

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT MODULES

## What is a Module?

A module represents a self-contained fraction of a student's workload for the year and carries a unique examination/assessment mark. The size of a module is indicated by its credit weighting.

Individual modules are grouped together to make up degree programmes. They may also be grouped together to make up subjects, which in turn may be grouped together to make up degree programmes.

Each module has a unique 6-character code, which contains information about the module. The first two characters EN in the module EN1001, for example, indicate the subject area of the module (in this case an English module), the third character indicates the year or level (in this case a First Year or Level One module), and the remaining three characters 001 identify the particular module within the subject area.

## What are Credits?

Credits are the value allocated to modules to describe the student workload required to complete them. The number of credits allocated to each module will vary depending on the fraction of programme workload it accounts for. An undergraduate module may equal 5, 10, 15 or 20 credits. Each academic year (9 months) of an undergraduate degree programme is worth 60 credits and each calendar year (12 months) of a taught postgraduate programme is worth 90 credits. This is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which provides common procedures to guarantee academic recognition of studies at institutions offering ECTS-based programmes.

## What is the Book of Modules?

The Book of Modules (<http://www.ucc.ie/modules/>) contains the module descriptions for all modules offered in that year. It is designed for use with the Academic Programme Catalogue (<http://www.ucc.ie/calendar/>). These contain the regulations relating to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and indicate which modules belong to which programmes. Students should refer to the Book of Modules (<http://www.ucc.ie/modules/>) to find out about individual modules and to the Academic Programme Catalogue (<http://www.ucc.ie/calendar/>) to find out about how modules are grouped together to make up programmes.

## Key to Terms used in Module Descriptions

Each module is described in detail in the Book of Modules (<http://www.ucc.ie/modules/>) using the following headings:

**Module Code and Title:** Each module has a unique 6-character code, which contains information about the module. The first two characters EN in the module EN1001, for example, indicate the subject area of the module (in this case an English module), the third character indicates the year or level (in this case a First Year or Level One module), and the remaining three characters 001 identify the particular module in the subject area. The module code is followed by the title of the particular module.

**Credit Weighting:** The size of a module is indicated by its credit weighting. The number of credits allocated to each module will vary depending on the fraction of programme workload it accounts for. The notional student workload for each 5 credits is 125 hours. An undergraduate or taught

postgraduate module may equal 5, 10, 15 or 20 credits. The research element of a taught Master's programme may equal 30 credits or more.

**Semester(s):** UCC uses a semester-based system for learning and teaching (semesterisation). This section lists the semester(s) within which the module is taught and assessed. Semester dates are available here (<https://www.ucc.ie/en/registration/dates-procedures/>).

**No. of Students:** Indicates the maximum quota and/or minimum number of students required for the module to be taught, where applicable.

**Pre-requisite(s):** Pre-requisites relate specifically to individual modules and indicate any prior requirement for admission to a particular module. A pre-requisite is represented by a module code. Minimum entry requirements and programme/subject requirements are contained in the General Information section of the *Academic Programme Catalogue*.

**Co-requisite(s):** Indicates the code(s) of module(s) that must be taken in conjunction with a particular module. Co-requisites do not include core modules, which must be taken by all students in the programme and which are listed in the *Academic Programme Catalogue* under each programme.

**Teaching Methods:** The information under this heading details how the module is taught in hours per lecture, tutorial, laboratory session, field work, etc.

**Module Co-ordinator:** Indicates the name and department of the academic staff member with responsibility for teaching and examining the module.

**Lecturer(s):** Indicates the name(s) and department(s) of staff teaching the module.

**Guest Lecturer(s):** Indicates the name(s) of non-UCC staff invited to give a lecture or talk on a topic related to the module.

**Module Goal:** Reflects what a student will know or be upon successful completion of the module.

**Module Content:** This is a general overview of the topics and areas covered in the module. More detailed information is available from the Module Co-ordinator, whose name is indicated in the module description.

**Learning Outcomes:** Indicate what the student will be able to do upon successful completion of the module..

**Examination and Assessment:** This section indicates the total marks for the module, as well as giving a breakdown of each element of assessment associated with it, e.g. Total Marks 200: Written Examination 100 marks; Oral Examination 50 marks; Continuous Assessment (2 x 1,000-word essays; 1 Multiple Choice Questionnaire [MCQ]) 50 marks. Written Examinations usually take place in Winter for Semester 1 modules or Summer for Semester 2 modules, but in some instances they take place in Spring or at other times of year, as indicated in the module descriptor.

Continuous Assessment may include any of the following: Practicals, Projects, Laboratory Reports, Essays, Seminars, In-Class Tests, and/or any other elements specified by the department.

**Penalties (for late submission of Course/Project Work etc.):** Indicates the penalty, if any, to be imposed e.g. for late submission of Continuous Assessment.

**Pass Standard:** Indicates the pass standard as a percentage of the total marks for the module overall (usually 40%).

**Special Requirements for Passing Module:** Indicates any special requirements, in addition to achieving the pass standard, in order to pass the module. For example, in some modules, students must pass Continuous Assessment and the Written Examination independently to pass the module.

**Supplemental Examination and Assessment:** Indicates the requirements for repeating a module examination at the Supplemental Examination, including any differences from the Winter/Spring/Summer Examination.