



UCD AGRICULTURE, FOOD SCIENCE AND HUMAN NUTRITION GRADUATE TAUGHT PROGRAMMES 2025 ENTRY





**School of Agriculture
and Food Science**

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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



Ranked 79th Globally for the study of Agriculture and Forestry



Agricultural Sciences at UCD is ranked **1st in Ireland, 6th in Europe and 24th globally**

(US News and World Report Subject Rankings 2023)



Opportunity

14 Graduate Taught Programmes
Research Masters and PhD Programmes



€52.2 million

in external funding for research (2019 - 2023)

TOP 1%

Expertise

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



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



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.



#1 University Globally

on citations per paper in food science

WELCOME

UCD is Ireland's Global University and is currently ranked within the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide. 186 years of tradition, 37,000 students from over 186 countries, 400 exchange partners and 304,426 alumni worldwide, UCD is at the forefront of global knowledge.

Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition is one of UCD's most highly ranked disciplines and in 2024, Agricultural Sciences at UCD was ranked 24th in the world while Food Science and Technology at UCD was ranked 15th globally by the US News & Global University Rankings reflecting the level of expertise underpinning programmes and research activity.

Our society is becoming increasingly aware of how food is produced and concerned with environmental, sustainability and security challenges while, at the same time, demanding food that is satisfying and healthy to eat. There is an awareness of the importance of food for health and the link between food production and its impact on the environment and natural resources. Graduate programmes at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science aim to develop the next generation of leaders who will respond to these challenges.

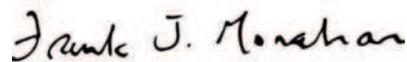
Programme curriculums are informed by innovative research and delivered by lecturers and professors at the cutting edge of their disciplines. The concept of One Health which is to maximise the health and well-being of humans, animals and the environment through academic excellence, collaborative research, education and outreach contributes to many of our programmes.

The range of programmes offered spans the entire food and health chain and includes Food Nutrition and Health, Agricultural Extension and Innovation, Humanitarian Action, Environmental Resource Management, Wildlife Conservation and Management, Horticulture, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, as well as a collaborative programme in Food Business Strategy which is delivered on the UCD Smurfit campus.

Full-time, part-time, blended learning and online opportunities are available. Whether you are continuing your education following on from your undergraduate degree, are looking to complement your work experience with a formal qualification or are considering diversifying from your current career, a postgraduate qualification from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science will place you in a better position with regard to career progression.

Please study this prospectus and see for yourself the wide range of opportunities on offer.

We look forward to welcoming you to our community.



Prof. Frank Monahan

UCD Dean of Agriculture and Head of School
UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science





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The course exceeded all expectations and I developed skills to advise and to think about Farm structures and the policies I work on here in the European Parliament on behalf of farm families.

The lecturers pushed me to understand how I think and communicate about agriculture and the future of the sector in both Ireland and across the European Union.

Maria Walsh, Member of European Parliament
UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science Alumna

DEVELOPING YOUR CAREER

The UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science has a long-established reputation for developing leading graduates who have an excellent record in obtaining challenging and fulfilling roles both in Ireland and overseas.

Graduates from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science programmes go on to achieve at the highest levels and a diverse range of career opportunities are possible from the programmes available. As the first destination of choice in Ireland for the programmes that it offers, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science graduates are highly regarded among employers across many sectors.

Our programmes prepare students for their professional careers through developing a mix of technical and scientific knowledge and transferable skills essential to today's rapidly evolving job market. Field trips and a minor research thesis are fundamental to many of the programmes offered at the school providing a practical applied learning experience.

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:



95.5%
in Employment

95% of UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science Graduates had secured employment or taken up further study within 6-9 months of completing their qualification.

Graduate View

Philip Kennedy | National Codex Programme Manager, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

I had always felt I wanted to go further with my education and having looked at different programmes the MSc Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development offered at UCD really stood out to me as I was particularly interested in sustainability issues in modern farming- it looked to be a perfect fit! The course exceeded my expectations and I was really happy with my choice of Masters programme. The modules are excellent and comprehensive. They are very well delivered by a really great lecturing staff and are quite interactive. This program very much built up and advanced my knowledge in the areas of sustainability and rural development and this is highly valuable to me in my current role with a governmental department. I completed this Master's program as a part-time student over two years and I found it to be well structured in a way that allows for someone who is working full-time to pursue and meet the demands of a post-graduate Master's qualification. One highlight of the program for me was the range of international student classmates. This enhanced my overall learning on the course as different experiences and perspectives from around the world were shared regularly and weaved into collaborative student work. Overall this is a first-rate Master's programme that I would highly recommend.

Graduate View

Khaing Min Thant | Programme Management Senior Officer, United Nations Office for Project Services
My experience in the Environmental Resource Management course at UCD was truly transformative. I chose this course because of my passion for sustainable development and the urgent need for effective environmental governance in my home country, Myanmar. The curriculum was diverse and comprehensive, covering everything from ecological principles to resource management strategies. The lecturers were knowledgeable and approachable, always willing to engage in meaningful discussions and provide guidance. Field trips and practical projects allowed me to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world situations. This experiential learning was invaluable and deepened my understanding of environmental challenges and solutions. The course equipped me with the tools to support sustainable development initiatives and contribute effectively to environmental resource management projects. Overall, the MSc in Environmental Resource Management has had a profound impact on both my personal and professional growth. It has enabled me to make a meaningful difference in the communities I serve and has set a strong foundation for my ongoing commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.





WHAT CAN I STUDY?

People choose to study a postgraduate programme at various stages in their career for many different reasons, with most people doing so to improve their career prospects. You may have a specific job in mind, wish to specialise in a subject area from your undergraduate degree, aim to advance your career opportunities or crave a new career path.

You may wish to follow into a Masters directly after finishing your undergraduate studies or complete an MSc while working. Programmes at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science are delivered in a variety of formats, specific to each programme. There are full-time, part-time, blended and on-line learning opportunities available providing a range of options.

Many programmes offered are multi-disciplinary and are open to students from a wide range of undergraduate disciplines which are presented in the table below. Module to Masters, Executive Education and CPD programme opportunities are also available and details of these are contained within.

If your undergraduate qualification is in:

→ You may be eligible to study in:

	Agricultural Science	Food Science	Human Nutrition	Business / Accounting	Veterinary Medicine	Medicine	Nursing	Science	Social Science	Engineering	Architecture	Law	Arts
Agricultural Extension and Innovation
Animal Science
Environmental Resource Management
Food Business Strategy
Food Regulatory Affairs
Food, Nutrition and Health
Food Safety
Food Safety and Regulatory Science
Horticulture
Humanitarian Action
Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development
Sustainable Food Processing
Wildlife Conservation and Management

This table has been developed to assist prospective students with their application to the most suitable programme. The final decision with regard to entry rests with the Programme Director and in some instances students that have completed relevant work experience may be eligible to enrol on programmes beyond what is illustrated in this table.



D049

Diploma and Certificate options available

MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation is a one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme based in UCD and is focused on meeting the needs of those who are interested in developing careers in advisory, consultancy or education services in the public, private or non-governmental sector.

This MSc will equip graduates with the skills and knowledge to understand more about the processes of learning that underpin change and development and to be effective in building the capacity of farmers to adopt new practices and technologies.

Students will develop competencies in: analysis of the context of agricultural change; design and development of appropriate advisory strategies to support agricultural development; how to support adult learning and behaviour change and research and analytical skills to identify and support worthwhile innovations.

The programme emphasises and values group work, problem solving and creative thinking and encourages students to be active, self-directed and reflective learners. Assignments are based on real life case studies that are complex and unpredictable, reflecting the norms of practice in advisory and education services.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits taught masters = 60 credits taught modules + 30 credits minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Agricultural Extension and Innovation
- Research Methods
- Project Management in Ag Extension
- Group Approaches in Agricultural Extension
- Understanding the Family Farm Business
- Minor Thesis

Optional Modules

- Agri-Environmental Nutrient Management
- Animal Nutrition II
- Dairy Production
- Developments in Crop Production & Utilisation
- How To Change Behaviour
- Policies and Strategies for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
- Strategic Communications
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Behaviour Change in Ag
- Community-Led Local Development



YouTube

For more information view our online webinar on our YouTube Channel @ucdagfood



Career Opportunities

Across the globe there is increasing awareness of the critical contribution of knowledge transfer processes to sustainable and competitive agricultural development and graduates with competencies in agricultural extension are highly sought after.

Career opportunities for graduates of this programme are excellent and include advisory services, agricultural sales, agricultural media, agri-tech companies, consultancy and education delivery in the public, private or non-governmental sector. The programme also provides opportunities for Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for graduates who are already working in areas of knowledge transfer with farmers.

Graduate Roles

- Agricultural Advisory
- Agricultural Consultancy
- Training
- Education Delivery
- Communications / Media
- Sales / Account Management
- Knowledge Transfer

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold the equivalent of a minimum Lower Second Class Honours Degree (NFQ Level 8), or international equivalent, in a range of academic qualifications including Agricultural Science, Life Science and Business degree programmes from a recognised higher education institution.
- Applications are welcome from candidates with work experience in government and non-governmental organisations that provide extension services in agriculture, environmental and community development.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Placement Opportunity

Students have the opportunity to take an industry placement as part of their minor thesis. Students have taken placements with Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) in the UK, Microsoft and many other companies and institutions who support farmer advice and behaviour change.

Graduate View

Eugene Ryan Technical Sales Advisor, Grassland Agro

During my time at UCD, I gained invaluable insights into the Agri-food sector. After taking the Knowledge Transfer for Farm Innovation module in my final year, I was motivated to delve into the role knowledge transfer plays in agricultural development. The Master's in Agricultural Extension and Innovation seemed like the best route for me to develop my skills and gain a better insight into agricultural advisory. This masters offers a range of modules that provide the necessary skills to equip graduates to be more competent in delivering advice to clients. There is a strong emphasis on group work within assignments, which was tailored to real life situations. I was fortunate to be a recipient of The Jack Murphy Scholarship award from the FDC Group where I completed a research topic which fulfilled my minor thesis aspect of the course. I also gained hands on experience in agricultural consultancy from this scholarship. I feel I have been given all the necessary skills and encouragement to fulfil my ambitions as an agricultural advisor.

EU Enquiries:

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Our Partners





D050

Distance Learning

Part Funded Opportunities

MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

Two Years Part Time

Programme Overview

This MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation is a two-year part-time distance learning taught Masters programme and is aimed at those working in the agri-food sector.

The focus of this MSc is to upskill participants to learn the skills and competencies required to effectively support farmer behaviour change and innovation at farm level. Graduates will become more effective at supporting farmers in developing their farm business and incorporating innovation at farm level.

The programme is delivered online and encourages students to build their skills for working autonomously, for independent research and in-depth analysis of information.

Assignments are based on real life case studies relating to your professional work environment, reflecting the norms of practice in agricultural consultancy, support, sales and education services. Assignments will be both online group work and individual.

Students will undertake independent research and write a minor thesis on a topic that is relevant to their current role.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

=

60 credits
taught modules

+

30 credits
minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

Agricultural Extension and Innovation

How To Change Behaviour

Agricultural Education

Project Management in Ag Extension

Group Approaches in Agriculture

Understanding the Family Farm Business

Research Methods

Design Thinking for Agricultural Innovation

Minor Thesis



Career Opportunities

The focus of the course is in upskilling participants currently working at farm level. Participants on the course have been employed in areas such as farm advisory, feed sales, agri-retail, media, policy development and veterinary.

Macra Agricultural Skillnet

In recent years a number of applicants that applied to this programme have also applied and received part-funding from the Macra Agricultural Skillnet programme. Funding has contributed to approximately 25% of the course tuition fee. Applications to this programme open in Spring each year with a closing date of mid-May approx. Applications are online via Macra Agricultural Skillnet or directly to the UCD School of Agricultural and Food Science. Numbers are limited and shortlisting may be required. Shortlisted candidates will be called to interview in early June. This programme is subject to annual review of funding.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold the equivalent of a minimum Lower Second Class Honours Degree (NFQ Level 8), or international equivalent, in a range of academic qualifications including Agricultural Science, Life Science and Business degree programmes from a recognised higher education institution.
- Applications are welcome from candidates with work experience in government and non-governmental organisations that provide extension services in agriculture, environmental and community development.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Student View

Sophie Bell

The flexibility of the part-time online format has been a game changer for me being able to pursue my studies whilst balancing work and other commitments. The course structure made it possible for me to pursue my Higher Education without sacrificing my professional and personal life.

I began the course in September 2023 and so far the Master's in Agricultural Extension and Innovation has exceeded my expectations. I have really enjoyed broadening my perspectives in the world of Agriculture as well as expanding my learning experience. It has equipped me with the knowledge and skills necessary to make a significant impact in the field of agriculture. I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who is interested.



Macra Agricultural Skillnet

The Macra Agricultural Skillnet training network was established by Macra na Feirme in 2015 and is funded by Skillnet Ireland through the Department of Education and Skills. The network aims to ensure as many farmers as possible have access to the subsidised opportunities for further training and development.

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Non EU Enquiries:

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D076/D080

Online Programme

Grad/certificate options

MSc Animal Science

One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Animal Science is suitable for students who wish to undertake advanced studies in pursuit of a career in the livestock sector. This unique programme was designed after comprehensive consultation with leading stakeholders including animal nutrition and health industries. This new MSc aims to equip graduates with cutting edge skills and position them for leadership roles in a dynamic and critically important sector of the global economy.

This innovative programme enables students to focus their studies on specific aspects of animal science including genetics & genomics, reproduction, nutrition and health. For those with an enquiring mind, a deeper understanding of scientific principles relevant to solving issues currently limiting system sustainability will be reflected in new modules developed for this MSc, including immunobiology, sustainable livestock and global food systems.

Flexible programme choices enable students to focus their studies on an area of specific interest for the development of deeper expertise or tailor their module choice for a broader selection. A key strategy of the MSc is to foster the development of communication and transferable skills to enable the student to best represent their skillset and become leading ambassadors for sustainable animal production systems.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Advanced Animal Reproduction
- Advanced Animal Nutrition
- Sustainable Livestock Systems
- Livestock Infection, Immunity and One Health
- Animal Genomics and Quantitative Genetics
- Global Food Systems
- Research Proposal module
- Food Quality and Safety
- Creative Thinking & Innovation
- Communication & Agri-Innovation
- Research Integrity Online
- Data Prog with SAS
- TEARAP
- Animal Welfare and Society;
- Equine Reproduction and Fertility

This programme is delivered and assessed entirely online and can be taken on a full-time or part-time basis. The minimum registration to the MSc is one year, however students have four years in which to complete the programme thereby affording flexibility. The online format of the programme enables students enrolled to combine studying while in employment.



Career Opportunities

There are a wide range of potential employment opportunities for graduates from this programme. Agriculture is a global enterprise and as such progressive individuals will identify the contribution this MSc can make across a wide range of career trajectories.

Graduate Roles:

Further education including PhD programmes nationally and abroad

Policy and advisory roles within governmental departments

Policy, advisory and scientific roles within leading health, breeding, pharmaceutical and agri-food companies

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of a Second Class Honours degree in a related science discipline (or international equivalent).
- Candidates with significant prior relevant work experience will also be considered.
- Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.
- Applications are assessed on a case by case basis by the Programme Director.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Student View

Niamh Keane

Farmer and Tirlán Milk Supply Manager

"...it was the variety and choice of modules, the online and flexibility for part time work that allowed you to complete it over 2 years. The workload was very manageable and group projects helped you to get to know others in the class and network.

And it was really great value for money compared to international programmes. I have a BSc in Animal and Crop Production and even with that background, I was surprised by how much knowledge I gained learning about global foods, international markets, other cultures etc. This is particularly relevant for me working in Tirlán as it is such a Global organization.

I also feel that the MSc in Animal Science gave me the technical knowledge and helped future proof my career in terms of opportunities that may come along.

I would highly recommend the course to anyone who is thinking about pursuing it."

Leading Expertise

The MSc Animal Science has been designed in collaboration with industry stakeholders and will be delivered by internationally renowned discipline experts. Guest lecturers and new modules will showcase the latest developments in national and international research informed by innovative projects taking place at UCD Lyons Farm.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:

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Full Time

Funded Programme

UCD Teagasc Knowledge Transfer Programmes

MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

MSc Agricultural Innovation Support



Programme Overview

The UCD Teagasc MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation and MSc Agricultural Innovation Support are collaborative funded programmes delivered by UCD and Teagasc for graduates with an interest and ambition to work in advisory and education roles. These programmes involve placement within Teagasc advisory and educational services where the student gets the opportunity to learn from experienced mentors.

Over the past decade there has been a resurgence in interest in agricultural knowledge and innovation systems as we grapple with challenges of farm incomes, climate change and sustainable development. A lot of this interest is directed to the skills and competencies required by agricultural advisors to facilitate and support farmer learning and innovation.

With more emphasis on participatory methods of knowledge exchange, the farm advisor has to be able to support peer to peer learning among farmers as well as take on the role of knowledge broker.

On completion of these programmes, graduates will be competent agricultural advisors, committed to on-going reflective practice and seeking out more effective ways to support farmer decision making.

Places on these funded programmes are sponsored through the Teagasc Knowledge Transfer Directorate. Up to 20* places are available each year. Students receive a monthly stipend for the duration of the programme and tuition fees are funded. Application opens in spring each year and is directly through the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. Places are highly competitive.

**These programmes are funded by the Teagasc Knowledge Transfer Programme. Programmes are subject to annual funding approval.*



MSc Agricultural Innovation Support

A research masters programme. Students will research critical issues assigned by Teagasc around the role of knowledge transfer in supporting farmer decision making and technology adoption.

Research Masters

21 Months, Full Time

3-month (Trimester 1) in UCD followed by 15-month placement in a Teagasc advisory office or agricultural college education centre

Research topics assigned by Teagasc staff

UCD & Teagasc supervisors

Taught modules 25%

Action research & thesis 75%

MSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

A taught masters programme involving full time mentored placement in a Teagasc advisory office while completing modules using reflective and blended learning.

Taught Masters

24 months, Full Time

Entire masters completed in a Teagasc advisory office

Mentored by experienced Teagasc advisors

Taught modules – 33%

Minor thesis – 33%

Reflective practice modules – 33%

Distance / blended learning

Assignments and projects relate to the work placement

Emphasis on self-reflection and professional development

Career Opportunities

The Teagasc UCD programmes are designed to build the competencies required for careers in agricultural advisory and education services in the public or private sector. Many graduates are currently employed in advisory and education roles in Teagasc and many others are in key positions in public services and agri-food companies in Ireland and abroad.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold an upper second-class honours degree in agricultural science or equivalent discipline that meets the educational qualification requirements of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and the Marine for the Farm Advisory System (FAS). Applicants with a pass degree coupled with significant and appropriate work experience may also be considered.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Graduate View

John Mahon | Business & Technology Dairy Advisor, Teagasc



I've been involved in agriculture from a young age. After graduating from the BAgSc Dairy Business programme in UCD, I knew I wanted to gain further exposure in agricultural education and advisory. The MSc Agricultural Extension Innovation Support Programme provided me with the perfect opportunity to get involved in these areas, working in Advisory and Education settings, gaining practical experience in real working environments while also progressing my education to the next level through research. I have developed many skills throughout the programme, from the modules undertaken in UCD to the responsibility assumed in professional and practical environments under the guidance of experienced staff. The modules undertaken contributed to my ability to design and complete my research. The support and backing of both Teagasc and UCD staff helped focus my learnings in the completion of my study, write up of my thesis and enhanced my overall learning experience. I would highly recommend this MSc programme to anyone who wishes to pursue a career in agricultural advisory or education, as it helped me develop the skill set I needed to progress my career in agriculture.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:

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MSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development responds to contemporary and future transformations in agriculture and rural area development. The programme takes a place-based approach to rural change and rural futures, and addresses how agriculture can contribute to sustainable development.

It examines how farming and rural areas are changing, and how communities and government can address future challenges and opportunities. These issues are relevant in Ireland and internationally, in the Global South and Global North.

This programme, which is offered on both a full-time (one year) and part-time (two year) basis, prepares graduates for roles of leadership, advocacy and influence in local, national and international rural development settings. Students will develop competencies in the analysis of agricultural and rural change; policy analysis; and co-design and participative approaches to rural development strategies.

These competencies are underpinned by the role that agriculture and rural places need to play in addressing the climate crisis and contributing to sustainable development.

The learning environment fosters individual and group-based activities, which develop students' skills of inquiry, critical thinking, self-directed and collaborative learning. A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used including group project work, student presentations, individual assignments, field trips and case study work.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits taught masters = 60 credits taught modules + 30 credits minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Strategic Communications for Development
- Policies and Strategies for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
- Research Methods
- Theory and Practice of Rural Enterprise
- Research Project (Minor Thesis)

Optional Modules

- Community-Led Local Development
- Agricultural Extension and Innovation
- Economics and Sociology in Rural Development
- Understanding the Family Farm Business
- Organic Agriculture
- Behaviour Change in Agriculture



YouTube

For more information
view our online webinar on
our YouTube Channel
[@ucdagfood](#)



Career Opportunities

Graduates from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science respond to many of the major global challenges such as population growth, the climate crises, biodiversity loss, food security and food and health issues. Consequently, the opportunities for graduates globally in this discipline are excellent.

This programme is designed and delivered in a way that builds capabilities in core analytical, conceptual, communications and research skills, as well as providing the knowledge base required to develop careers in the broad area of sustainable agriculture and rural development.

Graduates of this programme typically find employment in government, agricultural and rural development agencies, local development agencies, NGOs involved in rural development, as well as donor agencies and international development organisations.

Graduate Roles:

Development Managers

Advisors

Consultants

Public servants

Researchers

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of a second class honours degree, or international equivalent, in a range of subject areas.
- Applications are welcome from people from a broad range of disciplinary backgrounds including humanities, social sciences, life sciences and business who are interested in pursuing careers in the broad arena of rural and community development.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Graduate View

Caroline Dardis | Education Officer - Teagasc

Having completed my Bachelor of Agricultural Science at UCD, I felt that also undertaking my postgraduate studies here was a natural progression and would greatly benefit me academically. I chose the MSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development as I felt the programme would complement my passion for agriculture and allow me to expand my knowledge on the sustainable agricultural systems needed to ensure the continued viability of the agricultural sector. Throughout the MSc Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, I particularly enjoyed the interactive nature of the classes coupled with the thought-provoking projects and field trips. The programme itself covers a diverse range of topics relevant to agriculture, rurality, the environment, and society. One of the highlights for me was the ability to conduct and lead your own research project in the form of a minor thesis. I wholeheartedly recommend the programme to anyone passionate about building a more sustainable and resilient future for agriculture and rural communities.

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X089

MSc Environmental Resource Management

One Year Full Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Environmental Resource Management is an established programme designed for those who wish to undertake advanced studies in the pursuit of a career in the environmental sciences. Sustainable management of our environmental resources is at the heart of some of the key challenges facing humanity today; food security, climate change, biodiversity loss, and the protection of water and soil resources. During this MSc particular emphasis is placed on exploring these globally important environmental issues, in agriculture and other land use systems. Graduates will gain the knowledge necessary to address these needs through a combination of environmental science, policy and management expertise.

The programme fosters in its graduates the qualities of self-motivation and critical thinking. Core elements of the programme include: literature review and knowledge assimilation; core lab, field and IT skills including use of GIS and remote sensing software; experimental survey design, quantitative data analysis and communication skills.

Assignments are designed to develop individual, teamwork and leadership skills. These skills will culminate and be tested further in the final semester, when students complete a supervised research project. Fieldwork is involved in many of the modules offered.

The minor thesis component offers a very broad choice of research topics that allows a candidate to focus their potential career path on a specific subject area, such as water resource management, soil and plant interactions or pollinator behaviour. Students work with an academic supervisor with research interests and expertise in the thesis subject area.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

=

60 credits
taught modules

+

30 credits
minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Data Analysis for Biologists
- Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
- Human Impact on the Environment
- Seminar Presentation
- Soil, Plant & Water Resources
- Geographic Information Systems
- Literature Review
- Practical Research Skills
- Ecological Modelling
- Environmental Assessment
- Research Project (Minor Thesis)

Optional Modules

- Ecosystem Monitoring
- Carbon & Sustainability
- Wildlife Conservation
- One Health



Career Opportunities

The career prospects for graduates from the MSc Environmental Resource Management are wide ranging, with environmental management increasingly fundamental to industrial, service and public sectors. Graduates have a very good employment record in a variety of roles, frequently involving consultancy, advisory, engineering or agriculture roles in industry, government and regulatory agencies, NGOs and in research. This programme has a successful track record with the Irish Aid Fellowships.

Graduate Roles:

- Environmental Consultancy
- Environmental Advisory
- Environmental Engineering
- Regulatory Authorities
- Policy
- Research

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of a second class honours degree in a related science discipline.
- Mature candidates have previously been accepted on the basis of relevant experience and prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.
- The programme is accessible to candidates from a very broad range of primary degree backgrounds and draws students from across the world.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Graduate View

Liz Jarocki | Manager, Burren Programme, Co-founder Burrenbeo Trust

I chose Ireland for so many different reasons. I actually studied abroad here in UCD for my undergrad and I loved it so much that I wanted to come back for a full-time Masters programme. Ireland provides such great opportunities as a location with so many different natural resources from agriculture to wind energy. As a small country you get a more personal experience and a lot more of a tangible aspect on the impacts of our studies so I really really enjoyed my experience here. I think especially in the Environmental Resource Management programme, there's a really great emphasis on field trips and getting to really interact with what we're studying. We got to go to places like Wicklow, the Burren and to UCD Lyons Farm and it was a really great experience of true interactive learning and I particularly enjoyed that element of the programme.

UCD Rosemount Environmental Research Station

UCD Rosemount Environmental Research Station is a state-of-the-art plant and environmental research facility under the joint management of UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science located on the UCD Belfield campus. The station facilitates research in the areas of plant biology, horticulture, forestry and agriculture and informs important elements of learning across a range of modules within master's programmes. Facilities for plant and crop research include high specification containment and production glasshouses, hosting experiments on plant-pathogen and climate interactions. Plant collections to support teaching, horticultural demonstration, crops for horticulture modules, industry-funded plant growth experimental trials are also available.

EU Enquiries:

Dr Thomas Cummins Programme Director
e: thomas.cummins@ucd.ie

Non EU Enquiries:

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie
w: www.ucd.ie/global





D064

MSc Horticulture

One Year Full Time

Programme Overview

Horticulture is the science, technology, art and business of cultivating and using plants to improve human life. Horticulturists and Horticultural Scientists create global solutions for safe, sustainable, nutritious food and healthy, restorative and beautiful environments.

The MSc Horticulture caters for early career graduates working or intending to work in the global dynamic horticulture production and supply industry. It is designed for students who wish to acquire greater expertise in horticulture, mature students and career changers, and draws on the academic expertise available in the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.

Today the supply of horticulture goods and services involves a global network of producers, distributors and retailers. While labour is currently a significant part of the cost basis for horticulture enterprises, innovations in technology, logistics and management is disrupting the traditional labour intensive model of horticulture businesses.

With ever increasing demands from the market place to reduce costs, future horticulture enterprises will require highly educated and skilled individuals who can interpret and apply sound scientific knowledge and utilise modern innovative technologies and management systems to provide sustainable globally relevant horticulture products and services.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

=

60 credits
taught modules

+

30 credits
minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

Enterprise Development
Climate, Carbon and Soil
Data Analysis for Biologists
Food Diet and Health II - Making Healthy Food Choices
Introduction to Nutrition
Food Quality and Safety
Elements of Landscape Design
Nursery Production & Management
Minor Thesis
Food Production: Vegetable Crops
Food Production: Protected Crops
Fruit & Postharvest Physiology
Professional Communications

Minor Thesis

The minor thesis component offers a very broad choice of research topics that allows a candidate to focus on a specific subject area. Students are assigned an academic supervisor with research interests and expertise in the thesis subject area.



Career Opportunities

Wide ranging career opportunities exist in private companies, public organisations and government agencies in the food and non-food sectors of horticulture. This programme also allows graduates to completely change direction putting them on a radically different career path from their primary degree and advancement to PhD level.

Graduate Roles:

Plant Producers

Distribution and Retail

Horticulture Therapists

Designers

Technical Advisors

Scientists

Business Development

Entrepreneurial Roles

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of an upper second class honours degree, or international equivalent in a biological, environmental, agricultural or related science degree.
- Mature candidates will be considered on the basis of relevant experience. Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent (DB06 Global Engagement Partnership Masters Pathway).

Industry Connection

Many modules involve contact with industry including visits to leading companies, businesses and contact with professional horticulturists.

Student View

Nonye Nwazue | Agronomy Support, Keelings

Moving to Ireland from Nigeria meant that I needed to align my skills with the industry demands in order to remain relevant and play a part in the development process back home in Nigeria. I was already involved in the plantation agriculture sector for about 8 years but that level of experience was only going to be useful with further study in horticulture which happens to be one of the dominant systems of food production here in Ireland. The decision to study Horticulture at UCD was the best decision I ever made; the modules we were taught were specific to tackle current industry challenges and our teachers were very supportive and result oriented. Another very unique feature of the program was that we were exposed to lots of Industry visits as part of our learning requirements and these visits enhanced our appreciation of in class concepts and ideas. I personally decided on one of these visits what I was going to specialise in and I am now working as an Agronomy support for Keelings Farms here in Ireland.

EU Enquiries:

Dr. Caroline Elliott Kingston

Programme Director

e: caroline.elliottkingston@ucd.ie

Non EU Enquiries:

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie

w: www.ucd.ie/global



D027

MSc Wildlife Conservation and Management

One Year Full Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Wildlife Conservation and Management is suitable for students who wish to undertake further studies in pursuit of a career in the agricultural and environmental sciences, with a particular emphasis on the sustainable management of wildlife resources within rural landscapes. This is a unique programme dealing with the principles of population management and zoonotic diseases associated with wildlife and conflict resolution.

This MSc enables students to specifically focus their studies on global wildlife conservation and management. For those with an inquiring mind, a deeper understanding of scientific principles relevant to solving agri-environmental food security concerns is provided, which in combination with understanding effective policy-making, leads to sustainable management practice. The MSc Wildlife Conservation and Management uniquely integrates the principles of wildlife conservation and zoonotic epidemiology, to underpin the effective management of wildlife populations and ecosystem health.

The programme aims to facilitate the development of students to enable them to provide natural science solutions within a theoretical and social context. Students graduate with a range of skills and experience that makes them highly employable as they develop the ability to problem solve in multiple situations.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

=

60 credits
taught modules

+

30 credits
minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Wildlife Conservation
- Human Impact on the Environment
- Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- Geographic Information Systems
- Data Analysis for Biologists
- Literature Review
- Seminar Presentation
- Habitat Evaluation
- Conservation Genetics
- Biological Invasions
- Research Project (Minor Thesis)
- Practical Research Skills
- One Health

Field Work

Students have the opportunity to visit current conservation and management projects in Ireland, to acquire applied field skills. Students also receive contributions from national and international experts in wildlife conservation and management.



Career Opportunities

There are a range of potential employment opportunities for graduates from this programme including government departments, local authorities, county councils, environmental protection agencies and a range of national and international NGOs. In addition, suitable candidates may progress to PhD study.

Graduate Roles:

- Environmental Consultant
- Conservation Officer
- Ecological Advisor
- Policy Officer
- Conservation Manager
- Park Ranger
- Research officers
- PhD and Further research

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold the equivalent of a minimum Lower Second Class Honours Degree (NFQ Level 8), or international equivalent, in a Biological Science, Environmental Science, Animal Science, Equine Science, Veterinary Medicine or related science.
- Applicants from other disciplines may be considered if they include strong evaluation, analytical and communication skills and have experience of working in the area.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Graduate View

Terrence Magqina | Ecologist - Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife Management Authority

Before I came to Ireland I was working as an ecologist for the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority where my duties primarily involved Wildlife and Fisheries research. I came here on the Ireland Fellowship Program programme which seeks to educate and promote young leaders from developing countries to be better leaders in their respective countries while focusing on the sustainable development goals. The wildlife conservation and management programme was very different from what I expected. Where I come from in Zimbabwe, in wildlife rich areas the wildlife is under national parks where the wildlife is fenced in and protected within that enclosure, while here in Ireland the wildlife freely roam between different habitats and you can find wildlife species in farmlands which was difficult for me to adjust to. However this difference in land use became very clear as the course went on and modules such as habitat evaluation and habitat assessment made it fascinating to understand.



This MSc is set within the UCD One Health paradigm in an agricultural context as approximately 60% of land use in Ireland and 50% of the globe's land use is devoted to farming.

The vision of UCD One Health is to maximise the health and well-being of humans, animals and the environment through academic excellence, collaborative research, education and outreach.

EU Enquiries:

Dr Barry John McMahon
Programme Director
e: barry.mcmahon@ucd.ie

Non-EU Enquiries:

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie
w: www.ucd.ie/global





D042

MSc Food Business Strategy

One Year Full Time



UCD Michael Smurfit
Graduate Business School

Programme Overview

This comprehensive course offers sound training in business concepts and practice, as well as a wider understanding of the unique environment within which food businesses operate. The curriculum has been co-devised by UCD Smurfit Business School and UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. Students will gain advanced knowledge of the factors specific to food affecting the sustainability of food production and the role that innovation can play in the sector. Students also learn an appreciation of the increasingly complex and global environment in which the food business currently operates, and the uncertainties and risks attached to food production.

The theory-practice blend to the curriculum content, as well as the strong emphasis placed upon recent developments within the industry, makes this MSc the ideal preparation for anyone seeking to develop a career in the food business sector. Graduates are encouraged to apply and act upon their core food business knowledge and will have the ambition and courage to solve problems, work in a team and significantly contribute to the success of food businesses. This is achieved by providing a diversity of learning environments (classroom, off campus and guest speakers) and methods (lectures, group work, case studies, presentations) that ensures a stimulating learning experience equipping graduates with the skills necessary to provide professional leadership in food businesses.

This programme takes place full time at the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits taught masters = 70 credits taught modules + 20 credits group project

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

Autumn Trimester

- Economics of Food Markets and Business Behaviour
- Customer Focused Food
- Supply Chain Management in Global Food Systems

Spring Trimester

- Food Policy and Industry Responses
- Competitive Strategy in Global Food and Agribusiness markets
- Optional Module

Summer Trimester

- Group Food Strategy Project
- Innovation for Food Business
- Future of Food

Group Project

The project aims to provide graduates with practical business experience by providing them the opportunity to work on a real business scenario faced by the client company. The project will require graduates, working in teams, to undertake research, analyse findings and develop a business strategy which will be formally presented to representatives of the client company.



Upon successful completion of the course, graduates will be open to an array of national and international employment opportunities within a rapidly growing industry .

Graduate Roles:

Account Manager

Marketing Manager

Management

Account Strategist

Business Development

Agribusiness Graduate Programme

Entry Requirements

- This course is open to a wide range of undergraduate profiles but is especially suitable for those with a background in agriculture or other science-based degrees seeking to develop their business expertise and for those with more business focused degrees with an interest in moving into the food sector.
- A minimum second-class honours degree (or equivalent) in Agricultural Science, Science, Business, Commerce, Business Administration, Economics or related degree. or
- An honours Graduate Diploma in Business Studies or related subject. or
- A primary degree with a minimum of three years' relevant work experience.

Graduate View

David Mendelsohn | Group Research & Development Manager - Kepak

I studied a Masters in Food Business Strategy. I felt like I always wanted to get into the strategic side of food. I've been involved in research and development and the areas of new product development and the overall global strategy of food business appealed to me. I saw this Masters as an opportunity to extend myself in that direction and given that I just had a short career break, it was an optimal time for me. I really enjoyed competitive strategy in global food; the case studies that we studied during the class were so diverse in terms of the different global food companies, the different positions they were in, the different geographies and cultures they interacted with and it showed a broad diversity and toolkit that companies have and can use to create a sustainable competitive advantage in the food industry. Completing the Masters gave me an advantage in my current role. I'd recommend the programme to anyone considering extending their career into a more strategy-focused role.



UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School

UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School is the leading business school in Ireland with over 1,300 graduates each year. They are one of an elite group of business schools worldwide to hold the triple crown of accreditation from EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA and are consistently ranked in the Top 100 by the Financial Times.

EU & Non EU Enquiries:

Dr James Breen | Programme Director
 e: smurfit.admissions@ucd.ie
 w: www.smurfitschool.ie

* Application for the MSc Food Business Strategy is through the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School





MSc Food, Nutrition and Health

Two to Four Years Part Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Food, Nutrition and Health is aimed at graduates from a variety of disciplines who wish to develop their knowledge and understanding of food as it relates to human nutrition and health. The programme is suitable for graduates with no formal educational background in food science or nutrition, who wish to up-skill and become competent and employable in this increasingly important and rapidly evolving field. Graduates will be educated to a high level in the science of food as it pertains to human nutrition and health.

This programme is hosted by the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and brings together academic and research staff from across UCD in health-related aspects of food research, including food science, human and public health nutrition, food production, biosystems engineering, food law, consumer behaviour and food safety. Students will gain an understanding of the nature of food, how it is produced, how it is affected by processing, why we eat, what happens to food when we eat it, and how food components can interact with the functioning of humans. Upon completion of the MSc graduates will be able to apply this knowledge to address nutrition-related problems in different groups, cultures and societies.

This programme is delivered and assessed entirely online. The minimum registration to the MSc is two years, however students have four years in which to complete the programme thereby affording flexibility. The flexible and online format of the programme enables students

enrolling on the programme to combine studying while in employment.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Food Chemistry
- Introduction to Nutrition
- Food Process Technology
- Nutrition in the Life Cycle
- Principles of Biochemistry
- Chemistry of Nutrients
- Sensory Science
- Pathways to Health
- Public Health Nutrition
- Food Microbiology & Safety
- Research Design and Statistics
- Food Regulatory Affairs
- Sport and Exercise Nutrition
- Promoting Consumer Nutrition
- Project



YouTube

For more information
view our online webinar on
our YouTube Channel
[@ucdagfood](#)

Career Opportunities

There are excellent job prospects for graduates in Food, Nutrition and Health with graduates working in a range of roles across the food industry, public health and regulatory agencies. Graduates have the distinct advantage of bringing a nutrition or health perspective to their roles.

Within the food industry graduates will work in areas such as product innovation, technical sales, product quality enhancement, nutrition and health promotion or food labelling regulation.

Graduate Roles:

- Product Innovation
- Technical Sales
- Production Quality Enhancement
- Health Promotion
- Food Regulation

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a second class degree or higher in a cognate subject. Applicants from unrelated disciplines have previously been accepted on the basis of previous relevant experience and prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

How will I learn?

The MSc Food, Nutrition and Health is delivered through the UCD online learning platform (Brightspace) and will consist of pre-prepared lecture material delivered online, videos and demonstrations by lecturers, interactive learning, discussion boards and virtual classroom environments.

For each 5 ECTS credit module earned students are expected to undertake about 125 hours of work, to include on-line activity and performing their own study. Students will be required to complete quizzes periodically so that progress can be monitored. Formative assessments will be used to help you develop and critically assess your own understanding of the material presented. All modules will have a high continuous assessment component. Students have access to a UCD Module Coordinator at all times.

Graduate View

Anneloes Silvertand | Dietitian Technician

I would absolutely recommend this program to anybody who is interested in exploring nutrition and food science on a deeper level. I come from a background of Food Science and I noticed that during my career I was lacking in-depth knowledge on nutrition. I tried to find a programme that could meet the flexibility that I needed because I moved to different countries over time and it's very hard to continue your education when you're moving around a lot.

The teachers were great and I loved working with my fellow students who all come from different backgrounds. While you're working together, you really notice that having those different backgrounds adds to the experience because you're always learning from each other.

I absolutely loved doing the degree and if I had the choice all over again I would absolutely chose this Masters programme. It has helped me get to where I want to be. I teach food science and nutrition and I really feel like the degree helped me make sure that I could combine all the knowledge that I have from the food science industry with the nutritional background that I was looking for.

EU and Non-EU Enquiries:
Dr. Fiona Lalor | Programme Director
 e: fiona.lalor@ucd.ie
 w: www.ucd.ie/agfood





D079

Online Programme

MSc Food Safety

Two to Four Years Part Time

Programme Overview

As the global population increases, creating a demand for even more food, the production of safe food has never been as important. Many of us are in lucky position that we have food to eat every day and that the food we eat does not make us sick or feel unwell. Unfortunately that's not the case for everyone. This programme, which is underpinned by current and ongoing research, will give students a detailed understanding of the issues affecting food safety both from the perspective of the food industry and regulatory authorities, as well as enabling students to develop the necessary analytical skills and theoretical understanding to manage food safety programmes within global food companies or within national and international food safety regulatory agencies.

This programme is delivered by leading international experts from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and the UCD Institute of Food and Health and will develop committed and interdisciplinarily trained graduates skilled in the area of Food Safety in the context of the broader food industry. The MSc Food Safety is designed for and will appeal to Science or Technology graduates who currently don't have a qualification in Food Safety, as well as professionals who are currently working in the Food Industry, that wish to upskill and further develop their expertise in food safety.

This programme is delivered and assessed entirely online. The minimum registration to the MSc is two years, however, students have four years in which to complete the programme thereby affording flexibility. The online format of the programme enables students enrolled to combine studying while in employment.

Modules include a mixture of autonomous student learning, course work, and lectures. The course is assessed by a combination of assignments, in-trimester continuous assessment exercises, and end of trimester examinations.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

Chemistry of Nutrients
Food Microbiology & Safety
Principles of Biochemistry
Food Process Technology
Bioinformatics in Food Safety
Food Microbiology
Food Toxicology
Food Health and Diet
Sustainability in Diet
Food Security
Food Chain Integrity
Environmental Food Processing
One Health
Food Regulatory Affairs
Food Quality and Safety
Research Design and Statistics
Food Safety Project



Career Opportunities

This programme is suitable for individuals working full-time in the food industry charged with improving the safety and security of food systems as well as recent graduates of Science and Technology from areas such as Agriculture, Bioinformatics, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology who are interested in enhancing their knowledge in the area of Food Safety.

The MSc Food Safety positions graduates for leadership roles in this critically important area for the Irish and Global economy. There are excellent career opportunities for graduates in advisory, technical, and management roles both within the food industry, government organisations, and regulatory agencies.

Graduate Roles:

Food Regulation

Food Safety and Risk Analysis

Food Safety Research

Policy Development

Scientific Analyst

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of an upper second-class level 8 degree, or international equivalent, in a cognate subject (Science, Engineering, or related discipline) and/or have considerable relevant work experience in the Agri-Food industry.
- Applicants who do not hold the requisite Science qualification (but who hold a Level 8 Honours degree or equivalent) have been admitted previously and are advised to submit an application for assessment by the Programme Director to determine eligibility.
- Applicants with other awards who hold substantial relevant work experience will be considered.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Student View

Laura Kelly | Assistant Quality Manager, Kelly's Bakery

I chose the MSc Food Safety course to further my career and build upon my background in Quality Assurance and my current role as a Quality Manager in the food industry. Having worked in Quality Assurance since completing my BSc, I aimed to deepen my understanding of food safety principles to enhance my professional capabilities and advance my career prospects. The part-time structure of the MSc Food Safety program allows me to balance my full-time job while advancing my education. I am finding the course excellent, with a diverse range of modules to choose from, catering to various interests and specialisations within the field. The lecturers are highly supportive and understanding of other life commitments, helping to accommodate assignment deadlines and workloads. The course content is highly relevant to my work, providing valuable insights and practical skills that I can directly apply to ensure the highest standards of food safety in my organisation.

EU & Non EU Enquiries:

Dr. Daniel Hurley | Programme Director
UCD School of Agriculture & Food Science
e: daniel.hurley@ucd.ie
w: www.ucd.ie/agfood





Professional Diploma Food Safety and Regulatory Science

One Year Part Time

Programme Overview

Food Safety is an essential Public Health issue without which there is a significant threat to health from foodborne disease. Understanding the legislation, policy and science behind maintaining a safe food system is essential for regulatory bodies, government and the agri-food industry.

This Professional Diploma integrates science, law and food policy from pre-harvest to the consumer and brings experts together from UCD and beyond to help students to develop knowledge and understanding of food risk and regulation and acquire skills to disseminate and implement knowledge in practice.

The Professional Diploma in Food Safety and Regulatory Science has been designed for professionals within food companies and regulatory bodies to learn from leaders in the area of food safety and regulatory science within University College Dublin (UCD) as well as experts from public bodies and industry.

The programme is suitable for those with a Level 8 degree. Experiential prior learning will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This on-line programme gives you all the convenience that remote learning brings with flexibility and learning during your career, while also connecting you to all that UCD has to offer.

Course Content and Structure

There are 3 modules each worth 10 credits. All modules must be taken.

30 credits
professional diploma

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

Autumn Trimester

└ Food Regulation

Spring Trimester

└ Science and Standards of Food Safety

Summer Trimester

└ Food Risk Analysis



Career Opportunities

On completion of this programme, you will be equipped with the knowledge and skills relevant to Food Safety and Regulatory Science within the food industry and beyond which will develop your deep discipline specific knowledge. This can enhance your career options, progression and capabilities within the food industry, regulatory body, or within your own business.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants are required to hold an NFQ level 8 honours degree (minimum 2nd Class honours Lower) or equivalent.
- Ideally, applicants should be currently working in, or have previous experience of, the food and beverage industry, regulatory bodies, government departments or trade organisations.
- Applicants who do not hold a NFQ Level honours degree or equivalent may be admitted on the basis of having considerable relevant work experience, and are advised to contact fiona.lalor@ucd.ie to determine eligibility prior to submitting an application.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English Language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element) or equivalent.
- All applications are assessed on a case by case basis.

How will I learn?

The Professional Diploma in Food Safety and Regulatory Science is delivered through the UCD online Platform (Brightspace) and will consist of online lectures, videos, interactive learning, discussion boards and virtual classroom environments.

For each 10 credits module students are expected to undertake about 200 hours of work including online learning and independent learning activities. A repository of resources will be available to support your learning and as a UCD student you will have full access to the library. Tutorials are delivered during each module and there will also be interviews with guest speakers from the world of food safety and regulatory science.

Each module includes an assignment which will give you the opportunity to showcase your learning, development and appreciation of the issues involved.

Staff View

Julie Dowsett | PostGraduate and Executive Education Programme Manager

The professional diploma in Food Safety and Regulatory Science has been designed for professionals in the food industry and regulatory bodies to learn from experts in food safety within UCD and from public bodies and industry. We're really proud of the experts involved in delivering this program which is tailor-made to give you all the convenience of remote learning while also connecting you with all UCD has to offer.

By the end of the program you will have developed a deep discipline specific knowledge, enabling you to expand your career options and progression. It will be invaluable for anyone looking to advance their career in the area of food safety and regulation.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:
Dr. Fiona Lalor | Programme Director
e: fiona.lalor@ucd.ie
w: www.ucd.ie/agfood





MSc Food Regulatory Affairs

One Year Full Time



Programme Overview

Food Regulatory Affairs integrates science, law and food/health policy applying it to the regulation of the entire food chain, from pre-harvest to the consumer.

International perspectives on food regulatory affairs have become increasingly important, particularly since the formation of the World Trade Organisation and the international acceptance of Codex Alimentarius standards. This course is designed to provide postgraduate training for those already employed or who wish to develop careers in the food sector, regulatory agencies, government departments and trade organisations.

You will develop an understanding of legislative, policy and scientific aspects of food regulatory affairs, acquiring the skills to put this knowledge into practice and increasing your employability in the UK, European and international agrifood industry.

A jointly awarded degree from Ulster University and University College Dublin, European and global experts in science, law, economics and policy contribute to the course. Students register with the University of Ulster but also have access to all student facilities at UCD.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

=

60 credits
taught modules

+

30 credits
minor thesis

Modules for students enrolling on this programme include:

- Introduction to the European Union and Food Regulatory Affairs
- Farm to Fork Regulation of the Food Chain
- International Food Regulatory Affairs
- Risk Analysis
- Current Issues in European Food Regulatory Affairs
- Research Design and Statistics
- Nutrition and Health Claims
- Research Project (Minor Thesis)

Each student will carry out an individual research project of six months duration after completion of the required course work. Students will work on a project of significance to one of the stakeholders in the food sector and will be required to work closely with their individual stakeholder. Each student is assigned an academic supervisor in addition to a work based supervisor.



Career Opportunities

There are excellent job prospects for graduates in food and projections for graduates in this discipline are extremely positive. At a time when the importance of the link between food and regulation is becoming increasingly evident, this programme will provide graduates with the skills necessary to function in technical, advisory and management roles in the food industry, public sector and regulatory agencies.

Graduate Roles:

Food Regulatory Affairs

Food Labelling

Product Development and Innovation

Research and Development

Technical Sales

Product Quality Enhancement

Graduates have the distinct advantage of bringing a regulatory perspective to each of these roles.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a second class degree or higher in a science based degree programme. Other degrees, e.g. Law, may also be acceptable.
- Applicants have previously been accepted on the basis of previous relevant experience and prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Programme Director to discuss their eligibility.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

How will I learn?

This programme is delivered online through a modular format. A variety of methods are used to support and enhance the student learning experience including: formal lectures, case studies, online discussions, online tutorials, group working, assignments and a research project. All modules are assessed exclusively through the submission of coursework.

Graduate View

Dr. Colm Moran | Chief Regulatory Officer at Alltech

The course has provided me with an excellent overview of the field of food regulations (particularly EU) which enabled me to transition from my former research career within my company to a role in the regulatory affairs department. The course materials provided me all the information I needed and to understand the background to food law/regulations in the EU. The initial investment in education has definitely paid off in the long-term.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:

Dr. Fiona Lalor | Programme Director
e: fiona.lalor@ucd.ie

Application to the MSc Food Regulatory Affairs is through Ulster University.
e: ma.kerr@ulster.ac.uk
w: www.ulster.ac.uk



MSc Sustainable Food Processing

Two to Four Years Part Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Sustainable Food Processing will provide students with excellent knowledge of the principles underlying the sustainable processing of foods and enable graduates to apply the technical knowledge acquired to the production of high quality, safe and nutritious foods, while maximising sustainability and minimising the environmental impact of food production and processing.

Delivered by leading international experts from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and the UCD Institute of Food and Health, graduates will be skilled in proposing and developing solutions to sustainability problems as they relate to post-farm-gate food processing from the point of production to the point of sale and communicating these to stakeholders professionally. In a time where we need to find new ways of processing food at unprecedented volumes whilst minimising their environmental impact, graduates of this MSc will acquire a critical awareness of principles relating to scientific integrity and ethical issues in Sustainable Food Processing using a range of approaches.

This course is aimed at individuals working full-time in the food industry charged with improving the sustainability of food systems or recent graduates who wish to specialise in the area of sustainability.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

Modules on this programme include:

Life Cycle Assessment
Chemistry of Nutrients
Food Microbiology & Safety
Food Micro Hazards
Food Microbiology
Food Processing
Plant Foods
Sustainability Project
Food Toxicology
Food Health and Diet
Food Safety Genomics
Sustainability in Diet
Food Security
Food Chain Integrity
Environmental Food Processing
One Health
Food Regulatory Affairs
Food Quality and Safety
Research Design and Statistics

This programme is delivered and assessed entirely online. The minimum registration to the MSc is two years, however, students have four years in which to complete the programme thereby affording flexibility. The School of Agriculture and Food Science has many long-standing online MSc programmes, and as a result we are acutely aware that students require a programme that can be integrated into their busy schedules to successfully complete programmes of this nature. We have designed this MSc to be flexible, with all lectures, tutorials and other online learning tools available to you when you need them. As a fully remote, online course, we hope to make this programme as accessible as possible to people who want to study while remaining in full-time employment.



Career Opportunities

This course is aimed at individuals working full-time in the food industry charged with improving the sustainability of food systems or those working in the food industry seeking to upskill and differentiate themselves for a career in this area. Recent graduates of food or health related disciplines seeking new careers in this rapidly expanding sector are also encouraged to apply.

Graduates of this MSc will be positioned for leadership roles in this critically important sector for the Irish and Global economy.

Opportunities for employment include: Sustainability Manager, Environmental Officer, Food Processing Manager, Food Production Manager, Food Safety, New Product Development, Food Regulation Manager as well as emerging opportunities around Sustainable Food Systems.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of a Second-Class Honors degree in a cognate subject (Science, Engineering or related discipline), or international equivalent.
- Applicants with other awards who hold substantial relevant work experience will be considered.
- Applicants who do not hold the requisite Science qualification (but who hold a Level 8 Honors degree or equivalent) have been admitted previously and are advised to submit an application for assessment by the Programme Director to determine eligibility.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Graduate View

Orla O'Driscoll | Production Team Lead, Kilkenny Cheese

Once I completed my undergraduate in Food Science with UCD, I began work as an Operations Associate with the Tirlán graduate programme. I wanted to further my knowledge on food processing and systems which led me to begin the MSc in Sustainable Food Processing. I felt that this course aligned with my professional interests and it has elevated my knowledge on the systems used in the food industry and what we need to do to futureproof our agri-food industry. I joined Kilkenny Cheese, a joint venture between Tirlán and Royal-A-Ware that is striving to be the most sustainable continental cheese plant in Europe and this masters has enabled me to contribute to the commissioning process of the plant in an informed and positive manner. The flexibility of completing the course over 2 to 4 years allowed me to complete the masters around my personal and professional life. I was able to balance my modules across semesters where I knew I would have more availability. The staff have always been incredibly accommodating which has added a personal element to this course. I would recommend this course to anyone who's looking to elevate their knowledge on food processing systems and how we can rise up to global food challenges in a sustainable manner.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:

Dr. Nigel Brunton Programme Director
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D062

Diploma and Certificate options available

MSc Humanitarian Action



One Year Full Time

Programme Overview

The MSc Humanitarian Action has evolved over a 25-year period and is distinguished by its inter-disciplinary, inter-sectoral and international nature.

This MSc provides high quality academic education and professional competencies for those working or intending to work in the area of humanitarian action and related areas. The programme supports students to build suitable networks for research and internships.

The programme provides a dynamic classroom based learning environment, involving a variety of teaching methods such as lectures, simulations and field-trips. Students have the opportunity to explore specific themes through second trimester specialisations and a minor thesis. The MSc in Humanitarian Action brings together experts from academia and the field to lecture on the different modules.

This masters programme has a long tradition of attracting students from diverse backgrounds with varying degrees of experience in the humanitarian sector and related fields.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits taught masters	=	60 credits taught modules	+	30 credits minor thesis
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Trimester 1: Humanitarian Action: Disciplinary Modules

The first trimester introduces students to key humanitarian concepts, principles, issues and challenges. This is followed by five disciplinary modules to equip students with the competencies to interrogate humanitarian interventions from an inter-disciplinary perspective.

Trimester 2: Resilience: Localising the aid effort

Students will be introduced to specialised modules on localisation and building societal resilience. Modules include linking localisation with humanitarian management, gender-based violence in emergencies and evidence-based community resilience.

Trimester 3: Research Field Visit

Students have to complete a minor thesis on a topic of their choosing. Graduates with limited field experience are highly encouraged to participate in a field trip to partner university Wolaita Sodo University in Ethiopia where they receive first-hand experiences of aid programmes



NOHA MSc International Humanitarian Action

UCD is part of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA). In addition to the UCD MSc Humanitarian Action programme, UCD also offer an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's in Humanitarian Action programme (see page 36). This MSc is a two year full time programme and is funded by the Erasmus + funding scheme. More than 3,000 NOHA graduates currently work in international and national agencies in humanitarian action and development.



Career Opportunities

There are some 600 alumni of the MSc Humanitarian Action holding positions both in the field and at headquarters level around the world. Many of these alumni are employed with the UN, Government, Non-governmental organisations or within academia.

Graduate Roles:

- Programme Managers
- Protection Officers
- Field/Country Directors
- Emergency Team Leaders
- Administrators
- Researchers
- Academics and Consultants

Entry Requirements

The MSc Humanitarian Action is an inter-disciplinary programme welcoming students from a diverse range of backgrounds including management, politics, public health, international law, social anthropology, agriculture, science and engineering.

- Applicants must hold a minimum of an upper second class degree, or international equivalent, in a cognate subject.
- Knowledge of languages of the place(s) of study is an asset. Practical experience in the area of humanitarian action and / or development is valued.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.
- Students meeting the programme’s academic entry requirements but not the English language requirements, may enter the programme upon successful completion of UCD’s International Pre-Master’s Pathway programmes.

Graduate View

Lawrence Peter | Grants Officer for Plan International Sudan

Growing up in Zimbabwe and witnessing the effects of humanitarian crises such as the 2008 cholera outbreak and hyperinflation sparked my interest in development and humanitarian work. With a background in economics and several years of experience mobilizing resources for education initiatives with the local NGO Tariro House of Hope, I decided to enrol in UCD’s MSc in Humanitarian Action programme. The MSc provided rigorous training in key humanitarian areas such as public health, resilience building, GBV in emergencies, and localisation in humanitarian management. This significantly enhanced my understanding of the humanitarian landscape and improved my skills in research. A highlight of my time at UCD was the field trip to Wolaita Sodo in Ethiopia, where I witnessed firsthand the humanitarian and development initiatives being implemented by several local and international organizations. The MSc in Humanitarian Action has significantly impacted my professional work life, equipping me with essential skills and opportunities to address humanitarian needs effectively.

UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action

The UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action was established in 2012 to reaffirm UCD’s commitment to excellence in research, innovation and professional development in the field of humanitarian action. The Centre is built on the strong foundations of an internationally recognised master’s programme and has collaborated with various governmental and non-governmental organisations around the globe for applied research and policy analysis. The Centre’s mission is to enhance the professional delivery of humanitarian action through the provision of inter-disciplinary and internationally recognised research to inform policy and practice. The centre acts as a hub for Irish humanitarian action by bringing together humanitarian stakeholders to tangibly inform policy processes of relevance to humanitarian action at the Irish, European and international levels.

EU Enquiries:

Dr. Pat Gibbons | Programme Director
e: pat.f.gibbons@ucd.ie

Non EU Enquiries:

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie





Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Humanitarian Action



Two Years Full Time

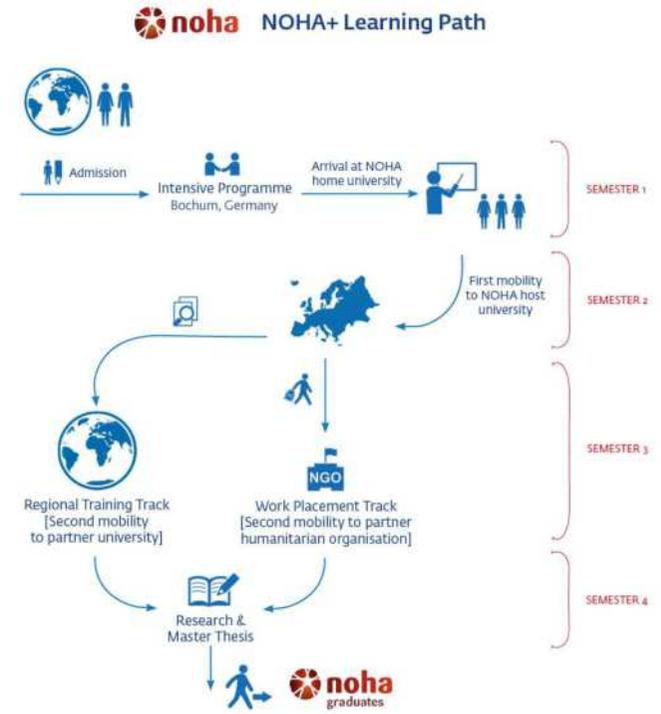
Programme Overview

The Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree Programme in International Humanitarian Action is an inter-university multidisciplinary postgraduate programme that provides high quality academic education and professional competencies for people working or intending to work in the area of humanitarian action.

Created in 1993 through the concerted efforts of the NOHA Universities in close collaboration with the DG for Humanitarian Action and Civil Protection (ECHO) and the DG for Education and Culture, the initiative was a response to a growing need for higher educational qualifications specifically suited to addressing complex humanitarian emergencies.

Course Content and Structure

120 credits taught masters	=	90 Credits taught masters	+	30 credits minor thesis
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Collaboration

One of the most unique elements of the programme, collaboration, is central to the NOHA experience. Students study at different universities and benefit from rich cultural interaction and exchange of ideas and languages. It is an integral part of the NOHA teaching-learning process. The partner universities have gradually integrated the joint training and research programme into their respective curricula, achieving a high degree of co-operation and integration, while preserving their speciality and traditions. NOHA students come from all over the world and register in the NOHA network. They are admitted following a highly competitive selection process agreed by the Network and can therefore enrol for courses jointly recognised by each of the participating universities, with the assurance of good communication links between them.

Erasmus Mundus Scholarship Opportunities:

The NOHA master's programme has been proudly supported by the European Union for almost two decades. It was one of the first 19 Master programmes selected at the start of the Erasmus Mundus programme in 2004. In July 2020, the NOHA Master was once again selected as an Erasmus Mundus programme and as such offers Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

Additional information on the scholarship programme is available by contacting the UCD Programme Director at the contact details below.

How do I apply for the Erasmus+ Scholarship?

Erasmus Mundus Scholarship applicants must follow the joint application procedure as established by the NOHA consortium, submit a complete application and comply with all eligibility criteria. Only candidates who have graduated before the application deadline are eligible to apply for an EM scholarship. A completed application must have been received by the deadline indicated.

Entry Requirements

Candidates are chosen on the basis of the quality of their education and professional background, their experience in and concern for humanitarian issues, their multicultural sensitivity and their linguistic abilities.

Admission may be granted to applicants who meet the following entry requirements and common minimum eligibility criteria:

- All applicants must follow the joint application procedure as established by the NOHA+ consortium.
- Completed application (online application form and all requested documents) is submitted through the [online application system](#) by the established deadline.
- Candidates must have obtained, as a minimum, a university first cycle degree (Bachelor, EQF level 6) in a discipline of relevance to humanitarian action (medical sciences, foods sciences, economics and management, engineering, law, social sciences, education sciences, humanities).
- Candidates are required to have a recognised qualification in the language(s) of instruction of the universities they plan to attend - English is the language of instruction in all universities during all semester except for Aix-Marseilles (French - 1st & 2nd Semester) and Deusto (Spanish - 1st semester only).



Student View

Milena Eckert

I started my whole NOHA experience in Dublin so my first semester was at UCD where you have a lot of foundational classes and an introduction to the programme. I personally love UCD. It's a really fun and great place to be at as a student and in the second semester you choose a topic that you're particularly interested in. I chose protection which was the topic in Bilbao and then for the second semester I went to Spain. It is a really different environment than Dublin and also the classes switch from being a bit more broad to being more focused and there were a lot of guest lecturers that were invited in from the field. For my third semester I decided to do the regional track and go to Sierra Leone which I really recommend to anyone. It was a combination of an internship and University so you have some classes but you also do an internship through the university for four days a week. I was working for a women's rights organization, while others were working for a hospital or like a polio camp. My NOHA experience so far has been fantastic, you honestly can't even fathom how many people you meet along the way from so many different backgrounds.

Global Professionals

Interdisciplinary, multicultural, and multilingual teaching by 150+ in-house experts and field-experienced guest lecturers. Over 3,000 graduates work in humanitarian relief and international co-operation for organisations and institutions in the field and at HQs globally.

Delivering universities

- [Aix-Marseille Université / AMUFRANCE](#)
- [University of Malta / UoMMALTA](#)
- [Rijksuniversiteit Groningen / RUGTHE NETHERLANDS](#)
- [Ruhr-Universität Bochum / RUBGERMANY](#)
- [Universidad de Deusto / UDSPAIN](#)
- [University College Dublin / UCDIRELAND](#)
- [Uniwersytet Warszawski / UWPOLAND](#)
- [Uppsala universitet / UUSWEDEN](#)

EU Enquiries:

Rónán McDermott | Programme Director
UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action

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Non EU Enquiries:

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MICRO
CREDS



UCD Agriculture and Food Science Micro-Credentials

Micro-credentials are short, focused courses that allow professionals to develop specific skills and knowledge in a particular area. Unlike traditional degrees, these courses are more flexible and can be completed in a shorter timeframe. UCD's micro-credentials in Agriculture and Food Science provide a targeted approach to learning, addressing the needs of professionals seeking to update their skills.

They are designed and developed to help employers and employees enhance their expertise and gain a competitive edge.

In the agriculture and food science industry, micro-credentials provide a significant advantage for employers aiming to enhance the expertise and versatility of their workforce. With micro-credentials you can bridge talent gaps and promote a culture of growth.

By fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability, micro-credentials help agricultural and food companies maintain high standards of productivity, quality, and innovation in a competitive and evolving marketplace.

UCD's micro-credentials cover a range of topics within agriculture and food science, ensuring that participants gain comprehensive and up-to-date knowledge. From sustainable farming practices to food safety and quality management, these courses equip learners with the skills needed to tackle current and future challenges in the industry.

To incentivise more learners to engage in learning through micro-credentials, there is now a fee subsidy scheme, reducing the fee by 50% or 80% for eligible learners on identified micro-credentials.

Full updated list of Ag & Food Science MicroCreds:

- Global Food Systems
- Sustainable Livestock Systems
- Food Regulation
- Livestock Infection, Immunity and One Health
- Animal Foods
- Green Care: Policy and Practice
- Advanced Animal Nutrition
- Principles of Sensory Science
- Environmental Food Processing
- Food Risk Analysis
- Plant Foods
- Communication and Agri-innovation
- Science and Standards of Food Safety
- Concepts of Nutrition and Healthy Eating
- Nutrition and the Consumer Diet
- Creativity & Innovation for Sustainable Food Systems



Graduate View

Amy Broderick | Regulatory Scientist - Kerry

Having completed my undergraduate degree in Agricultural Science in UCD, majoring in Food and Agribusiness Management, the food industry has always been an area I am really interested in. Working in regulatory, I looked for ways in which I could further develop my knowledge, to which I discovered the Micro Credential in Food Regulation. I was not ready to commit to completing a diploma or a masters, so this 12 week course was perfect! It gave me an insight into the food regulatory space in both the EU and the US, and the different governing bodies. Everything was covered, from the principal legislation, to additives, labelling, nutrition and health claims and novel foods. Completing this micro-credential was a brilliant way to further develop my regulatory affairs knowledge, and has really helped me in my day to day work! The course was extremely well run, with the tutors and lecturers offering full support from beginning to end. The content was pre-recorded, which allowed me to manage my workload. I would really recommend this course to anyone who is looking to begin a career in regulatory affairs, or anyone looking to further their knowledge in this area!

EU and Non EU Enquiries:

Marian O'Connor

UCD Micro-credentials Project Lead

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w: www.ucd.ie/microcredentials/explorecourses/foodandnutrition





Continuous Professional Development Executive Education

The UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science offer a world class executive education programme for individuals and organisations to support the development of global leaders in the Agri-Food industry. These programmes equip current and future industry leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the global challenges facing the agri-food industry.

Programmes focus on key topics relevant to all sectors of the industry encompassing agriculture, food, nutrition and the environment.

Short courses and longer terms options are available at individual and organisation levels including custom programmes. Delivery is flexible and can be face to face, blended or online learning.

Dawn Meats Group - Management Development Programme



The School of Agriculture and Food Science has been running this professional Development Programme for Dawn Meats Group for many years now and is designed to upskill high potential managers for leadership roles in all departments throughout the company. The Programme covers areas such as leadership and management skills, communication, project management, as well as guest lectures from experts in Agri business from across the departments in Dawn and organisations such as the Food Safety Authority, The School of Agriculture and Food Science UCD, Meat Technology Ireland and Bord Bia to cover food safety, sustainability, meat science, and business strategy. The programme recently made it to the final for the Best Leadership Development Initiative by the Learning and Development Institute.

Professional Diploma in Researcher Development



This unique qualification has been designed for Postdoctoral Fellows employed by Teagasc, the National Agriculture and Food Authority, to upskill researchers for their preferred career. Including expert speakers throughout UCD the programme delivers online and face to face modules covering areas such as commercialisation of research, research integrity, culture, and impact, scientific writing and publishing, data management and statistics, media skills, leadership and management skills and supervision and mentoring.



Graduate View

Padraig Spillane

My family business is an Agricultural Consultancy and Services provider in Waterford, Spillane's Consultancy & Agri Services. I have completed a number of level 5 and 6 certificates through Teagasc's Kildalton College previously regarding the handling and sale of both chemical products and animal health products and worked part time for the business for a number of years, both behind the front desk and as a regional sales representative. Completing the UCD Professional Diploma in Integrated Pest Management & the Sustainable Use of Pesticides gave me a great appreciation of another field in crop science through the in class, laboratory and field methods of teaching and also furthered my interest in agricultural science to the point where I have enrolled and am now halfway through the MSc Animal Science programme in UCD. I have recently applied to be a pesticide advisor with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) and hope to provide advice to professional and commercial services on pest management and the safe use of pesticides.

EU and Non EU Enquiries:
Dr. Fiona Lalor
Director of Executive Education
e: fiona.lalor@ucd.ie





Research Masters & PhD

Opportunities to complete research study are available at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. At the heart of UCD's research strategy is the ambition to address the challenges that will shape Ireland's future and its role in the wider world.

The UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science's research programmes address key national and international challenges including environment, energy, forestry, agri-food, health, and the development of evidence-based policy. These align with the six strategic research priorities at UCD: Agri-Food; Culture, Economy & Society; Energy; Environment; Health & ICT.

As a school we harness the complementary energies of research and teaching to drive graduate education. Our goal is to produce confident, highly skilled graduates with the potential to make major scientific contributions to the knowledge economy, both in Ireland and abroad.

Graduate research opportunities are available at Masters and PhD level. A Research Masters degree is a research degree carried out over 3-6 trimesters (1 to 2 years) full time or 5-9 trimesters (15 months to 3 years) part time. A PhD degree is a research degree carried out in two stages over 9-12 trimesters (3-4 years) full time or 15-18 trimesters (5-6 years) part time.

Research Masters and PhD programmes are largely funded positions but self-funded opportunities are also available. Funded positions are advertised on the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science website and on the UCD Graduate Studies website. Funded positions are typically competitive and involve a formal application, interview and selection process.

Where no relevant funded opportunities are available candidates can apply directly to the school. Candidates are required to identify an academic staff member who will support their application before commencing the process. Once candidates have the agreement of an academic staff member, the academic staff member submits an application for review by the School Graduate Research Education Committee and University Governing Board. The application process requires applicants to submit a research proposal, academic transcripts and other supporting documentation.

studies with UCD students that try to address their individual barriers to eating sustainable and healthy diets. Because my PhD is situated within the Europe-wide PLAN'EAT project, I also hope to test these solutions in other European countries. Working with partners from all over Europe has given me unique access to expertise in a wide range of areas (e.g., behavioural science, policy, communication), and this has no doubt helped me develop new skills that will assist with my own PhD work.



Student View

Rachel Connolly

As a PhD student, I am conducting research on the impact of multispecies swards on sheep performance and greenhouse gas emissions. My study involves evaluating how grazing diverse pastures affects the live-weight gain of ewes and lambs, as well as the production of enteric methane. My work also involves assessing how the botanical composition of forage offered to sheep can influence their performance and environmental footprint. This research is part of Multi4More, a multi-disciplinary project funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs. Completing my PhD at UCD Lyons Farm has provided me with the resources to conduct this research, with support from the academic, technical, and farm staff. Studying at the School of Agriculture and Food Science at UCD has also allowed me to engage with and learn from industry experts from Ireland and abroad, which has been an key component to of my learning experience. PhD students may also travel and study abroad. I have been granted the chance to visit New Zealand, where I will visit universities and research institutes, and engage with research that aligns closely with my own academic pursuits- an opportunity I already know will be a highlight of my PhD journey.

EU Enquiries and Non EU Enquiries:

Catherine Byrne

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Student View

Patrick Elliot

Hi there, I'm a PhD candidate in the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. I'm originally from Dublin, and I have an undergraduate degree in Sports Science and a master's degree in Public Health. My research focuses on developing personalised solutions to help shift people's diets in a more healthy and sustainable direction. To achieve this, I will be conducting



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Anne-Marie Butler

Head of Education, Teagasc
Doctor of Philosophy



Neil Brady

Management Consultant (Agri-Food)
Grant Thornton
MSc Food Business Strategy



Caroline Keeling

CEO, Keelings
MSc Food Science



Jamie Nolan

Climate Action Department,
Louth County Council
MSc Environmental Resource
Management



Brian Casey

Humanitarian Management
Consultant
MSc Humanitarian Action



Cliona Murphy

Vice President Quality Assurance,
PepsiCo
MSc Food, Nutrition and Health



Jack Kennedy

Agricultural Consultant, FDC Group
MAgrSc in Agricultural Extension and
Innovation



Amelia Keane

Environmental Consultant, Malone
O'Regan Environmental
MSc Wildlife Conservation and
Management

FURTHER INFORMATION

In addition to this prospectus further information on the graduate taught programmes on offer at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science are available through a variety of channels as outlined below.



TESTIMONIALS

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

www.ucd.ie/agfood/study



INFORMATION VIDEOS

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

www.youtube.com/agfood



UPCOMING EVENTS

Information events will be hosted throughout the year as you make your decision about your future study plans.

www.ucd.ie/agfood/newsandevents

FOLLOW US

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





UCD Agriculture and Food Science Programme Office

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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.