



ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE

T H U R L E S

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE (LEVEL 8)

EDUCATION, BUSINESS STUDIES & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

in collaboration with Tipperary Institute

This four-year teaching degree programme, which has been offered at St Patrick's College since 2004, qualifies you to teach Religious Studies and two of the main Business subjects to Honours Leaving Certificate level in the post primary sector. It means that you will NOT take a Higher Diploma in Education as this element is built into the degree over the four years and will include Studies in Education and a teaching practice component each year. This degree is recognised by the Department of Education and Science as a required qualification to teach these subjects at second level. This programme is designed specifically for those who wish to teach in the Post Primary sector.

Do you have these qualities?

- Enthusiasm for learning
- Ability to relate well to young people
- Adaptability
- Openness to change
- Ability to communicate
- Concern for equality and justice
- A calm disposition
- Self-reflective personality
- Confidence in self
- Ability to organise
- Patience
- Fairness

Then a career in teaching may be just what you are looking for!

What type of teacher will you become?

As a graduate from this programme you will be competent to teach your subjects to the highest level in the Post Primary sector.

This means that:

- You will have a broad and substantial knowledge of the theory and practice of education.
- Have an in-depth knowledge of the Business and Religious Education
- You will have developed the ability to think about your teaching practice as an ongoing process and adapt accordingly.
- You will have a range of innovative teaching methodologies.
- You will be flexible and comfortable working with pupils at all levels.
- Your approach to teaching will be enthusiastic, participatory and student-centred.
- You will have developed skills in teamwork, facilitation and leadership.
- You will have the competence to work easily in the dynamic and challenging environment of a Post Primary school.
- You will be a committed life-long learner.

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EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Students completing the Education component of this course will have developed a broad understanding of educational theory and practice, experienced teaching in different environments and mastered the skills required to teach efficiently and competently to the highest standards.

YEAR 1 **Philosophy of Education**

Introduction to the broad strands of educational philosophy with a strong emphasis on the 20th century.

Psychology of Education

Introduction to the current theories of psychological development with particular relevance to the educational context.

Preparation for Teaching Practice

Students are introduced to the teaching environment and are equipped with the foundational skills required for effective teaching.

YEAR 2 **History of Education**

Students study the significant historical influences in Irish education and their impact on teaching in the 21st century.

Sociology of Education

The role and purpose of education and school in society

Curriculum and Assessment Studies

Students are introduced to the main theories relevant to curriculum development, design and assessment and prepare themselves for their first teaching practice component.

Teaching Practice

Students spend a block of time teaching in a second level school where they apply the teaching skills developed on the course.

YEAR 3 **ICT in Education**

Students learn how to integrate ICT into the practice of teaching.

Teaching Methodology

Students develop various teaching techniques relevant to the teaching of Business and Religious Studies.

Classroom Management

An introduction to the skills involved in classroom management.

Teaching Practice

Students spend a block of time teaching in a second level school where they apply the teaching skills developed on the course.

YEAR 4 **Business Teaching Methodology**

Advanced methodologies on the teaching of Business subjects.

Religious Education Methodology

Advanced methodologies on the teaching of Religious Education.

Professional and Personal Development

Students explore a range of personal and professional skills for the purpose of enhancing their teaching effectiveness.

Learning Support and Special Needs

Students acquire the skills necessary to work with mixed ability classes and students who require learning support.

Teaching practice

Students spend a block of time teaching in a second level school where they apply the teaching skills developed on the course.



Students completing the Business component of this course will develop professional business skills, capabilities and characteristics necessary for the successful delivery of business education and training.

YEAR 1

Management

Introduces students to the nature of business organisation, business ethics and the role of business leaders.

Quantitative Techniques

Develops business mathematical skills and an understanding of statistics.

Economics

Introduces fundamental microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts.

YEAR 2

Principles of Marketing

Develops an understanding of the principal elements of marketing.

Financial Accounting

Provides an introduction to double entry bookkeeping and the preparation of final accounts.

YEAR 3

Entrepreneurship and Business Law

Fosters an understanding and appreciation of enterprise culture, innovation, business strategies and business law.

Cost & Management Accounting

Enables students to prepare and monitor budgets and to present management accounts.

YEAR 4

Strategic Management

Supports critical decision-making and appreciation of business ethics in the strategic environment of business.

Advanced Accounting Principles

Develops skills in the analysis and application of financial management.

Interdisciplinary Seminar



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THURLES

The aim of the four year Religious Studies programme is the professional training of religious educators. Subjects include Scripture, Systematic & Moral Theology, Liturgy, Religious Education and World Religions.

YEAR 1

Introduction to Religious Studies

The origins, approaches and historical development of religion.

World Religions

The beliefs, rituals and social organisation of the religions of the world.

Scripture

The origins, historical development and interpretation of Scriptures.

Morality

The nature, function and scope of morality.

YEAR 2

The Christian Church

Understanding the Church and exploring the ongoing dialogue between churches.

History

The history of the Church – early, medieval and modern.

Scripture

Wisdom literature of the Old Testament and the Synoptic Gospels.

Morality

Ethical issues concerning human life and human sexuality.

YEAR 3

God

The question of God today with particular attention to the Trinity and Jesus Christ.

Human Beings and the Universe

Origin and destiny of human beings and the created world.

Scripture

The Johannine Writings and the Letters of St. Paul.

Business and Social Ethics

Exploring the relationship between society, business and ethics at national and global levels.

Science and Religion

An exploration of the relationship between science and religion.

YEAR 4

Celebrating the Faith

Sacramental and liturgical life of the Church.

Spirituality of the Educator

Spiritual development of the educator.

Communicating the Faith

Teaching religious education in Post Primary schools.

Interdisciplinary Seminar

What are the entry requirements for this degree programme?
The entry requirements as listed in the CAO handbook are a minimum of 2 C3s in higher level papers and 4 D3s at ordinary level, two of which must be Maths and English. However there are a limited number of places and not all applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements may receive an offer of a place.

Will this course be all theory?

No. The course is designed to provide a balance between theory and practice. This means that students will spend time each year on teaching practice in selected post primary schools. Lectures and tutorials will combine theory with interactive learning techniques to involve students in a participatory manner.

Will my results depend on my teaching practice results?

Yes. The teaching practice component is central to this programme as it is designed specifically to prepare students to teach in the post primary sector. Students cannot graduate from this course if they have not passed the teaching practice element, which is built into each year of the programme.

What subjects will I be qualified to teach after this degree?

You will be qualified to teach Religious Education to Higher Leaving Cert Level; you will also be qualified to teach Business and Accounting to Higher Leaving Cert Level and Business Studies to Junior Cert.

If I complete this degree will I have further study options?

Yes. You will be eligible to apply for postgraduate courses that will further your knowledge in Business, Religious Studies and Education.

On completion of this degree, will teaching be my only career choice?

This course is designed specifically to produce high quality teachers at second level. However it would also be possible to diversify into other areas such as Business or community and pastoral work.

Where will classes take place?

Classes will all take place in St. Patrick's College, Thurles.

How is this degree accredited?

The Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) accredits this degree.

If I accept this course will the usual grant options be available?

Yes. All the normal grant opportunities will be available on the same basis as any other higher education degree programme.

How do I apply for this course?

To apply for this course you must go through the normal CAO process under St. Patrick's College in the CAO handbook.

How many class contact hours will I have each week?

Class contact hours for the course will be 21 hours per week on average over the four years of the programme.

If I encounter difficulties is there someone I can discuss them with?

Yes. All students attending this course will have an individual mentor (a member of the lecturing staff) who will meet with you regularly to discuss issues or provide advice on a wide range of problems. In addition, both colleges provide a wide range of services, including an access officer, accommodation information and a counselling service.

Is accommodation available in Thurles?

Yes. Thurles provides a wide range of accommodation facilities, including self-catering and full board.

What if English is not my first language?

Students whose first language is not English will be required to demonstrate competence in the language by completing the Test of English as a Foreign Language.



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FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Please contact: Registrar

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