# E A R L Y UNIVERSITY E NTRANCE At Dublin City University

### FOR TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS WITH HIGH ACADEMIC ABILITY

2020 - 2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

# **SEMESTER II**







# **Invitation to Participate**

### in the E.U.E. 2020 - 2021 Programme

Dear Parent & Student,

October 2020

The Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland is pleased to continue the Early University Entrance Programme at Dublin City University for Transition Year students of the 2020-21 academic year.

This is an exciting opportunity! Early University Entrance gives students with high academic ability the opportunity to enrol as part-time students on one of several courses based on degree programmes at DCU. Taking a portion of the first year modules, Early Entrants attend DCU for one day each week, over 13 weeks, to study degree level material alongside similarly aged students. The eight courses are: Biology, Engineering, Law & Politics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, & Psychology

The Early University Entrance programme has been running for several years and its evaluation composed my PhD thesis. The young students were found to have performed as well (and at times better) than the regular cohort of first year students taking the same modules. They suffered no ill-effects socially as there was a large group of similarly aged students. They learned much in terms of their chosen field of study, but also in terms of independent learning, self-organisation, the demands of learning at university level, high level writing skills and group work. You will read further in the brochure feedback from some of the original Early Entrance students.

This brochure outlines the Programme and the courses available in detail. I would encourage any student who is bright, motivated and committed to learning to apply, as it will give you a unique opportunity to sample university life, but more importantly allow you to experience a level of learning and challenge that is more suited to your academic needs. Though the programme is relatively new to Ireland, it is not a new concept. There is much evidence of the success of acceleration programmes in other countries, and therefore much by way of best practice.

I can be contacted on 01 700 8423 or by email at catriona.ledwith@dcu.ie

Yours,

laduith OLA

Dr. Catriona Ledwith Early University Entrance Programme Organiser

# Coronavirus COVID-19



Coronavirus **COVID-19** Public Health Advice

# EUE SEMESTER II

# Lecture Delivery in light of Covid-19

Dear Parent & Student,

October 2020

All of us here at CTYI hope that you and your family are keeping safe during these troubled times. Please be assured that student health is our number one priority and we will follow all relevant guidelines to ensure that we create an environment that all students are safe and secure during their time in DCU.

We are hoping to use a hybrid model of delivery for lectures for this semester. We are dividing each class group in two, and students are alternated between attending on campus one week and attending from home via Zoom the next.

With the changing health guidelines it is hard to predict with any certainty at this stage how everything will run. If the students are not allowed on campus then we will continue with everyone online. If restrictions are lifted then we will try to give students more campus time.

We are working closely with university management and Health & Safety and we will keep students and parents informed of any changes as soon as they happen.

For details of the Health & Safety measures in place on campus, see page 19.

I can be contacted on 01 700 8423 or by email at **catriona.ledwith@dcu.ie** 

Yours,

Dr. Catriona Ledwith Early University Entrance Programme Organiser

# PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

#### What is Early University Entrance?

Early University Entrance is an acceleration programme for Transition Year students with high academic ability. Participants may follow modules from degree programmes available at Dublin City University, part-time, throughout their transition year.

Students choose one course (see later in this brochure), and study two modules associated with that subject on one full day each week in DCU. Subjects may be scheduled any day from Monday to Friday. Classes take place between 10am and 4pm each day, in separate classes of approximately 20 students. Thus the Early Entrance classes will be made up of just Early Entrance students and run in parallel with the normal lectures in DCU. Students will also be expected to dedicate time outside of the scheduled lectures to independent learning, course assignments, etc.

Students may choose to sit exams in their chosen modules at the end of the semester. (Students should note that this programme will not help them to obtain a place at DCU when they are awarded their Leaving Certificate. They must still apply through the CAO).

#### The Reasons for Early University Entrance

Academically talented students are typically highly motivated, but too often complain of being unchallenged and under-stimulated at school. This Programme will give these students the opportunity to access a level of learning that more appropriately matches their academic needs. They will learn high level material at a relatively fast pace, thereby providing a more realistic level of challenge.

#### How will Early Entrants benefit from the Programme?

The advantages of taking on a degree programme at an earlier than typical age are wide-ranging. Research has shown that second level students who participate in university programmes benefit from:

- the experience of an intellectual peer group
- an optimally matched level of learning
- the experience of more appropriate and realistic academic expectations
- the opportunity to reach one's potential
- the focus it lends toward future study
- formal recognition of their ability

Early University Entrance is also believed to benefit students in the following ways:

- it provides access to specialist teachers
- it can enhance student motivation through specialisation
- it affords the opportunity to study challenging and interesting course material
- it helps the student to become more independent
- it gives them the experience of university life
- they will have direct access to cutting edge research
- it helps the student gain better perspective on their own education and their academic goals

Early Entrants will have the benefit of being part of an enhanced intellectual group over a sustained period. Students on similarly styled programmes have proven time and time again that their age is not a hindrance to academic success. Research on this programme and others have shown that Early Entrants perform as well, and in fact usually better, than regular first year students in end-of-term exams.

#### **Knowledge Gaps**

We are mindful that students taking on degree level coursework are likely to encounter material that requires the foundation given by the Leaving Certificate curriculum. Great care is taken therefore in adapting the modules so that students may learn all that is necessary to bridge any knowledge gaps.

#### The Development of Early University Entrance

The Programme was developed by Dr. Catriona Ledwith, at the Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland. The Programme development and evaluation was central to her PhD research at the School of Education Studies, DCU, under the supervision of Prof. Joe O'Hara. It was a unique experience for the students and a pioneering endeavour for DCU. The Programme was developed as a CTYI/DCU initiative, and had the approval of CTYI's Academic Advisory Board and the Research Ethics Committee, DCU.

The programme was found to have hugely positive academic and personal outcomes for its participants. Based on this research, it is hoped that Early University Entrance will form a new direction for second level students at CTYI.

The Early University Entrance Programme has received the full support of the Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland, and Dublin City University itself. Individual Faculties and Schools have given generously of their time, advice and resources. (The original Programme received the support of the then National Coordinator for Transition Year, Mr. Michael O'Leary.)

#### **Pastoral Care**

Certainly in Irish terms, this is new territory and though embarking on new terrain particularly in education, is exciting, there will be concerns for everyone involved; student, parent, teachers, researcher and the university community. Much consideration and deliberation preceded the setting up of this Programme. It has been developed in line with the procedures and guidelines of the Irish Centre for Talented Youth, a long established unit at DCU, with strict rules and guiding principles on working with children and young people. It has adhered to the best practices in concurrent enrolment and early college entrance, as given by the universities and third level institutions in the US where similar programmes exist. The Programme will also operate in a manner that ensures effective child protection. The Early University Entrance Programme will have a strong support network in place, given that the students will be younger than the ordinary student population on campus. The Programme will operate under the guiding principles of the Centre for Talented Youth Ireland, which has a long history of working with children and young people. Though not as intensive in a supervisory capacity as the CTYI Summer Programme, the students will be monitored closely from a variety of different perspectives. Links with parents and the TY Coordinator will be made early on and Dr. Ledwith will correspond with them on a regular basis to assess each student's progress. They will have frequent contact with Dr. Ledwith and Emily Daly throughout.

#### Accessible to Students across the Country

The 10am start at Early University Entrance is primarily to facilitate the commute to the DCU campus. Each year we have students coming from counties as far away as Cork and Donegal, taking very early trains to get here. Starting at 10am means EUE is a workable option. Having to attend over a number of days each week might make it prohibitive but one day makes it a little more accessible from most locations around the country. Finishing at 4pm also means that students can get home at a reasonable hour!

#### **Course Information**

The modules listed below indicate what is involved in each course; however, the precise content will be finalised at a later time.

Specific details on each degree programme are given over the following pages. The general information is taken from the DCU Prospectus. Please note that, though unlikely, the modules listed below may change. (From time to time, Schools reorganise the arrangement of modules).

Please note that the 2019-20 programme had the largest volume of applicants ever. Where possible there will be double classes offered for certain subjects. This will be based on the discretion of the programme organisers, the availability of staff and the facilities needed to maintain the high standards of the Early Entrance programme.

#### Eligibilty

The Early University Entrance Programme is happy to receive applications from any student who:

- is in Transition Year during the 2020-2021 academic year
- · AND
- has previously qualified for the CTYI or CAT Programmes through CTYI Talent Search or based on a Psychological Assessment
- · OR
- 6. may not have the formal assessment results documented above but who have demonstrated high ability. These students will be accepted at the programme organisers' discretion.

# COURSE OPTIONS SEMESTER II

There are a limited number of places on each of the following courses:

Early Entrance Biology - based on modules from the Common Entry into Science.

How Life Works 2 (BE102)

Early Entrance Engineering - based on modules from the Common Entry into Engineering

Software Development for Engineers (EM108) Engineering Mechanics-Statics (EM112)

Early Entrance Law & Politics - based on modules from the B.A. in Economics, Politics & Law

Constitutional Law (LG118) American Political System (LG113)

Early Entrance Maths - based on modules from the B.Sc. in Mathematical Science.

Mathematical Processes and Skills (MS111) Mathematical Problem Solving (MS110)

Early Entrance Philosophy - based on modules from the Bachelors of Arts (Joint Honours)

Poiltical Philosophy (TP134)

Early Entrance Physics - based on modules from the B.Sc. in Applied Physics

Electricity and Magnetism (PS104) Second module to be confirmed

Early Entrance Psychology - based on modules from the B.Sc. in Psychology

Social Psychology (PSYC102) Biological Psychology (NS125)

The course modules will, where possible, relate to existing first year modules on the named degree programmes. In some instances, the course modules on Early Entrance will follow the module precisely, while in others excerpts will be selected so that knowledge gaps are minimised. Each cooperating School and their nominated course instructor have worked with Dr. Ledwith on exact course content.

### EARLY ENTRANCE BIOLOGY

#### **Understanding Biology**

Biology makes up an integral part of degrees in Biotechnology, Genetics and Cell Biology, but it is also an important aspect in almost all other science degrees in DCU, such as the BSc. in Science Education, or the BSc. in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science, etc.

Biology plays an important role in understanding complex forms of life. What are the differences between humans and plants, and what have we in common? Knowledge of biology allows us to create solutions to the challenges many living organisms face, and it paves the way for discoveries and inventions that can improve our quality of life. Through studying biology, we can develop a greater understanding of the human body and how to effectively deal with diseases. By studying the components of living cells, we can learn how to control, fix and modify them to our benefit.

This course will introduce students to the concept of the cell and focus on the basic biochemistry, physiology and molecular detail of animals and plants, including an introduction to animal evolution and diversity.

#### Will it suit me?

The course in Biology will be of interest to students who enjoy studying biology and for those with an interest in recent scientific breakthroughs in human disease, molecular biology and research at the cellular level.

#### What Will I Study?

#### SEMESTER 2 How Life Works 2 (BE102)

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php.

#### **A Future Career**

Understanding how cells work underpins many areas, and so there is huge demand for a workforce with scientific knowledge, particularly in molecular and cellular biology. Graduates of biology degrees go on to work in biomedical research, biophysics, cell biology, bioengineering, microbiology, physiology, and more.

#### What our students think!

"My classmates were just as interested as I was in the subject, and were always willing to help when I got stuck in a particularly challenging problem. We really got to know and befriend each other over the course, and we still chat regularly."

"Commuting to DCU from Cork each Tuesday gave me more independence and I feel a lot more confident in my own ability to use public transport."

"Overall, CTYI's Early University Entrance was one of the highlights of my Transition Year and I'd recommend it to anyone!"

### EARLY ENTRANCE ENGINEERING

#### **Understanding Common Entry to Engineering**

Of all the courses and careers you can pursue, engineering is one of the most exciting. Engineers invent and design things, they make things work and they analyse and solve problems in all sorts of fields. For example, one of the areas emerging at the moment is the application of electronic and mechanical engineering to biology and life sciences. Engineering solutions help patients with better diagnostic imaging, improved hearing devices, better blood vessel implants, laser surgery, etc. Engineers have designed the latest MP3 players, digital televisions, laptops and mobile phones. Engineers' work is behind industrial robots and racing cars, 3D cinema and airplanes, the latest computer games and the international space station. As engineers, you can find yourselves at the heart of just about any field, from high-tech industry and medicine to financial services, energy-aware technologies and biotechnology - the cutting-edge dynamic industries of tomorrow.

Common Entry into Engineering is specially designed to help you to find the course most suitable for you while studying the fundamentals of engineering. After the first year (common to all six engineering degrees in DCU), students may apply to follow a specific programme. Early Entrance Engineering is based on modules from this general programme, to give students a flavour of as many of the specialized areas within engineering as possible.

#### Will it suit me?

As for most engineering degrees, ability in mathematics is a key requirement. A logical mind and an eye for detail are also important. Previous experience of maths, engineering or theoretical physics at CTYI will be an advantage, but is not essential, as the fundamentals will be covered on each module.

#### What Will I Study?

#### SEMESTER 2 Software Development for Engineers (EM108) Engineering Mechanics-Statics (EM112)

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php.

#### A Future Career

Engineering is about the design and production of useful products and services. It translates scientific knowledge into technology, and technology into successful innovation. Engineering subdivides into a broad number of specializations; mechatronic, electronic, digital media, mechanical and manufacturing, biomedical, and informational and communications engineering degrees, all of which are available to study in DCU.

Engineering is a smart choice for anyone who is interested in design, technology, and development.

#### Instructor's Comments

"This is a broad and interesting introduction to materials science, covering the science of why materials have the properties they do, and leading to the use of materials in design. Looking at the minute level up to the very large, this all-encompassing course suits those with an interest in science and engineering. The class investigates practical examples, thinking about why things are made from what they are made from. This might be something students had never considered before. The theory in the course is backed up by practical example which aids understanding and learning. Students work independently and in groups. Questions are invited and encouraged during the lectures. Group work during tutorials helps the students to get to know others in class and to see different points of view and different answers to the same question.

By the end of the course, students should have a good overview of the various engineering materials available and a good idea as to why a particular material choice is made for a particular design. "

Dr. Niamh Plunkett

#### What our students have to say!

"Much of the first year engineering course overlaps with the Leaving Certificate Mathematics, Applied Maths and Physics syllabus. Having covered these topics in a university setting was hugely beneficial for my own Leaving Certificate two years later - I felt that I had a much deeper understanding of these topics than I could have gained at school. Some of the material was challenging, but we had fantastic support from student tutors."

### EARLY ENTRANCE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

#### Understanding Common Entry into Mathematical Sciences

'Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas.' Albert Einstein

Mathematics is the study of space, structure, change and numbers. Observing patterns, mathematicians devise assumptions, which they then attempt to resolve through mathematical proofs. When an assumption is proved true, greater insight into nature is achieved. Mathematical science includes a vast range of topics including: number theory, geometry, algebra, calculus, trigonometry, topology, logic and game theory. It has progressed from counting and measurement through the use of abstraction and logic.

#### Will it suit me?

Mathematical Sciences will suit students who think logically, enjoy problem solving, are mentally flexible and comfortable thinking in abstract terms. A healthy enjoyment of mathematics helps too!

Please note we are very mindful of the fact that the associated degree progresses directly from higher level Leaving Certificate maths. The modules selected will take due consideration of this, and where knowledge gaps exist, they will be addressed in the course of the programme. Therefore Early Entrance Mathematical Sciences assumes absolutely no prior knowledge of Leaving Certificate Maths. The modules selected focus primarily on the problem solving skills required to solve mathematical problems, rather than the learning of specific mathematical concepts.

#### What Will I Study?

Exact modules will be carefully selected with the School of Mathematical Sciences, mindful that students entering the programme have not yet completed the Leaving Cert Maths curriculum.

#### SEMESTER 2 Mathematical Processes and Skills (MS111) Mathematical Problem Solving (MS110)

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php. Please note that although the modules for this course will follow the techniques practised at DCU undergraduate level, the course material will be catered specifically to the Early Entrance students.

#### **A Future Career**

A degree in mathematics opens up a range of careers including: accountancy, banking, risk analysis, tax analysis, informatics, teaching, programming, trading, statistics and management.

### EARLY ENTRANCE LAW & POLITICS

#### Understanding Economics, Politics and Law

Economics, Politics and Law (EPL) is an intellectually challenging course that explores various issues and methods of analysis in the disciplines of economics, politics and law. You can see them every day in Irish society. The course will give you a deep and thorough understanding of the political, legal and economic institutions that shape the current global environment. More specifically, you will gain a profound awareness of how these three disciplines are bound together in the exploration of concepts of common interest.

#### Will it suit me?

Are you interested in Politics and/or Law? Would you like to know more about the political and legal institutions that shape our world? By studying on the Early Entrance Law & Politics course you will learn how these disciplines interact and help to shape the local and global contexts in which we live.

#### What Will I Study?

SEMESTER 2 Constitutional Law (LG118) American Political System (LG113)

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php.

#### **A Future Career**

Graduates from the BA in Economics, Politics and Law will be ideally suited for work in a variety of areas. Some graduates may choose to work in the public service, private industry or international and European institutions, while others may choose a career in law (graduates will be eligible for entry to the Law Society of Ireland as trainee solicitors, on successful completion of the relevant entrance exams and all subjects required for the entrance exams are covered), tax/financial services, journalism, policy-evaluation or research.

#### Instructor's Comments

"Throughout these highly organised and well-delivered classes, students engage in academic discussion and indepth analysis at an advanced level. They are exposed to a different academic environment, where they explore profound thoughts, gain rich experiences, and meet like-minded peers, while continuing to attend their own schools at their local level. This remarkable opportunity will encourage them to think and learn in new ways, allowing them to fulfil their potential as distinguished and gifted students. The significant cooperation of all involved, including full-time staff, instructors, parents and schools ensures a solid foundation for the welfare and development of students, allowing them to fully enjoy and benefit from the programme."

#### What our students think!

#### Dr. Ibrahim Natil

"The impact that Early University Entrance had on me academically was not fully apparent until I was in university full-time. The skill set required for secondary school is completely different to the one needed in university. Particularly when it comes to independent research, everything I learned while I was in the Early University Entrance Program has been utilised repeatedly. These were skills that I would have never needed or expanded in secondary school but Early University Entrance meant that I was comfortable using them when it came time in my current studies."

"It's hard to sum EUE up in a few lines! I applied to study Economics, Politics and Law because I wanted to be a lawyer. Spending some time studying law at university was the best way to see if this idea was actually worth pursuing, and, afterwards, I decided it was. Being able to say in my UCAS personal statement that I already had experience of studying at third level was brilliant, and helped set me apart from other applicants for a subject which is highly over-subscribed. I am now studying law for real, and I can honestly say that having the experience of EUE to fall back on at the beginning of my degree made the transition to third level study much, much easier: I knew what to expect and what was expected of me."

### EARLY ENTRANCE PHILOSOPHY

#### **Understanding Philosophy**

Philosophy is possibly the most fundamental of subjects as it asks the question: `What does it mean to be?' The aim of this course is to enable students to acquire the basic skills of philosophy i.e. analytic argument and essay writing; and to introduce students to some of the most profound thinkers in history. The course will cover some of the fundamental concerns of philosophy such as: the history of philosophy, metaphysics and epistemology, logic, ethics and political theory, the philosophy of mind.

#### Will it suit me?

Philosophy has something for everybody, but particularly suits those who are curious about all aspects of life and want to use reason to answer life's biggest questions. If you are interested in the nature of reality, the concept of truth or how to live a good life, philosophy is the course for you. If you enjoy expanding your mental horizons, learning how to construct an argument and find weaknesses in other arguments, and analysing contemporary issues using logic, philosophy is for you. Everybody asks philosophical questions at some point in their lives; and such questions are especially pertinent during the teen years.

#### What Will I Study?

SEMESTER 2

Poiltical Philosophy (TP134) Second module to be confirmed

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php.

#### **A Future Career**

Philosophy does not create an obvious career path outside of academia. However, the skills philosophy graduates develop widely sought after in a variety of fields. It turns out that over the long term, philosophy graduates earn the most of any liberal arts graduate. The problem solving abilities and creative approaches of philosophy graduates are increasingly valued, notable amongst big-tech companies.

### EARLY ENTRANCE PHYSICS

#### **Understanding Physics**

Physics is the most fundamental science. It explains the mysteries of the universe and has fuelled many of the scientific and technological developments that we take for granted. Physicists also pioneered modern technologies as diverse as the Internet, nuclear power and MRI scanners. Today physicists continue to generate new knowledge about our world and lead innovation in yet-to-be exploited realms such as quantum information and communications technology, nano-systems design, ultrafast molecular switching and terahertz medical imaging.

#### Will it suit me?

If you are interested in how the world works and how science seeks to answer the big questions, if you have a logical mind and competency in mathematics then Physics may be the course for you.

#### What Will I Study?

SEMESTER 2 Electricity and Magnetism (PS104) Second module to be confirmed

Full details of these modules are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_contents.php.

#### **A Future Career**

Physics provides you with the platform to progress to a degree in your chosen area of specialism, with potential to pursue careers in areas as varied as:

Meteorology, Astronomy and Astrophysics, Design Management, Data Science, Research and Development, Education, Information Technology, Healthcare and Aeronautics. You will also be ideally positioned to pursue further study.

### EARLY ENTRANCE PSYCHOLOGY

#### **Understanding Psychology**

Psychology is concerned with all aspects of behaviour and the thoughts, feelings and motivations underlying such behaviour. While psychologists differ in their interests within the field of psychology and in the type of work they do, they all approach the study of psychology in a scientific way. Psychologists are concerned with practical problems such as:

How can we make sure that eyewitness accounts in court are reliable?

- How can we help people overcome depression, stress or phobias?
- How do footballers keep their anger in check on the pitch?
- What makes a good manager?
- How can teachers ensure students are really learning?

If you think these research questions are interesting, then you may be interested in studying psychology.

#### Will it suit me?

You should possess good verbal and written skills, be hard-working and creative, have an enquiring mind and have the ability to think critically. Other qualities that would be an advantage are flexibility and good interpersonal skills.

#### What Will I Study?

SEMESTER 2 Social Psychology (PSYC102) Biological Psychology (NS125)

Full details of modules currently on the B.Sc. in Psychology are available at http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module\_ contents.php.

#### **A Future Career**

For those wishing to work as a psychologist in a professional setting, e.g. counselling, clinical, organisational, health, educational, sport or academic, further study is required. A degree in psychology opens up a number of different career paths. Many psychology graduates have used their degree to pursue a career in management, social research, youth work, community development, public relations, human resources and marketing.

#### **Instructors' Comments**

"When students take Cognitive Psychology at EUE, they first learn about the main theories and studies of the discipline. Then they apply those theories and studies to real-world events and situations (e.g. 9/11, TV advertisements, Dementia care in Ireland) so they can study cognitive psychology in action. Students take a reflective learning approach to comprehending and evaluating the content, so that they can sharply question what they know and benefit from doing the assessments. The in-class dynamic is usually informal, conversational and interactive; with plenty of group-work exercises as well as opportunities to receive feedback."

#### What our students have to say!

Derek Laffan

"Perhaps most importantly, Early University Entrance was the perfect opportunity for me to test out a field of interest for the first time and assess it fully. Transition Year is often said to be the time when students find themselves and discover their true interests but there can be times when the Transition Year program devised by the schools appeals very much to one side of a student and misses out on developing another set of interests. That is perhaps just from personal experience but, either way; Early University Entrance opened a new door for research into a field of study, ultimately being the one that I chose to pursue."

"Coming from secondary school I was worried that the standard needed in university would be too challenging for me and that my performance in the program would be one of failure. The opposite turned out to be the case, instead of the university standard being one that I could not meet, it became my new standard and my work in secondary school benefited."

### EUE PARENT FEEDBACK

"As a parent you come to any new situation, particularly one where your child moves out of your comfort zone, with a sense of trepidation and that was the case for me with Early Entrance at DCU. My daughter had been attending CTYI for a number of years and had loved everything to do with it. My fear was that the step to early entrance might be one too far. Would she cope with adult learners (even if they were a few years older than her) and would she be able to settle back to school?"

"It turned out to be the highlight of her Transition Year – nothing came close. No pressure was put on her to do the exams but when the end of the semester came around she wanted to do them. Over the weeks she had been freed to learn in her own way and at her own pace and that has stood to her since then."

"Other students in DCU accepted the group of early entrants and supported and interacted with them easily. More importantly the back-up given to the students by the programme co-ordinator was protective, supportive and enabling which made it easy to feel secure in the knowledge that your child was being allowed some independence but not complete or unsupervised independence."

"I had a 'go to' person who was available for whatever we as parents needed to know and the organisation of the programme was professional, supportive and yet not indulgent. Issues around child protection were dealt with in a very reassuring way and yet my child had access to everything in the college except the bar, which was amazing."

"The chance to see your child shine and look forward to days when she was not bored were amazing and if she could, she would have stayed for the whole year – that in itself is a huge testament to the programme."



The fees for the Early University Entrance Programme semester 2 are €800\*\* in total.

\*\*Students who participated in Semester 1 will receive a €100 discount on the full €800 fees for Semester 2 - thus will be required to pay €700 in total for Semester 2.

Semester fees are paid in two portions:

A **€200 registration fee** is required with your application.

(This is refundable if you don't get offered a place).

The remaining €600 fee will fall due on the Friday, 15th January 2021.

Payment can be made by cheque, bank draft, postal order, or credit/debit card. Cheques & POs should be made payable to "CTYI". Cash is not accepted.

#### Scholarships & Financial Assistance

Please note that CTYI is making one full scholarship available on each of the five subjects being offered on EUE. Please find the scholarship application form in the application pack. Financial aid is also available. Please contact Catriona if you require a form for this, as it should accompany your application.

Students from DEIS schools linked to DCU should contact Catriona directly also, as they are eligible for greatly reduced fees. Please find a list of these DEIS schools below.

#### **DEIS Schools linked to DCU**

Only students from the schools listed below qualify for reduced EUE fees. Please note this reduced fee only applies to EUE courses.

	Beneavin De La Salle College	Beneavin Road, Finglas, Dublin 17
	Chanel College	Coolock, Dublin 5
	Colaiste Dhulaigh	Barryscourt Road, Coolock, Dublin 7
	Colaiste Eoin	Cappagh Road, Dublin 11
	Cabra Community College	Kilkiernan Road, Cabra, Dublin 9
	Grange Community College	Grange Road, Donaghmede, Dublin 13
	Margaret Aylward Community College	The Thatch Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9
	New Cross College	Cappagh Road, Dublin 11, Dublin 5
	Mercy College	St. Brendan's Drive, Malahide Road, Dublin 9
	Pobalscoil Neasáin	School Ln, Baldoyle, Dublin 13
	Rosmini Community School	9 Gracepark Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9
	St Aidan's C.B.S.	Collins Avenue, Whitehall, Dublin 11
	St David's CBS, Artane	Malahide Road, Artane, Dublin 5
	St. Marys Holy Faith, Glasnevin	Old Finglas Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 11
	St Mary's Holy Faith, Killester	Brookwood Meadow, Killester, Dublin 7
	St Vincent's CBS	Finglas Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 11
	St. Finian's Secondary School	Castlefarm, Swords, Dublin 11
1	St. Kevin's College	Ballygall Rd East, Finglas, Dublin 11
	St. Michael's Holy Faith	Wellmount Road, Finglas, Dublin 9
1	The Donahies Community School	Streamville Road, Dublin 13
	Trinity Comprehensive	Main Street, Ballymun Road, Dublin 9

### TIMETABLE INFORMATION

Each semester runs over 14 weeks, which is different to the standard 12 week semester. Students will be required to attend at lectures during school holidays if lectures are scheduled.

SEMESTER II	Begins week starting	Concludes week ending	Exams: <b>4th - 17th</b>
	<b>Monday, 25th January 2021</b>	Friday, 30th April 2021	<b>May 2021</b>

Class will take place between 10am and 4pm, with an hour for lunch and a short break mid-morning and midafternoon. Exact times will be defined later, to suit lab sessions etc.

Provisionally, we have the following set in place. Please note that days may change. Previously, classes have had to be offered on alternative days due to the large numbers of students and limited availability of classrooms, but we will do our best to offer the classes on the days listed below.

### SAMPLE TIMETABLE

#### Days liable to change

Day	Course	10am - 12pm	12pm - 1pm	1pm -2pm	2pm - 4pm
Monday	Maths	Module 1	Lunch	Tutorial	Module 2
Tuesday	Engineering				
Wednesday	Biology				
	Sports Science				
Thursday	Psychology				
	Physics				
Friday	Law & Politics				
	Philosophy				

#### Orientation

The orientation for new students will take place on the first day of classes. Parents may attend orientation if desired.

#### **Exams, Credits & Exemptions**

Students are strongly encouraged to undertake all assessment associated with their modules. This includes continuous assessment and examinations. If a student opts to take the examinations, they will receive a transcript of their results from the Centre for Talented Youth.

Please note that the nature of this programme means grades obtained through examination will not be stored by Dublin City University. They will however be retained by CTYI. If the exam taken was the same, and the student decides to return to that degree programme (or a degree programme that shares that module), post-Leaving Certificate, they may be able to apply to their particular School for exemptions from these modules. These credits may only be redeemed on relevant DCU degree programmes, are not transferable to any other third level institution, and their redemption is entirely at the discretion of the school involved.

It should also be noted that participation on the Early University Entrance Programme does not entitle students to a place on an associated degree programme upon completion of the Leaving Certificate. Students wishing to return to that degree programme must apply through the CAO.

#### **Student Enrolment**

Early Entrants will be registered as CTYI students.

#### Lecture Attendance

Students are required to attend all scheduled lectures. Lecture attendance will be monitored by CTYI. Parents/ students will be expected to call/email the office if they are unable to attend class.

#### **Course Delivery and Online Components**

Each module will be supported by content on the Google Classroom platform, including copies of lecture slides and notes, useful links, class discussion forums, and further resources.

In the event that lectures and tutorials must be delivered online, we will make use of the Zoom platform to livestream classes at their scheduled slots.

#### **Course Makeup**

There will be a limited number of places available on each of the Early University Entrance courses. Please be aware that some course places will be more limited than others due to lab restrictions, etc.

#### **Free Periods**

Early Entrants will have time between 12 noon and 1pm each day for lunch. They will be unsupervised during this time. Classes start at 10am each day, and conclude at 4pm. Students will be expected to sign in with their instructor at 10am and sign out no later than 4.30pm

#### **Computing Facilities**

Early Entrants will have limited access to DCU's computing facilities during classes. They are permitted to bring laptops to the campus. Internet access is available and parents should note that it will not be supervised. The university however has software installed on the network to ensure that students cannot access restricted material.

#### SOCIAL & NON-ACADEMIC ARRANGEMENTS

#### **Medical Assistance**

As on the CTYI Summer Programme, students are asked to report to the CTYI office and appropriate staff member if they feel unwell. Students are asked not to purchase medicines themselves. We have a stock in the office available (following parental permission). Parents will be informed immediately in the event of a student requiring medical attention. Please note that there is a Pharmacy located on the DCU campus.

#### **Social Activities**

As Early Entrants are under the age of 18 years, they are excluded from all university social activities. This includes joining or participating in any of the university's clubs or societies.

#### **Campus Bars**

Students are not permitted to enter the bar on campus. Door-staff check the identification of all patrons.

#### **Difficult Circumstances**

Parents are asked to contact the office in the event of their child experiencing any difficulty; academic, social or otherwise.

#### DAY TO DAY ARRANGEMENTS

#### Sign in & Sign out

Students must sign in each morning in their classroom with their instructor at 10am. Students sign out at 4pm with their instructor. If a student is leaving campus in the middle of the day to return later on they must notify the Office of their departure and return by phone or in person.

#### Non-Attendance

In the event that the student is unable to attend university on a given day, they or their parent must contact the office.

#### Non-Academic Help & Assistance

Dr. Catriona Ledwith and Emily Daly will be available to the Early Entrants during the week for support. Where a student is experiencing difficulties on the Programme, they, their parent/guardian or their school are advised to contact us immediately. In the event that Dr. Ledwith is unavailable, Early Entrants should report to Ms. Emily Daly or the CTYI Director, Dr. Colm O'Reilly.

#### Research

Like the original Early University Entrance programme, it is intended that some research will be carried out on the effectiveness of the programme along with its impact on its participants. Full details of the planned research will be outlined during induction.

#### COVID-19 & HEALTH & SAFETY

Various measures will be put in place to protect all staff and students, such as the following:

#### **Social Distancing**

University classrooms have been clearly arranged and marked so that students will adhere to social distancing of 2 metres. EUE class sizes will also be reduced in order to adhere to social distancing, and we may deliver courses through a combination of onsite and online delivery if necessary.

#### **Health Declaration**

In accordance with current Government COVID-19 Health and Safety regulations, it will be a requirement that each student completes a Health Declaration before coming on campus. In the event that they pose a risk to themselves or others, they will be asked not to come to campus.

#### Masks & Visors

Students will be required to wear face coverings in class. Instructors & Teaching Assistants will wear visors

#### Sanitising

Sanitising stations are available at regular intervals throughout the university buildings. A bottle of hand sanitiser and a pack of sanitising wipes will also be made available to each class group. Students are also encouraged to wash their hands regularly.

#### **Isolation Centres**

In the event that a student or staff member presents symptoms in class, they will be brought to one of the designated Isolation Centres on campus if they cannot head home immediately.

#### **Contact Tracing**

In the event of someone in the EUE community testing positive, we will contact all staff and students affected.

Please note that we may adjust measures depending on government and university guidelines in January- May 2021.

# DISCIPLINE

The Early University Entrance Programme demands the same standards of behaviour, one would normally find in a caring, well-organised home. Honesty, cooperation and respect will be expected from all students. Rules concerning student conduct will be explained at the beginning of the Programme. Our rules are for the safety and well-being of all students and we ask both parents and students to cooperate fully with the Programme. Students may be dismissed from the Programme for any of the following reason:

- Stealing
- Vandalism
- Unruly or abusive behaviour
- Bullying
- · Possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or any substance controlled by law
- Not attending satisfactorily to their academic work
- · Being off campus without specific authorisation
- Violating or putting at risk the safety and well-being of any person
- Non-compliance with any of the University rules and regulations

Or for any other reasons, which in the opinion of the director are of a sufficiently serious nature to warrant dismissal.

Any student who has been dismissed from the Programme will not be permitted to take end of semester examinations.

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

**Registration Fee:** All fees include a  $\leq$ 200 registration fee, which is non-refundable for courses accepted. Returned Cheques/declined Credit Cards: Returned cheques/declined credit cards are liable for a  $\leq$ 10 fee to cover handling costs. Please note, your child's application will be suspended until the payment has been processed.

**Course Allocations:** All communication relating to course allocations is communicated by Post. Please do not call the office as we cannot share this information by any other means.

Fees are non-transferable.

No refunds will be made to students dismissed from the programme.

Students and their families are liable for any damage they cause to university property.

CTYI reserves the right to cancel or alter any course, if due to unforeseen circumstances the course cannot be run economically or efficiently.

#### Refunds

Written requests for a refund of Application Fees received up to and including 15th January will be considered. After this date there will be no refund of Application Fees. Written requests for a refund of Balance of Fees received up to and including 25th January will be considered.

Refunds are only provided where a course does not take place or where a course is full.

No refunds will be offered in the event of the course moving online due to public health guidelines or a university directive.

Refunds are not given if the student withdraws from the programme having been offered a place on one of their course choices.

The  $\in$ 200 Registration fee is non-refundable for courses accepted.

# APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants must prove that they are sufficiently motivated and ready to undertake learning in a real university environment. The letter of motivation and school recommendations are included in the application pack so that students can present their desire to participate as fully as possible. As spaces are limited on the programme, it is important that applicants take this opportunity to present themselves as worthy candidates for the programme.

#### How do I Apply?

Candidates should complete the application form accompanying this information brochure. Applicants should refer to the checklist below to ensure that their application contains all of the necessary information. The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday, 20th November 2020.** 

#### Recommendations

You must have two recommendations from teachers at your school. Recommendations should be posted separately. They should be forwarded by your referees to: *Dr. Catriona Ledwith* 

Early University Entrance Programme Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland Dublin City University Dublin 9

#### **Application Checklist**

Please ensure that your application includes the following information:

- Completed Application Form
- €200 Registration Fee
- · Recommendations submitted to teachers for completion (New sesemster 2 students ONLY)
- Signed parent and student consent forms
- Copy of Psychologist's report, if requested

Please note that **Teacher Recommendations** may follow your application. Make sure to get your application form in first and we will contact you if your recommendations have not been returned.

#### **Brochures not received**

If you know a CTYI student who is in Transition Year during the 2020-2021 academic year and has not received this information pack, please ask them to contact 01 700 8423 or **catriona.ledwith@dcu.ie.** 

#### **Once we Receive your Application**

We aim to send course offers by post approximately 3 weeks after the closing date. Details of orientation days will be included in course acceptance packs.

Please bear in mind we receive an increasingly high number of applications each year so unfortunately we cannot guarantee dates for course offers.

# **APPLICATION TIMETABLE**

Closing Date for Applications	Friday, 20th November 2020
Balance of Fees	Friday, 15th January 2021
Orientation	First day of class
Lectures begin	Week beginning Monday 25th January 2021





# E A R L Y UNIVERSITY E NTRANCE At Dublin city university

# **CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS** *Friday 20th November 2020*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Catriona Ledwith EUE Programme Organiser 01 700 8423 catriona.ledwith@dcu.ie Ms. Emily Daly EUE Administrator

01 700 5598 emily.daly@dcu.ie Dr. Colm O'Reilly CTYI Director 01 700 5634 colm.oreilly@dcu.ie CTY Ireland Main Office 01 700 5634 ctyi@dcu.ie