

# Subject Choice 2021 Senior Level Carrickmacross

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## Agenda

- To look at the new grading and points system for Leaving Certificate.
- To examine the importance of choosing the right subjects by looking at:
  - College Entry Requirements
  - Specific Course Requirements
- To explain the school's procedures in relation to subject choice

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## New common points scale

Higher Level Grade (%)	New CAO Points (HL)	New CAO Points (OL)	Ordinary Level Grade (%)
H1 (90-100)	100		
H2 (80-89)	88		
H3 (70-79)	77		
H4 (60-69)	66		
H5 (50-59)	56	56	O1 (90-100)
H6 (40-49)	46	46	O2 (80-89)
H7 (30-39)	37	37	O3 (70-79)
H8 (0-29)	0	28	O4 (60-69)
		20	O5 (50-59)
		12	O6 (40-49)
		0	O7 (30-39)
		0	O8 (0-29)

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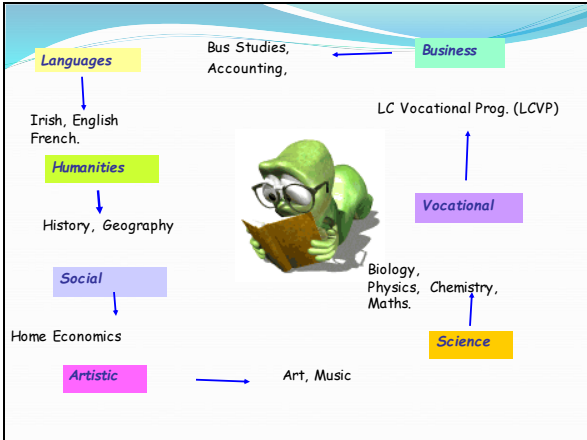
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<b>FRENCH</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Junior Cert French Advisable Minimum Grade C in Higher Junior Cycle to take Higher Level Leaving Cert
MARKING NOTES	Oral: 25% of total mark
NOTES ON COURSE	Higher & Ordinary levels have similar course content. Oral and written skills are of particular importance at higher level.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Teaching, translation, interpreting, journalism, media the I.T. sector .
USEFUL INFORMATION	A good working knowledge of a European language enhances the employment prospects in all career areas.

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<b>MUSIC:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Junior cycle music or music training to a similar standard.
COURSE CONTENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening (25%)</li> <li>• Composing (25%)</li> <li>• Performing (25%) (the voice is also an instrument!)</li> <li>• Performance or Music Technology 25%</li> </ul>
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Primary Teaching, Second Level Teaching, Sound Technician, any area of the Music Business, performing or production.

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<b>BIOLOGY:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	An interest in living things, the environment & fieldwork. 
COURSE CONTENT	22 mandatory practicals <u>The Study of Life</u> <u>The Cell</u> <u>The organism</u> Extensive vocabulary to familiarise.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry, Nursing, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Botany, Ecology, Environmental Science, Genetics, Marine Science, Microbiology, Zoology, Psychologist, Astronomer, Teacher, Researcher.
USEFUL INFORMATION	Recording information & drawing diagrams is important.

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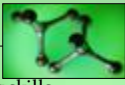
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<b>CHEMISTRY:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Good aptitude for maths. Reasonable problem-solving skills. 
COURSE CONTENT	History of famous scientists & discoveries. High detail on Periodic Table & Atom. Interesting & accurate chemical analysis. Organic Chemistry – chemicals in everyday life. Water Analysis .
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Pharmacy, Ag Science, Medicine, Engineering, General Science, Biotechnology.
USEFUL INFORMATION	Pay attention to course content at Junior Cert. Have good background knowledge. Ordinary Level contains far less calculations.

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<b>PHYSICS:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Good aptitude for maths. Problem-solving skills. 
COURSE CONTENT	24 mandatory experiments. Light/Sound, Mechanics, Temperature/Heat, Electricity, Magnetism, Radioactivity, Particle Physics or Applied Electricity for Honours candidates.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Electrician, Optician, Doctor, Dentist, Engineer, Computer Technician, Programmer.
USEFUL INFORMATION	Junior Cert honours maths students do well in Leaving Cert physics.

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<b>HOME ECONOMICS (SOCIAL &amp; SCIENTIFIC):</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Completion of the Junior Cert an advantage. 
COURSE CONTENT	Practical work is carried out as part of food studies. students are required to complete a coursework journal which counts for 20% of the examination. This is submitted to the State Examinations Commission in OCT of 6 <sup>th</sup> year.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	The learning experiences in home economics provides a learning foundation for a wide range of careers in food, textiles, science, design, social studies, teaching and tourism.
USEFUL INFORMATION	Is assessed at Higher and Ordinary levels.

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<b>BUSINESS:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Junior Cert Business Studies an advantage. Keep up to date with current affairs and the news. 
COURSE CONTENT	People in Business, Business Conflicts & Resolution. Enterprise, Management of Business. The Irish Business System, E. U. & International Business.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Banking, Insurance, Administration, Marketing, Business Management, Human Resource Management.
USEFUL INFORMATION	Useful to anybody contemplating starting his or her own business in the future. Very practical and interesting to someone of a business mind.

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<b>ACCOUNTING:</b>	
REQUIREMENTS	Junior Cert Business an advisable. 
COURSE CONTENT	<b>FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING:</b> Accounting Records, Sole Traders, Company Accounting, Specialised Accounts, Incomplete Records Cash Flow Statements. <b>MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING:</b> Marginal Costing, Product Costing, Budgeting.
CAREER POSSIBILITIES	Many top executives in Business have an accountancy background. Can be a passport to working abroad.
USEFUL INFORMATION	This is not a theory subject, but you need to like maths, figures and calculations.

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<b>ART, CRAFT &amp; DESIGN:</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	An interest in Art & Art History
<b>COURSE CONTENT</b>	Visual Art is a subject that promotes teaching and learning through art, craft, and design. It gives students the capacity to understand and to express ideas, feelings, and opinions: both their own and those of others through, drawing, painting, screen printing, ceramics, photography, IT, 3D construction, embroidery etc. The course is made up of two sections: <b>60% - Practical coursework:</b> Coursework booklet Craftwork, Imaginative Composition/Still Life realised pieces. (Completed in school) <b>40% - Art History- (Written exam in June)</b>
<b>CAREER POSSIBILITIES</b>	Fine artist, Art gallery curator, Art therapist, Art teacher, Art lecturer, design lecturer or art history lecturer at a university, Art technician/demonstrator at a university, Illustrator, Jobs to do with art in media, film and theatre, Art and design jobs in fashion, Architecture careers, Graphic design, Marketing
<b>USEFUL INFORMATION</b>	Exam can be taken at higher and ordinary level. 60% of practical exam coursework is completed in school from December to April, The art History exam 40% is sat in June. If you want to attend Art College/ University a portfolio may be a requirement, this can be started in 5 <sup>th</sup> year.

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<b>GEOGRAPHY:</b>	
<b>COURSE CONTENT</b>	 <p><b>3 Core Units:</b>  <b>1. Patterns &amp; Processes in the Physical Environment</b>  <b>2. Regional Geography. Different regions of the world.</b>  <b>3. Geographical Investigation - fieldwork project</b>                      20%  <b>Elective Units – 1 to be completed:</b>                      Patterns &amp; Processes in Economic Activities or Human Environment.  <b>Higher Level elective options only:</b> Global Interdependence, Geo-ecology, Culture and Identity or Atmosphere-ocean environment.</p>
<b>CAREER POSSIBILITIES</b>	<b>Teaching, Tourism, Transport, Travel, Environmental Science, Politics, Town Planning, Surveying, Weather Forecasting, Map-making and Environmental Assessment.</b>

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<b>HISTORY:</b>	
<b>COURSE CONTENT</b>	 <p>5 topics, each worth 20%.                      2 Irish history topics &amp; 2 world events topics plus 1 Research Study Report (submitted before LC).                      Learn to support arguments with relevant evidence.                      Learn about people, countries and cultures.                      Learn how to separate fact from fiction.                      Insight into your own identity and tradition.</p>
<b>CAREER POSSIBILITIES</b>	Arts, journalism, web-based research, museums, tourism, local and national government, broadcasting companies, banking, teaching
<b>USEFUL INFORMATION</b>	Studying History sharpens communication, writing & research skills. History develops an ability to think independently. History gives you a better understanding of the world we live in.

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## Subject Selection

- Compulsory ————— Irish, English, Maths,
- Recommended ————— Science subject- Biology,  
Chemistry, Physics  
French
- Particular Career/Course ————— Choose essential and relevant subjects

Keep options open e.g. 1 Science & 1 EU Language

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## Application to 3<sup>rd</sup> level

- There are 3 conditions that must be met for a student to be offered a place on a 3<sup>rd</sup> level course in a Higher Education Institute (HEI):
- 1) Minimum Entry Requirements
  - 2) Specific Course Entry Requirements
  - 3) Points

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## Minimum Entry Requirements

These are the minimum academic requirements HEIs (Institutes of Technology Universities and other Colleges) request from applicants :

Level 8 Honours Degrees at Universities require a minimum of 6 subjects to include 2 subjects at least H5 and 4 other subjects at least at H7/O6

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## Minimum Requirements for Level 6 & 7 Courses

For Higher Certificate (Level 6) and Ordinary Degrees (Level 7) courses at Institutes of Technology the standard entry requirement is a minimum H7/O6 in 6 subjects to include

- Maths and a language i.e. English or Irish.
- There are exceptions to these requirements.

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## Other Minimum Entry Requirements

- Trinity College Level 8 Courses
- Primary Teacher Education Courses
- Some Technological University courses  
**Require a minimum of 3 H5 and 3 H7/O6**

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## Specific Course Requirements

- Certain additional subjects may be required to gain entry to specific courses in colleges
- Examples include:
  - Primary teaching – H4 in Irish
  - Engineering (Level 8) – H4 in Maths
  - Veterinary Medicine – H5 in Chemistry

(Check Qualifax & relevant college literature, it is the responsibility of the student to research entry requirements)

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Science : 2 Science subjects are required for some Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy courses. The following require one Science subject.

- Science
- Engineering
- Nutrition
- Veterinary
- Radiography
- Nursing
- Naval Cadets
- Speech Therapy
- Sports Science
- Dietetics
- Occupational Therapy
- Optometry
- Product Design

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## Chemistry

- Pharmacy (TCD,UCC & RCSI)
- Veterinary Medicine (UCD)
- Medicine (UCC)
- Dentistry (UCC)
- Human Nutrition & Dietetics (TU)
- Public Health Nutrition (TU)
- Science Health & Medical Sciences (UCC)

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## Biology, Physics & Accounting

- Physics- Theoretical Physics (TCD)
- Biology- Genetics (UCC)
- Human Health & Disease (TCD)
- Veterinary Nursing (D.K.I.T.)
- Health Science with Physiotherapy/Dietetic Studies (LYIT)
- Accounting – Commerce (Accounting) (NUIG)

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### Desirable subjects But not essential

- Engineering – **Physics and an aptitude for Maths**
- Beautician – **Biology**
- Science – **2 Science Subjects**
- Nursing – **Biology**
- Hotel & Catering – **Home Economics**
- Electrician, Business, Accounting, Computing, Psychology - **An aptitude for Maths**
- Business- **Business/Accounting**
- Radiography - **Physics**

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### Irish & Maths

- **What happens if I don't take higher level Irish?**  
You are not eligible to apply for primary school teacher training in any of the CAO HEIs
- **What happens if I don't take higher level maths?**  
You are not eligible to apply for some level 8 degrees that require a grade 4 in Higher maths such as Engineering & Maths Education.
- **What about foundation maths?**  
Be aware that a pass in ordinary level maths is essential for entry into many courses after Leaving Certificate.

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### What happens if I have no Science Subject?

- Most Science based courses require at least one Science subject .
- Even if it is not a first-year requirement at Third Level, courses will have Biology, Physics and Chemistry on the curriculum.
- Trinity College accepts Geography as a Science subject for a small number of courses which require 2 Sciences.
- UCD accepts Geography as a Science subject for the Science Course.

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## Higher Level Maths Bonus

Sarah has the following seven results in LC 2017

Subject	Level	Grade	Score
Irish	Higher	H4	<b>66</b>
English	Ordinary	O1	<b>56</b>
Mathematics	Higher	H6	46 + 25 = <b>71</b>
French	Higher	H3	77
Biology	Higher	H2	<b>88</b>
Geography	Ordinary	O2	46
History	Higher	H1	<b>100</b>
Add the best six scores, Shown in bold			Points = 458

For Sarah, the net benefit of the bonus points is 25 points, i.e. in the absence of a bonus points scheme for HL Mathematics, Sarah would score 433 points.

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## The points system means subject levels matter!

%	Grade	Hon.	Grade	Ord.		
90-100	H1	100	O1	56	<b>LCVP</b> Distinction Merit Pass	66
80-89	H2	88	O2	46		46
70-79	H3	77	O3	37		28
60-69	H4	66	O4	28		
50-59	H5	56	O5	20		
40-49	H6	46	O6	12		
30-39	H7	37	O7	0		
0-29	H8	0	O8	0		

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## The General Rule

The choice of subjects should include those subjects:

- Which are required/necessary to get your intended course(s) or career.
- Which you are interested in and prepared to work at... a particular grade at a particular level may be required.
- Which suit your particular strengths and talents.
- Which will help you to gain sufficient points to get into your chosen course.

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- Ask yourself “am I determined to spend time studying this subject?”
- “Am I prepared to do the work to get to grips with this subject?”
- If you are not sure at this stage what you would like to do **choose a good mix** of subjects to cover your options

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<h3>Do</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose subjects you enjoy</li> <li>• Choose subjects you are good at</li> <li>• Choose subjects you need for your chosen career</li> <li>• Keep your options open for the future by making a balanced choice now</li> <li>• Talk to your Guidance Counsellor and Teachers</li> </ul>	<h3>Don't</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose a subject because your friend is choosing it</li> <li>• Choose a subject because you like the teacher</li> <li>• Choose a subject because you think it will be easy</li> <li>• Choose a new subject without finding out more about it/last minute decision</li> </ul>
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### Remember....

There are three things to remember when choosing a subject:

1. Choose a subject you enjoy
2. Choose a subject you have an interest in
3. Choose a subject you have a flair for

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**All Subjects are Equal**

- In terms of entry to Third level Colleges all subjects count equally in terms of points except for higher level Maths.
- For example a H1 in Art is worth the same points as a H1 in Physics

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