



UCD AGRICULTURE,  
FOOD SCIENCE AND  
HUMAN NUTRITION

**UNDERGRADUATE  
PROGRAMMES**

**2025 ENTRY**







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# UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science

# #1

## 1st destination of choice in Ireland

for students interested in studying Agriculture and Food Science

# TOP 1%

## Expertise

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions world-wide



Agricultural Sciences at UCD ranked 1st in Ireland, 4th in Europe and 24th globally

Food Science and Technology at UCD ranked 1st in Ireland, 3rd in Europe and 15th globally

(US News and World Report Subject Rankings 2024)



## Opportunity

14 Undergraduate Programmes



## International Opportunities

**25** Exchange Partner Universities



## UCD Lyons Farm

UCD is unique in Ireland by having it's own 250 hectare teaching and research farm in Co. Kildare.



## Only University in Ireland with a School of Agriculture and Food Science

350+ Undergraduate places on offer annually



**Athena Swan**  
Silver Award

The School of Agriculture and Food Science is the first School at UCD to achieve a Silver Athena Swan Award for our commitment to gender equality.



## Support

Over 70 student scholarships, prizes and medals awarded annually

# WELCOME

UCD is Ireland's Global University and is currently ranked within the top 1% of higher education institutions world-wide. With over 186 years of tradition, 37,000 students from over 152 countries, 400 exchange partners and 304,426 alumni worldwide, UCD is at the forefront of global knowledge. We provide programmes with a curriculum that is constantly changing, responding to external demands, informed by innovative research and delivered by lecturers and professors at the cutting edge of their disciplines.

The School of Agriculture and Food Science is one of UCD's largest Schools and is the number one destination of choice in Ireland for students who wish to study Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food Science and Human Nutrition. We are proud of the School's long tradition, its origin dating back to 1838 at the Albert College and the Glasnevin Model Farm. Now, ranked number one in Ireland, twenty-fourth globally and fourth in Europe for the study of Agricultural Sciences and number one in Ireland, 3rd in Europe and 15th globally for the study of Food Science and Technology (US News and World Report Subject Ranking 2024), students at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science will be exposed to the latest scientific research, discovery and knowledge that underpins each of our four-year honours degree programmes.

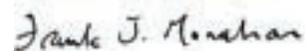
The School offers 14 undergraduate programme entry routes, each of which will provide you with an opportunity to study subjects central to many of the major global challenges of today. These include food production, food security, environmental sustainability, non-food land uses, rural development, nutrition, health, business and economics.

The world is increasingly focused on the need for both sustainable and innovative foods for an increasing population, many of whom demand more sophisticated food and health solutions for a changing lifestyle. At the same time, climate change, environmental, sustainability and societal challenges are becoming more and more relevant in the context of agriculture, food businesses and policy making.

Agriculture and Food is Ireland's largest indigenous industry, employing approximately 164,900 people or 6.5% of the total workforce, and is one that continues to show considerable growth and resilience with great potential into the future. Graduates of our programmes obtain a holistic education giving them the capacity to contribute significantly to the Irish and global agriculture and food industries.

The School of Agriculture and Food Science at UCD is unique being the only university in Ireland with a dedicated School of Agriculture and Food Science with programmes that span the entire food chain, from farm to human nutrition and health, providing a diverse range of career opportunities in Ireland and internationally. A modular syllabus, Professional Work Experience and International Study Abroad opportunities contribute to the development of highly sought-after graduates. We pride ourselves not only in the quality of the educational experience our students receive but also in the School's culture which champions the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Please study this brochure and see for yourself the wide range of programmes on offer at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.



**Professor Frank Monahan**  
Dean of Agriculture and Head of School  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science



We pride ourselves not only in the quality of the educational experience our students receive but also in the School's culture which champions the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion.





Away from the classroom the GAA club in UCD has been a major part of my university experience. I play with the UCD Sigerson team which is an excellent outlet and has allowed me to make friends for life.

**Daire Cregg**

Dairy Business student, Sigerson and Roscommon Football player





# Student Life at UCD:

## The Agriculture and Food Science Experience

Our reputation for being the most friendly and close-knit community in UCD is well known. Small class sizes enable you to get to know your class and lecturers quickly. Active student committees ensure a full itinerary of events throughout the year.

Life at university is not just about lectures and study: there is so much more to being at UCD. You will find that sports, societies and social life are vital ingredients of your university experience. Whatever you choose, you will benefit from an enjoyable and exciting education.

The School of Agriculture and Food Science is proud to have one of the largest and most active societies on campus in the form of Ag Soc. Famous for Ag Week, Milk and Tractor Races, the Ag Ball and most importantly its incredible charity work, it is an amazing society to be part of during your college years.

Other societies linked to Ag and Food Science include Nutrition Soc, Food Soc and the Horticultural Society, however there are over 100 societies to choose from with something for everyone so fully immerse yourself in the University experience and join one of the societies during Freshers Week.

The School also competes in the annual Great Agri Debate sponsored by Dawn Meats and supported by Bord Bia and is one of the highlights of the College calendar.

In addition to Societies, Sport has a long, strong tradition in UCD and indeed in the School of Agriculture and Food Science. Many sports stars past and present have come through the school's programmes including Mayo's Stephen Coen, Kilkenny's Wally Walsh and Joe Lyng, International Handball star Martin Mulkerrins and Westmeath's John Heslin. This year there are talented sports men and women across GAA, rugby, basketball, hockey and many more.

Student welfare is a priority at UCD and a number of non-academic support services are available. Peer Mentors can assist with your transition to UCD offering support, advice and guidance through your first year. Throughout your time at UCD a dedicated Programme Office team and Student Adviser will be available to provide guidance and support in relation to any personal, social, academic or practical issues.

Supports and initiatives such as the Mathematics Support Centre, tutorials, laboratories and continuous assessment are designed to assist you along the way.

The UCD Student Counselling Service is a confidential service available to all registered students, free of charge and the UCD Students Union has dedicated sabbatical officers to assist students with a wide range of health, welfare and education issues.

“Being a member of Ag Soc was an amazing experience - I had the opportunity to contribute to charity and to meet new people, not to mention all the brilliant events and fun nights out!

Ciara Bolger  
Ag Soc Committee



As part of our Professional Work Experience (PWE) we got the opportunity to travel to Dustin Hawkin's 12,000 acre beef and Tillage farm in Saskatchewan, Canada.

We started off working with cattle; Dustin calves around 750 sucklers in the spring in 2 batches. Our work with the cattle involved tagging calves, sorting pairs, branding calves, banding bull calves and giving them a hormone implant behind their ear. After the first 2 weeks the focus turned to seeding!

The use of precision technology and the productivity and efficiency of the machinery used on the farm was a new experience for us, for example one day we seeded just under 1300 acres using the 2 seeders. To see the levels of productivity and management that is required to farm at such a scale was really eye opening.

PWE Dustin Hawkins Farm 2024.  
(Donal Murphy, Jack Ryan, Shane O'Brien) Animal & Crop Production.



# Professional Work Experience

Professional Work Experience (PWE) is the term the School of Agriculture & Food Science use for the student internship process which is undertaken as part of all undergraduate programmes.

We place a huge value on this applied learning experience which provides students with the opportunity to experience the practical application of knowledge in their chosen area. Many students say that PWE was the most memorable part of their degree programme.

Students may arrange to take one or a number of placements during their PWE, and placements may be taken with an approved provider in Ireland or internationally. The opportunity to complete your PWE placement internationally and the network of enterprises available to apply to is unique and based on many years of experience in providing placement and farming links with national and international partners.

The duration of PWE varies depending on what programme students are undertaking and is outlined in the following table. All placements take place in third year.

Programme of Study	Duration	Start
Human Nutrition	40 weeks	September
Animal and Crop Production	30 weeks	January
Food & Agribusiness Management	28 weeks	January
Crop Science	30 Weeks	January
Dairy Business	20 weeks	July
All other programmes*	16 weeks	April

\* Students studying Food Business with Chinese Studies study abroad in Year 3. PWE is optional on this programme.



## In 2023:



32%

109 students took their PWE placement overseas



74

Students participated in 91 international placements



10

Students travelled to over 12 international destinations



4

Industry-funded Travel Bursaries were awarded



21

Annual Awards for PWE Placement Excellence



## Student View

Cliona Beirne

PWE has definitely been the highlight of my UCD degree programme. It was great getting to apply knowledge learnt in the classroom into real situations. It's like a full circle, you can read about it and learn it for an exam in college, but the days spent on the farm putting the information into practice is when everything makes sense and clicks. For my first placement I began working at the Irish owned continental piggery Emerald Irish Pork in Germany. My second placement was on Dourie farm, a 1200 cow dairy farm in the west of Scotland. Finally I worked on Tailbert farm; a 1200 sheep farm in the amazing Cumbria Lake District in England. Through PWE, UCD ensures its graduates are more than ready to enter the workforce and succeed. The PWE module is a great opportunity to make connections at home and abroad and it has allowed me to critically identify and develop potential sources of appropriate employment for my future career.

# STUDY ABROAD



25

PARTNER  
UNIVERSITIES



56

STUDENTS WILL STUDY  
ABROAD IN 2023



15

STUDENT EXCHANGE  
SCHOLARSHIPS



STAGE 3



## United States

- Michigan State University
- Purdue University
- Kansas State University
- Iowa State University
- Cornell University
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Connecticut
- University of California (UC Davis)
- University of Maryland
- University of Vermont
- Virginia Tech



## Europe

- **France:** VetAgro Sup
- **France:** Université de Bordeaux
- **Germany:** Hochschule Weihenstephan-Triesdorf
- **Italy:** Università degli Studi di Salerno
- **Italy:** Università degli Studi di Udine
- **Spain:** Universidad de Navarra

## United Kingdom

- University of Nottingham

## China

- Renmin University
- South China Agricultural University



## Australia

- University of Queensland

## New Zealand

- Lincoln University
- Massey University



## Singapore

- Nanyang Technological University

## There are exciting opportunities for UCD students enrolled on the BAgrSc & BSc Food Science programme to study at partner universities overseas - we call this the Student Exchange Programme.

Students can avail of opportunities to spend a semester studying at some of the top universities in America, Australia, Europe, New Zealand and the United Kingdom under established exchange programmes. In 2024, 55 students will study abroad to the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Italy.

A semester on the student exchange programme provides a unique opportunity to experience a university environment in a foreign country, broaden your academic experience, earn college credits while living abroad, make lifelong friends and learn about agriculture and food science from another country's perspective, all while experiencing a different culture and lifestyle.

This opportunity can be taken in Year 3 and while no additional university fees are incurred, students are responsible for covering the cost of their own travel and accommodation expenses. There are a number of scholarships available which can support some of the costs associated with travelling.

“ Spending a semester studying abroad in the U.S. at Purdue University in Indiana during my third year as a UCD student, greatly enhanced my experience of the Food and Agribusiness Management course. Study Abroad afforded me the opportunity to gain insight into the agribusiness industry from a different perspective. Purdue offered the chance to experience different approaches to learning and the opportunity to learn from respected figures in the U.S. agribusiness industry.

During my time at Purdue I made friends with people from all over the world, experienced American culture and was able to visit various parts of the American Mid-West. Study Abroad was a fantastic opportunity that has benefitted me both academically and as a stand-out element on my C.V. that has piqued the interest of employers.”



**Noirin O'Malley**  
Food and AgriBusiness Management



University of California, Davis



University of Queensland, Australia



### Student View

**Michael Dever** | Animal Science

My time at Iowa State University on study abroad was a massive highlight of studying Animal Science at UCD. If someone had told me in First Year that I would be studying in America for a semester in Third year, I wouldn't have believed them. Now I encourage everyone to consider doing the study abroad semester. My time in Iowa immersed me in a different perspective and scale of agriculture than that which we see here in Ireland. Participating in clubs such as the Antique Tractor Club, allowed me to meet a variety of people that I call friends to this day while learning about older machinery.

Going to Iowa State University meant that I could see large-scale grain operations during harvest, which I would never see in the West Coast of Ireland.





The day went really really well. It was nice to go around and talk to past alumni and esteemed guests; companies that have supported us for so many years to make this event so big and what it is today.

I'd like to thank the Minister Charlie McConalogue for coming in to talk to the students; it was very very insightful and to get somebody of his calibre to come in and talk to us was just great.

**Amy Woods**

Careers Committee Chairperson,  
Agricultural Science Society  
2023/2034



# CAREERS

Due to the broad nature of our degree programmes students gain positions of employment in a variety of roles. Graduates have an excellent record in obtaining challenging and fulfilling roles in Ireland and abroad.

Careers in sectors such as food, health, agriculture, forestry, horticulture, environment, business and services include: enterprise management; technical service and consultancy; research; education; policy; marketing & communications, accountancy & tax and primary production of quality sustainable food and drink products.

The School of Agriculture and Food Science has a very strong and unique relationship with industry and students are exposed to employers coming on to campus in search of talented soon-to-be graduates each year.

The final year undergraduate students in the School of Agriculture & Food Science are the only student body on campus to organise their own Careers Fair annually. The most recent Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers day was attended by a record number of over 50 exhibitors.

Students also have an invaluable opportunity to network with prospective employers when they are undertaking their PWE placements in year three. Each year a substantial number of graduates commence employment with organisations that provided them with placement opportunities during PWE.

## What do UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science graduates do?

Each year the Higher Education Authority (HEA) commissions a report tracking the first destination of university graduates.

The First Destination Report highlights the employment rate of graduates directly following graduation.

The most recent First Destination Report for UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science graduates found:

**68.9%**

In Employment

**26.6%**

In Further Study or Training

## The Agriculture and Food Industry in Ireland

Each year the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine issues a report highlighting key activities of the Agriculture and Food Industry. The most recent report showed that:

**164,900**

or 6.5% of the total workforce are employed in the agri-food sector

**€16.3bn**

Value of Ireland's agri-food exports in 2023



## Graduate View

**Niamh Lenihan** | Chief Executive, An Rialálaí Agraibhia Agri-Food Regulator

My degree in Animal Science from UCD very much underpins my career and professional development to date. While my study at UCD facilitated the development of technical knowledge in this particular field which is of course important, even more significant are the soft skills gained and the discipline learned.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunities afforded to me during my time at UCD which included a summer internship at Purdue University, Illinois. Highly transferable communication and teamworking skills in particular, initially nurtured and advanced at UCD, have enabled me as a public servant to gain experience of and contribute to both policy and practice in diverse areas of work.

Further, the broad scope of my degree from UCD has acted as a strong foundation for accessing further study throughout my career which has helped equip me for both the opportunities and challenges encountered along the way. Equally as valuable are the lifelong friends and acquaintances made through UCD who have assisted me in building a rewarding career.

According to the HEA'S First Destination Report, the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science class gained employment with a variety of organisations including:



Watch previous Agriculture, Food Science and Nutrition Careers Day on demand [ucdagfood](#)



UCD is a University for All where Access and Inclusion is everyone's business. No two students are the same and every student arrives with their own unique story to tell.

Access and inclusion are embedded into UCD's values and strategy. Our teaching, learning and assessment practices are flexible and inclusive for all students.

UCD Access and Lifelong Learning



# ACCESS ADMISSION PATHWAYS

The UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science offer a number of alternative entry routes into our degree programmes in addition to entry from Irish school leaving examinations.

Alternative entry routes are considered from external applications to year one, or to an advanced stage of our programmes. A fixed number of places are available via alternative entry and progression pathways each year, on a competitive basis.

Detailed information is available on the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science website: [www.myucd.ie/applying-to-ucd](http://www.myucd.ie/applying-to-ucd)

Alternative Entry and Progression Pathways available are

- HETAC Higher Certificate/Ordinary Degree
- QQI-FET progression
- Open Learning (New 2022 Entry)
- Application on grounds of mature years
- Higher Education Access Route (HEAR)
- Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)
- Transfer from a level 8 programme
- Re-Admission to UCD
- University Access Courses

## Student View

Mollie Fagan-Hartnett | Student

I entered UCD as an Access student. Specifically, I entered through the QQI-FET and HEAR pathways. Once I started in my level 5 course, I began doing research into universities, access and different QQI-FET links. I soon discovered how committed UCD is to widening participation.. As soon as I accepted my place it became apparent how involved the Access and Lifelong Learning team is with Access students.. Once in UCD, I decided that I wanted to be an Access Leader because over the few months I have been in college the Access Leaders have been so friendly and helpful and I believe they truly have had such a positive impact on my start in UCD. I hope I can provide that same comfort to other students. Becoming an Access Leader has opened my eyes, I learned so much throughout the training and it has made me so

much more aware of accessibility and college pathways. If I could give future students any advice it would be to use the supports available to you. In my first semester I was anxious to apply for grants and scholarships, I was anxious to attend the meetings in the Access centre and I didn't feel comfortable attending the support centres for Maths/Physics and Writing. By the time I started using these resources I had missed out on opportunities to get help/missed or near missed deadlines for funding. I wish I had started going to the Maths/Physics centre sooner as it did make such a difference. If I was starting my first day all over again that is what I wish someone had told me: don't be afraid to use the supports and reach out to the Access centre when help is required.



## Graduate View

Aoife Feeny | BAgSc in Animal Science and MSc in Agriculture Extension and Innovation

Growing up, I always had a huge love of animals and nature. While I didn't grow up on a farm myself, I spent some time on my grandparents' beef farm in North Roscommon, now run by my cousins.

When asked the question 'What will you be when you grow up?' I always responded with 'a Vet' and this remained the case right up until my mid-teens. I was sure I would go on to study veterinary medicine. However, it was not to be. I grew up with rheumatoid arthritis and while it didn't have a negative impact on me, I re-evaluated my choices and also didn't want to put myself under pressure. Veterinary was still my number 1 choice, but I was delighted when I was offered a place in Animal Science through the DARE route and I've never looked back.

The DARE scheme in UCD was a fantastic support to me in the School of Agriculture and Food Science. Whatever your disability, the support not just from the DARE office but also from the lecturers as a DARE student is phenomenal and made studying agriculture in UCD even more enjoyable as it took away some worries for me and meant I could focus on my studies without worrying about my health impacting things.







# UCD LYONS FARM

Lyons Farm is a key enabler of UCD's teaching and research ambitions. It forms an integral part of the teaching and research infrastructure of the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences, and specifically of the School of Agriculture and Food Science and School of Veterinary Medicine.

UCD is unique amongst third level universities in Ireland by having its own teaching and research farm to provide students and academics with access to large animal and crop enterprises for the delivery of teaching and research programmes. These programmes are of national importance and underpin technical innovation and science-driven education and discovery for the agri-food industry, which helps maintain international competitiveness and addresses challenges and opportunities for innovation as they emerge.

Currently these include:

- Increasing globalisation and competition,
- The removal of production linked subsidies within the EU,
- The demand for production of healthy food at affordable prices,
- Food produced with due regard to animal health and welfare,
- The need for proper sustainable management of land and animals to protect natural resources (air, water and plant and animal biodiversity),

- The importance of maintaining viability of rural communities and recreational activities,
- The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture (by 25% by 2030),
- The need to reduce the fossil fuel inputs into agricultural production.

On many BAgSc programmes students visit UCD Lyons Farm in year two as part of the Health, Welfare and Safety module that takes place in preparation for Professional Work Experience. On some modules in year three, such as Soil Science Applications and Animal Reproduction, students visit UCD Lyons Farm for important practical classes. Animal and Crop Production and Animal Science degree programme students spend one day per week at UCD Lyons Farm during the final year of their studies.

There are also opportunities for students to obtain invaluable experience during the busy lambing season at UCD Lyons Farm which takes place in March each year.

## Education and Research at Lyons Farm

### UCD Lyons Long-Term Grassland Platform

The UCD Lyons Long-Term Grassland Platform is an exciting new beef systems experiment established in 2019. The Platform consists of 24ha divided into three farmlets, each sown under a different sward type and grazed by its own beef herd. Swards are perennial ryegrass, perennial ryegrass and white clover and multispecies mixture with grasses, legumes and forage herbs.

This platform will allow UCD researchers to investigate the long-term sustainability and resilience of pasture-based beef production in terms of animal performance and health, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, water quality, soil fertility and carbon, and economic performance.

This site is part of the Global Farm Platform, an international network of sites working to improve the sustainability of ruminant production systems.



WATCH ONLINE

Check out our new video on UCD Lyons Farm

 ucdagood

# Agricultural Science

DN250



# WHY AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE?

From animal science to farm management, addressing the climate challenge, conservation and protection of the wider environment, from the animal feed industry and dairy business to enterprise development, equine science and innovation, from crop protection and global agribusiness to alternative energy sources, horticulture, forestry and food chain technology, Agricultural Science will provide you with the foundation to take your career anywhere in the world.

Our exciting range of programmes cover a wide variety of different subjects offering you a broad choice of lifestyle and career paths. If you are interested in Agricultural Science, but are not yet certain of which area to specialise in, you can select the No Preference (NPF) option on your CAO form. Then, during your first year at UCD, you can choose your area of specialisation.

Once you receive an offer on the Agricultural Science programme (DN250) you will be guaranteed a place in any of the eleven specialisations from second year. If, on the other hand, you know which of the eleven programmes you would like to specialise in, you can select this on your CAO application.

Students interested in progressing to the Food Business with Chinese Studies must undertake specific modules by the end of year one.

## What will I study?

All our programmes have a similar first year, designed to give you a strong foundation in the core sciences, maths and economics, which are needed for the rest of your studies. Your subjects in year two, three and four will depend on which of the eleven programmes you decide to specialise in and are outlined within this brochure.

YEAR 1		
Introductory Chemistry	Mathematics for Agricultural Science	Physics for Agricultural Science
Information Skills	Agricultural Economics and Business	Animal Biology and Evolution
Cell and Plant Biology	Introduction to Biomolecules	Optional Modules
YEAR 2, 3 & 4 Choose a pathway		
Agricultural Systems Technology	Agri-Environmental Sciences	Animal and Crop Production
Animal Science	Animal Science - Equine	Crop Science
Dairy Business	Food and Agribusiness Management	Food Business with Chinese Studies
Forestry	Horticulture	
Professional Work Experience	Optional Study Abroad	Subject Specific Modules
<b>BAgrSc (Honours)</b>		



## DN250 Agricultural Science

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.

# Agricultural Systems Technology

DN250



## Why Agricultural Systems Technology?

Agricultural Systems Technology is aimed at students who wish to learn how to build, develop, and manage technology for the agriculture sector. Students will gain a deep understanding of how to use technology in order to improve and enhance sustainability, efficiency and reliability in farming and food production. You'll take classes in engineering, science, mathematics and data science. Upon completing the course, you will be uniquely equipped to build, develop and manage technologies such as computer systems, networks, data management and sensors, machinery systems and precision agriculture.

## DN250 Agricultural Systems Technology

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: : 400

\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.



# Agri-Environmental Sciences

DN250



## Why Agri-Environmental Sciences?

If you are passionate about environmental sustainability and interested in the intersection of agriculture and environmental management, the Agri-Environmental Sciences programme may be the perfect fit for you!

This specialist applied science degree will equip you with the knowledge and skills necessary to make a meaningful impact in the fields of agriculture and environmental management. Through a combination of classroom learning, practical field experience, and professional work placements, you will gain a deep understanding of rural environmental issues, sustainable agriculture practices, and the policies and schemes that protect our natural resources.

The programme offers opportunities to study abroad at prestigious universities, further broadening cultural perspectives and employability in a global market. Graduates of the program are well-equipped for a variety of career paths in environmental advising, planning, and consulting, or further postgraduate studies

DN250

## Agri-Environmental Sciences

### CAO Points

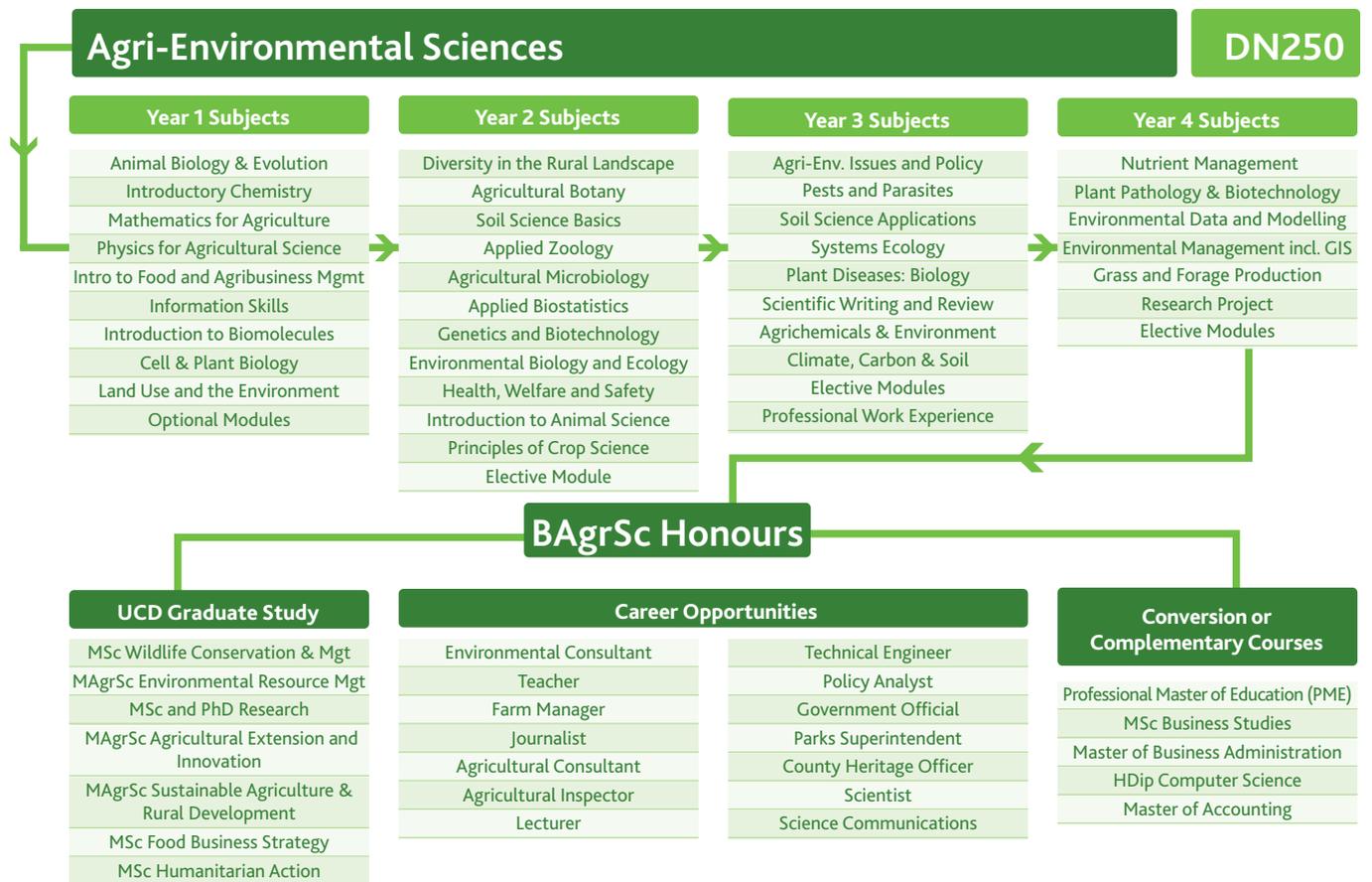
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Minimum Points 2024: 400

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# Programme Pathway



## Student View

**Ciara Shiven | Student**



Coming from a non-agricultural background, I chose this course to develop my interest for the natural systems sustaining life that are threatened by human activities and how we can improve.

Some highlights of the degree include an ecological trip to the Burren, Co. Clare, exploring various habitats, their plant compositions, and role in the landscape. Professional work experience provided me an opportunity to work at UCD Lyons Farm with a former AES student on their PhD, looking at the above- and below ground biodiversity in multi-species grass swards. We sampled the number and diversity of earthworms and insects, tracking the plant composition and quality over the season to see how having more plant species benefit both biodiversity and livestock. This degree has equipped me with the knowledge I need to pursue a variety of careers from wildlife and habitat conservation, environmental impact assessment, farm advisory to opportunities with agri-chemical companies such as Pfizer.

## Student View

**Edwina Nolan | Student**



My grá for agriculture and the interactions agriculture has with our environment stemmed from growing up on a tillage farm. AES therefore stood out as the perfect course for me! From the outset, modules gave a broad introduction to agricultural science, catering to students from farming and non-farming backgrounds alike. As the course progressed, the focus shifted towards AES-specific topics, delving deeper into the environmental

implications of agriculture, fuelling my interest further. Professional work experience and the final year research project cemented the fact that AES was the correct choice for me. I thoroughly enjoyed both of these opportunities which provided me with invaluable experience between working in the field and the lab which will stand to me as I pursue my career further. I look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead that AES has set me up for but I will miss my time in UCD. From field trips to Ag Soc, events to tag rugby matches, my time here has been nothing short of memorable!

# Animal and Crop Production

DN250



## Why Animal and Crop Production?

UCD's Animal and Crop Production programme offers a comprehensive education in the science and business of animal and crop production. You'll learn about the development and improvements in animal and crop production, gain broad knowledge on animal and plant growth and development, physiology, nutrient utilisation, agribusiness, agri-environment and develop the skills to create economical and sustainable agricultural production systems. Plus, you'll gain communication and IT skills to help you stay up-to-date on evolving technical, economic, and regulatory frameworks.

With practical experience gained through visits to UCD's Lyons Farm and international placements, you'll graduate with a well-rounded education and be prepared for a variety of careers in agribusiness, animal and crop industries, consultancy, and government agencies.

DN250

## Animal and Crop Production

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.



## Student View

Amy Kenny | Student



Studying Agricultural Science in UCD was always my goal, however I wasn't sure which major to specialise in. After talking to alumni and attending open days, it was clear that Animal and Crop Production was the course for me. Growing up on a beef farm in Co. Offaly and helping local farmers nurtured my passion for agriculture from a young age.

The career opportunities following this course are endless, especially in the ever-changing industry we find ourselves in. We are at a great advantage to have such a top-class course available to us, where the degree is recognised worldwide.

Over the 4 years of ACP, we engaged in a huge variety of modules and spent some time out in UCD Lyons Farm, which was a great experience. In third year, ACP students undergo 30 weeks of Professional Work Experience, which gives the students a chance to broaden their horizons and learn new practical skills, this part I thoroughly enjoyed.

Studying Animal and Crop Production in UCD has undoubtedly been an unforgettable and enjoyable time, and this field of study is becoming ever-important in today's world where there is so much focus on sustainable food production and climate action, we are at the forefront of the action.



## Student View

Cian Corcoran | Student

Like many I didn't know what to do after my leaving cert, but growing up on a suckler beef and sheep farm in Co. Sligo I always enjoyed agriculture and the outdoors. Studying Animal and Crop Production in UCD has been one of the best decisions I ever made. The opportunities that this course has opened to me have been fantastic.

# Programme Pathway

## Animal and Crop Production

DN250

### Year 1 Subjects

Animal Biology & Evolution
Introductory Chemistry
Mathematics for Agriculture
Physics for Agricultural Science
Agricultural Economics & Business
Information Skills
Introduction to Biomolecules
Cell & Plant Biology
Land use and Environment
Introduction to Animal Science
Introduction to Crop Science
Optional Modules

### Year 2 Subjects

Agricultural Botany
Soil Science Basics
Genetics and Biotechnology
Agricultural Microbiology
Animal Nutrition I
Health, Welfare and Safety
Applied Biostatistics
Buildings & Environment
Arable Crop Production
Agricultural Biochemistry
Elective Modules

### Year 3 Subjects

Animal Reproduction
Pests and Parasites
Soil Science Applications
Plant Diseases - Biology
Animal Breeding
Animal Nutrition II
Professional Work Experience

### Year 4 Subjects

Grass and Forage Production
Professional Communications
Practical experience (UCD Lyons Farm)
Non-ruminant Animal Production
Cereal Production
Farm Business Management
Root & Alternative Crop Production
Agricultural Policy
Beef Production
Dairy Production
Sheep Production
Elective Module

## BAgrSc Honours

### UCD Graduate Study

MAgrSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation
MSc Animal Science
MSc Food Safety
MSc Sustainable Food Processing
MAgrSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
MAgrSc Environmental Resource Mgt
MSc Crops and Green Energy
Research Opportunities
MSc and PhD by Research

### Career Opportunities

Agricultural Consultant	Technical Engineer
Teacher/Lecturer	Policy Analyst
Production Manager	Government Official
Farm Manager	Business Manager
Journalism	Technical Sales Manager
Agricultural Inspector	Scientist
Communications Manager	
Project Management	

### Conversion or Complementary Courses

Professional Master of Education (PME)
Graduate Veterinary Medicine
MSc Business Studies
Master of Business Administration
HDip Computer Science
Master of Accounting

# Animal Science

DN250



## Why Animal Science?

UCD's Animal Science programme is an exciting four-year degree that delves into the applied sciences necessary for understanding how animals function and the principles of livestock production. You'll explore the growth, development, and behaviour of domestic animals, and the fundamentals of sustainable animal production systems. Modules include animal biology, genetics, biotechnology, nutrition, and more.

In the later years of the programme, you'll visit the UCD Lyons Farm for hands-on practical experience and complete a five-month professional work experience placement.

With opportunities to study abroad and a range of career options in animal health, breeding, enterprise management, and more, this degree is the perfect choice for anyone passionate about animals and their role in agriculture.

DN250

## Animal Science

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

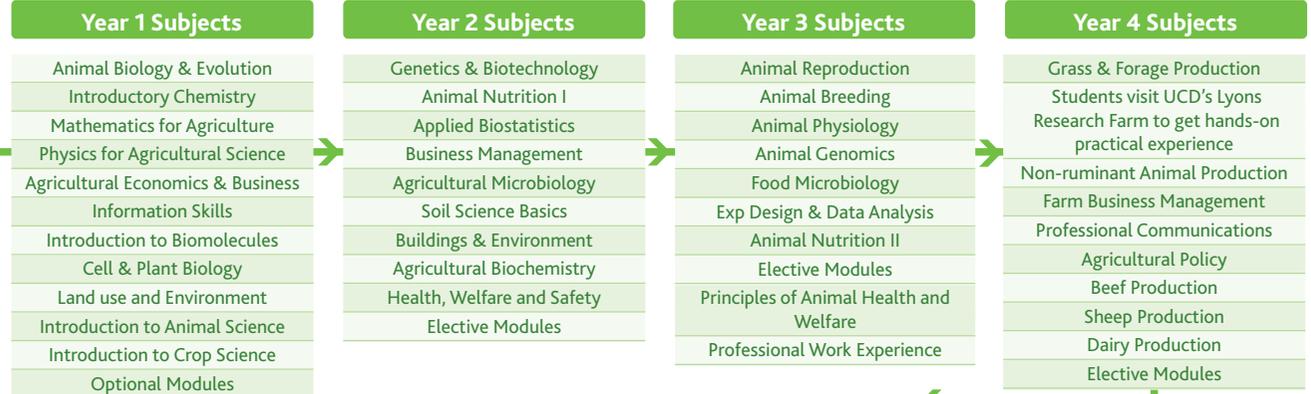
Minimum Points 2024: 400

\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.

# Programme Pathway

## Animal Science

DN250



## BAgrSc Honours



### Student View

**Anna Hourihan** | Student

Coming from a dairy and beef farm I've always had an interest in the agricultural industry and the UCD ag science degree was the perfect opportunity for me to expand my knowledge and pursue a career in the sector.

The highlight of my time in UCD was undoubtedly the time I spent on PWE. PWE gives students an opportunity to get practical experience in a range of sectors, from dairy, beef, sheep and pigs. During my time on placement I took the opportunity to travel abroad to the UK for my dairy and sheep placement which was a fantastic experience.

During my final year in UCD I was also a member of Agsoc, which was a great experience and I would highly recommend getting involved!

All in all I have had an extremely enjoyable four years in UCD and for any students considering Ag science as a degree - you won't regret it, it's a fantastic experience and the doors the course will open for you are endless.



### StudentView

**Katie Birbeck** | Student

Animal Science is a great degree choice for anyone who wants to study animals and keep a scientific background. I was originally hesitant to attend UCD as moving to Dublin meant I would be the only one from my school attending college here. However, the subjects offered, and the placement opportunity in third year, made it too attractive to pass up.

Being a member of AgSoc was an amazing opportunity to contribute to charity while meeting people from other years and across the agricultural sector.

A highlight was PWE. My five months spent within different sectors were invaluable. Hands on experience made me more confident, and focused my passion for future studies, helped by lecturers who inspired me to pursue a PhD.



# Animal Science - Equine

DN250



## Why Animal Science - Equine?

Animal Science – Equine allows those with a passion for horses, the equine industry or equine science to pursue these interests at third level and still maintain a broad range of future career options within agriculture.

A highlight of the degree is the opportunity to participate in a 5-month international work placement within a leading Thoroughbred or Sport Horse organisation. The degree provides the scientific knowledge and transferable skills necessary for professional leadership roles within many aspects of the Agriculture and Equine industries.

Your programme will cover:

- The growth and development of farm animals, how they function, their behaviour, welfare and nutrition
- Current and future technologies to make agriculture more sustainable but still meet the needs of a growing global population
- The equine industry in Ireland, its global context and entrepreneurial opportunities
- Focussed modules on equine health, reproduction, genetics, breeding, nutrition and exercise physiology delivered by academics who are leading world experts in their fields
- Exciting technological advances and future research directions within equine science

DN250

## Animal Science - Equine

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.



## Graduate View

**Aoibhe Dennehy** | Student View

I always had a passion for horses. At the time of my CAO application, I was unsure what I wanted to do. Therefore a course that I knew I would enjoy, such as Animal Science – Equine in UCD was an easy decision. I have learnt about many aspects of the equine industry from nutrition to genetics and physiology through lectures and practicals. I enjoyed learning about the scientific side of the industry and particularly enjoyed my PWE where I worked at Hartwell Stud in Kildare for 18 weeks learning about the Sport Horse breeding industry. I also enjoyed participating in the equine science research project where I analyzed differences in gestation lengths of Thoroughbreds and Sport Horses. My time in UCD has encouraged me to pursue a Masters degree in Veterinary Physiotherapy where I will be able to use the skills and information learnt from the last 4 years to pursue a career in this growing industry.

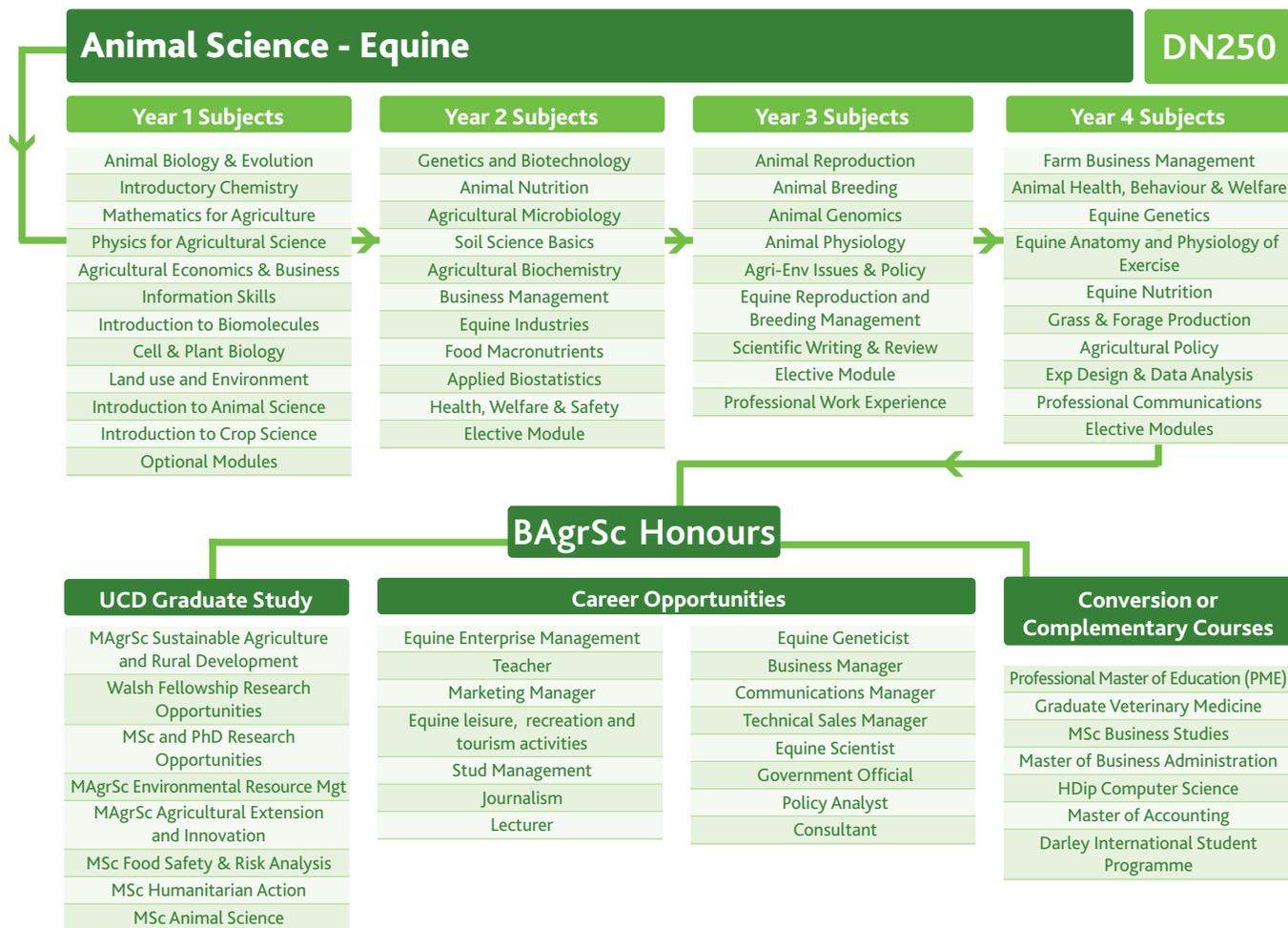


## Student View

**Jane Field** | Student

Growing up on a family farm with horses and have a passion for the equine industry from a young age studying Animal Science – Equine at UCD was a natural choice. I have learnt so much in my time at UCD from the expert lecturers. The professional work experience semester gave me the opportunity to work in

# Programme Pathway



the thoroughbred industry for the first time and was the highlight of my time at UCD. The hands on experience from PWE along with the theoretical knowledge I have gained from lectures has given me the foundation to pursue a career in the equine industry.

Outside of lectures I have made lifelong friends and was a member of the Agriculture Society in my final year.

# Crop Science

DN250



## Why Crop Science?

Agronomy is the science of crop production and soil management, leading to improvements in crop yield and quality. Environmental challenges, production of biofuels, and the growing demand for major food crops like wheat and rice, make agriculture and crop science a vital subject for our future well-being.

As a student in our Crop Science Programme, you will learn about the science, production, and management of crops from genes to fields. With a focus on agronomy, you'll explore crop production and soil management to improve yield and quality. Our expert faculty members are active researchers in the rapidly developing field of agriculture and agribusiness. In addition to a strong foundation in basic sciences, you'll have the opportunity to study emerging crop pathogens, organic agriculture, climate and soils, and plants and diets.

## DN250 Crop Science

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

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## Exciting Crop Sciences programme at UCD

The Crop Science programme at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science was launched in 2021 and is the only third level Crop Science degree programme offered in Ireland. There is an increasing demand for highly qualified graduates in the area of crop agronomy and graduates from this programme will be qualified to address a skills shortage in this sector as identified by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. It is estimated that over the next decade there will be growth opportunities for the tillage sector in areas such as increasing demand for barley and malt for the rapidly expanding brewing sector in the whiskey, and micro-brewing industries. Additionally, increased demand for oats, due to their health and nutritional benefits, will drive the requirement for higher value-added tillage crops. The production strategy for these crops requires a higher degree of agronomic management and supply chain management to ensure the products attain their premium markets.

This exciting new programme will also address the growing responsibility for the tillage sector with regard to climate change. The tillage sector has the potential to produce animal and human protein ingredients utilizing soil and crop carbon management strategies that reduce GHG emissions from the sector and from the food supply chain.

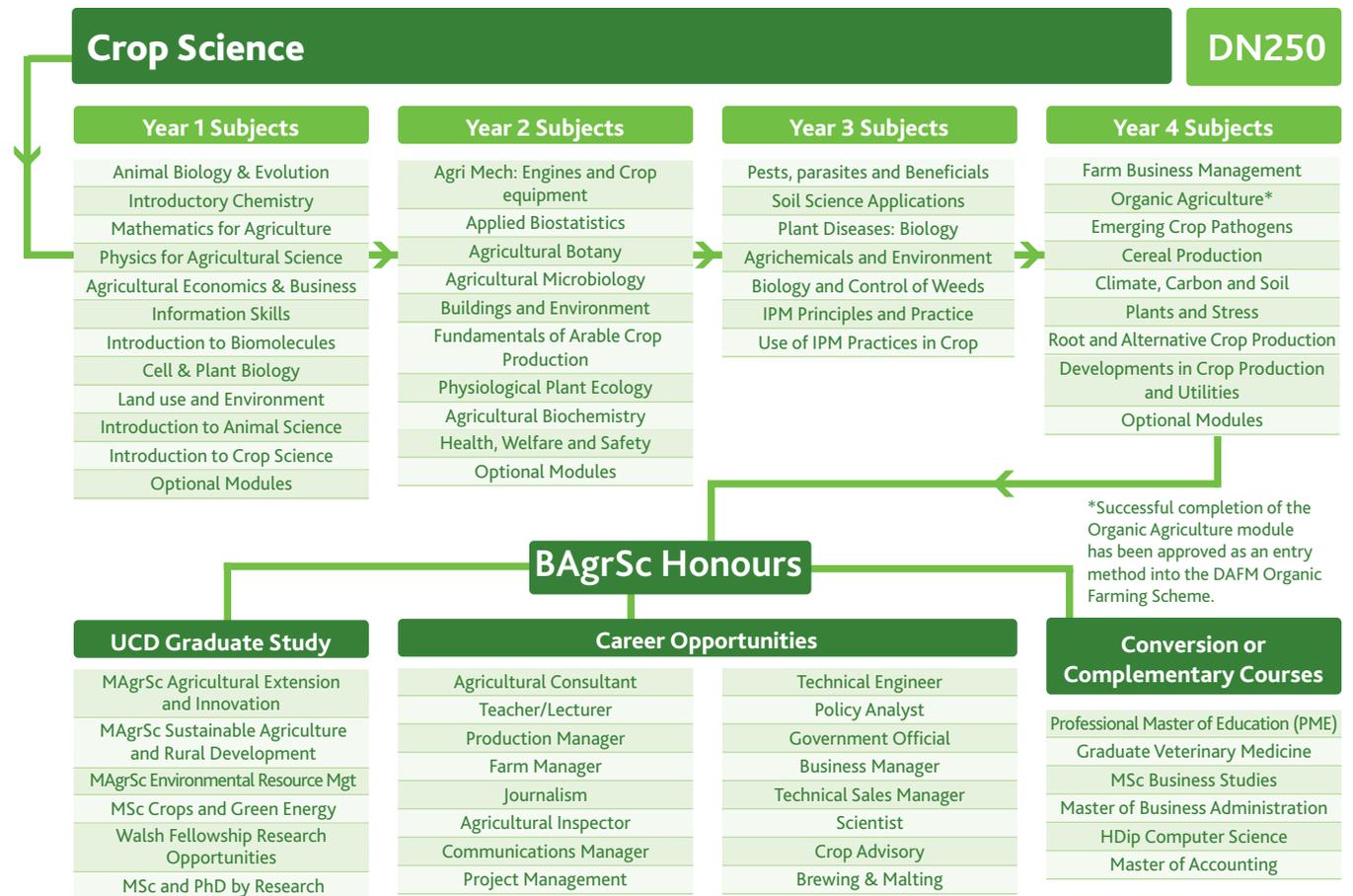


## Student View

**Andrew Strong | Student**

Growing up on a tillage farm in Co. Offaly agriculture was instilled in me from a young age. UCD was a great experience and I found the modules really interesting and applicable. In the first year you learn the basics of science and build on these fundamentals in later years. In third year you have the option to do a student exchange. I decided to go to the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign where

# Programme Pathway



I took modules in the Department of Crop Science. There is also a placement element to the course in third year which can let you apply the skills you learned. I would recommend this course to anyone with an interest in agriculture. Aside from the course, there are so many clubs and societies in UCD you can get involved in which I would highly recommend. UCD also has certificates you can obtain such as skills for working life and the UCD advantage award which recognises students achievements outside the classroom.

# Dairy Business

DN250



## Why Dairy Business?

The Irish dairy industry has undergone a significant transformation since the abolition of EU milk quotas in 2015. The major challenge now facing the industry is to ensure that it is environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

As a graduate of the Dairy Business Programme, you'll be well-prepared to take on this challenge and lead the way in addressing these issues. This degree will equip you with the scientific, technical, and business skills you need to drive innovation in this exciting and dynamic industry.

DN250

## Dairy Business

### CAO Points

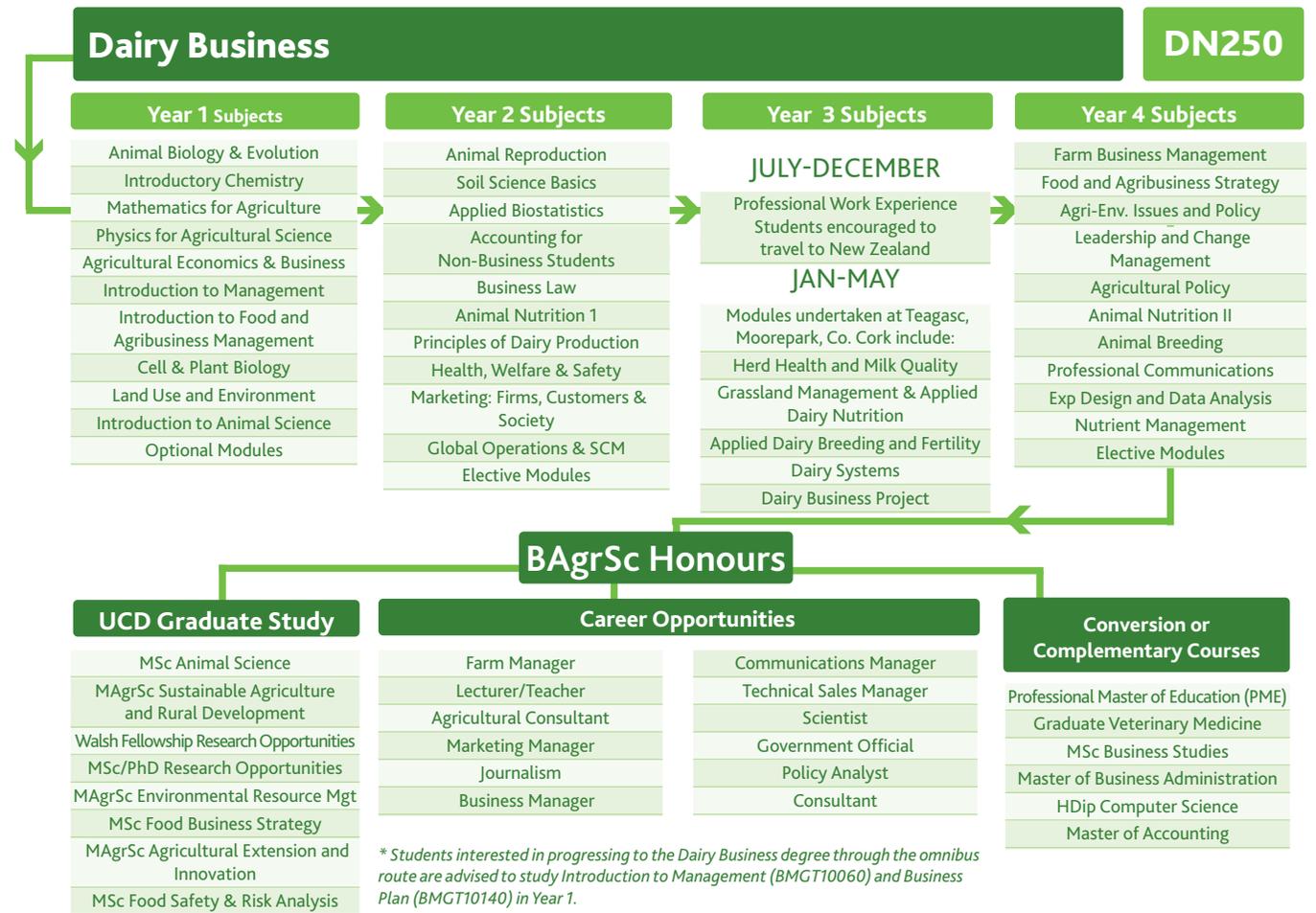
Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

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# Programme Pathway



## Student View

**Daire Cregg** | Student

Growing up on a beef farm I was very interested in the rapid growth and development of the dairy industry in Ireland hence the reason I chose Dairy Business.

The highlight of the degree for me was 3rd year. In the first semester of 3rd year I spent 6 months on placement, working on a large scale dairy farm in the south of England.

The second semester was spent in Moorepark Research centre where we learned about the key principles of grass based dairy farming from the top researchers in the country. This year gave me an even greater understanding and enthusiasm for the industry.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the four years in UCD studying modules covering all aspects of agriculture and business with a focus on how these work in the dairy industry.



## Graduate View

**Ann Marie Murphy** | Assistant Agricultural Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

I'm a previous graduate of UCD having graduated from Dairy Business in 2015 and I now work with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the role as Assistant Agricultural Inspector. There's a lot of great opportunities and advantages to

working in the department - I would definitely recommend it. My day-to-day job for example is very diverse and you could go from working on policy to training staff. In the division I work in, the Integrated Controls Division, we plan and implement on the spot controls for conditionality and the various livestock schemes, as well as organising inspections throughout the country. Every day is different and it's a really great team to work with.



# Food and Agribusiness Management

DN250



## Why Food and Agribusiness Management?

During the Food & Agribusiness Management degree, you will learn how the principles of business and economics apply to farming, food production and marketing. You will study core science subjects in first year, then specialise in agribusiness in subsequent years. You gain an understanding of how the Irish and international food systems deliver food products and services that people want, and how farmers and food manufacturers can produce food profitably and sustainably.

The four-year course provides a unique opportunity to understand both business and science, focusing on the agri-food sector – Ireland's largest indigenous industry. You will learn skills that can be used across a wide range of roles both within and outside the agri-food sector.

DN250

## Food and Agribusiness Management

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

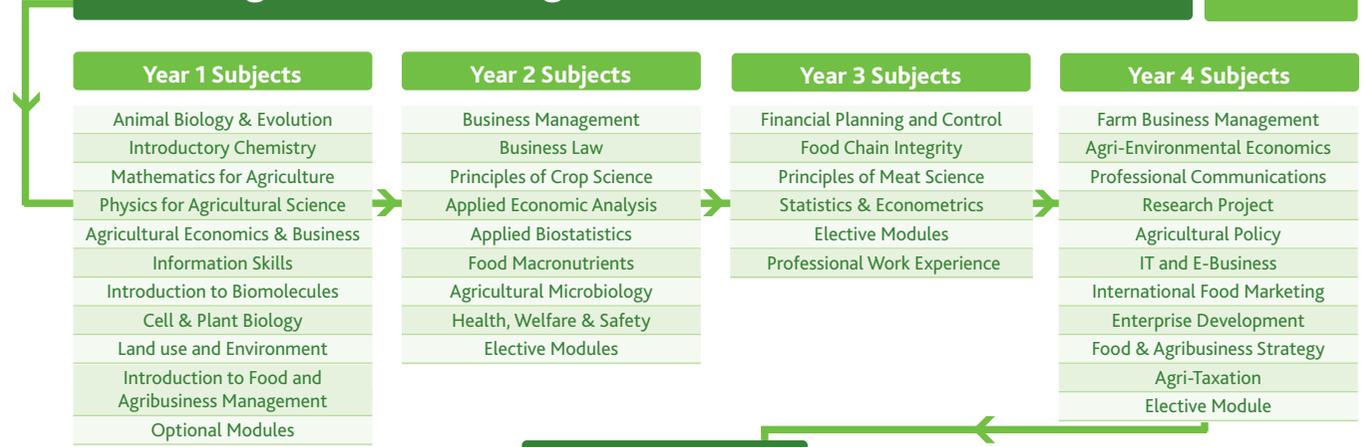
Minimum Points 2024: 400

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# Programme Pathway

## Food & Agribusiness Management

DN250



## BAgSc Honours



## Graduate View

**Shauna Jager**



I studied Food and Agri Business Management in UCD and I'm currently now on the Bord Bia Graduate programme on the meat team.

During my time in UCD we learned a lot about the different agricultural practices around the world, in particular New Zealand so it was top of my list to see. After Graduation, I therefore went to New Zealand, travelled and worked there for a year on a dairy farm both calf rearing and as a regular dairy assistant and it gave me a really great insight into New Zealand's dairy system and how it compares to Ireland. This was on the back of learning in UCD but also gave me the confidence to travel as far away as New Zealand and work there for a year.

The Ag Soc is a really big part of studying in UCD and during my time I was the auditor in my final year. This played a huge role in my learning; things like event management, dealing with different stakeholders and I was part of a wider committee who came together to organise large fundraising events for charity.

There's a lot of support in UCD not only in the School of Ag and Food Science but in the wider UCD Community. There's always someone to ask a question to and there's no such thing as a silly question. There's a really wide network of students both past and present that you can ask about things like placement and subject choice - there's always someone supportive in their area of expertise to help you and answer your question.



## Student View

**Mark Norse** | Student

I was always interested in business and wanted to specialise and focus on the food and agriculture industry. As I am from a farming background, I thought this course would align best with my interests. I have developed and gained such valuable insights and knowledge throughout my degree. With first and second year consisting of general agriculture and food studies, followed by a more focused approach into the business and economics of the sector in the final years.

Highlights within my degree were my Study Abroad Program and Professional Work Experience in 3rd year. I got the chance to study at Michigan State University. For my PWE I split my internships, spending 4 months in New Zealand and 4 months in Australia. I was lucky enough to speak to so many industry leaders in both countries, attend shows and conferences, and learn about the food and agriculture industry on a global level. Choosing Food & Agri-Business Management on my CAO is the best decision I have made given all the opportunities, insights, and friends I have made throughout my course and time in UCD.

# Food Business with Chinese Studies

DN250



## Why Food Business with Chinese Studies?

Our Food Business with Chinese Studies programme prepares graduates with the skills urgently required by the Irish food industry to succeed in the changing market landscape. With Brexit and the uncertainty surrounding the UK market, it's critical for the industry to expand exports to emerging markets, particularly China. This requires improved foreign language capability, which we provide through a combination of fundamental food science and food business management modules, and language, cultural, and target market oriented courses. In third year, students study at Renmin University of China, taking Chinese language courses and other relevant modules, while experiencing the diverse culture and vibrant economic growth of China. By fourth year, students will have the knowledge and skills necessary for professional decision-making in agri-food business sectors in the global market, with particular reference to China.

### STUDY ABROAD IN CHINA

Students will complete year three of their studies in Renmin University in Beijing, one of China's top universities, where you will take intermediate or advanced Chinese language courses and a range of interesting and relevant modules.

DN250

## Food Business with Chinese Studies

### CAO Points

Average 2024 (Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

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# Programme Pathway

## Food Business with Chinese Studies

DN250



### BAgrSc Honours

UCD Graduate Study
MSc Humanitarian Action
MAgrSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
Walsh Fellowship Research Opportunities
MSc and PhD Research
MAgrSc Environmental Resource Mgt
MSc Food Safety & Risk Analysis
MSc Food, Nutrition & Health
MSc Food Business Strategy

Career Opportunities	
Business Manager	Business Development Officer
Teacher/Lecturer	Government Official
Marketing Manager	Policy Analyst
Farm Manager	Global Markets Executive
Journalist	Agricultural Consultant
Project Management	Quality Assurance Officer
Production Manager	Market Analyst
Communications Manager	Stockbroker

Conversion or Complementary Courses
Professional Master of Education (PME)
MSc Business Studies
Master of Business Administration
HDip Computer Science
Master of Accounting

## Student View

**Wei Ooi | Student**



I'm studying Food Business and Chinese Studies and as part of the programme you complete a one year exchange programme in Renmin University in Beijing. It's a really interesting experience being in Beijing - we are living on campus and the classes can be on at any time during the day but there's so much to do, the campus is like a mini city! There are plenty of other international students to meet and of course if you want to learn the language there is plenty of Chinese culture around as well. It's a really great course.

There's so many social activities; there's Rugby and even GAA if you're interested, there's Irish pubs and it's a really nice experience in Beijing.

I was actually born in Malaysia but my heritage is in China. I grew up in Ireland and am an Irish citizen and I always had a particular interest in science and business, it was almost a no brainer for me, food business, agriculture and Chinese studies. I feel it's the best way to maximise what I have going for me. It's been really great because actually this is my first time in China and I had the opportunity to learn a lot about my history. It's a really great course.

## Graduate View

**Kiah Morgan | BSc Food Business with Chinese Studies**



I graduated in 2023 with a degree in Food and Agribusiness with Chinese Language from UCD. I chose this course due to my interest in the global food industry and Chinese culture. The program's unique combination of subjects is highly valued and sought after by employers. A highlight of my time at UCD was my exchange year at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore. This experience greatly improved my language skills and allowed me to immerse myself in a new culture.

After graduating, I was thrilled to secure a place in Diageo's graduate scheme in supply chain and procurement and currently work in business development at Diageo's largest distillery in Cameronbridge, Scotland. This role has been incredibly rewarding, providing me with firsthand experience of how agriculture plays a crucial part in the supply chain. My journey from UCD to Diageo has been immensely fulfilling, and I am excited about the future opportunities in my career.

# Forestry

DN250



## Why Forestry?

If you are concerned about the natural environment and issues of sustainability then Forestry could be the course for you. Forestry students learn how to create habitats, provide spaces for recreation, and produce timber - a resource that can simultaneously store carbon and substitute for concrete and steel.

The Forestry sector has expanded considerably in Ireland in recent decades and there is an ongoing demand for qualified forestry professionals. With the skills you gain in this degree, you will be able to create meaningful change for the Irish environment and contribute positively to solving some of the biggest challenges facing the world.

UCD Forestry students gain skills in forest planning, remote sensing, the use of geographical information systems and forest modelling while developing the capacity for life-long learning that enables them to stay abreast of developments in policy, technology and the sciences that underpin forestry practice. They learn how to manage forest systems to:

- produce timber and renewable energy
- sequester carbon
- improve biodiversity and wildlife habitats
- develop resilience for climate change
- protect soil and water resources

## DN250 Forestry

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

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## Student View

Carolyn West | Student



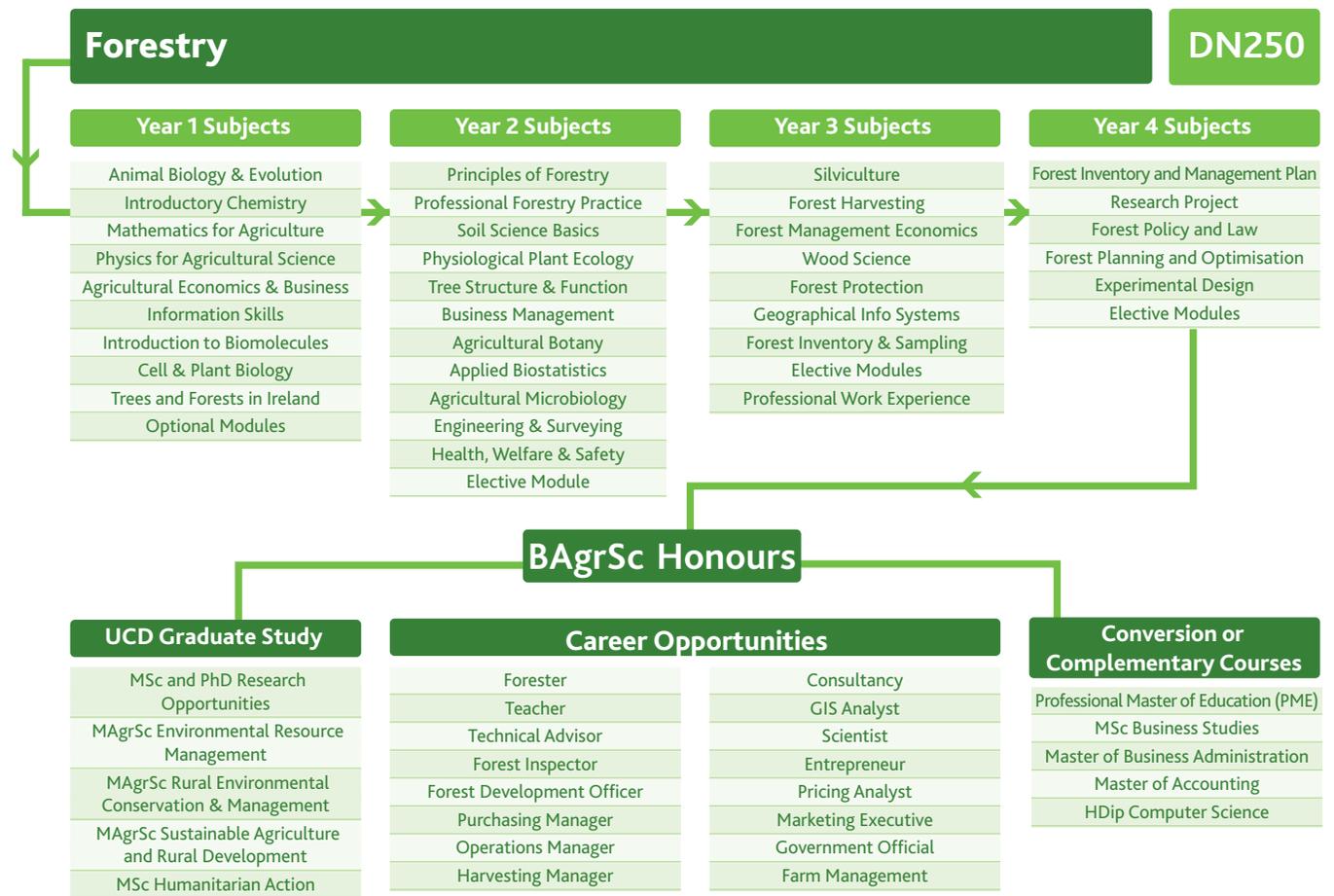
I am from southern California and I actually applied to University College Dublin during COVID on a whim and when I was accepted to the School it was a bit of a shock, but the opportunity seemed too good to pass up.

I chose Forestry as a major as wildfires had devastated California that year (there were days I could not go outside because the smoke was so bad, and the sky was tinted orange) and it seemed a practical thing to major in. With the environmental regulations passed concerning stopping climate change, everyone wants trees.

I've really enjoyed my major so far, it's practical enough to appeal to the part of me that wants boots on the ground but with enough theory and law to appeal to the part of me that wants nothing more than to read and study.

I also love the people I've met here. They've become my family, in many ways.

# Programme Pathway



## Student View

Liam Irwin | Student

I'm from Dublin and I don't actually have any farming background but I enjoy the outdoors and spent most of my weekends at secondary school up the mountains. In TY I was introduced to Forestry and I decided to go for it. I worked all over Ireland during my working placement and

got to see different harvesting sites, a saw mill and complete some chainsaw work, which was really interesting. We also had foresters come in and talk to us which was brilliant to hear from experts working in the industry. It's such a diverse course with lots of opportunities in many areas so if you have any interest in the outdoors my advice would be to definitely put this course down on your CAO application.

### WATCH ONLINE

Learn more about where a degree in forestry can take you.

ucdagfood

# Horticulture

DN250



## Why Horticulture?

The Horticulture Programme is your opportunity to make a positive impact on sustainability and climate change. Through sustainable plant cultivation, an increase in plant-based diets, and knowledge of biodiversity and conservation, many of today's environmental challenges can be overcome.

With a focus on environmentally friendly practices and innovative technologies, this degree equips you with the knowledge and skills to become a competent and confident leader in the horticulture community. By studying core science subjects and specialist horticulture and environment modules, you will gain an understanding of sustainable management of food and ornamental plant production, knowledge of protecting and enhancing biodiversity and habitats, designing and managing landscapes, and the benefits of horticultural therapy.

With opportunities for international study and strong links to the horticulture industry, this programme offers a range of exciting and diverse career paths. Join the Horticulture Programme and become part of the solution to today's environmental challenges.

## DN250 Horticulture

### CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 474

Minimum Points 2024: 400

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## Student View

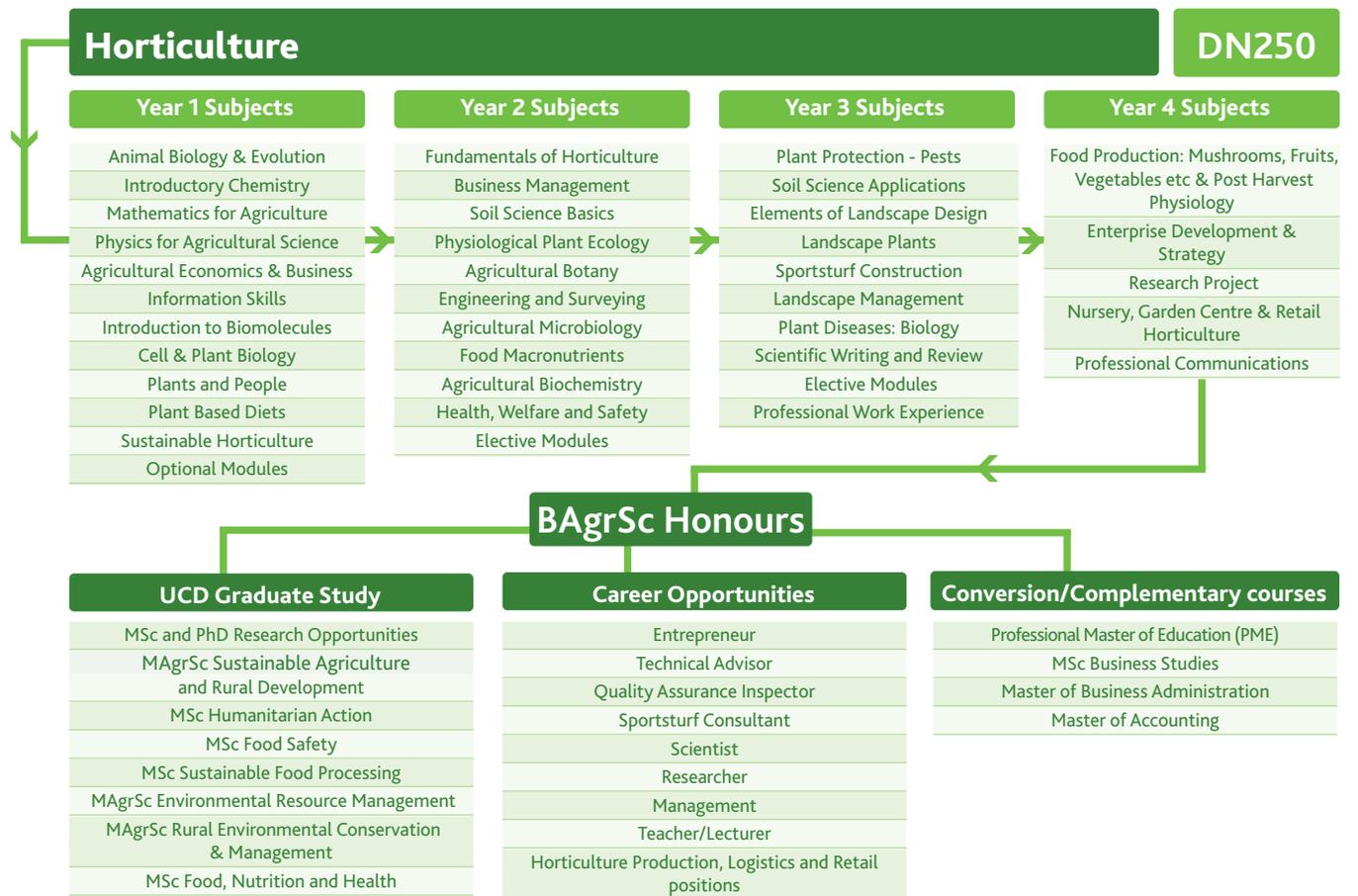
Zoe Salvador | Student

I chose to study Horticulture at UCD because of my interest in plants and the environment. This course broadly explains the horticulture sector through professional work experience (PWE), field trips, and hands-on work on campus. The highlight of my time at UCD was the PWE. I had the opportunity to work at a public garden, where I acquired invaluable skills in plant cultivation, maintenance, and pest control. PWE is an excellent opportunity for students to gain experience and develop their future careers. The field trips were also enjoyable. We visited nurseries, garden centres, and vegetable and fruit production companies, where we gained knowledge and understanding of the work in each sector. Furthermore, the UCD School of Agriculture & Food Science offers excellent facilities for students, such as UCD Lyon's Farm and Rosemount Environmental Research Station, modern laboratories for more hands-on work and friendly and supportive staff members who have been very helpful during my four years at UCD.



The majority of our graduates become professional horticulturists. The Horticulture degree is a recognised qualification by the Chartered Institute of Horticulture for membership.

# Programme Pathway



## Student View

William Kenny

I chose to study Horticulture at UCD as I had a key interest in developing as a plant scientist and researching the effects of climate change and abiotic stresses on plants in Ireland. This course has allowed me to develop my lab skills necessary for professional development.

Since undertaking this course I've had opportunities to work in plant health research divisions with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Celbridge, Co. Kildare and Bartletts Tree Experts in Reading, England. I've also had the pleasure to represent UCD at the All-Ireland Young Horticulturist of the Year awards. I would highly recommend this course for anyone with an interest in plants.

# Food Science

DN261



## Why Food Science?

The Food Science Programme at UCD develops your scientific knowledge and practical skills in producing sustainable, high-quality, safe, and nutritious food for the global market. As a food scientist, you'll be involved in all aspects of the food chain, from production to the consumer. You'll learn core sciences such as biology, chemistry, and mathematics, and apply them to food physics, analysis, microbiology, and sensory science. You'll also gain expertise in food chemistry, processing, and new product development, preparing you for careers in production management, nutrition, food quality and safety, sales and marketing, and research. With the program's international accreditation and opportunities for industry internships and study abroad, you'll have a competitive edge in the job market and be well-equipped to pursue graduate study.

DN261

## Food Science

CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 525

Minimum Points 2024: 490

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# Sustainable Food Systems

DN261



## Why Sustainable Food Systems?

The Sustainable Food Systems Programme is for students interested and passionate about the three pillars of Sustainability (environmental, economic, and social) and how they apply to all components of the food chain. This course will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the entire food chain, from on farm production to human consumption and the scientific principles underpinning it. It will explore the complex challenge of sustainably producing food to meet the nutritional requirements of a growing world population while protecting the planet's limited natural resources. Skills to analyse and evaluate the sustainability of food systems will be developed and how to apply knowledge learned to a practical real-world industry setting through engagement with peers, lectures, and professional work experience. Whether interested in farming, food processing, food policy or the environment, this course will provide students with a holistic understanding of the food system in conjunction with the tools to contribute to the future of how we produce, distribute, and consume food in a sustainable way.

DN261

## Sustainable Food Systems

CAO Points

Average 2024(Round 1): 525

Minimum Points 2024: 490

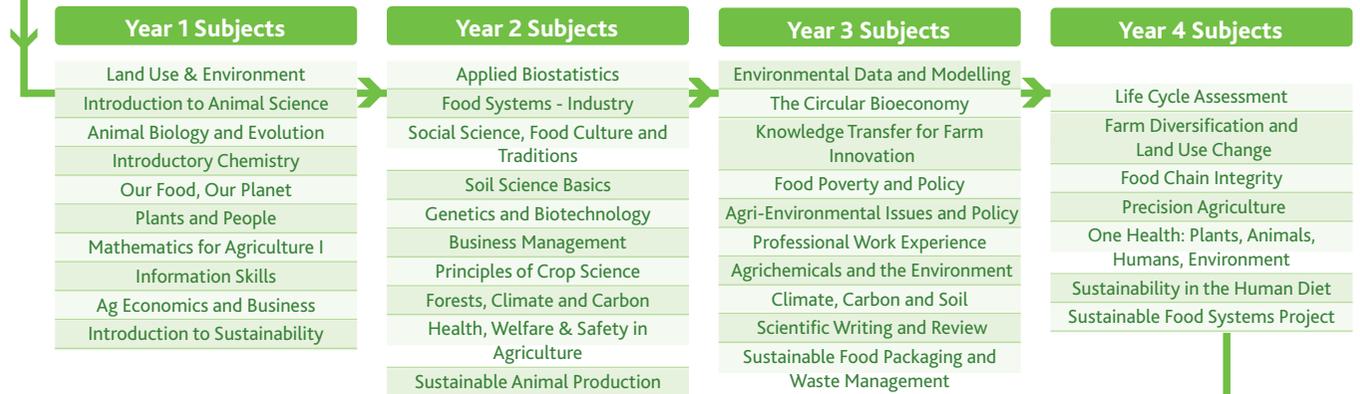
\*Students should note that entry requirements and programme quotas are subject to change and students are advised to contact [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/er.html) prior to submitting an application to determine the entry requirements for a particular programme.



# Programme Pathway

## Sustainable Food Systems

DN261



## Academic View

Dr. Zoe McKay | Programme Director



This is a timely and highly relevant new programme to add to our suite of programmes at UCD. The course will help tackle the industry's sustainability challenges and provide opportunities for Ireland to become a global leader in this area.

I am delighted that we are in a position to launch this novel and exciting new programme. Experts within the School of Agriculture and Food Science, along with guidance from industry stakeholders, have designed the curriculum to develop students' understanding of how to produce safe, nutritious and high-value food while also protecting and enhancing our natural resources.

The programme will provide students with an understanding of the entire food chain, from on-farm production to human consumption and the scientific principles and policies underpinning it.

Graduates will acquire the skills needed to navigate the sector's sustainability (environmental, economic and social) challenges and opportunities and for Ireland to become a global leader of innovation for sustainable food and agriculture systems.

## BSc Honours



## Industry View

Aoife Marie Murphy | Sustainable Nutrition Manager, Kerry Group

Aoife Marie joined Kerry in 2018. As Sustainable Nutrition Manager, her role involves assessing Kerry's global portfolio for sustainability impacts.

Aoife Marie is passionate about science communication and provides nutrition expertise for Kerry's corporate partnership with the World Food Program, delivering sustainable

nutrition to communities in Burundi.

At the launch of this new programme Dr Murphy explained how "this is a really exciting time to get involved in such a programme because companies all over the world are building out sustainability teams in order to meet their sustainability goals". Regarding her own role, Dr Murphy said "My role did not exist three years ago and many similar roles will become available in the future across the food industry, providing excellent employment opportunities for graduates of programmes such as Sustainable Food Systems."

# Human Nutrition

DN262



## Why Human Nutrition?

Nutrition is the interaction between food and our health and is becoming increasingly important in our society. The Human Nutrition programme in UCD provides a comprehensive education in nutritional sciences, from biochemistry to molecular and public health nutrition, nutrition communication and food regulatory affairs. You'll gain knowledge of biological systems and their application to human nutrition, allowing you to apply your skills in a variety of areas in the food and health industry.

Join us at UCD, where building a healthy world is a core strategy and our internationally recognised strength in food, nutrition, and health research sets us apart.

DN262

Human Nutrition

CAO Points

Average 2024 (Round 1): 560

Minimum Points 2024: 532

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# Alumni Spotlight



**Jim O'Toole**

CEO,  
Bord Bia



**Zoe Kavanagh**

CEO,  
Repak



**Sarah McIntosh**

Journalist Irish  
Farmers Journal and  
Irish Country Living



**Aoife Marie Murphy**

Sustainable Nutrition  
Manager, Kerry



**Eoghan Hickey**

Lead Performance  
Nutritionist, Leinster  
Rugby



**Niamh Lenihan**

CEO  
Agri-Food Regulator



**Sean Molloy**

BAgrSc - CEO Tirlán



**Hugh McGuire**

CEO,  
Glanbia Performance  
Nutrition



**Niall Hurson**

Rural Affairs  
Correspondent Farming  
Independent and  
Nurfird Scholar



**Jack O'Connor**

Ruminant Business  
Unit Director at MSD  
Animal Health Ireland



**Evelyn Garland**

Co-Founder  
Simply Fit Foods



**Marcus O'Halloran**

Executive Director  
Agriaware



**Kate McDaid**

Owner and CEO of  
Nutrikate



**Sean Farrell**

Head of Business  
Banking PTSB



**Yvonne Lenihan**

Senior Manager Dietary  
Intakes, Intertek



**Daragh Little**

Managing Director –  
Forestry, Veon



**Doireann Mulhall**

Farm Support Advisor,  
*ifac*



**Mairead McGuinness**

European Commissioner  
for Financial Stability,  
Financial Services and  
the Capital Markets  
Union



**Sophie Pratt**

Nutritionist  
Operation  
Transformation



**Stephen Coen**

General Manager  
FARMEYE



**Conor Galvin**

CEO Ornua

“As the years passed during my undergraduate programme, my interest and enthusiasm for the course grew. Combining modules such as Animal Breeding and Nutrition with Business Management and Policy, Animal and Crop Production developed my skill-set to enter the next stage of my life.

Through involvement in AgSoc I met friends for life and as our paths have crossed since graduating, we relive the great moments shared as “Ags” in UCD.

**John Heslin**  
Global Strategic Marketing  
Manager - Dairy Monitoring



# FURTHER INFORMATION

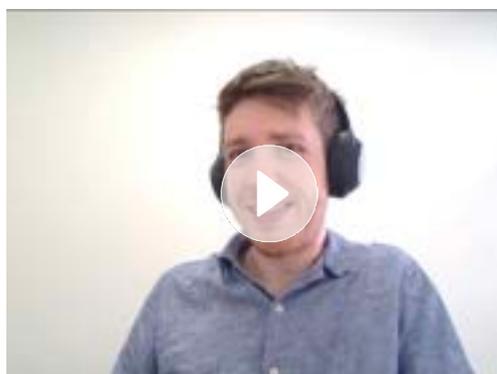
In addition to this prospectus further information on the Bachelor of Agricultural Science, BSc in Food Science and BSc in Human Nutrition degree programmes are available through a variety channels as outlined below.



## TESTIMONIALS

Students and alumni share their experience of their time at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.

[www.instagram.com/ucdagfood](https://www.instagram.com/ucdagfood)



## INFORMATION VIDEOS

Watch a series of virtual information videos featuring academic staff and students from across all programmes.

[www.youtube.com/ucdagfood](https://www.youtube.com/ucdagfood)



## CHAT WITH STUDENTS

Want to find out more about student life? Chat with our student ambassadors and ask any questions you have.

[www.myucd.ie/chat](https://www.myucd.ie/chat)

## FOLLOW US

Follow our social media channels for up to date information and announcements



## EVENTS



17th - 19th September 2024  
National Ploughing Championships

25th -27th September 2024  
Irish Times Higher Options

23rd October 2024  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food  
Science Dublin Information Evening

9th November 2024  
UCD Open Day

13th November 2024  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food  
Science Wexford Information Evening

19th November 2024  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food  
Science Kilkenny Information Evening

4th December 2024  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food  
Science Meath Information Evening

7th January 2025  
QQI-FET Virtual Open Day

12th March 2025  
Farm Walk and Talk at UCD Lyons Farm

4th and 5th June 2025  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food  
Science Summer School





### **UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science**

Agriculture and Food Science Centre, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4

**Tel:** +353 (0) 1 716 7194

**Email:** [agandfoodprogrammes@ucd.ie](mailto:agandfoodprogrammes@ucd.ie)

**Web:** [www.ucd.ie/agfood](http://www.ucd.ie/agfood)

**Chat:** [www.myucd.ie/chat](http://www.myucd.ie/chat)



Every attempt has been made to ensure that the information contained within this booklet is correct at the time of going to press, however the Agricultural Sciences Programme Board accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions. New programmes are continually being introduced and existing programmes revised and therefore readers are advised to contact the UCD Agriculture & Food Science Programme Office for up to date programme details.