other Arts subject. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Restricted application course.</td>
<td>Applicants must be able to demonstrate, at audition, a minimum of Grade 6 (ABRSM) on a standard orchestral instrument, piano, organ, classical guitar or voice; traditional Irish instrumentalists of comparable fluency also considered. 3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option).</td>
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<tr>
<td>MH106</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Psychology, Psychological Studies and one or two Arts subjects. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Quota of 5 places reserved for mature students. 3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option).</td>
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<tr>
<td>MH107</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>Social Policy, Sociology, Critical Skills for Social Sciences plus one of: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History or Philosophy. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Approximately 30 places reserved for mature students each year. 3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option).</td>
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<tr>
<td>MH109</td>
<td>- -</td>
<td>Media Studies</td>
<td>30 credits of Media Studies theory &amp; practice modules &amp; up to 2 additional Arts subjects (or Critical Skills). See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Written assessment. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the written assessment.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Up to 10 places reserved for mature students. 3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option).</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
<td>MH116</td>
<td>MH201</td>
<td>MH202</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Community and Youth Work (full-time)</td>
<td>Science: &gt; Biology &gt; Chemistry &gt; Computer Science &gt; Data Science &gt; Engineering Science &gt; Experimental Physics &gt; Mathematical Physics &gt; Mathematics &gt; Statistics</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Community and Youth Work. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Mathematics &amp; 3 Science subjects from: Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Data Science; Engineering Science; Experimental Physics; Mathematical Physics; Critical Skills; See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics &amp; 1 of: Computer Science; Experimental Physics; Mathematical Physics, or Critical Skills. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Personal statement. Written assessment. Candidates are shortlisted for individual and group interviews on the basis of personal statement and written assessment.</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Applications</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Restricted application course.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>3-year degree. An offer is subject to a satisfactory background check by the National Vetting Bureau. 50% of places reserved for mature students.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required. Data Science may not be taken with Critical Skills in first year. Students have the option of taking up Statistics in second year.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Name</strong></td>
<td>Biological &amp; Geographical Sciences</td>
<td>Physics with Astrophysics</td>
<td>Theoretical Physics and Mathematics</td>
<td>Data Science</td>
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<td><strong>Subjects – First Year</strong></td>
<td>Geography, Biology, Mathematics &amp; either 15 credits of Data Science or Experimental Physics.</td>
<td>Experimental Physics, Mathematics &amp; 2 of: Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering Science; Mathematical Physics or Critical Skills. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Theoretical Physics and Mathematics for each of the 3 years of the degree. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Data Science, Computer Science, Mathematics and 1 of the following: Additional Computer Science (15 credits); Engineering Science; Critical Skills.</td>
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<td><strong>Application Procedure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Selection Procedure</strong></td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
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<td><strong>Additional Relevant Information</strong></td>
<td>O4/H7 Mathematics &amp; O6/H7 Science subject (one of Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography, Physics or Physics with Chemistry) or equivalent is required.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required.</td>
<td>H2 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 3 year accelerated degree.</td>
<td>O1/H5 Mathematics or equivalent required.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Biological and Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>Psychology (through Science)</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Chemistry</td>
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<td>Application Procedure</td>
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<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required.</td>
<td>Psychology as a Single Major subject in second year. In third year spend one semester on work placement (subject to availability) or studying abroad and one semester on a research internship. In fourth year Psychology is again studied as a Single Major subject. Quota of up to 5 places reserved for mature students.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
<td>MH212</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-option Code</strong></td>
<td>SED or MCS or MED or OPC</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Name</strong></td>
<td>Science (with Education) or Mathematics and Computer Science (with Education) or Mathematics (with Education)</td>
<td>BE Electronic Engineering with specialisms in one of: Computer Engineering, Electronic Engineering or Communications Engineering (choose specialism at the end of year 3)</td>
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<td><strong>Subjects – First Year</strong></td>
<td>BSc Science (with Education): Biology, Chemistry, Experimental Physics and Mathematics or BSc Mathematics and Computer Science (with Education): Computer Science, Mathematics, Mathematical Physics and Experimental Physics. or BSc Mathematics (with Education): Mathematics, Mathematical Physics, Experimental Physics, Computer Science. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>First, second and third year programmes are similar for each of the degree streams. All Electronic Engineering students complete the same modules over the first 3 years, including a work placement/design exercise module in 3rd year. Students choose their final degree stream at the end of year 3 and also choose their final degree path. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<td><strong>Application Procedure</strong></td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO. Broad entry with unrestricted choice to pursue engineering degree options in any of the following streams: Computer, Electronic or Communications Engineering. In third year all students decide which of the above streams they wish to take.</td>
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<td><strong>Selection Procedure</strong></td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test. Candidates will also be required to take a mathematics test if they do not meet the mathematics requirement.</td>
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<td><strong>Closing Date for Applications</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Additional Relevant Information</strong></td>
<td>BSc Science (with Education): O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. BSc Mathematics and Computer Science (with Education): H4 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. BSc Mathematics (with Education): H4 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. These programmes are taken over five years. Graduates are awarded a level 9 Professional Master of Education (PME). Vetting by the National Vetting Bureau required. Quota of 5 places reserved for mature students. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
<td>H4 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent is required. A Mathematics Exam is also available in April and/or August for students who have not attained a H4 in Mathematics. In 4th year students specialise in 1 of the following 3 options: Electronic Engineering with Computers, Electronic Engineering or Electronic Engineering with Communications, completing the degree after year 4 with a BE hons. or Students with a minimum of 2:2 grade in year 3 may complete years 4 &amp; 5 resulting in an ME in Electronic Engineering. Industrial work experience is only available to students in year 4 of the 5 year Masters. Students may alternatively choose an Erasmus trip or a research internship (subject to availability).</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<td>Sub-option Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Product Design</td>
<td>Robotics and Intelligent Devices</td>
<td>Finance - Double Major or Major with Minor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Design, Marketing, Creative Thinking and Engineering. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>The first year programme is a blend of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>1st year – semester 1: 15 credits each of Economics &amp; Accounting &amp; 7.5 credits of Mathematics. 1st year - semester 2: Option to take a further 7.5 credits in Mathematics, or to take 7.5 credits in Accounting. The remaining 15 credits are completed with another subject chosen from groups 1, 2 or 5. Students can switch to MH403 Accounting and Finance degree at the end of 1st year provided 22.5 credits of Accounting are taken in 1st year, and students attain 60%. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Interview</td>
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<td>Closing Date for Applications</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
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<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>O3/H7 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required.</td>
<td>O3/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 2nd &amp; 3rd year - Robotics &amp; Intelligent Devices, work placement (subject to availability) or a Design Challenge in 3rd year. 4th year choose between Robotics &amp; Intelligent Device thematic large projects.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 3 year degree (4 years with Erasmus/Study Abroad option). Students who have completed this course have been given exemption from two papers (Financial Accounting and Finance) at Chartered Accountant Proficiency (CAP 1) Examinations. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<td>Sub-option Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>International Finance and Economics</td>
<td>Quantitative Finance</td>
<td>Accounting and Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>15 credits each of Finance &amp; Mathematics &amp; choose 1 subject from Chinese*, French*, German*, Spanish* or Computer Science and 1 other subject (‘beginners language programme available - French, German &amp; Spanish beginners require 30 credits). See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>15 credits of Economics, Computer Science, Maths/Statistics and one other subject or Critical Skills.</td>
<td>Economics, Finance and Accounting. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 3 year degree. In second year students study Finance and Economics and can opt to continue their language or take more Mathematics modules. There is an international placement in third year with the final fourth year at Maynooth, taking Finance, Economics and optional language modules. Placement in a company in third year is subject to availability. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
<td>O1/H5 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required.</td>
<td>Students who complete this degree are given full exemptions from the Chartered Accountancy Proficiency (CAP 1) Examinations. O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 3 year degree. Optional internship/study abroad year between second and third year (subject to availability). In second and third year you study Accounting, Finance, Law and the parts of Economics important to Finance.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-option Code</strong></td>
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<td>MKT</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Name</strong></td>
<td>Business and Management</td>
<td>International Business</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Equine Business</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subjects – First Year</strong></td>
<td>Foundations of management and business in first year. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Foundations of international management and marketing in 1st year. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Foundations of marketing and management in 1st year. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>A range of equine, business and management subjects. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<td>CAO Code</td>
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<td>MH502</td>
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<td>Sub-option Code</td>
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<td>LWA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Business and Accounting</td>
<td>Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>LLB Law</td>
<td>Law and Accounting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Business and Accounting. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Fundamentals of business, innovation, the digital economy and enterprise. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Four year Single Major law programme. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Law and Accounting. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Applications</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>Students who complete this degree course are given full exemptions from the Chartered Accountancy Proficiency (CAP 1) Examinations. O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required.</td>
<td>O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. 3 year degree. Optional internship/study abroad year after 2nd year (subject to availability).</td>
<td>This degree is listed on the schedule of approved degrees by The Honorable Society of King’s Inns.</td>
<td>This degree is listed on the schedule of approved degrees by The Honorable Society of King’s Inns. Graduates are also given full exemptions from the Chartered Accountancy Proficiency (CAP 1) examinations. O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAO Code</td>
<td>MH502</td>
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<td>MH601</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-option Code</td>
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<td>LWC</td>
<td>LWD</td>
<td>CSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Law and Business</td>
<td>Law and Criminology</td>
<td>Law and Arts</td>
<td>Computer Science and Software Engineering (through Arts)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Law and Business. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Law and Criminology. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Law plus one or two Arts subjects under MH101 - excluding Group 1. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Computer Science (30 credits), Mathematical Studies &amp; 1 Arts subject under MH101 - excluding Groups 3 &amp; 5. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Procedure</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>This degree is listed on the schedule of approved degrees by The Honorable Society of King’s Inns. O4/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
<td>This degree is listed on the schedule of approved degrees by The Honorable Society of King’s Inns. O3/H7 Leaving Certificate Mathematics or equivalent required. Four year degree. Placement in third year subject to availability. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
<td>This degree is listed on the schedule of approved degrees by The Honorable Society of King’s Inns. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAO Code</td>
<td>MH601</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-option Code</td>
<td>MWA</td>
<td>CSS</td>
<td>MWS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Multimedia, Mobile and Web Development (through Arts)</td>
<td>Computer Science and Software Engineering (through Science)</td>
<td>Multimedia, Mobile and Web Development (through Science)</td>
<td>Computational Thinking</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Computer Science (30 credits), Mathematical Studies &amp; 1 Arts subject under MH101 - excluding Groups 3 &amp; 5. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Computer Science (30 credits), Mathematics &amp; 1 Science subject under MH201. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Computer Science (30 credits), Mathematics &amp; 1 Science subject under MH201. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Computer Science, Mathematics and Philosophy. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are shortlisted for interview on the basis of the test.</td>
<td>Test. Candidates are selected for interview based on the test.</td>
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</table>
TIPS FOR MATURE STUDENTS

MSI (Mature Students Ireland) ran a national Mature Student Selfie Challenge. Third level mature students were asked for their top tips for future mature students. These are some of the Maynooth students’ entries.

See the Undergraduate Handbook 2020 or the website for further details about entry requirements and programme content.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/level8

“Make sure to go to the orientation week for mature students. It’s a great help knowing what supports are out there and where everything is on campus.”

Celeste Kuhn

“Join a club or society, be part of what’s going on, no matter age - everyone fits in at Maynooth”

Louise Simpson

“One. Contact your local ‘Intreo’ office and organise a meeting with a member of staff to find out if you are entitled to the ‘back to education allowance’ as this will make life easier financially.

2. Talk to current students in the course and lecturers to gauge whether you will have enough of an interest to pursue a 3-4 year commitment to your chosen field of study.

3. Take advantage of Maynooth University’s fantastic selection of services, clubs and societies and green space.”

Anthony Doyle

“You might be overwhelmed and doubt your own ability to learn, but please remember, that you have years of experience behind you, motivation and purpose! Give yourself a chance, give yourself a gift of education, you deserve it!”

Eliza Tomczyk

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Anthony Doyle

“Keep in touch with your fellow mature students and discuss things, helps a lot and you will have some fun too, while sweating out that essay.”

Iveta Hermonova

“Join a club or society, be part of what’s going on, no matter age - everyone fits in at Maynooth”

Louise Simpson

“You might be overwhelmed and doubt your own ability to learn, but please remember, that you have years of experience behind you, motivation and purpose! Give yourself a chance, give yourself a gift of education, you deserve it!”

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“Make sure to go to the orientation week for mature students. It’s a great help knowing what supports are out there and where everything is on campus.”

Celeste Kuhn
# LEVEL 8 PART-TIME DEGREES

**AT MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY**

## SUMMARY OF MATURE STUDENT APPLICATION INFORMATION TO PART-TIME LEVEL 8 DEGREES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAO Code</th>
<th>MH801</th>
<th>MH802</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-option Code</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Name</td>
<td>Early Childhood – Teaching and Learning (part-time)</td>
<td>Community and Youth Work (part-time, in-service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects – First Year</td>
<td>Child, Context and Curriculum See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td>Community and Youth Work See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Procedure</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>Personal statement. Written assessment. Candidates are shortlisted for individual and group interviews on the basis of their personal statement and written assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Applications</td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td>Restricted course. Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>Applicants must be 21 years or older on 1st January of the year of entry. Application through the CAO. Quota of up to 30 places reserved for mature students. Vetting by the National Vetting Bureau required. 3 year degree (part-time).</td>
<td>Applicants must be 21 years or older on 1st January of the year of entry. 4 year degree. An offer of a place is subject to a satisfactory background check by the National Vetting Bureau. Students must be available for the equivalent of 1.5 days per week for tuition on-campus during semester as well as periods of study at summer schools, and have written agreement from their employer to facilitate participation in the programme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUMMARY OF MATURE STUDENT APPLICATION INFORMATION TO PART-TIME LEVEL 8 DEGREES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAO Code</strong></td>
<td>MH803</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-option Code</strong></td>
<td>BLS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Name</strong></td>
<td>BA in Local Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subjects – First Year</strong></td>
<td>History; Geography; Folklore, Archaeology; Anthropology; Sociology. See the Undergraduate Handbook for details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Procedure</strong></td>
<td>Apply to CAO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selection Procedure</strong></td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing Date for Applications</strong></td>
<td>Apply to CAO before February 1st. Check Admissions Office website for application closing date updates.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Relevant Information</strong></td>
<td>All applicants must be 21 years or older on 1st January of the year of entry. Mature student intake only. OPC (Open Choice) option available. See p. 40 for details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Maynooth University Certificate in Return to Learning (Humanities)</td>
<td>Maynooth University Certificate in Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>100 hours part-time over one year. Taught two mornings or one evening per week.</td>
<td>Full-time one year course. Delivered over two 12 week semesters with an additional pre-semester preparation week focusing on Mathematics and Study Skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>Study Skills</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Introduction to degree subjects e.g. Sociology</td>
<td>&gt; Chemistry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&gt; Biology</td>
<td>&gt; Computer Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&gt; Chemistry</td>
<td>&gt; Engineering Science</td>
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<td>&gt; Computer Science</td>
<td>&gt; Experimental Physics</td>
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<td>&gt; Experimental Physics</td>
<td>&gt; Mathematics</td>
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<td>&gt; Mathematics</td>
<td>&gt; Mathematical Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Study Skills</td>
<td>&gt; Study Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee</td>
<td>€1,000 approx.</td>
<td>€1,000 approx. Students eligible for the Back to Education Allowance do not have to pay fees and are advised to contact their local Social Protection Office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application &amp; Selection Procedure</td>
<td>Apply online at <a href="http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education">www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education</a></td>
<td>Online application available in mid February 2020 for entry in September 2020. Check the University website for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Dates for Applications</td>
<td>To ensure a place on the daytime course students are requested to submit an application as early in the year as possible.</td>
<td>Applications period normally closes at the end of May 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Relevant Information</td>
<td>Students must be aged 22 years or more on 1st January in the year they wish to commence the University Certificate. Students who obtain a final grade of 60% or more will be automatically offered a place on the Bachelor of Arts (MH101 or MH803) degree programmes at Maynooth University. Both daytime and evening options are available.</td>
<td>Students must be aged 21 years or more on 1st January in the year they wish to commence the Foundation Certificate. Students must be educated to Junior Certificate level (or equivalent) to include Mathematics. Successful completion of the Maynooth University Certificate in Science (with a minimum overall grade of 60%) allows enrolment on the first year of a number of Science degree courses. Successful completion of the Maynooth University Certificate in Science (with a minimum overall grade of 60%) PLUS successful completion of the Maynooth University Mathematics Examination in April/May and/or August 2021, after independent study, allows enrolment on the first year of Engineering degree courses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| For more Information Contact                     | The Return to Learning Programme Department of Adult and Community Education  
  📞 + 353 1 708 6062  
  ✉️ adulteducation@mu.ie | Science and Engineering Foundation Programmes  
  Mature Student Office  
  📞 + 353 1 708 3307  
  ✉️ emer.sheerin@mu.ie |

This table is for guideline purposes only. Courses may be subject to change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SUMMARY OF MATURE STUDENT APPLICATION INFORMATION TO FULL-TIME LEVEL 8 DEGREES</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Title</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Duration</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subjects</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fee</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Application &amp; Selection Procedure</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Closing Dates for Applications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Relevant Information</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **For more Information Contact**                | **Think about Teaching Programme**  
Department of Adult and Community Education  
📞 + 353 1 474 6063 / + 353 1 474 7576  
✉️ turn2teaching@mu.ie |

This table is for guideline purposes only. Courses may be subject to change.
## INDEX OF USEFUL CONTACTS

### ACCESS OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office)
- access.office@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 6025

### ACADEMIC ADVISORY OFFICE
- advisory.office@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3368

### ACCOMMODATION OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation)
- accommodation.office@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3322

### CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers)
- careers@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3592

### CHAPLAINCY
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/chaplaincy](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/chaplaincy)
- chaplaincy@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3320

### CRÈCHE
- creche.care@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3319

### COUNSELLING SERVICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/counselling](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/counselling)
- +353 1 708 3554

### DISABILITY OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/supporting-students-disabilities](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/supporting-students-disabilities)
- access.office@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 6025

### HOMEFINDER SERVICE (OFF CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION)
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation/accommodation-private-sector](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation/accommodation-private-sector)
- homefinder.service@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 4729

### MATURE STUDENT OFFICE
- Mature Student Officer: Emer Sheerin
- emer.sheerin@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3307

### MAYNOOTH STUDENTS’ UNION
- [www.msu.ie](http://www.msu.ie)
- frontdesk@msu.ie
- +353 1 708 3669
- +353 1 474 7565

### PROGRAMME ADVISORY OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/programmeadvisory-office](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/programmeadvisory-office)
- programme.choices@mu.ie
- +353 1 474 7428

### SPORTS OFFICE
- paul.davis@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 6406

### STUDENT BUDGETING ADVICE SERVICE - MONEY MATTERS
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/money-matters](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/money-matters)
- student.budget@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 4729

### STUDENT HEALTH CENTRE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/studenthealthcentre](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/studenthealthcentre)
- healthcentre@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3878

### STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-services](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-services)
- student.services@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 4729

### UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS OFFICE
- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/matureapplicants](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/matureapplicants)
- admissions@mu.ie
- +353 1 708 3822
TRANSPORT ROUTES FIND YOUR NEAREST STOP ON THE MAP

TRAIN LINKS
See the map for details of all stations linked to Maynooth. For further information on schedules and fares please check www.irishrail.ie

BUS LINKS
> Dublin Bus
> Direct coach services to Maynooth
> Bus Éireann
Athlone / Ballina / Galway / Longford / Mullingar / Sligo / Tuam / Westport to and from Maynooth.

For full details on Bus Éireann routes see www.buseireann.ie

CYCLING
Many staff and students cycle to the University. Bicycle racks are provided in key locations around the campus.

CAR
There are approximately 1,800 parking spaces on campus and Maynooth is situated just 25km from Dublin city centre.

A designated permit parking system operates on the campus. Pay and Display spaces are also available on both the North and South Campus.

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location
Car parking on campus offers a mix of spaces for students, staff and visitors. Please check www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location for details about restrictions.
Car parking on campus offers a mix of spaces for students, staff and visitors. Please check [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location) for details about restrictions.
# UNDERGRADUATE EVENTS

## 2019–2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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</table>
| Open Days                                     | Friday, 29th November 2019  
Saturday, 30th November 2019                    |
| CAO Information Evening                       | Wednesday, 8th January 2020                       |
| Spring Open Day                               | Saturday, 25th April 2020                          |
| Summer School                                 | Monday to Friday, 15th - 19th June 2020            |
| Summer Open Day                               | Saturday, 27th June 2020                           |
| Information Day for School Principals and Guidance Counsellors | Tuesday, 8th September 2020 |
| Campus Tours                                  | Any stage during the year                          |
| Schools’ Liaison                              | We visit schools and attend careers fairs throughout the year |

For details of the locations and times of all undergraduate events check [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/undergraduatevents](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/undergraduatevents)

For all your Maynooth and CAO level 8 degree questions visit: [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/level8](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/level8)