

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS SEEKING EXEMPTION FROM THE MATRICULATION REQUIREMENT WITH REGARD TO A THIRD LANGUAGE

The basic requirement with regard to a Third Language

All candidates are required to present, in addition to Irish and English, a Third Language accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes.

General Exceptions to the 'Third Language' Requirement:

- (i) Students entering the Faculty of Engineering in NUI, Maynooth, may substitute any other recognised subject for the Third Language; this provision also applies for entry to the Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Agricultural Science degrees in UCD – NUI, Dublin;
- (ii) Students entering courses in Nursing may substitute any other recognised subject for the Third Language;
- (iii) Students entering NCAD may present the subject Art in place of the Third Language;
- (iv) Students from outside the European Union presenting the results of examinations other than those of the European Union countries may substitute another recognised subject for the Third Language (Section 5.4, NUI Matriculation Regulations 2006/2007' at www.nui.ie);
- (v) Students from outside Ireland presenting Irish as a Matriculation subject. (Section 5.4, NUI Matriculation Regulations 2006/2007' at www.nui.ie) This provision is relevant to students from Northern Ireland, and also to students from outside Ireland presenting Irish as a Leaving Certificate, GCE or GCSE subject;
- (vi) Hearing-impaired students (Section 8, NUI Matriculation Regulations 2006/2007' at www.nui.ie).

Students with Serious Dyslexic Conditions

The NUI is also prepared to consider applications seeking exemption from the Third Language requirement from students who are certified by a qualified professional as having a serious dyslexic condition causing such a learning difficulty in relation to language acquisition as to warrant exemption. Such applications are considered on an individual basis and may be presented to the University at any stage following completion of the Junior Certificate. Applications must be accompanied by a School Record Form completed by the Head of the School attended and a Certification Form completed by a qualified professional. These forms are available from the University.

Note

The NUI has been influenced by the Association for Higher Education Access and Disability (AHEAD) in accepting the following definition of dyslexia:

Dyslexia is one of several distinct learning disabilities. It is a specific language-based disorder of constitutional origin characterised by disabilities in single word decoding, usually reflecting insufficient phonological processing.

These difficulties in single word decoding are often unexpected in relation to age and other cognitive abilities; they are not the result of generalised developmental disability or sensory impairment.

Dyslexia is manifest by variable difficulty with different forms of language, often including, in addition to problems with reading, a conspicuous problem with acquiring proficiency in writing and spelling.

Students from Outside the European Union Presenting the Leaving Certificate

The following special arrangements apply in the case of students from outside the European Union whose first language is a language other than English and who present the Leaving Certificate for Matriculation purposes. In general, such candidates will be required to present a language other than English for Matriculation.

Candidates in this situation may present a language in the Leaving Certificate or alternative certification in a language acceptable to the University. For example, examinations in non-European Union languages available at GCE/GCSE levels will be accepted as meeting this language requirement. In these circumstances, it is permissible for candidates to combine the results of the Leaving Certificate with the language result in the GCE/GCSE. In the case of examinations other than the GCE/GCSE, applications are considered by the University on an individual basis. Candidates are required to present original certificates or copies authenticated by a relevant authority.

It should be noted that in all cases students are required to present six Leaving Certificate subjects.

Please state under which of the Regulations (i) to (vi) above you are applying for an exemption:

Under Regulation _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____