

## Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge

### **Course Objectives**

This course is designed to provide the candidate with the necessary language skills to communicate more effectively and accurately through Irish in both personal and professional situations. The course programme also offers an introduction to a number of Irish-language literary and cultural topics.

### **Status**

The Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge carries 60 ECTS credits. Furthermore, the Department of Education and Science recognizes the Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge from NUI Maynooth as an alternative to a minimum grade C3 (higher level) in Leaving Certificate Irish for the purpose of entry to the Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary Teaching) and the Bachelor of Education in Primary Teaching (Mature Student Entry).

### **Course Structure and Delivery**

- This is a part-time evening course over two years
- The course will run in the following locations:
  - a) NUI Maynooth – Tuesday
  - b) NUI Maynooth, Kilkenny Campus – Thursday
- There will be a three hour language class each week. In these classes, students will be get the opportunity to focus on their oral, aural, writing and reading skills in Irish.
- In addition to the weekly class, the student will attend three Saturday workshops during the course of the academic year in which a number of important themes relating to the Irish language will be investigated and discussed.
- Students will also spend a weekend in a Gaeltacht area in March. This will involve an extra fee.

### **Course Content**

The course will focus particularly on developing the communicative competence of the participant in Irish. Hence, work will concentrate on developing the following skills:

- Speaking
- Understanding
- Listening

Accuracy in grammar and vocabulary will be developed through the following class activities and homework assignments:

- Writing tasks
- Grammar exercises
- Translation

The Saturday workshops will cover areas such as:

- The Irish-language tradition (for example, place-names, surnames and folklore)
- Irish-language literature
- The Irish language in the contemporary world (for example, the media, the Official Languages Act and the education system)

## **The Approach**

- Participation by the student in pair work and group activities such as class discussion and debate is central to the teaching strategy
- New technologies will be used to make language acquisition more effective
- The Saturday workshop will allow the participant to engage directly with the subject under discussion in a practical and relevant manner

## **Assessment**

### **Year 1**

- Course work – 20%
- Oral examination – 30%
- Written examination – 40%
- Listening examination – 10%

The student must pass the Year 1 examinations in order to qualify for a place on Year 2 of the programme.

### **Year 2**

- Course work – 20%
- Oral examination – 30%
- Written examination – 40%
- Presentation – 10%

## **Entry Requirements and Course Fee**

The candidate must have a good level of both spoken and written Irish. He/she must have a minimum D grade in Irish in the Leaving Certificate (higher level) or its equivalent, a teg Intermediate 1 (B1), for example. For further information relating to the teg (Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge) qualification, go to [www.teg.ie](http://www.teg.ie). Any candidate who wishes to do the Dioplóma but who does not meet the above entry requirements must pass an entrance examination.

Course Fee: €1,000 per annum

Closing date for applications: 8 September 2010

Entrance examination: mid-September 2010

## **Further Information**

- [www.nuim.ie/language/courses/dip-irish.shtml](http://www.nuim.ie/language/courses/dip-irish.shtml)
- 01-7083737
- [teanga@nuim.ie](mailto:teanga@nuim.ie)
- Ionad na dTeangacha (Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge)  
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad  
Co Chill Dara