Leaving Certificate

Subject Choice

Loreto College
2018

Overview of Topics:

- Consideration
- Preparation of students in school
- Course Requirements
- Minimum Entry Requirements
  - Languages
  - Higher Level Maths
  - Specific Sciences
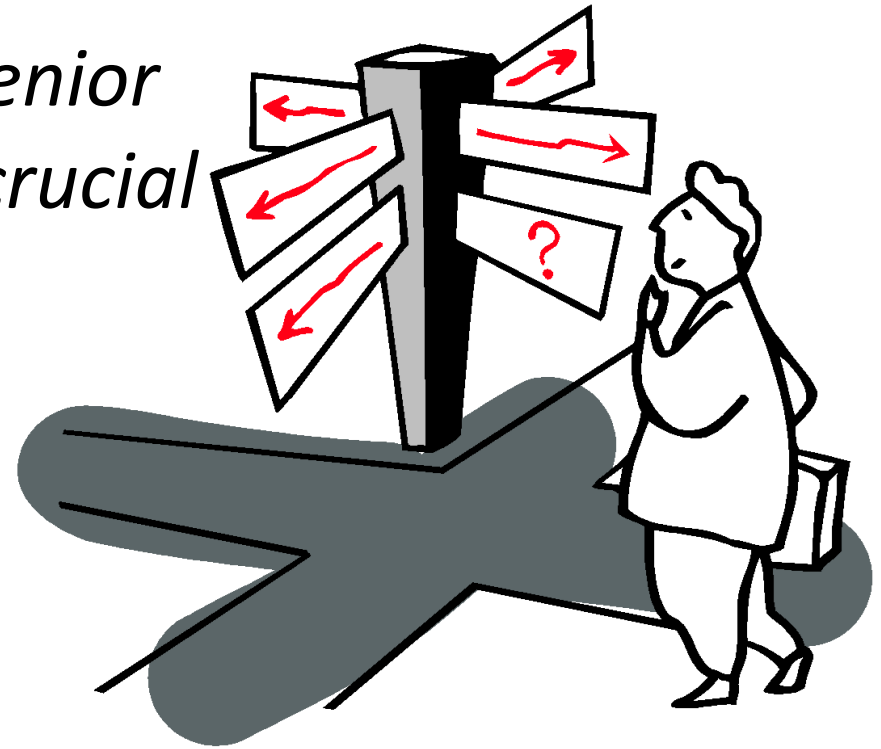
Overview (Continued):

- Interest & Aptitude Test
- Helpful Hints
- Resources
- Uncertainty
- Subject Choice Deadline
- Subject Choice Process

Subject Choice

Subject choice for the Senior Cycle is one of the most crucial decisions this year
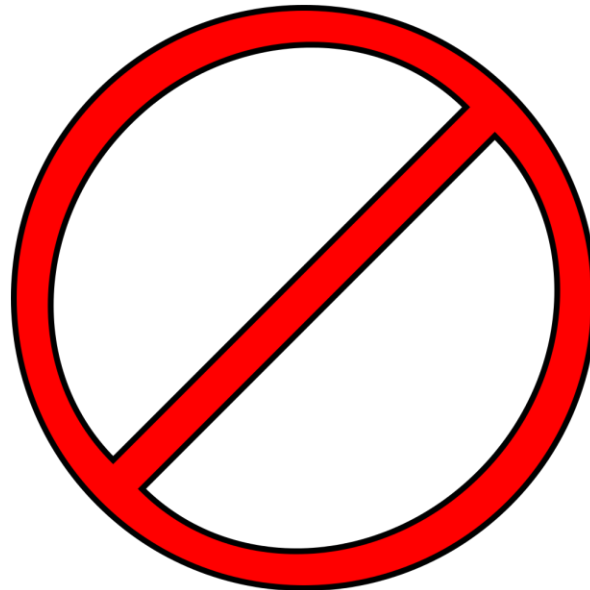
Important Considerations

- *Interest* in the subject

- *Ability* in the subject

- *Career* aspirations

What Not to Consider

- Doing what the student perceives as "easy"
- What her friends are doing
- What teacher she may or may not have

Important Questions???

Favourite Subjects for Junior Cert & TY

Extra- Curricular Interests

Interest in Subject Content

Future Career Possibilities

Leaving Certificate Subjects

- Loreto College students complete 7 subjects
  - English
  - Irish (unless exempt)
  - Mathematics
  - 4 other subjects
    - (A third Language advised)

Leaving Certificate Subjects

- Some students choose to study 8 or even 9.

- The 6 Subjects with the highest points are used for CAO Course Entry.

- Points are calculated from ***one sitting*** of the Leaving Cert.

New Points System 2017

Percentage Score	H. Level Grade	H. Level CAO Points	H. Level Maths CAO Points	O. Level Grade	O. Level CAO Points
90% - 100%	H1	100	125	O1	56
80% < 90%	H2	88	113	O2	46
70% < 80%	H3	77	102	O3	37
60% < 70%	H4	66	91	O4	28
50% < 60%	H5	56	81	O5	20
40% < 50%	H6	46	71	O6	12
30% < 40%	H7	37	37	O7	0
0% < 30%	H8	0	0	O8	0

25 Bonus Points for Maths

- All students presenting **H6** or above in Higher Level Mathematics will have 25 points added to their score for mathematics. The bonus points will **only** be relevant where mathematics is scored as one of a student's **6 best** subjects for points purposes.

Preparation of Students in School for Subject Choice

- Eirquest Interest & Cambridge Aptitude Test
- Career guidance classes
  -How process works and choices on offer

  -College / career requirements
  -How to decide
- Subject Presentations by Teachers (PowerPoints were emailed to all 4th year students) MONDAY 22ND JANUARY
- One to one meeting with Guidance Counsellor

Course Requirements

- Three Types of Requirements:

    1) Minimum Entry or Matriculation Requirements

    2) Course requirements

    3) Points (based on supply and demand each year)

Course Requirements

- Particular LC subjects may be required for certain college courses

- Mostly concerns Maths, Languages and Sciences

- There may also be a requirement to achieve a certain level in certain subjects

Courses That Require Higher Level Maths

- Computer Science

- Engineering

- Management Science & Information Systems Studies (TCD)

- Theoretical Physics

CAO Main Considerations

- Minimum Entry Requirements

    e.g.   2 H5 and 4 O6/ H7
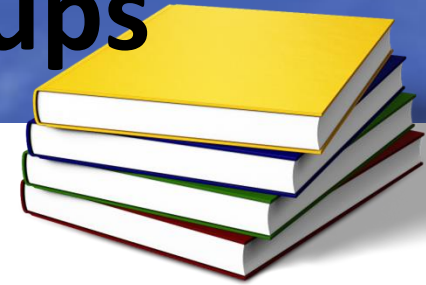
    3 H5 and 3 O6/H7

- Specific Course Requirements

    *e.g. Primary Teaching - Irish **H4**, English & Maths H7/O4 (**effective 2019**)*

    Dietetics - Chemistry H4

- **Entry requirements** can be fulfilled from *more than one* Leaving Cert. - exception Medicine

Loreto College Subject Groups

- The Core Group

- Business

- Languages

- Social Studies

- Sciences

The Core Group

- English

- Irish (Unless exempt by Dept. of Education)

- Mathematics

Four Other Subjects….

What to Choose?

Options… 16 to choose from…

- **Languages:**
  Latin, Spanish, German, French

- **Business**:
  Business, Accounting, Economics

- **Social Studies:**
  History, Geography, Art, Music, Home Economics, Politics & Society

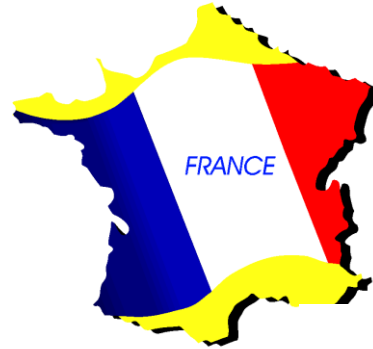- **Sciences:**
  Physics, Chemistry, Biology

- **Applied Sciences:**
  Applied Maths

Languages

- French

- German

- Spanish

- Latin

Languages - Minimum Entry Requirements

- NUI colleges (UCD, UCC, NUIG, Maynooth) & affiliated colleges (RCSI, NCAD, St. Angela's) **require a 3rd Language** for **most** courses.

- Arts, Architecture, Human Sciences, Law, Social Science, Commerce, Medicine and Health Sciences and some other degrees

  - *Exceptions: Engineering & Nursing in all NUIs, Veterinary Nursing, Some Business & Law courses in Maynooth, Social Science in UCD*

Languages - Minimum Entry Requirements

- Trinity College Dublin & UL require a 2nd Language:
  - Will accept Irish **or** another Language

- DCU and I.T's require English *or* Irish
  - Check ***Specific Course Requirement***

- NCAD offers a choice of Art *or* Third Language

- Nursing does not require a 3rd Language in any college

Languages

Examples of Specific Course Requirements

- Higher Level
  - H3 – Commerce and French (UCC)
  - H3 – Law and German (TCD)
  - H3 – Business Studies with French (TCD)
  - H3 – Law with French Law (UCD)
  - H4 – International Languages / Global Business (DCU)

Business Studies

- Business

- Accounting

- Economics

Subjects of Advantage for Careers

- ## Business
  Banking, Human Resource Management, Business Management, Marketing, Sales

- ## Accounting
  Business/Accounting courses, Banking, Finance, Management

- ## Economics
  Stockbroking, Banking, Finance

However…

- 'Business' is not a required subject for entrance to any Business courses

Social Studies

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music
- Home Economics
- Politics & Society

Summary

- <u>History</u>

  20% Research Essay

  Careers *- Politics, Journalism, Local Government, Social Work, Archaeology, Law, Barrister, Civil Service*

- <u>Geography</u>

  20% Field Study Project

  Careers *- Civil Engineering, Town Planning, Tourism, Market Research, Architecture, Auctioneering, Agriculture, Forestry, Horticulture*

Summary

- Art

  Art History = 37.5%

  Careers - Advertising, Marketing, Printing, Architecture, Fashion Designer, Primary Teacher. A portfolio is often a requirement for Art courses.

- Music

  50% Practical: Most students in Loreto College choose 4 Pieces on 1 instrument and Music Technology piece.

  Careers - Musician, Entertainment Groups, Radio and Television Production, Occupational Therapy, Childcare, Primary Teacher, Montessori Teacher

- Home Economics

  4 Practicals; 20% Course Work Journal

  Careers - Dietetics, Chef, Food Science, Nursing, Childcare, etc.

Politics & Society Course Content

- Power and Decision Making

- Active Citizenship

- Human Rights and Responsibilities

- Globalisation and Localisation

Politics & Society

- 20% Report (100 marks)
- Sample Topic given from 2018 Citizenship Project Brief:

Design a campaign (or participate in an existing campaign) to communicate with a political representative/or representatives and/or the wider public about a sustainable development issue that concerns you. Evaluate the impact of your campaign.

Video: https://vimeo.com/250248127
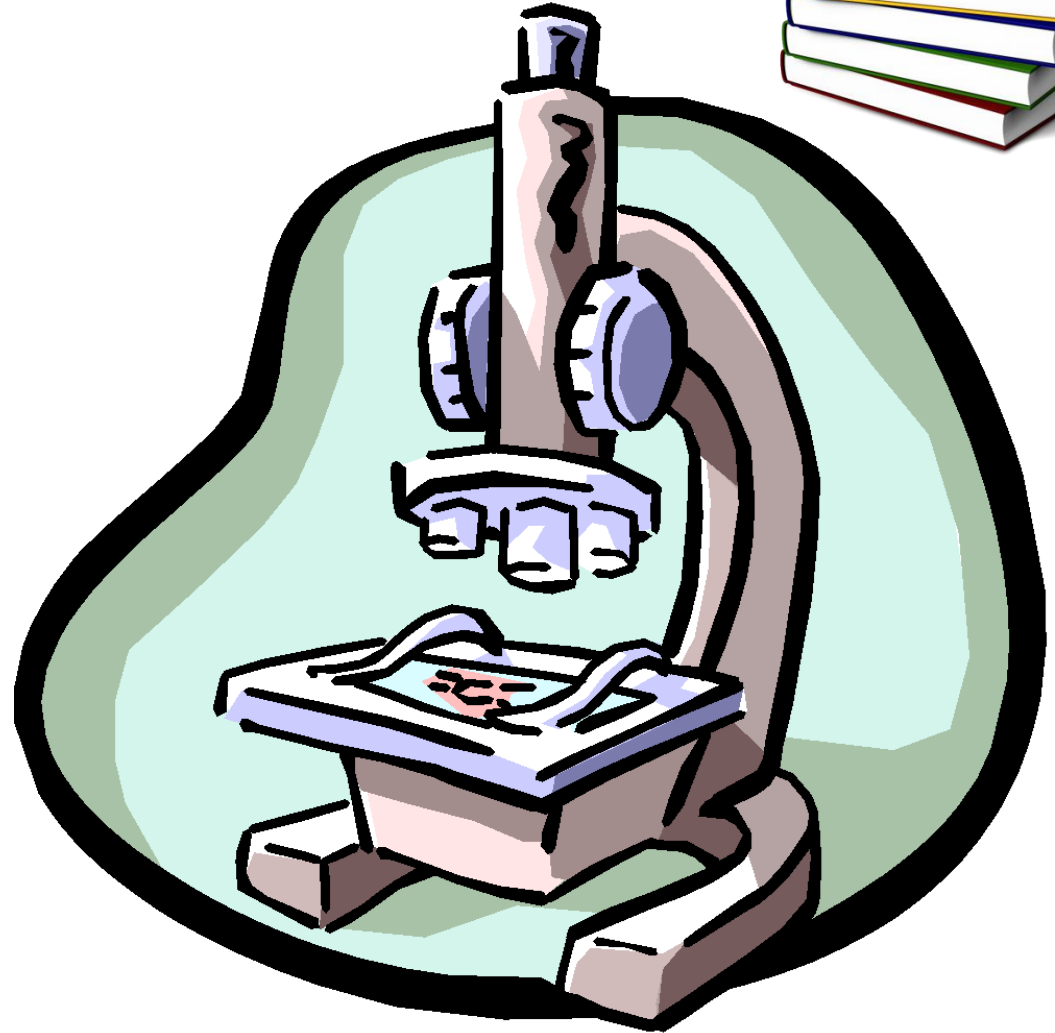
Politics & Society

- 80% Written Exam (2.5 hours)

- 3 Sections in the Exam Paper:

  - Section A: Short Answer Question 50 marks

  - Section B: Data-based questions 150 marks (given stimulus like infographic to read and answer questions on)

  - Section C: Two Discursive Essays 200 marks

Sciences
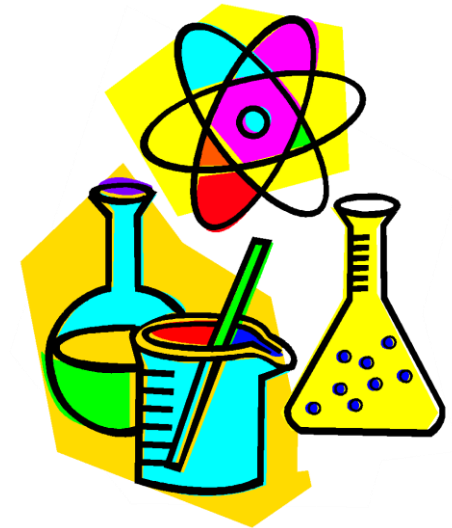
- Physics

- Chemistry

- Biology

Sciences

Further Comment…

- **Physics** is the most relevant science for:
  - Engineering
  - Architecture
  - Electronics
  - Computing
  - Radiography
- **Chemistry** is the most relevant science for:
  - Pharmacy
  - Medicine
  - Dentistry
  - Biomedical Science
  - Food Science and Nutrition
  - Dietetics

Sciences -Minimum Entry Requirements

- Certain courses require a Science subject
- Students need to have at least one Science subject if applying for courses in:
  - Engineering
  - Science
  - Medicine
  - Veterinary
  - Nursing
  - Health Sciences e.g. Physiotherapy, Radiography, Occupational Therapy, etc.

Sciences

- A second Science subject is advisable to keep all Science options open in all colleges – Geography/ Maths/ Applied Maths accepted in many.

- A student with two of Biology, Physics and/or Chemistry will have the advantage of having the requirements for all the courses requiring a Science subject or two.

Medicine

- 2 Sciences Required in TCD (H3 + H4), UCC (H4) & RCSI (H4)

  - Only 1 science required, but 2 recommended for Medicine in other universities

- 3rd language required in RCSI & UCD

- 2 H5 + 4 O6/H7

2 Sciences Also Required For:

- Human Health & Disease (TCD)
- Dentistry (TCD & UCC)
- Pharmacy (UCC)

- And highly recommended for Science courses (required for most at TCD)

- Note: 1 science with HL Maths will do for Pharmacy and Physiotherapy (TCD)

Sciences

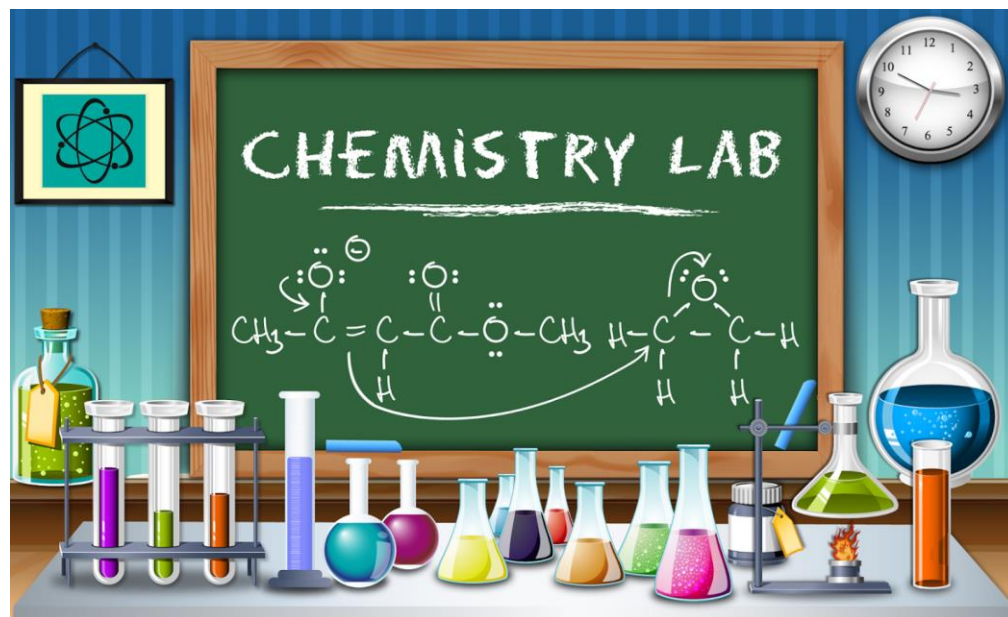**Examples of Specific Course Requirements**

- Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy (UCC)
  - H4 in Chemistry with pass in Physics or Biology
- Veterinary Medicine (UCD)
  - H5 Chemistry (Biology Recommended)
- Dietetics & Public Health Nutrition (DIT)
  - H4 Chemistry
- Pharmacy & Medicine 5 Year (RCSI)
  - H5 Chemistry – Pharmacy
  - H4 Chemistry & H4 in Physics or Biology - Medicine
- Pharmacy (Trinity College Dublin)
  - H5 Chemistry and H4 in one of Physics, Biology, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Geography or Agricultural Science

Courses That Require Chemistry

- Pharmacy (RCSI, TCD, UCC - H5)

- Veterinary Medicine (UCD - H5)

- Human Nutrition & Dietetics (DIT - H4)

- Dentistry (UCC - H4)

Courses That Require Biology

- Human Health & Disease (TCD – H4 + H4 in a second science)

- Genetics (UCC – H4)

- Veterinary Medicine (UCD) –

not required, but strongly
recommended

tagxedo.com

Applied Sciences

- Applied Mathematics
  CUS

Important Considerations

- *Interest* in the subject

- *Ability* in the subject

- *Career* aspirations

Interest & Aptitude Test

- Eirquest Interest & Cambridge Aptitude Test

- Gives an indication of Career Interest & Aptitude:
  Verbal, Numerical, Abstract & Spatial Reasoning

- Not an exact indicator of the subjects students should choose.

Aptitude & Leaving Certificate Subjects

Verbal Reasoning

English
History
Languages
Business
Geography
Home Economics
Music
Biology

Numerical Reasoning

Maths
Physics
Chemistry
Applied Maths
Accounting
Economics

Aptitude

Spatial Reasoning

Physics
Applied Maths
Chemistry
Art
Design and Communication Graphics

Abstract Reasoning

Chemistry
Biology
Physics
Music
Art
Applied Maths

Test	Description of Test	Careers / Courses	L. Cert Subjects
Verbal Reasoning	- This test measures the ability to reason with words and to think logically. - Important for work involving communicating ideas or understanding written material.	Solicitor, Doctor, Teacher, Computer Programmer, Management, Sales, Marketing and Advertising, Training, Administration.	English History Languages Business Geography Home Economics Music Biology
Numerical Reasoning	-Measures the ability to reason with numbers and to deal intelligently with quantitative measures.	Finance, Science, Sales, Banking, Architecture, Engineering, Statistician, Surveying, Navigation, Laboratory work.	Maths Physics Chemistry Applied Maths Accounting Economics
Abstract Reasoning	- Non-Verbal/Non-Numerical measure of reasoning power. - It assesses how well one can reason with geometric figures or designs.	Engineer, Doctor, Scientist, Musician, Software Designer, Teacher, Computer Programmer, Mechanical & Electrical work, Management.	Chemistry Biology Physics Music Art Applied Maths
Spatial Reasoning	Measures the ability to visualise a three-dimensional object from a two-dimensional pattern and to visualise how this object would look if rotated in space.	Art, Design, Architecture, Engineering, Carpentry, Dentistry, Photography, Fashion Design.	Physics Applied Maths Chemistry Art Design & Communication Graphics

Students Should...

(a) Focus on what they enjoy

(b) Consider the subjects they are good at and subjects which they may not have studied before but may take up at senior cycle

(c) Take note of future courses requirements

(d) Take a balance of subjects- a varied combination of subjects such as a practical subject like Art with a more theoretical subject such as History.

Students Should...

(e) Talk to friends/people who are studying it or have a career in the area interested in.

(f) Talk to teachers regarding the subjects they hope to do and examine the text books

(g) Keep all options open if unsure of career/course

(h) Examine college prospectuses and websites

Unsure?

- If your daughter is unsure of what courses she might be interested in, I advise **keeping options open** by taking a **science** and a **third language**.

- While students will be offered help to make their decision, it is ultimately their decision so it is their responsibility to do their research.

Research... Research... Research

- Guidanceonthegreen.com

- Qualifax.ie

- CareersPortal.ie

Other Decisions...

- ## Doing 8 Subjects
  - Applied Mathematics/Music/other
  - *N.B. Consider work load and time involved*

- ## Deciding upon Honours or Ordinary level
  - Consider subject requirements for various courses
  - Take advice from teachers
  - 25 Bonus points for Honours Mathematics

Useful Tool

- Do a Google search for:

"Minimum Subject Requirements Qualifax"

http://www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=26

Subject Option Choice

- **2nd March 2018 Deadline**

- Students indicate Level for English, Irish and Maths

- Students indicate choice of four Optional Subjects

Blooms Taxonomy

Key Skills for Leaving Certificate

- https://www.greycaps.com/sites/default/files/teacher/blooms.jpg

Best of Luck with the Decision

Chelsea Weaver

Guidance Counsellor

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