



 **UCC**
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

FAQs

Social Studies | Diploma

When are applications open?

Thank you for your interest in the course. Applications usually open for the course in March/April each year.

How do I apply for the course?

Once applications open you just apply yourself through the red apply now button at the bottom of the page with the following:

- You will also be asked to upload the following documents:
- Proof of identification
- Proof of previous education to a minimum of Leaving Certificate/FETAC Level 5 qualification (or equivalent)
- A photograph (which will be used for your student id card)
- All applicants whose first language is not English must have attained IELTS Level 6 or the equivalent TOEFL score and provide evidence of same or equivalent Duolingo score.
- Applicants will be asked to submit a Personal Statement, detailing their motivation to take this course and any work or life experience relevant to the subject (maximum one page).
- To complete and submit the application, you will be required to pay half the course fees for year one of the course.

What modules are covered in the course?

In terms of content the following modules are covered over the course of the Diploma and provide a diverse and interesting insight into the world of Social Studies.

Year 1

- Introduction to Academic Writing
- Psychology as a Science
- Markets and Governments: An Introduction to Microeconomics
- Introduction to Sociology
- Introduction to Social Policy

Year 2

- Social Psychology and Development
- Markets and Governments: An Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Social Philosophy
- Key Issues in Sociology
- Exploring Irish Social Policy

What qualification will I have when I complete the course?

On completion of the two years students will receive a level 7 Diploma in Social Studies. There is an option to exit after Year 1 which students can request and they can be sent their certificate-level 6 at that stage.

The below image shows where the qualification sits on the National Framework of Qualifications [http://www.qqi.ie/Articles/Pages/National-Framework-of-Qualifications-\(NFO\).aspx](http://www.qqi.ie/Articles/Pages/National-Framework-of-Qualifications-(NFO).aspx)



What are my career options after this course?

The Diploma in Social Studies is an interdisciplinary programme designed to introduce you to the social sciences. You will have an opportunity to study sociology, social policy, social psychology, social philosophy and economics. This diversity of disciplines allows you to develop a critical awareness of the key issues that impact on everyday life in contemporary society. In addition, the variety of topics introduced will equip you with the capacity for divergent thinking – a highly desirable attribute in the current economic climate.

There is not a specific prescribed career path for this qualification however many of the students are possibly already working in community, residential, outreach and respite services and/or are interested in getting into these areas and /or have a general interest in society and social sciences.

How will I be Assessed?

All work is assessed on a continuous basis through a combination of essays, journals of learning in class tests and research topics.

There is one assignment for each 5-credit module and two assignment for 10-credit modules. Lecturers and tutors will guide students on how to approach the assignments and further supports are available through the Skills Centre.

What is the time commitment and course schedule?

The Diploma will commence usually at the end of September and run through the academic year with the last assignment usually due at the end of April/start of May. There is a break at Christmas and usually again at Easter and for the summer months and the second year of your studies will commence then in September again.

Delivery

- This course runs one evening per week from September/October to May.
- This course runs one evening per week at UCC campus on Tuesday evening from 6.00pm - 9.00pm/10.00pm
- Students will attend one lecture per week which will be supported by tutorials and in addition, there are a number of Saturday lectures (approx. seven per year) which take place on UCC campus.

What are my progression options after completing this course?

On successful completion of the Diploma in Social Studies students have the option to apply to progress directly into Year 2 of the Degree in Social Studies

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck102/>

Students also have the option to apply for the Higher Diploma in-Facilitating Inclusion Disability Studies, details of which are included in the link below.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ace-hdfids/>