SENIOR SUBJECT OPTIONS 2020

GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING – MOATE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

MS. MEEHAN & MR. LEE

Mandatory / Core LC Subjects

- *These are the 'must do' subjects for Leaving Certificate (LC)*
- Irish
- English
- Maths
- *Foreign Language**

SO, HOW DO I PICK THE OTHER THREE SUBJECTS?

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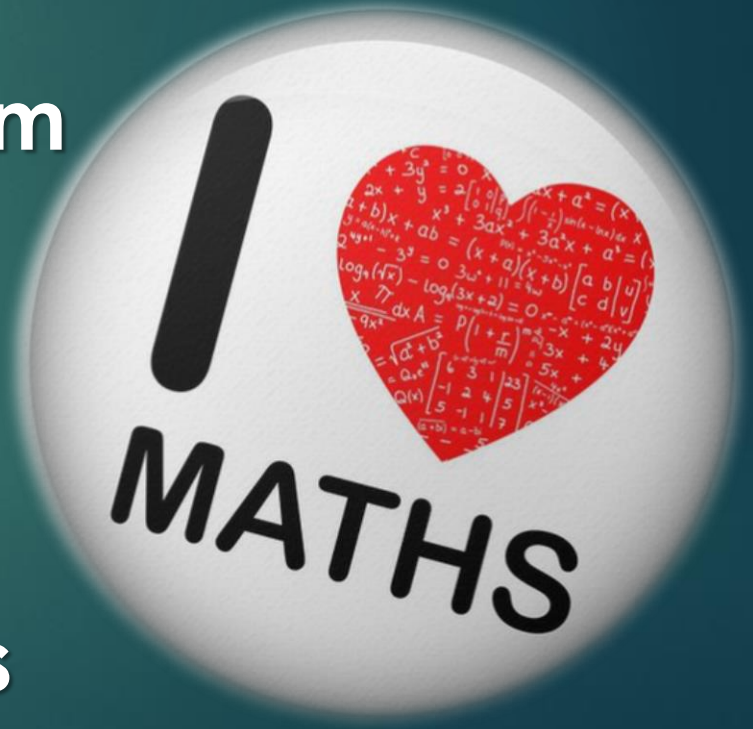
www.careersportal.ie

Individual College Websites

SO, HOW DO I PICK THE OTHER THREE SUBJECTS

- **APTITUDE / ABILITY** – how do I perform
- **INTEREST** – start with my favourites
- **NECESSITY** – necessity for goals
- **USEFULNESS** – compatible with goals



SUBJECT GROUPINGS

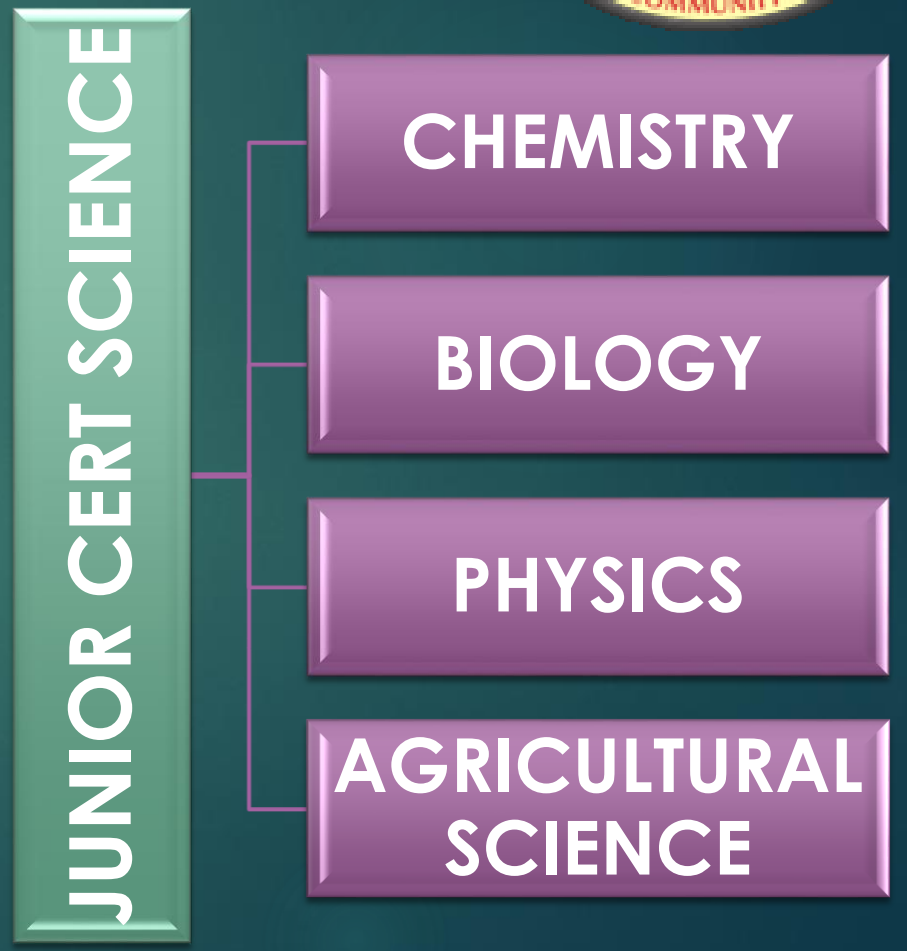
It can be helpful to break up subjects into distinct groups….

BUSINESS GROUP

- ACCOUNTING
- BUSINESS
- ECONOMICS
- LCVP (LINKS MODULES)

SCIENCE GROUPING

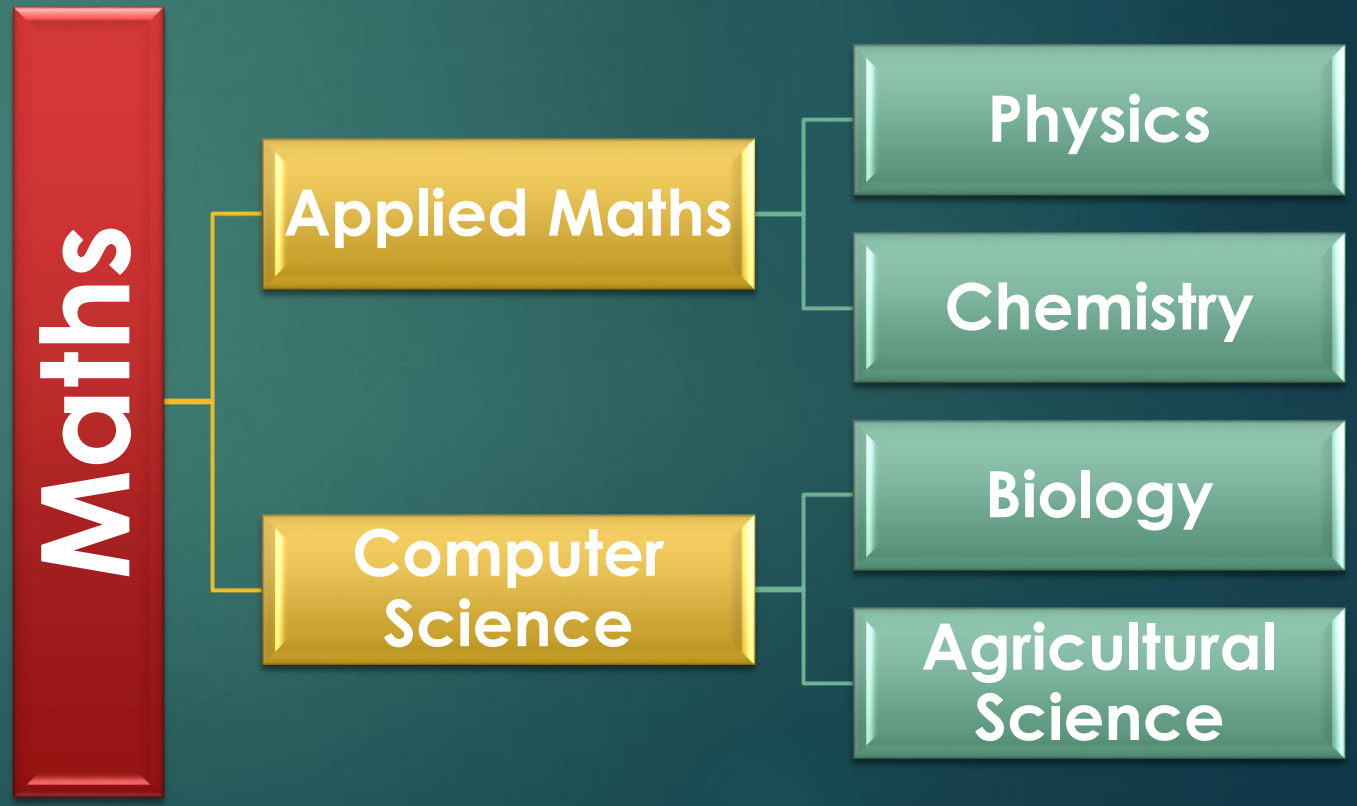
Junior Cert Science becomes sub-divided into **FOUR** Leaving Cert subjects….
These **4** are…



MATHS / SCIENCE GROUPING

- Maths-based subjects =
- MATHS
- APPLIED MATHS
- COMPUTER SCIENCE

- are often attached to the **FOUR** Science subjects already mentioned…



SOCIAL / HUMANITIES GROUPING

- Geography
- History
- Home Economics
- Physical Education

- *SPHE and CSPE are <u>not</u> examination subjects for Leaving Certificate*

PRACTICAL GROUPING

1. **Engineering**
   – workshop processes, materials & technology
2. **Construction Studies**
3. **Design and Communication Graphics (DCG)**

ARTISTIC GROUPING

ART

- Imaginative Composition & Still Life 25%
- Design & Craftwork 25%
- Life-Sketching 12.5%
- History & Appreciation of Art 37.5%

MUSIC

- Performance
- Composition
- Listening

- Assessment
- Performance Exam
- Written/Aural Exam

LCVP

LEAVING CERT VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME

- Designed to give a vocational dimension to the LC – *cushions* against the terminal exam focus.
- Combines academic study with self-directed learning, enterprise, work and community

Distinction	66 points
Merit	46 points
Pass	28 points

LCVP REQUIREMENTS

- **A minimum of six Leaving Certificate Subjects** *(at higher, Ordinary or Foundation Level) <u>including</u> Irish*
- **A Modern European Language** *(other than Irish or English)*
- **Must study two additional Link Modules:** *(Preparation for the World of Work and Enterprise Education)*
- **They must study one of the following Vocational Subject Grouping** *(these are groups of Leaving Certificate subjects which link naturally together)* ***p.23 MCS Subject Choice Booklet***

LANGUAGE GROUP

- Irish is **required** for many University courses and in some cases, courses are conducted *'as Gaeilge'*
- English is often a **'Specific Course Requirement'** (SCR) for many university courses
- French / Spanish are foreign languages often referred to as a **'Third Language'** when talking about Minimum Entry Requirements (MERs)

MODERN LANGUAGES
Why 3rd language is important…

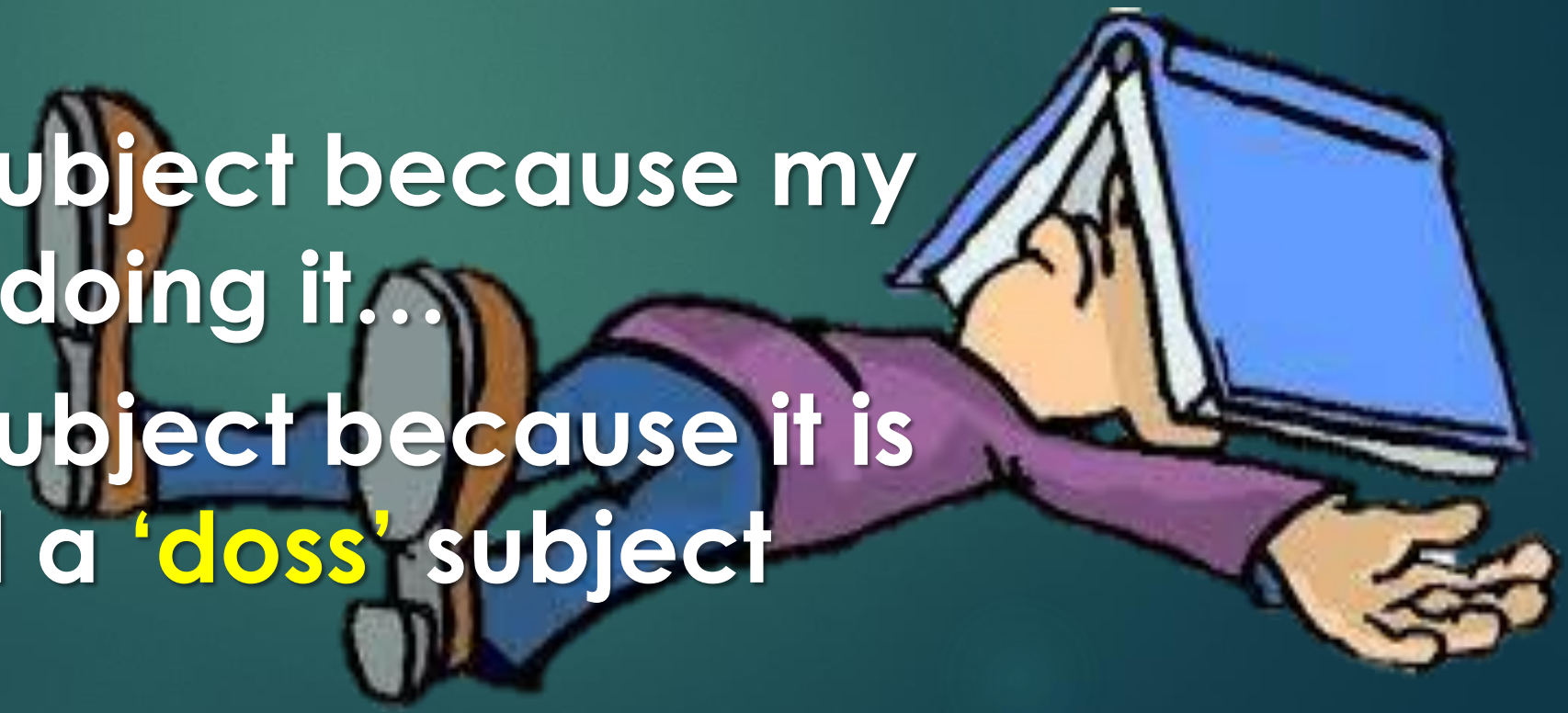
- **Recent research in the aftermath of Leaving Certificate showed a decline in the study of third language which put us behind our European counterparts.**
- ***Do we take languages for granted because English is our spoken tongue?***
- **How do we protect our native language?**

MODERN LANGUAGES
Why 3rd language is important…

- Most University courses in the NUI group *(Galway, Maynooth, Cork, Dublin, RCSI, NCAD)*, require 06 (ordinary level) in a 3rd language
- General exceptions can be found in some of the STEM courses – Science & Engineering
- However, research is essential in this regard for ***EVERY SINGLE course*** investigated

IT IS *NOT* AVISABLE TO…

- …choose a subject at senior cycle that one has NOT studied at junior cycle…
- choose a subject because my friends are doing it…
- choose a subject because it is considered a ‘doss’ subject



NON-EXAM SNR. CYCLE SUBJECTS

1. Religion
2. Guidance & Counselling

SUBJECT CHOICE & COLLEGE ENTRY

- MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIRMENTS [MERs] MATRICULATION
- SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS [SCRs]
- RESTRICTED COURSES – alternative assessments for entry / aptitude tests / interviews / portfolios / auditions

UNDERSTANDING THE THIRD LEVEL EDUCATION SYSTEM

1. Minimum Entry Requirements [MERs]
2. Specific (Faculty) Entry Requirements [SERs]
3. Restricted / Unrestricted Courses
4. Points
5. CAO

BEFORE YOU CONSIDER POINTS…

- You must first consider **'Minimum Entry Requirements' [MERs]** and **'Specific Course Requirements' [SCRs]** as well as asking if the course is **restricted**
- If all entry requirements are met, the applicant is deemed as **qualified / eligible** to apply

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Examples of MERs

- All colleges have MERs for entry into their courses
- They generally apply to all courses
- Each college's MERs are different
- CHECK you satisfy MERs for your college choices.
- Find information in admissions section of college websites
- www.qualifax.ie www.careersportal.ie

NUI MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS - MERs

- 6 subjects are required.
- Minimum = H5 in 2 subjects and a H7 or O6 in 4 subjects

WHICH STUDENTS ARE AFFECTED BY NUI MATRICULATION REGULATIONS?

- NUI Matriculation Regulations apply to all students seeking to enter the NUI institutions below.

NUI UNIVERSITIES

- University College Dublin (UCD)
  University College Cork (UCC)
  National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI, Galway)
  Maynooth University

Recognised Colleges of NUI

- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)
  Institute of Public Administration (IPA)
  Colleges Linked With Constituent Universities
- Burren College of Art
  National College of Art and Design (NCAD)
  Shannon College of Hotel Management
  (A School of NUI, Galway)
  St. Angela's College, Sligo (AS)
  Institute of Banking
  (A Recognised College of University College Dublin)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS MERs

Example UCD

- Pass 6 subjects
- At least 2 H5
- Pass in:
  - Irish
  - English
  - Another Language*
  - Maths*
  - Science Subject*

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENT SCRs

Engineering(UCD)

- H4 Maths

Veterinary Medicine(UCD)

- H3 Chemistry

French Law(UCD)

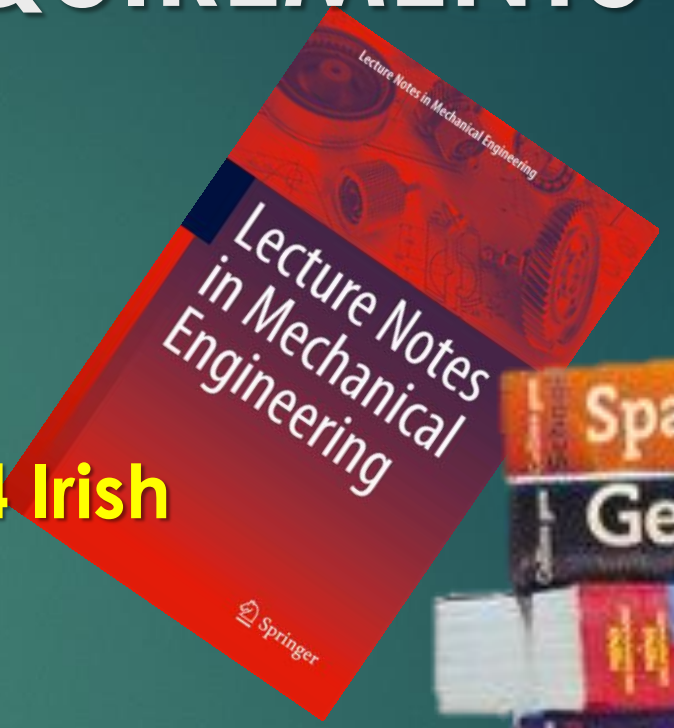
- H3 French

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Examples of SCRs

- Higher **H4 Maths** for most Engineering university courses
- Primary Teaching Courses – **H4 Irish**
- Language Courses…

H5 Spanish

H3 French



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SCIENCE SUBJECTS ARE NECESSARY FOR…

MEDICINE	✓
DENTISTRY	✓
VETERINARY	✓
PHARMACY	✓
PHYSIOTHERAPY	✓
RADIOGRAPHY	✓
NURSING	✓
DIETETICS	✓
OCCUP. THERAPY	✓
SPEECH THERAPY	✓

ARCHITECTURE	✓
MED./LAB. SCIENCE	✓
SPORTS SCIENCE	✓
SCIENCE	✓
ENGINEERING	✓
OPTOMETRY	✓
PRODUCTION MGT.	✓
NAVAL CADETS	✓
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN	✓