



Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna
LUIMNIGH & AN CHLÁIR
LIMERICK & CLARE
Education & Training Board



**UNIVERSITY OF
LIMERICK**
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

Maths for STEM Certificate

Leading to

QQI Maths for STEM Level 5 Special Purpose Award (5S2246)

What is the Maths for STEM Certificate?

This one-year, part-time programme is offered by the Further Education and Training Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board in partnership with the University of Limerick (UL). It is designed for learners who wish to improve their competency and knowledge in mathematics particularly as it relates to work or study in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Why choose a career in STEM?

Ireland's Expert Group on Future Skills Needs¹ has identified a number of occupations which are in high demand, representing emerging skills and/or difficult to fill roles, and many of these are in STEM areas. Examples of such occupations include data analysts/scientists, quality control specialists and process engineers. Undertaking study in any of the STEM disciplines, therefore, can lead to job opportunities in a wide range of areas, as employment in STEM-related sectors is expected to continue to rise for a number of years. If you wish to take a closer look at career opportunities in STEM, log on to www.smartfutures.ie

Who can apply?

The course is aimed primarily at mature-age learners (aged 22 or over by 1st January 2020). The Maths for STEM Certificate is recognised by UL as equivalent to Higher Level Leaving Certificate Mathematics (HLLCM) for the purposes of meeting the minimum entry maths requirement, for mature applicants, to certain degree programmes. A Merit in the Maths for STEM Certificate is deemed equivalent to a H4 in HLLCM, while a Distinction is deemed equivalent to a H3.

Non-mature age learners who wish to improve their mathematical competency are also welcome to apply. Non-mature age applicants must be aged 16+, have left full-time education and must meet the minimum mathematics entry requirements for this programme. However, recognition of the Maths for STEM Certificate by UL for the purposes of meeting the minimum entry maths requirement to certain degree programmes, is currently restricted to mature-age applicants only.

¹ <http://www.skillsireland.ie/all-publications/2017/vacancy%20overview%202016.pdf>

What is the course content?

The course content is set out in the Award Specification for the [QQI Maths for STEM Award](#) (5S2246). The following mathematical topics are covered:

1. Mathematical Proficiency
2. Number
3. Set Theory and Logic
4. Algebra
5. Functions and Calculus
6. Geometry and Trigonometry
7. Probability and Statistics

As a mature-age learner, how do I progress to a full-time degree programme afterwards?

All mature-age participants in this course who wish to progress to a degree programme in UL for September 2021 are required to apply via the CAO by 1st February 2021. It is important to be aware that achievement of the minimum required grade in the Maths for STEM Certificate does not guarantee participants a place on a relevant degree programme. Participants will still be assessed on a **competitive** basis, as normal for all mature applicants to UL (see <http://ulsites.ul.ie/admissions/node/29831> for further details on mature student application assessments).

If deemed an eligible mature student applicant, course participants may be made a conditional offer of a place on a degree course, dependent upon their final result in the Maths for STEM Certificate. Participants may be ranked in order of merit for places on the relevant programmes, dependent upon the number of applicants and mature student places available.

When do classes run?

The course takes place on Wednesday evenings from 6.00pm to 8.00pm and Saturday mornings from 9.30am to 1.00pm and runs from Wednesday, 9th September 2020 to mid-May 2021.

Where are classes held?

Classes will be held in the University of Limerick. Participants will be registered learners with the Further Education and Training Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.

What are the entry requirements?

- Mature-age applicants must be aged 22 years or older by 1st January 2020.
- Non-mature age applicants must be aged 16+ by 1st January 2020, have left full-time education and meet the minimum entry mathematics requirement set out below.
- Minimum entry mathematics requirement: Distinction in a QQI / FETAC maths award at Level 4 or a Pass in Ordinary Level Leaving Certificate Mathematics. Equivalent qualifications and/or other mathematical experience may be recognised for mature-age applicants only.
- Good IT skills and good English language skills.
- International Protection applicants are required to provide a copy of their labour market permission letter from the Department of Justice and Equality in order to be considered an eligible applicant for this programme.

Short-listing for places may apply, depending on the total number of applications received. Where demand is high, priority for places on the programme will go to mature-age applicants

How do I apply?

You will need to submit an application form, one written reference and copies of current qualifications to the Mature Student Office in UL. Applications may be submitted any time during 2020 and will be processed on receipt of same. However, the latest date for submission is **Friday 28th August 2020**. Eligible applicants may be invited for interview, if deemed helpful to the assessment of the application.

What does the course cost?

- €300 per annum payable in two instalments of €150 at the commencement of each semester.
- OR**
- €100 per annum payable in two instalments of €50 at the commencement of each semester if you are, or if you are a Dependent of a person who is, in receipt of:
 - a qualifying Social Welfare payment
 - a Medical Card holder
 - on a Jobs Initiative
 - on a Community Employment Scheme

Further information and application forms are available from:

Mature Student Office

Room: EM-019a,

Main Building,

University of Limerick.

Tel: 061-202735

Email: mso@ul.ie

Web: www.ul.ie/mso



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Appendix

Level 8 degree programmes in UL which require a HC3 (old) / H3 or H4 (new) in Leaving Certificate Mathematics (or equivalent) as a minimum entry requirement for mature student applicants. A Merit in the Maths for STEM Certificate is deemed equivalent to a H4 in Leaving Certificate Mathematics, while a Distinction is deemed equivalent to a H3.

LM058 BSc Financial Mathematics

LM077 BE Aeronautical Engineering

LM115 BE Chemical & Biochemical Engineering

LM116 BE Engineering (Common Entry)

- Biomedical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Design & Manufacture

LM118 BE Electronic & Computer Engineering

LM124 BSc Mathematics (Common Entry)

- Mathematical Sciences
- Mathematics & Physics
- Economics & Mathematics

LM125 BSc Physics* (Common Entry)

- Applied Physics
- Mathematics & Physics

*Additional minimum entry requirements apply to this programme for mature student applicants.

Please see <https://ulsites.ul.ie/admissions/node/29831> for further details.