

# Subject Levels for the Leaving Certificate

## Future Career Implications

**Note:** The following is a guide to the subjects and levels (Higher/Ordinary) that may be required for particular College courses or Careers. It is not a complete list and is changeable from year to year. It is essential that you research your career options before making subject level choices for the Junior Certificate and hence this will have a knock on effect for your Leaving Certificate Subject Choice/Levels.

Please refer to [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie) for information on subject level requirements for College entry. Other good web sources of information are [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie) [www.careerdirections.ie](http://www.careerdirections.ie) and also check the school website for additional information.

?????Make an appointment with the Guidance Counsellor if you have any questions or need to discuss subject levels/subject choice further

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### CAREER INPLICATIONS OF SUBJECT (LEVEL) CHOICE

#### -MATHEMATICS

Maths is required for entry to almost all courses in college.

#### *What level?*

##### **Higher level Maths:**

- is required for some courses such as; Actuarial & Financial Studies, Chemistry with Molecular Modelling, Computer Science (TCD), Economics & Finance (UCD), Level 8 Engineering Programmes, Mathematics Degrees, some Science courses e.g. Environmental Science (UL), Food Science & Health (UL), Mathematical Science (UL & UCC); Pharmacy (need a grade D in HL Maths or a grade C in OL Maths)

## **Higher Level Maths Bonus Points for Higher Mathematics**

A bonus of 25 points will be added to the points score for a D3 or above in higher level Mathematics in the Leaving Certificate. The bonus points are included in the overall points calculation only when Mathematics is one of the six best subjects following the addition of the bonus.

**Ordinary Level Maths** is a basic entry requirement for a majority of courses in the colleges

**N.B. Foundation Level Maths is NOT ACCEPTED** for 1000 or so courses in the colleges. Ordinary level D3 is the basic requirement. It is **not** accepted for matriculation purposes in the Universities.

## **ENGLISH**

-Needed for entry to third level colleges.

**Higher level** needed for e.g. Journalism and Arts related degrees which have English as a major or joint subject to degree level..

## **IRISH**

May be required for matriculation purposes/entry into college (see separate sheet for explanation of possible exemptions to this rule)

**Higher level** is required for Primary School Teaching (Direct & Graduate entry) and for third level course involving the study of Irish at degree level e.g. Home Economics & Irish-Second Level Teaching (St. Angela's College, Sligo)

## **THIRD LANGUAGE/FRENCH**

**Required for many courses** in most Universities for matriculation purposes (see separate sheet for explanation of this and exemption rule)

Definitely required for courses involving the study of French at degree level e.g. Business & French, Law & French.

**NOTE:** Entry to Garda training requires candidates to be proficient (and have received a grade D3 of higher ) in **TWO** languages, one of which must be **ENGLISH or IRISH.**

## **SCIENCE**

A Science subject is required for example for Architecture, Biotechnology, Speech Therapy, Science & Engineering courses (level 8 and some level 7/6), Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, P.E. with Biology/Maths, Veterinary Medicine/Nursing, and Dentistry.

**Two Science Subjects are required for e.g.**

Pharmacy (Trinity), Dentistry (Biology & Science), Medicine (5 years)-Trinity, Medicine-5 years (NUIG) {there is a 6 year Medicine Degree in NUIG and only one Science subject is required) **NOTE:** The entry requirements for Medicine is different in the different Colleges.

**Chemistry is required for:**

Dentistry, Human Nutrition & Dietetics, Medicine (UCC), Pharmacy (TCD & UCD), Public Health Nutrition (DIT), Veterinary Medicine (TCD) **NOTE: Biology is strongly advised for the study of Veterinary Medicine**

**Biology is required or is strongly advised for the study of:**

Genetics (UCD), Human Health & Disease (TCD), some Science related courses, some healthcare/medical related courses (see list above for examples), some Engineering courses (if you do not have e.g. Construction Studies, Chemistry etc as a Science subject)

## **HOME ECONOMICS**

Useful for e.g. Culinary Arts (to be a Chef), Home with Economics/Irish/Religious Education-Second Level Teacher Training (St. Angela's College, Sligo)

## **CONSTRUCTION STUDIES**

Can be used in some incidences in place of a Science subject for entry to e.g. some Engineering courses

Useful for e.g. Product Design, Architecture, MTW Teacher Training...

## **BUSINESS**

**N.B.** You do not need to have studied Accountancy for the Leaving Cert to be an Accountant but it would be useful to have studied Business and be proficient in Mathematics.

Business is useful for Business/Marketing/PR/Finance courses in College

Business is very useful also for the hospitality industry.

## **ART**

-Needed for/**portfolio** required for: Arts-Visual Arts (WIT), Design-Visual Communication (WIT), Art & Design, Fashion Design, Photography, Product Design...

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Useful for an Arts Degree whereby Geography is to Degree level (but not essential)

For Pharmacy in UCD & TCD, Geography can be used as a Science subject for entry

## **HISTORY**

Useful for Archaeology and an Arts Degree whereby History is to Degree level (but not essential)