



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

International Student Guide 2014-15

National University of Ireland, Galway



www.nuigalway.ie/international-students



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www.nuigalway.ie/international-students



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April 2014



About NUI Galway

Established in 1845, National University of Ireland, Galway is one of Ireland's oldest and most prestigious universities, with a distinguished record in teaching and research. Ideally located in the city of Galway, the university offers a broad range of internationally recognised programmes in a welcoming academic community.



Teaching and Learning

Today, we have over 18,000 students from over 100 countries around the world studying undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes across five colleges:

Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies
Business, Public Policy and Law
Engineering and Informatics
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
Science

Many of our programmes have been developed together with our research institutes and centres, which means that our students have access to courses that are unique in Ireland and which are taught by faculty who are experts in their fields.

At NUI Galway, we place a great emphasis on real world learning through work experience and civic engagement. Our degree programmes are designed to provide the right mix of knowledge and practical skills to produce graduates who can make a real contribution to the world of learning and the workplace.

www.nuigalway.ie



Research

The research environment at NUI Galway is strongly interdisciplinary, with a particular focus on five key areas:

Biomedical Science and Engineering
The National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES) and the Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMED) are Ireland's leading centres for research on cardiovascular disease and cancer.

Informatics, Physical, and Computational Sciences

The Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI) develops cutting-edge internet technology in collaboration with some of the world's leading technology companies including Fujitsu, Cisco, IBM and Ericsson.

Environment, Marine and Energy

Researchers at the Ryan Institute deal with some of the most pressing environmental issues of the 21st century including Environmental Change, Atmospheric Studies, Biodiversity, Marine Science and Sustainable Energy.

Applied Social Sciences and Public Policy

Research in this area centres on the Whitaker Institute for Innovation and Societal Change and the Life Course Institute and deals mainly with Innovation and Social Change as well as issues including Social Inclusion, Human Rights Law and International Development.

Humanities in Context

The Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Studies is synonymous with innovative engagement with the Creative Arts and the Digital Humanities.

www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/



"NUI Galway is the epitome of what a university level education should be about. It provides a first-rate student experience with modern cutting-edge facilities. Its graduates are sought after throughout Ireland and beyond, and the NUI Galway name is synonymous with high quality."
— Alistair McCall, Editor of the *Sunday Times University Guide*



International Links

International Students comprise over 13% of the student body at NUI Galway, while over 30% of the university staff is from overseas.

Academically, the University also has a strong international focus, with long-established research and student exchange links with other top ranking universities throughout the world, including most notably Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), Harvard University and Stanford University in the USA, the University of Cambridge, Imperial College London and the University of Edinburgh in the UK, and Tsinghua University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.

We also have student exchange programmes with over 200 international universities, ranging from Ottawa University in Canada, Georgetown University and the University of California in the USA, University of Veracruz in Mexico and HKUST in Hong Kong.

DID YOU KNOW?

We are one of Ireland's top universities for graduate employability, with over 93% of our graduates working or in further study within six months of graduating.

Campus

Our picturesque 150-hectare campus comprises a mix of nineteenth-century gothic-style buildings alongside stunning new teaching, research and recreational facilities. There are green walkways through the campus and into the City, while the University's waterways ensure that sports like rowing, kayaking and surfing are all popular student activities

We are in the final stages of an ambitious €400 million campus development programme consisting of new buildings as well as extensions and renovations of existing facilities. The new Biosciences Research Building opened in February 2014. Building currently under construction include a Translational Research Building, a Life Courses Research Facility and a Clinical Research Facility.

Our Reputation

■ In 2012, NUI Galway was awarded the top Five Star Rating in the QS Stars ranking system.

■ In 2012, the University rose to third position in Ireland in the Times Higher Education (THE) Rankings - to become the top-ranked institution outside of the capital city, Dublin.

■ In 2012, NUI Galway was named 287th in the 2012-13 QS World University Rankings, a rise of 11 places on the previous year.

■ In 2013, the QS World University Rankings by Subject ranked NUI Galway in the top 150 universities in the world in Computer Science, Information Systems and History, and in the top 200 in the world in English Language and Literature, Pharmacology and Law.

■ In 2013, NUI Galway's Executive MBA programme secured the prestigious AMBA international accreditation.



Galway

The unique student experience at NUI Galway owes much to our location in the beautiful city of Galway, Ireland's third-largest city. Galway is the perfect student city – large enough to offer everything you would want in terms of shopping facilities, theatres, restaurants, music venues, sports facilities – but small enough to be able to get to know people and get around easily.

Ireland's Cultural Heart

The NUI Galway campus is in the heart of the city of Galway, with all amenities on your doorstep or within walking distance.

King Richard III granted Galway its first charter in 1484, and traces of the city's rich medieval past can still be seen today amongst its narrow cobbled streets and laneways, filled with the sound of musicians, poets, actors and street performers.

Galway is known as the cultural capital of Ireland and is home to the world-renowned Druid Theatre Company, the Macnas Street Theatre Company and An Taibhdhearc, the national Irish language theatre.

Students make up 20% of the population of the city and this creative and youthful energy is reflected in the many internationally-renowned festivals, music, cultural and sporting events that take place in Galway throughout the year, including:

- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Cúirt International Literature Festival
- Galway Early Music Festival
- Galway Traditional Music Sessions
- Galway Film Fleadh
- Galway Arts Festival
- Galway International Oyster Festival
- Galway Comedy Festival



The city is also a high-tech hub and hosts some of the world's leading medical device and ICT multinationals, including Medtronic, Boston Scientific and Merit Medical, SAP, Hewlett Packard, Cisco Systems and EA Games.

Beyond Galway

Galway's surrounding countryside, including Connemara, the Cliffs of Moher and the Aran Islands, is also a major draw for students and visitors alike, who come west to experience the Ireland of rugged mountains, medieval castles and crystal clear rivers and lakes or to enjoy the unique atmosphere of our seafood restaurants, cafés and traditional Irish music pubs.





“Arty and bohemian, Galway is legendary around the world... Cafés spill out onto winding cobblestone streets filled with a frenzy of jugglers, painters, poets, puppeteers. Galway’s streets are steeped in history, yet have a contemporary vibe. Students make up a quarter of the city’s population, while the remains of the medieval town walls lie between shops selling Aran sweaters, handcrafted Claddagh rings, and stacks of second-hand and new books.”

— Lonely Planet

DID YOU KNOW?

Ireland is home to 8 of the world’s top 10 technology companies, 9 of the world’s top 10 pharmaceutical companies, and 15 of the top 25 medical companies in the world have their European base in Ireland.

About Ireland

- Last year, over 30,000 international students chose to study here attracted by our world-class education system and unique mix of traditional culture and modern economy and society.
- The population of Ireland is 4.5 million, yet despite its relatively small size, the country has contributed enormously to the world of the arts and sciences throughout its long history.
- Ireland is an English-speaking country, only one of two English-speaking countries in Europe.
- The people of Ireland are famed for their hospitality and in 2008 and 2010 Ireland was named the ‘World’s Friendliest Country’ by Lonely Planet.
- Ireland has been a member of the European Union since 1973 and adopted the Euro currency in 2002.
- Ireland is home to 8 of the world’s top 10 technology companies, including Intel, Apple, Facebook and Twitter.
- Ireland is home to 9 of the world’s top 10 pharmaceutical companies, including GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Merck & Co. and Pfizer.
- Ireland is home to 15 of the top 25 medical companies in the world, including Medtronic, Boston Scientific and Teleflex Medical.



Study Abroad

Each year, NUI Galway welcomes over 800 Visiting Students from universities around the world. As a Visiting Student, you can select classes from across a wide range of disciplines, based on your interests and academic requirements, and earn credits towards your degree at your home institution.



Study Abroad Programme

Students enrolled at an overseas college or university can attend NUI Galway as a Visiting Student for a semester or a full academic year. Semester One runs from September to December while Semester Two runs from January until May.

As a Visiting Student, you do not receive a degree from NUI Galway; however credits earned here can normally be transferred back to your home institution. During your time here, you can create your own individual study programme by selecting classes (modules) from our regular undergraduate degree programmes, based on your own major or minor requirements.

Classes Available to Visiting Students

Visiting Students usually take between 5 and 7 classes per semester. This equates to approximately 30 ECTS credits, which is the normal course load for our regular full-time students.

www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/

The University publishes the *Visiting Student Academic Handbook* before the beginning of each semester, which lists the specific classes available to Visiting Students for the coming semester. Visiting Students are given a two-week period at the beginning of each semester to sample the classes on offer before making their final selections.

Classes are generally delivered through lectures, which are held in lecture halls and which provide the foundations on which students are expected to explore further through independent reading. Lectures are usually supplemented by smaller tutorials or seminar classes, which provide an opportunity for discussion in a smaller group setting.

Examinations for Visiting Students

Visiting students are examined alongside our full-time degree-seeking students. Most classes are examined by end of semester examination, however most also include mid-term assignments and/or continuous assessment. Upon completion of your studies, you will be sent a transcript showing the classes you have taken at

DID YOU KNOW?

The President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, is a graduate of NUI Galway. Other former students include the Prime Minister of Ireland (An Taoiseach), the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Attorney General.

NUI Galway as well the credits earned and marks (%) received. We have many years' experience in the matter of credit transfer and course equivalence and can, on request, provide a suggested system to translate from ECTS credits to the credit system used in your home country.

Entry Requirements

Visiting students are normally required to have completed two years at a recognised university or college and present a minimum GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent). Admission to certain classes may be subject to prerequisites.



Classes Available to Study Abroad Students

- Archaeology
- Botany
- Celtic Civilization
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Classics
- Earth and Ocean Science
- Economics
- Engineering
- English
- Exploring the Indigenous Arts
- Finance
- French, German, Italian and Spanish
- Geography
- History
- Information Technology
- Irish Language
- Irish Studies
- Law
- Management
- Marketing
- Mathematics
- Microbiology
- Performing Arts
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Studies
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Systems Analysis

* subject to pre-requisites

How to Apply

You can apply as a Visiting Student through your home university or through an approved study abroad programme provider. The Visiting Student Application Form is available to download at www.nuigalway.ie/international or can be requested by emailing international@nuigalway.ie

The following documents must also be submitted:

- most recent college transcript
- copy of birth certificate/passport ID page
- letter of reference from a staff member of the University/College you are attending, or other person of good standing who knows you personally
- the names of two academic referees
- a personal statement
- a passport-size photograph

The closing dates for receipt are 30 April for Full Year or First Semester and, 31 October for Second Semester.

Special Classes for Study Abroad Students

In addition to the regular classes of the University, Visiting Students can also apply for admission to two bespoke classes.

Literacy and Learning in the Community

Literacy and Learning in the Community is a service learning class specially designed for visiting international students. This semester-long class is delivered via a series of academic lectures, reflective seminars and over 20 hours of service at an after-school homework club at a local elementary school.

Students gain an improved understanding of important theories and perspectives relating to literacy acquisition, and also benefit from experiential learning of how local homework clubs in the Galway area provide support and structure for children to develop their learning and literacy skills. Additionally, they will develop an appreciation of the relationship between the University and these voluntary organisations in respect of the concepts of civic engagement and service learning.

Exploring the Indigenous Arts

Exploring the Indigenous Arts is a semester-long class on indigenous Irish music, song and dance, set in the unique landscape of Connemara. In particular, this class seeks to analyse Irish identity and history and to examine the impact that Irish culture has had on the development of music, song and dance globally. As part of a unique teaching collaboration between NUI Galway and TG4 (the Irish-language television network), students also have the opportunity to study rare documentary, film, news footage and other recorded events relating to the indigenous arts in Ireland.

Students also have the opportunity to undertake field trips to the Irish-speaking Connemara region west of Galway, where they take part in master workshops led by leading artists from the west of Ireland, as well as a series of lunchtime concerts on the main campus.

Undergraduate Study

We welcome applications from international students who wish to undertake their full undergraduate degree at NUI Galway. We offer over 50 degree programmes across the five colleges of the university, including both flexible 'open' degree programmes and specialised programmes.



Choosing your programme

NUI Galway offers a wide range of specialist options ranging from History and Psychology to Biomedical Science, aimed at students who wish to immerse themselves in a particular subject area from the beginning of their university studies.

In addition, we also offer a number of 'open' degree programmes (often referred to as Omnibus or Undenominated programmes) which allow you to study a wider variety of subjects before specialising in your second year. Examples of such 'open' degree programmes include the Bachelor of Arts (Omnibus Entry), the Bachelor of Commerce, the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Engineering.

DID YOU KNOW?

George Johnstone Stoney was the Professor of Natural Philosophy at Galway from 1852-1857 and first coined the term 'electron' to describe the fundamental unit of electrical charge.

Entry Requirements

International undergraduate students are assessed based on their school grades and their performance in relevant standardised examinations in their home country. Please refer to the international section of the university website for further details for your country at www.nuigalway.ie/international

Language Requirements

Applicants whose first language is not English must also meet the University's English language requirements. Please refer to page 21 for further information.

How to Apply

Students applying from outside of the European Union (EU) for full undergraduate degree programmes (other than Medicine) should apply directly to the International Affairs Office, NUI Galway. The Non-EU Undergraduate Application Form is available to download at www.nuigalway.ie/international or can be requested by e-mailing international@nuigalway.ie

The application consists of the completed application form, school transcript and any relevant test or examination results scores (e.g. SAT, IB, A-Levels etc.). In addition, applicants must include 2 letters of recommendation and a personal statement. Decisions are made on a rolling basis throughout the year, so you should apply as early as possible during your final year of secondary school. Applicants can expect a decision usually within 4-6 weeks of submitting a complete application.



Select Undergraduate Courses

[College of Arts, Social Sciences, & Celtic Studies](#)

Bachelor of Arts (Omnibus Entry)

The Bachelor of Arts (Omnibus Entry) is a broad based degree that enables students to pursue and develop their interests from a wide choice of subjects across the Arts and Social Sciences. Four subjects are taken in First Arts. In Second Arts, two of the four subjects are pursued to degree level. Students admitted to the B.A. (Omnibus) may also choose to apply for entry to the BA (International), which involves studying for a year at an overseas university.

Children's Studies with Arts

Creative Writing with Arts

Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies with Arts

Film Studies with Arts

Human Rights with Arts

Irish Studies with Arts

Latin American Studies with Arts

Arts History

Journalism

Mathematics and Education

Performing Arts Studies

Psychology

Public and Social Policy

[College of Business, Public Policy, & Law](#)

Bachelor of Commerce

The Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm.) is a broad based business degree programme that provides a solid foundation in all business areas before a student chooses a specialism in final year. The specialisms available include Accounting, Economics, Management of Human Resources, Marketing and Business Information Systems. After second year, Bachelor of Commerce students can also apply to spend an additional year on internship/work placement and studying abroad in the USA, Europe or Asia.

Commerce (International)

Commerce (with Accounting)

Business Information Systems

Civil Law (BCL)

Corporate Law (B.Corp. Law)

[College of Engineering & Informatics](#)

Bachelor of Engineering (Undenominated Entry)

The Bachelor of Engineering (Undenominated Entry) is specially designed to help you decide which professional engineering qualification you wish to study for, by giving you a year to study the basic concepts and fundamentals of engineering before going on to specialise in your second year. On successful completion of your first year exams, you can transfer to the second year of one of the programmes listed below.

Civil Engineering

Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Electronic and Computer Engineering

Biomedical Engineering

Computer Science and Information Technology

Energy Systems Engineering

Project & Construction Management

[College of Medicine, Nursing, & Health Sciences](#)

Medicine (Surgery and Obstetrics)

Please Note: Restrictions apply to entry to Medicine and other health related programmes including Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Midwifery for international students. Please contact the International Affairs Office for further information before making an application.

[College of Science](#)

The Bachelor of Science is broad based degree programme which allows you to take a variety of subjects in the general scientific field before deciding to specialise in one scientific area for your four-year honours degree. You can take subjects from the Physical Sciences, such as Chemistry and Physics, and combine them with subjects from the Biological Sciences, the Mathematical Sciences, or the Earth and Ocean Sciences.

Bachelor of Science

Biomedical Science

Biopharmaceutical Chemistry

Biotechnology

Earth and Ocean Sciences

Environmental Science

Health and Safety Systems

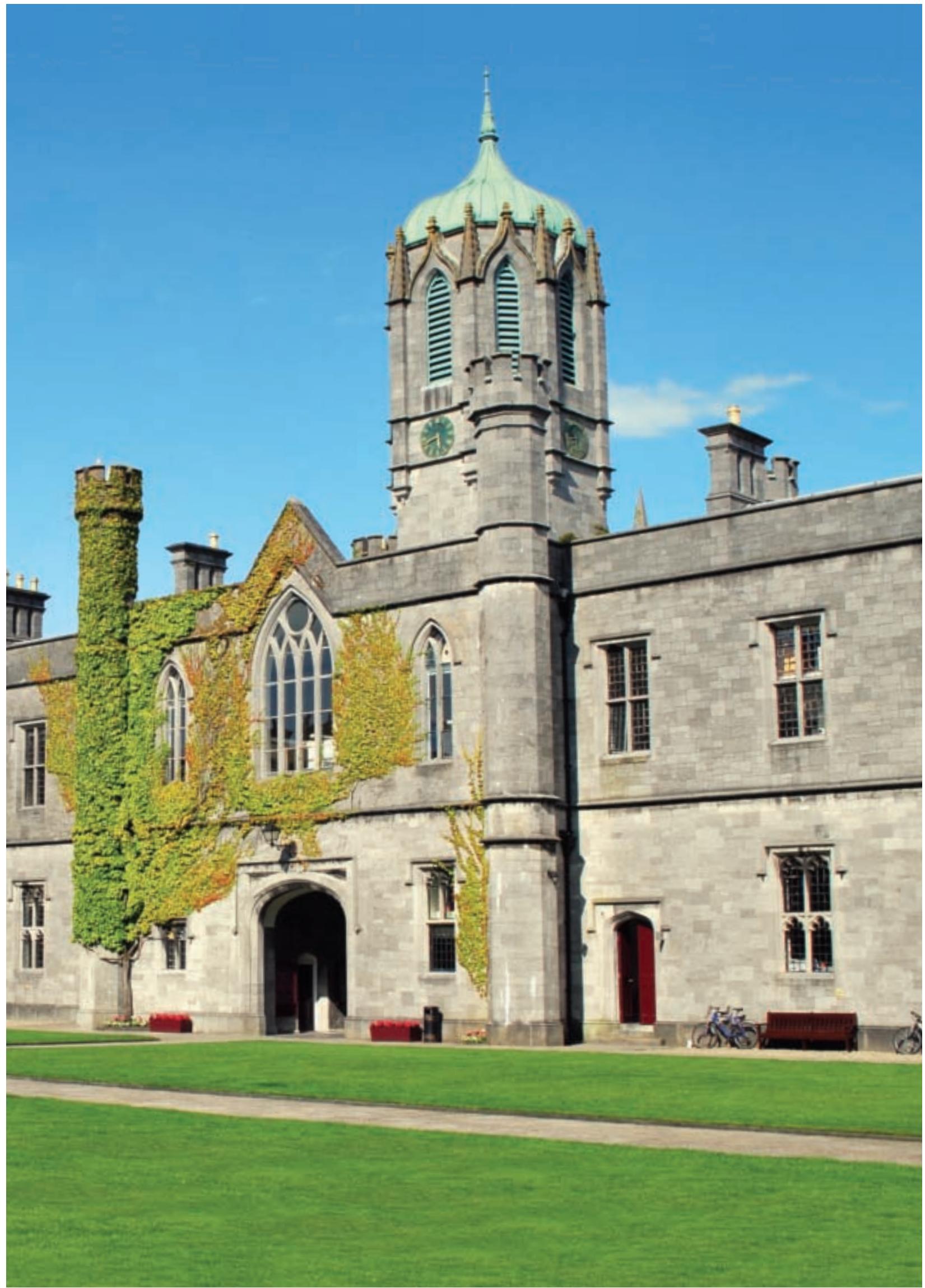
Marine Science

Mathematical Science

Physics (Astrophysics, Biomedical, Theoretical)

Financial Mathematics and Economics







Postgraduate Study

At NUI Galway, our taught Master's programmes reflect our main research strengths and are designed to give you the specialised knowledge to enhance your career prospects. Many of our programmes are designed with input from industry and include relevant professional accreditation.



Master's Programmes

NUI Galway offers two types of Master's degree programmes, Taught and Research.

Taught Master's Programmes:

Taught Programmes consist of lectures, tutorials and coursework usually over two semesters, followed by a research project which gives you the opportunity to gain additional specialist knowledge and further enhance your career prospects.

Research Master's Programmes Research Master's degrees usually take a minimum of two years and involve working on a piece of original research under faculty supervision, culminating in the writing of a thesis. A Research Master's may suit a student interested in a career as a researcher or someone who enjoys working independently.

Entry Requirements

Taught Masters Programmes:

Entry requirements for Taught Master's programmes vary, however an honours level undergraduate degree with good grades in a relevant subject is normally the minimum requirement to be considered for admission.

Please consult the Postgraduate Prospectus for more information. Research Master's Programmes Entry (RMPE) requirements for Research Master's programmes also vary, however an honours level Bachelor degree with superior grades in a relevant subject is normally the minimum requirement to be considered for admission.

How To Apply

Applications for all postgraduate programmes are made online via the Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC) at www.pac.ie. The online form is easy to use and you will be guided through the system step-by-step.

All supporting documents, other than transcripts can be uploaded online via your PAC account. Academic Transcripts must be sent by post to the PAC offices in Galway: *Postgraduate Applications Centre, 1 Courthouse Square, Galway, Ireland*.

DID YOU KNOW?

NUI Galway is Ireland's first and only University to be awarded a UNESCO Chair. The UNESCO Chair was awarded to the Child and Family Research Centre for its research in the field of Children, Youth and Civic Engagement.



Select Postgraduate Courses

[College of Arts, Social Sciences, & Celtic Studies](#)

Advanced Language Skills
Applied Behaviour Analysis
Archaeology
Arts Policy and Practice
Classics
Community Development
Conference Interpreting
Culture and Colonialism
Digital Media
Drama and Theatre
Environment, Society, and Development
Ethics Culture and Global Change
Film Studies
French
Gender, Globalisation and Rights
German Literature/Language
Health Promotion
Health Psychology
History
International Contemporary Literatures and Media
Irish Studies
Italian
Journalism
Literature and Publishing
Mathematics
Medieval Studies
Old and Middle Irish
Production and Direction
Psychology
Public Advocacy and Activism
Rural Sustainability
Screenwriting
Social Work
Spanish
Translation Studies
Writing

[College of Business, Public Policy, & Law](#)

Economic Policy Evaluation and Planning
Electronic Commerce
Health Economics
Human Rights Law and Criminal Justice, Cross Border
Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management
Information Systems Management
International and Comparative Disability Law and Policy
International Criminal Law
International Finance
International Human Rights
International Management
Law, Technology, and Governance
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
Natural Resource Economics and Policy
Peace Operations, Humanitarian Law and Conflict
Public Law
Strategic Marketing
Strategy, Innovation and People Management

[College of Engineering & Informatics](#)

Enterprise Systems
Information Technology
Occupational Safety Engineering and Ergonomics
Software Design and Development

[College of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences](#)

Clinical Research
Regenerative Medicine

[College of Science College of Science](#)

Biomedical Science
Biotechnology
Cancer Research
Mathematics
Medical Physics
Neuropharmacology
Toxicology

Research Programmes

We lead the field in a number of priority research areas, including stem cell and gene therapy research, human rights law, environmental change and web science. Our scientists, engineers and scholars are shaping public policy on everything from economic recovery to human rights, from policies for children to the aged and the development of more effective treatments for a number of diseases.



Research Master's Programmes

Research Master's usually take two years to complete and involve working on a research project. The research topic is normally determined by the current research activities of the relevant School or Discipline of the University. Research Master's degrees provide a solid foundation for student who intend to progress to a PhD.

PhD Programmes

PhD (Doctoral) programmes usually take four years to complete and involve independent research and the submission of a thesis for assessment. The University's Structured PhD Programmes have a strong focus on developing a range of transferable skills, giving you a more rounded PhD experience, which will assist you greatly in your career after you graduate.

Research Support

The University provides a range of additional services to research students, including:

- Excellent training opportunities, including a research-specific workshop series, online research skills courseware and advisory services covering topics such as effective literature searching, using reference management software, getting published and disseminating your research, and an introduction to bibliometrics.
- A credit bearing generic skills module aimed at enabling students to acquire and develop a range of research skills in order to successfully complete their research.
- ARAN, the University's open access institutional repository.
- Expert advice from the Research Support Librarian, whose primary role is to support your research process by ensuring you exploit the range of library services and resources to the full.
- An inter-library loan and electronic document delivery services for items not held locally.

DID YOU KNOW?

Alice Perry (1885-1969), who graduated from Galway in 1906, is believed to be the world's first female engineering graduate.

Entry Requirements

Entry requirements for Research Master's and PhD programmes may vary, however an honours level Bachelor degree with superior grades in a relevant subject is normally the minimum requirement to be considered for admission.

How Apply

Applications for all postgraduate programmes are made online via the Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC) at www.pac.ie.

In order to apply for a research programme at NUI Galway, you will first need to discuss a research proposal with your potential supervisor before submitting a formal application via PAC.



Research Institutes and Centres

[Biomedical Science and Engineering](#)

- [Alimentary Glycoscience Research Cluster](#)
- [Centre for Chromosome Biology](#)
- [Centre for Pain Research](#)
- [National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science \(NCBES\)](#)
- [Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials](#)
- [The Regenerative Medicine Institute \(REMIDI\)](#)
- [Prostate Cancer Institute](#)
- [HRB Clinical Research Facility, Galway](#)

[Informatics, Physical, and Computational Sciences](#)

- [Centre for Astronomy](#)
- [Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering and Ergonomics](#)
- [Crystallography Centre](#)
- [De Brún Centre for Computational Algebra Development](#)
- [Digital Enterprise Research Institute \(DERI\)](#)
- [Irish Centre for High-End Computing](#)
- [Lighthouse-Centre for Applied Photonics](#)
- [Nanoscale Biophotonics](#)

[Environment, Marine, and Energy](#)

- [The Ryan Institute](#)
- [Centre for Climate & Air Pollution Studies](#)
- [Combustion Chemistry Centre](#)
- [Energy Research Centre](#)
- [Power Electronics Research Centre](#)

[Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit](#)

- [Competence Centre for Biorefining and Bioenergy](#)
- [Paleoenvironmental Research Unit](#)
- [Applied Social Sciences and Public Policy](#)
- [Centre for Bioethical Research and Analysis](#)
- [Centre for Clinical Health Services Research and Development](#)
- [Whitaker Institute for Innovation and Societal Change](#)
- [Centre for Research on Occupational & Life Stress](#)
- [Irish Centre for Social Gerontology](#)
- [UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre](#)
- [Centre for Disability Law and Policy](#)
- [Irish Centre for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Research](#)
- [Environmental & Natural Resource Economics Research Unit](#)
- [Health Promotion Research Centre](#)
- [Irish Centre for Rural Transformation & Sustainability](#)
- [Social Sciences Research Centre](#)
- [Women's Studies Centre](#)
- [Irish Centre for Human Rights](#)

[Humanities in Context](#)

- [Centre for Irish Studies](#)
- [Huston School of Film and Digital Media](#)
- [Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Studies](#)



Student Life

Of course, what you study is only half the story! We pride ourselves on offering a welcoming and supportive environment to help you make the transition to university life in a new country and, with over 140 clubs and societies to choose from, you'll have plenty of opportunities to make new friends, develop real life skills and of course have great fun.



Student Societies

Joining a student society is a great way for international students to integrate into the life of the University. Each society arranges trips, events, guest speakers, workshops, classes and parties each year. Interests catered for include everything from art and baking to science fiction and juggling. The societies' dedicated facilities are also the best in Ireland and comprise:

- Student Theatre
- Art Gallery
- Meeting rooms
- Acoustic rooms
- Editing suites
- Art room
- Dark room

Sport at NUI Galway

Joining a sports club not only gives you the opportunity to stay fit and healthy while at university, it also helps you to meet new friends and provides lasting memories of college life.

Our sports clubs cater for all types of activity, from the elite competitor to the beginner or someone looking just to keep fit and have fun. The University's sporting facilities also include:

- 25-metre swimming pool
- Squash and racquetball courts
- Basketball arena and sports hall
- Gym & Fitness studios
- Climbing wall
- Ten natural grass playing pitches
- An eight-lane synthetic running track
- Floodlit artificial surface pitch

Student Volunteering

NUI Galway is Ireland's leading university for student volunteering, with more than 2,000 registered student volunteers working in local and international communities. All NUI Galway students can volunteer through the University's ALIVE programme, established to support NUI Galway students who wish to volunteer.

Student Support Services

The International Affairs Office provides a range of support services specifically for international students and is your first point of contact for many of the support services offered to students at NUI Galway.

- Advice on international entry requirements and application processes
- Advice on immigration requirements/study visa
- Orientation programme for new students
- English Language Support Classes

International students can also avail of the full range of support services available to all NUI Galway students, including:

- Accommodation Office (Student Housing)
- Disability Support Service
- Deans of Chaplaincy Service
- Student Counselling
- Student Health Unit
- Career Development Centre
- Students Union
- Academic Writing Centre
- Student Connect Mentoring Programme



Student Housing

Living and studying in another country is a big step and so finding the right place to live is important. Students have a wide choice of accommodation to choose from and we are here to offer support and advice on making the right choice for you.

NUI Galway Student Residences

For students who are leaving home for the first time and are not familiar with negotiating accommodation in the private sector, we recommend that Student Residences are the best option for you. There are a number of official Student Residences providing self-catering housing across Galway, specifically for NUI Galway students. The majority of Student Residences are within a 15-20 walk of the main NUI Galway campus.

Residences vary in size, with smaller residences such as Donegan Court (54 students), Atlantis (80 students) and Menlo Park (140 students) and larger residences such as Cúirt na Coiribe (389 students), Dúnáras (409 students) and Gort na Coiribe (657 students).

Private Rented Accommodation

Students can also choose to live in private rented accommodation off campus. Students who have not booked accommodation in a Student Residence are advised to arrive in Galway at least a week prior to the start of term to look for accommodation in the private rented sector. Temporary accommodation can be arranged in one of Galway's youth hostels or bed and breakfast establishments for a few days to allow time to find more permanent accommodation.

www.nuigalway.ie/accommodation





Fees and Finances

When you are considering studying in another country it is important to understand all the costs involved, including tuition fees and day-to-day living costs. Budgeting is one of the key skills you will develop during your time at university and once you learn how to manage your money, you will be able to enjoy university life to the full.

Tuition Fees

The tuition fee is the payment made for course instruction at NUI Galway. Tuition fees vary by programme and also between European Union (EU) and non-European Union (non-EU) students. Please refer to the Fees Office for further information on categorisation of students for fees purposes.



Non-EU Study Abroad	Semester	Year
Arts/Business/Law	€6,000	€12,000
Science/Engineering	€7,750	€15,500
Non-EU Undergraduate (Full Degree)		Year
Arts/Business/Law		€12,750
Science/Engineering		€13,750
Non-EU Postgraduate		Year
Arts/Business/Law		€13,250
Science/Engineering		€13,750

Paying Your Tuition Fee

Non-European Union (EU) students can pay their tuition fee through the PaytoStudy website at www.nuigalway.studentfees.ie PaytoStudy payments usually take less than 48 hours and the receipt is accepted as proof of payment of tuition fees by the Irish National Immigration Service (INIS) for study visa applications and at the point of entry to Ireland. PaytoStudy also avoids international bank charges and because you pay in your own currency, the University receives the exact amount owed.

Living Costs

The following table gives an indication of the monthly cost of living in Galway as a student. These costs are an approximation only as monthly costs will depend on each person's individual needs.

Monthly (estimated)	
Accommodation	€340
Food	€260
Books & Study Materials	€60
Clothes, laundry	€60
Recreation	€180
Other	€100
Total per month	€1,000

International Scholarships

NUI Galway is committed to attracting high-calibre students from around the world and to this end offers a range of merit based scholarships for international students undertaking full degree programmes. Please refer to our website for further details.

www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/

Federal Aid (US Students)

NUI Galway participates in the US Federal Aid William D. Ford Direct Loan Program. US citizens attending NUI Galway as full-time degree-seeking students can arrange Federal Direct Loans through NUI Galway to finance their education. The deadline for receipt of loan applications is the 1st of July for the following September. Please consult the NUI Galway Federal Aid webpage for details on applying, as we are not automatically notified when you complete your FAFSA. <http://www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/feesfinance/federalaid/>

We can also assist with private (US) student loans, forms related to Canadian loans, Consortium Agreements and VA Benefits.

General Information



English Language Requirements

All applicants whose first language is not English, or who have not been educated through the medium of English language during their two most recent years of study, must present one of the following qualifications in the English language. Language tests must be undertaken no more than two years prior to commencement of your programme at the University.

Discipline	IELTS	TOEFL IBT	TOEFL PBT	TOEFL CBT
Arts/Business/ Law	6.5*	92	580	240
Science/ Engineering	6.0*	80	550	213

*with not less than 5.5 in any component.

Pre-University English Language Programmes

Students who meet the academic entry requirements for entry to NUI Galway but who do not meet the English Language Requirements may receive a conditional offer of admission, subject to completion of a pre-university English language course.

NUI Galway works with a number of English Language Schools which offer specialised pre-university English language courses for students. Courses range from 10 weeks to 1 year, depending on the student's level of English. Please contact the International Affairs Office for further information.

Academic Dates

The academic year at NUI Galway is organised into two semesters. Semester One runs from September until December while Semester Two runs from January until May.

Each semester usually consists of twelve weeks of teaching followed by examinations. A study week is granted in advance of exams to help students catch up on their reading.

The exact semester dates can vary between different colleges of the University as well as different years of study. Please refer to the Academic Calendar on the NUI Galway website for the dates for your programme at www.nuigalway.ie/academic_dates/



Getting Here

Most international students arrive in Ireland at one of the two main airports: Dublin Airport or Shannon Airport. Dublin Airport is approximately 200 km from Galway. Citylink, GoBus and Bus Eireann provide frequent bus departures from outside the Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 buildings direct to Galway.

Shannon Airport is approximately 85km from Galway and is a popular option for students arriving from North America. Bus Eireann operates a regular service from outside the main terminal building to Galway.

Study Visa

The full list of countries whose nationals do NOT require a visa is listed on the Irish government website at www.inis.gov.ie/

As of August 2013, the list includes

- Citizens of the European Union (EU)
- Citizens of the European Economic Area (EEA)
- Citizens of certain non-EU countries including Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Norway, South Korea, Taiwan and the United States.

Please refer to the guidelines for study visas available on the Irish Naturalisation & Immigration Service website at www.inis.gov.ie.

Working In Ireland

Students from European Union/EEA countries can work in Ireland without a work permit.

Non-European Union/EEA students who are registered as full-time degree-seeking students on a course leading to a recognised qualification (e.g. Bachelor, Masters etc.,) from an Irish institution will receive a Stamp 2 when they register with the GNIB. A Stamp 2 permits a student to work part-time i.e. up to twenty hours per week during term and full-time during holiday periods.

Non-EU Visiting Students who are granted a Stamp 2A by the GNIB are not eligible to work in Ireland.

Police Clearance

Some NUI Galway programmes require students to undertake placements with external agencies which will bring them into contact with the public and allow them to assume positions of trust. Students offered places on such programmes may be required to obtain police clearance in their home country and/or will be required to sign the self-declaration form for police clearance on admission to the University.

Contact Us

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CAMPUS MAP





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