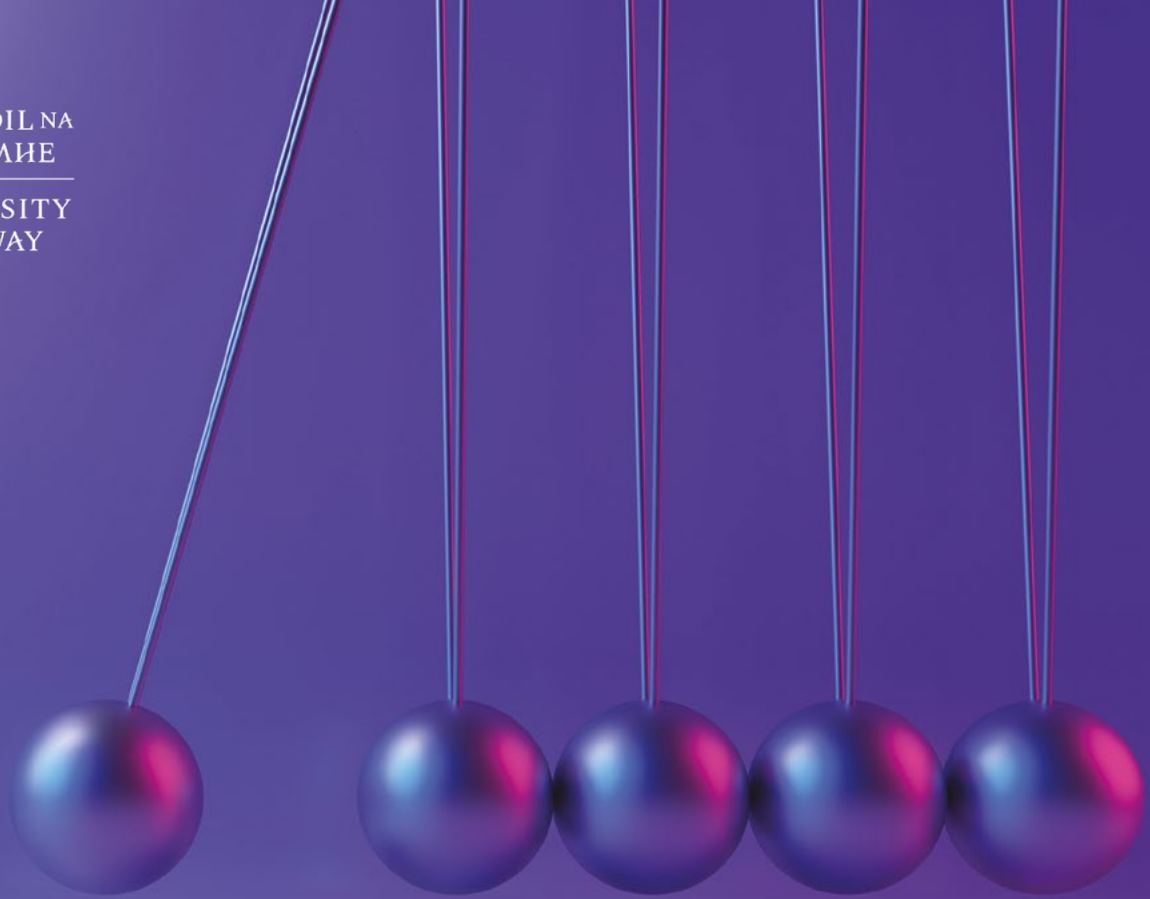





OLLSCOIL NA  
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OF GALWAY



# Part-time courses full-time impact!

Quick Guide 2025/26

University  
ofGalway.ie



## *Introduction to the* Centre for Adult Learning & Professional Development

Welcome to the University of Galway's Adult Learning and Professional Development Quick Guide to part-time courses. For over 50 years, we have been offering a wide variety of professional, part-time and flexible courses in various subjects at Foundation, Certificate, Diploma, Degree, and Masters levels. We also have new Micro-credentials, bite-sized learning experiences, specifically designed to help you upskill and advance your career.

We understand that returning to learning can be daunting, especially when you are juggling work and family commitments. That's why we offer specialised support services to help you navigate your course and achieve success. Whether you live in Galway or elsewhere and regardless of your educational background, we welcome you to explore the possibilities and find the path that suits you best.

Invest in your future and join the thousands of students who have benefitted from our courses over the years. The team at the Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development looks forward to welcoming you and supporting you on your learning journey.

**Nuala McGuinn**  
Director



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Scan the QR code with your phone whenever you see this symbol, it will take you to our website for further information.

## DISCLAIMER

The contents of this brochure are for information purposes only and should not be viewed as the basis of a contract between a student and the University. The courses are offered subject to a sufficient number of registrations at the time of application. The syllabus, fees or course regulations may be cancelled or amended at any time. Prospective students can download a copy of this Quick Guide from our website at: [universityofgalway.ie/adultlearning](http://universityofgalway.ie/adultlearning)

# Why study with us?

*We have accumulated a wealth of experience and knowledge in the development and delivery of part-time courses for adult learners from foundation level to masters awards.*

## Flexible Modes of Delivery

On-campus, online and blended learning courses which accommodate students who have busy professional and personal lives. Micro-credentials which allow you to take modules on a standalone basis are available so that you can study at your own pace and fit your part-time course around individual skills requirements.

## Experienced Educators

Our lecturers and tutors are passionate about working with adult learners and possess a deep understanding of their subject matter, as well as access to the latest research and technologies.

## Digital Technologies

Our classes are delivered using the latest digital technologies to deliver online education and provide continuous support and feedback throughout your learning experience.

## Applied Learning

You will undertake assessments which are practice-based and apply to authentic workplace problems, ensuring an immediate return on time and investment for employers and employees.

## Smaller Class Sizes

Enable you to engage in discussions and debates, share real-life experiences and avail of peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

## Excellent Career Prospects

University of Galway is among the top Irish universities for graduate employability. Our adult learning courses offer a practical and applied approach to your chosen subject area, leading to promotion, increased earning potential, and professional recognition in your workplace upon successful completion.

## Student Support

You will be offered a range of specialist support services, including study and examination techniques, academic writing workshops, careers advice and group tutoring where required, which will help you to succeed in your chosen course.

## Internationally Recognised Qualifications

University of Galway is positioned in the top 2% of Universities worldwide and in the top 100 Universities in Europe (QS World University Rankings).



## Join us

Our annual Information Evening will take place on campus in the Human Biology Building on Wednesday 18th June, 2025  
[universityofgalway.ie/adultlearning/events](https://universityofgalway.ie/adultlearning/events)



# Fees & Funding

You will find the course fee (EU and non-EU) listed on the individual course webpages. Tuition fees are payable for each year and are usually paid in a number of stages (i.e. deposit upon course acceptance, at the start of semester 1 and start of semester 2). Alternative payment plans may be put in place for students to pay course fees on a flexible basis. If you require this facility, you are advised to contact the course administrator to find out more about this payment option.

## Funding your Studies

You can seek financial support for your studies through a number of channels:

### Sponsorship

Your employer may sponsor you if the course of study has direct relevance to your workplace.

### Income Tax Relief

Available at the standard rate for all courses that are 2 years or more in duration. Contact your local tax office or visit [revenue.ie](http://revenue.ie)

### Financial Aid Fund

Provides financial support to students to enable them to fully benefit from their third level studies. It is available for part-time students, however you have to be registered before you can apply.

### Scholarships

A number of scholarships are also available:

- Adult Learning Tuition Scholarship
- 1916 Scholarship Fund
- Skillnet funding
- University Scholarship
- SUSI Funding
- Micro-credentials Learner Subsidy

## Skillnet Ireland

Skillnet Ireland, through its 70 Skillnet Business Networks and National Initiatives, supports Irish businesses to enhance competitiveness, productivity, and innovation by developing the talent, capabilities, and skills essential for success. Funding for some of our part-time courses is available through Skillnet Business Networks such as Next Level Skillnet, Galway Executive Skillnet, Green Tech Skillnet, and Industry 4.0 Skillnet.

Learn more at [skillnetireland.ie](http://skillnetireland.ie)



## Springboard+ Courses

Each academic year, the University of Galway offers a limited number of Springboard+ places, fully or partially funded by the government. Course details and availability are typically announced in late May/early June each year.



Springboard+ and HCI Pillar 1 are co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach  
Co-funded by the  
European Union

HEA

HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
AN tUdaráis um Ard-Oideachas





# How to apply

You can apply for our part-time courses online through the University of Galway Applications System. Go to the University of Galway Applications System and create an account. You will be guided through the system, step by step, until you complete the online form.

## Tips

- Check that you meet the entry requirements for your course. If you do not meet the requirements, see RPL on the following page;
- Find out when course applications close;
- Have all your Supporting Documents ready to upload with your application.

If you have any queries, contact the course administrator listed on the webpage who will guide you further in the application process.



# Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a process by which prior learning is formally valued. RPL allows you to leverage your past learning experiences to advance in your educational journey. It can help you gain entry into a programme or course, even if you don't meet the standard entry requirements. Additionally, RPL may grant you module exemptions or advanced entry into a programme, reducing the time needed to complete your qualification and preventing unnecessary repetition of learning. RPL makes it possible for individuals to build on learning already achieved and to be rewarded for it.

## What can RPL be used for?

The RPL process may be used to gain:

- Entry to a course where you do not meet the standard entry requirements
- Advanced entry to a course (i.e. into year 2 or year 3)
- Exemption from one or more modules on a course

## Types of Prior Learning

Prior Learning is learning which has taken place prior to admission to a course, or to a stage of a course, but has not necessarily been assessed, measured or assigned credits. Prior Learning may be described as formal, non-formal or informal.

These are defined as follows:

- **Formal learning** is learning which takes place in an organised formal way and is delivered by education providers. It typically leads to certification that attracts awards or credits. Formal learning is sometimes referred to as certified or accredited learning.
- **Non-formal learning** takes place through planned, structured learning activities alongside or outside the mainstream systems of education and training. It is intentional from the learner's perspective and while it may be assessed it does not normally lead to formal certification (award/credits). Non-formal learning often focuses on the development of skills and competencies. Examples of non-formal learning are planned learning and training activities undertaken in the workplace, voluntary sector, or in community-based settings.
- **Informal learning** is not organised or structured (in terms of objectives, time or learning support). It happens in everyday activities such as life and work experience – and is sometimes referred to as experiential learning. It typically does not lead to certification.



*Suzanne Golden (RPL Project Lead), Joe Sharkey & Cathal McNicholas (RPL 2024 Graduates) and Professor Jamie Goggins, Construction Innovation at University of Galway.*



Recognition of  
Prior Learning

Your Learning Counts

Email: [rpl@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:rpl@universityofgalway.ie)

# Working with Industry & Organisations

As the largest and oldest university in the west of Ireland, University of Galway is among the top Irish universities for graduate employability.

We have developed courses in collaboration with industry, community organisations and professional bodies. Our courses provide practical, real-world knowledge and skills that are career-focused and industry relevant and can be tailored to suit the needs of a particular organisation.

Courses are planned in close association with employers to ensure that skills are developed according to the required competency development frameworks of the industry and to meet the continuing professional development standards of overarching professional bodies.



# Part-time courses

## Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

As a student of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences you will study human culture, society and the relationship among individuals within a society from different perspectives.

An exciting range of language courses are also provided, extending from the ancient world to the most contemporary developments in European languages, literatures, and cultures. Our Irish language courses cater to students who wish to gain fluency in Irish for employment in the public sector, translation services, or media.

Throughout your studies, students utilise and master the keys skills of communication, observation, teamwork and applying critical and analytical thought to problems. This produces graduates that are highly valued by employers as they have the necessary skill set to communicate complex and abstract information in a human context.

Course	Award	Delivery	Credits	NFQ Level	Duration	Start Date
Community, Youth & Family Studies	Certificate*	Blended	45	7	1 year	<b>Sept 2026</b>
	Diploma*		90	7	2 years	
	Degree		180	8	4 years	
Irish Studies	Diploma	Online	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Social Care	Degree	Blended	180	8	4 years	Sept 2025
<b>Languages</b>						
Chultúr Dúchais	Dioplóma	Blended	30	7	2 years	<b>Sept 2026</b>
Gaeilge	Dioplóma (Leibhéal A2, B1, B2 & C1)	On-campus	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach	Ard-Dioplóma	Blended	60	8	2 years	Sept 2025
French	Diploma	Online	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Italian Online	Diploma	Online	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Italian	Diploma	On-campus	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
German	Diploma	On-campus	30	7	2 years	<b>Sept 2026</b>

\*Exit Awards

**NB:** As some part-time courses are structured over two years, they do not have an annual intake.



## Business & Management

Our Business & Management courses are offered at undergraduate diploma and degree level providing you with in-depth knowledge and practical skills in the management and development of business enterprises, in strategic planning for large and small organisations and in the key skills for effective business administration.

Course	Award	Delivery	Credits	NFQ Level	Duration	Start Date
Business Studies	Higher Diploma	Online	60	8	2 years	Sept 2025
Artificial Intelligence for Professionals	Postgraduate Certificate	Online	30	9	1 year	Sept 2025
Commerce Online	Degree	Online	180	8	4 years	Sept 2025
Foundation Studies (Business, Law & Arts)	Foundation Diploma	On-campus	30	6	26 weeks	Sept 2025
Marketing	Diploma	Blended	30	7	2 years	<b>Sept 2026</b>



## Science & Technology

The Science & Technology courses we offer provide numerous career prospects in growing industry sectors or the chance to enhance skills for career advancement. Our courses are designed to meet the present and future demands of the high-tech industry, enabling our graduates to adapt to the changing economic environment. Additionally, they increase employability in technology-focused fields, including precision device manufacturing, supply chain and technical support services for those seeking a career change.

Course	Award	Delivery	Credits	NFQ Level	Duration	Start Date
Apiculture - Bees and Beekeeping	Diploma	Blended	30	7	2 years	<b>Sept 2026</b>
Construction Innovation	Postgraduate Diploma	Blended	60	9	1 year	Sept 2025
Digitalisation of Manufacturing Processes	Diploma	Blended	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025
Digitally Enabled Connected Medical Devices	Diploma	Blended	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025
Earth and Ocean Sciences	Diploma	Blended	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Gemmology	Diploma	Blended	30	7	2 years	Sept 2025
Intelligent Manufacturing Industry 5.0	Diploma	Blended	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025
Manufacturing Automation	Diploma	Blended	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025
Medical Technology Regulatory Affairs & Quality	Certificate	Online	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025
Modern Methods of Construction	Postgraduate Certificate	Blended	30	9	1 year	Sept 2025
Science and Technology Studies	Diploma Degree	Blended	120 120	7 8	2 years 4 years	Sept 2025
Science, Technology, and Engineering	Foundation Diploma	On-campus	30	6	1 year	Sept 2025
Sustainability of Manufacturing Systems	Diploma	Blended	30	8	1 year	Sept 2025



# New Courses

*Explore our new Science & Technology 1-year Diploma courses:*

## Digitalisation of Manufacturing Processes

The Diploma in Digitisation of Manufacturing Processes is designed to prepare students for the evolving demands of the manufacturing industry by focusing on the digitalisation of production processes. Learners will gain a solid foundation in materials processing and digital manufacturing, combining theoretical knowledge with practical application.

## Digitally Enabled Connected Medical Devices

The Diploma in Digitally Enabled Connected Medical Devices prepares students to meet industry demands by enhancing the functionality of modern medical devices. Learners will gain essential knowledge of simple electronic systems used in medical device manufacturing while exploring smart technologies and printed electronics.

## Intelligent Manufacturing Industry 5.0

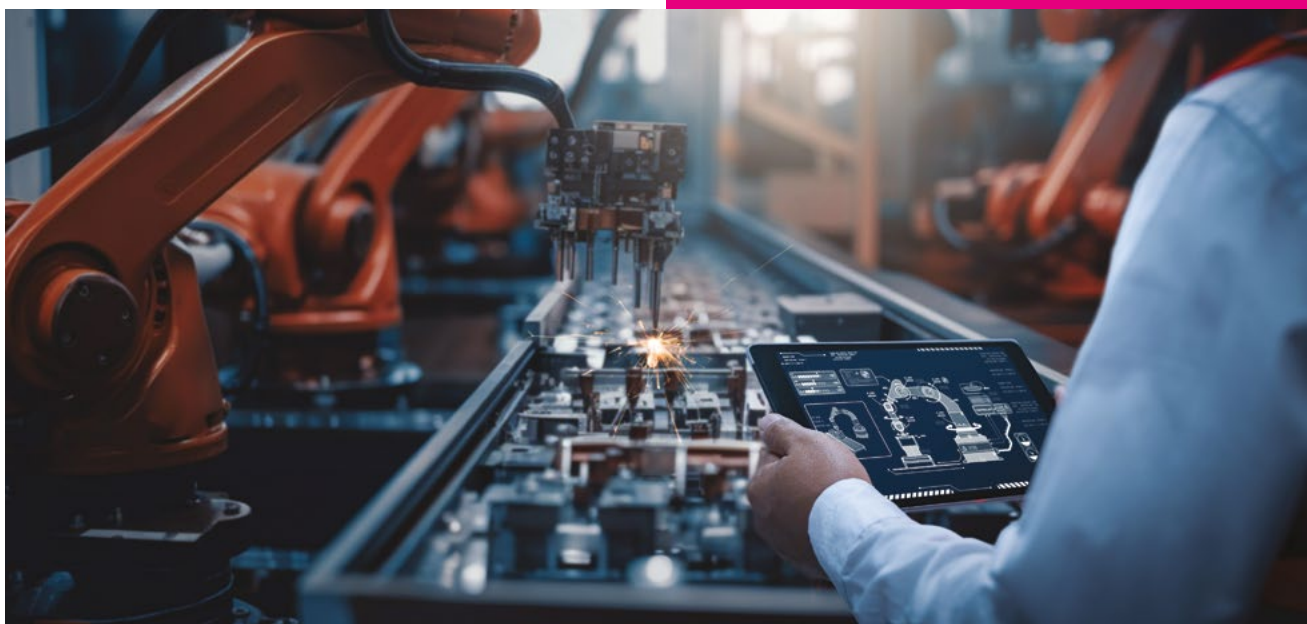
The Diploma in Intelligent Manufacturing Industry 5.0 provides students with key insights into intelligent manufacturing, with a focus on Industry 5.0. Learners will explore the principles of Industry 5.0 from both a theoretical and practical perspective.

## Manufacturing Automation

The Diploma in Manufacturing Automation equips students with the skills and knowledge required to work with automated systems in the manufacturing industry. Learners will gain a solid understanding of manufacturing automation and programming through both theoretical study and practical application.

## Sustainability of Manufacturing Systems

The Diploma in Sustainability of Manufacturing equips students to work in the evolving field of sustainable manufacturing. Learners will explore key environmental challenges and discover opportunities for implementing sustainable changes at both a strategic and practical level within enterprises.



# Our Graduates



"I was incredibly nervous when applying for this degree. I had left work, working in a medical device company to become a stay-at-home mum. From the moment I started my course, everything ran smoothly. The lectures were pre-recorded which was a godsend at times due to family commitments.

The workload was very doable and the set-up for discussion rooms was daunting at first but very rewarding. I'm now doing a postgraduate diploma in Process Validation with Regulatory Affairs in Pharma. All because the lectures I had in University of Galway inspired me to pursue further education in something that I was good at and encouraged me to return to flexible learning again."

**Donna Ryan, Science & Technology Studies Degree**



"Choosing the University of Galway's Bachelor of Commerce online, part-time course was one of the best decisions I made for my education and career. Living in France and balancing a demanding sporting career, I needed a degree that would fit my unique lifestyle and support my ambitions both on and off the field.

The course's flexibility allowed me to structure my studies around my training and competition schedule, making it possible to stay committed to my sport without sacrificing my education. Throughout the four years, the level of guidance and support from the university was outstanding."

**Billy Scannell, Bachelor of Commerce**



"I was eager to study for the diploma but at the same time apprehensive as my IT skills would not have been very strong. The assistance and support I received from the staff made the process a lot easier. No matter what issue any of us had there was always someone on hand to resolve the problem.

I would recommend anyone who is thinking about the course to go for it. The friends and knowledge gained over the two years was immense. The joy of achieving the diploma made it all worthwhile."

**Orla Devane, Diploma in Apiculture (Beekeeping)**



## Postgraduate Part-time Courses

University of Galway now offers many of its full-time taught postgraduate programmes in a part-time format, with blended or online learning options.

Our postgraduate courses are designed to meet industry needs and are driven by cutting-edge research. With a selection of over 200 taught postgraduate programmes and more than 100 research options, you'll find a course that fits your goals.

More than 70 of these programmes are now available on a part-time basis. Explore the full list below:



*Ranked the #1 university in Ireland for sustainability by Times Higher Education (THE), University of Galway is a top university for graduate employability.*

*Photo by John Caulfield*



# Micro-credentials

Micro-credentials are concise, flexible, and accredited courses designed to deliver industry-relevant knowledge, expertise, and skills in a focused timeframe. These enterprise-driven programmes support professional and personal development, enabling learners to upskill, stay competitive in their field, and accelerate career progression. Many micro-credentials are stackable and portable, offering pathways to larger qualifications.

Developed in collaboration with academic and industry partners, our micro-credentials span a diverse range of disciplines, including environment and climate action, technology, sustainability, and construction innovation. For those new to higher education, micro-credentials provide an accessible entry point to university-level study, with the potential to progress to further academic awards.

Completion of a micro-credential represents a recognised achievement in university-level learning, equipping participants with valuable skills for career advancement. At University of Galway, micro-credential students benefit from the same high-quality teaching, resources, and support as all other learners, ensuring a rigorous and rewarding educational experience.

## Funding

A limited number of subsidised places are available for eligible learners across many of our micro-credential courses in Semester 1, supported by the MicroCreds Project.

These subsidies are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so early application is encouraged. For full details on eligibility and availability, please visit [HEA.ie](https://hea.ie).

Additionally, in partnership with Skillnets, we offer further opportunities for fee support through sector-specific networks. If you are unsuccessful in securing a learner subsidy, you may still qualify for financial assistance via your industry's Skillnet course. Visit our website for further information.



The following micro-credentials are on offer in the 2025/26 academic year:

Subject Area	Micro-credential	Delivery	ECTs	NFQ Level	Start Date
<b>Agriculture &amp; Food Systems</b>	Product Development, Validation and Authorisation	Online	5	9	Semester 2
<b>Business, Management &amp; Law</b>	Finance for Non Financial Managers	Online	5	8	Sem 1 & 2
	Entertainment Law	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Business Law II	Online	5	8	Semester 2
	Ethics and law for Artificial Intelligence	Online	5	9	Semester 2
	Responsible Management and Leadership	Online	10	9	Semester 1
	Inclusive Businesses, co-created with and for people with communication difficulties	Blended	5	9	Semester 1
	Project Management	Online	10	8	Semester 2
	Ageing, Inequalities and Rights	Online	5	9	Semester 2
	Customer Experience Design	Online	5	8	Semester 1
<b>Healthcare &amp; Medicine</b>	Mental Health Promotion	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Promoting Healthy Behaviours	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Promoting Health in the Workplace	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Promoting Health in Preschools, Schools & Colleges	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Management of Diabetic Foot Disease	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Management of Lower Extremity Wounds	Online	10	9	Semester 2
	Advanced Research Methods	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Care of the Child & Family with Palliative / Complex needs	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Clinical supervision: Supporting Continuing Professional Development	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Quality of Life and Symptom Management in Children's Palliative / Complex Care	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Recognising & Responding to Client Deterioration	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Clinical Governance	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Dementia care: Transforming Practice	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	High Dependency Maternity Care	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Ultrasound Guided Peripheral Intravenous Cannulation	Blended	5	9	Semester 1
	Insertion of a Midline Catheter with Ultrasound Technology	Blended	5	9	Semester 1

Subject Area	Micro-credential	Delivery	ECTs	NFQ Level	Start Date
Healthcare & Medicine	Inserting a Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter	Blended	5	9	Semester 2
	Maternal Infant and Family Health	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Teaching Effectively	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Diabetes	Blended	10	9	Sem 1 & 2
Humanities & Languages	Próiseas na Pleanála Teanga	Blended	5	7	Semester 1
	Próiseas na Pleanála Teanga I	Blended	5	9	Semester 1
	Próiseas na Pleanála Teanga II	Blended	5	9	Semester 2
	An Anailís Sochtheangeolaíochta I	Blended	5	9	Semester 1
	An Anailís Sochtheangeolaíochta II	Blended	5	9	Semester 2
	An Caighdeán Oifigiúil	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Aistriúchán Téacsanna 1	Online	5	9	Semester 1
	German for Business I	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Cúlra agus Comhthéacs na Gaeltachta	Blended	5	7	Semester 1
	Éisteacht agus Labhairt 1 B1	Online	10	7	Semester 1
	Irish for Beginners 1	On Campus	5	8	Sem 1 & 2
	Léamh agus Scríobh 1 B1	Online	5	7	Semester 1
	Scríobh agus Léamh 1	Online	5	7	Semester 2
	Teanga an Ghnó	Online	5	8	Semester 2
	Éisteacht & Labhairt 1	Online	10	7	Semester 2
	Cruinnscriobh agus Comreir na Gaeilge	Blended	10	9	Sem 1 & 2
	Cruinnscriobh na Gaeilge 1	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Cruinnscriobh na Gaeilge 2	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
IT & Computer Science	Future of Artificial Intelligence	Online	5	9	Semester 2
	Data Analysis and Visualisation	Online	5	9	Semester 1
	Machine Learning & Natural Language Processing	Online	5	9	Semester 1
	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	Online	5	9	Semester 1
	Introduction to Programming in Python	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Societal Impact of Artificial Intelligence	Online	5	9	Semester 2
	Quantum Programming Foundations	Online	5	8	Semester 1

Semester 1 = Sept/Oct/Nov 2025 | Semester 2 = Jan/Feb/Mar 2026

Subject Area	Micro-credential	Delivery	ECTs	NFQ Level	Start Date
Science & Engineering	Green Labs Principles and Practice	Online	10	9	Semester 1
	Environmental Management for Organisations	Online	5	8	Semester 2
	Sustainable Communities	Blended	5	8	Sem 1 & 2
	Regulatory Compliance	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Green Hydrogen Technology, Design and Analysis	Online	5	9	Semester 2
	Environmental Impact Assessment (Marine)	Online	10	9	Semester 2
	Sustainability Planning in Construction	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Digital Construction Technologies	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Modern Methods of Construction	Blended	10	9	Semester 2
	Passive House Designer	Blended	10	9	Semester 1
	Manufacturing Technology	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Scalable Science, Technology & Innovation	Blended	5	8	Semester 2
	Rapid Prototyping and Pilot Production	Blended	5	8	Semester 2
	Enabling (Laser) Technology for Manufacturing	Blended	5	8	Semester 2
	Enterprise Simulation for Digital Twinning	Online	5	8	Semester 1
	Programming Sensors and Actuators	Blended	5	8	Semester 1
	Robotics and Automated Systems	Blended	5	8	Semester 2
	Materials Science & Processes	Blended	5	8	Semester 1
	Design of Engineering Systems	Blended	5	8	Semester 2
Social, Behaviour & Welfare	The Crystallography and Mineralogy of Gemstones	Blended	5	7	Semester 2
	Geology and Gemstones	Blended	5	7	Semester 1
Teaching & Education	Consent, Sexual Violence and Harassment: Practitioner Skills & Practice	Blended	10	9	Sem 1 & 2
	Blended Learning and Teaching	Online	10	8	Semester 1
	STEM Engagement Resources for Teachers	Online	10	9	Semester 1

The micro-credentials listing is updated regularly, please check back for additional micro-credentials.

**NB:** Courses will only run if enough places are filled. Learners will be notified as soon as possible of any cancellations.





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**Centre for Adult Learning and  
Professional Development**

University of Galway,  
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