



A Report For:

March 2018

'A way of filtering
down to serious options'

THE IRISH TIMES

Questions? Contact Us: sean@collegeselect.ie

1. SUMMARY

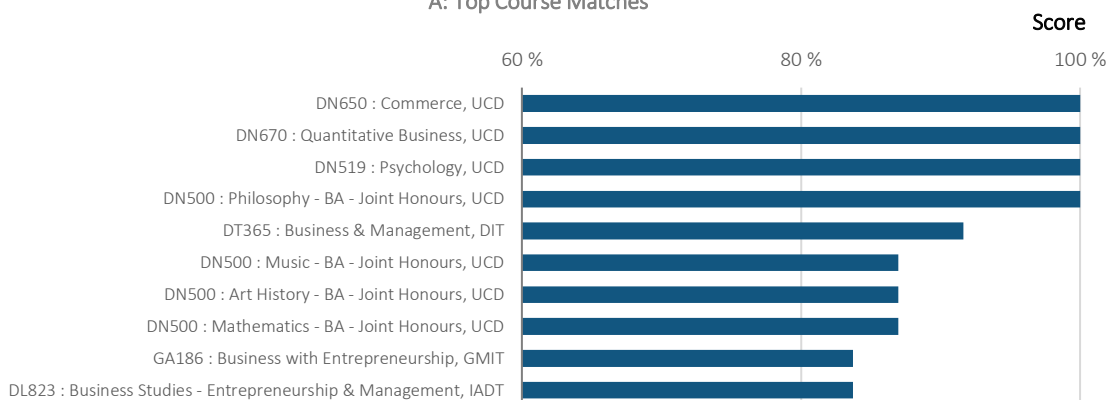
'Choose a career you love, and you will never work a day in your life' — Confucius

Summary

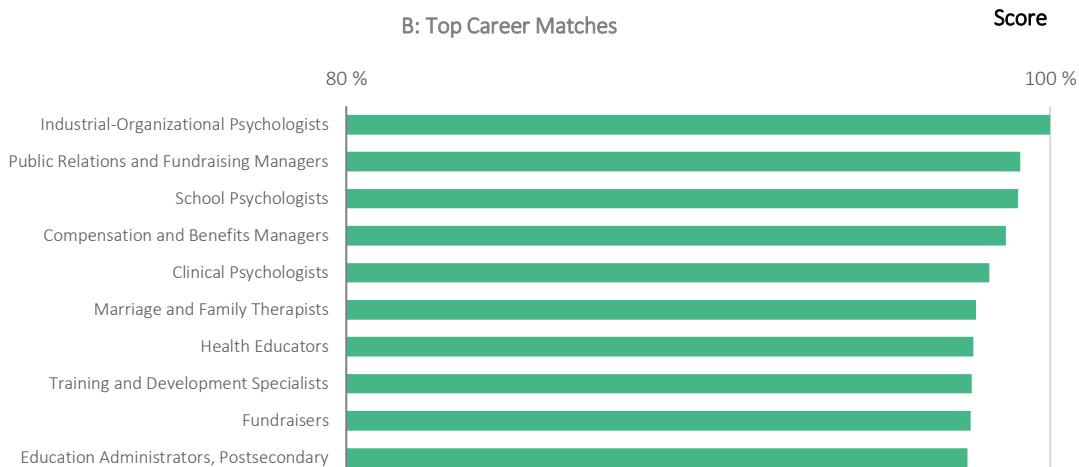
This report identifies potential course and career options based on your self-reported personal preferences and academic performance. You may wish to research these in greater detail with a guidance professional. Exhibit A below presents a summary of your results. This shows your best-match courses along with labour market and course insights in your preferred area of Entrepreneurship. Detailed information on these options (such as points, class sizes, dropout risks and job satisfaction) is available at the end of this report (Exhibits D, E and F). The course and career models provide independent assessments of course and career suitability and may offer divergent career paths depending on your indicated preferences and aptitudes.

EXHIBIT A: COURSE MATCHES

A: Top Course Matches



B: Top Career Matches



C: Labour Market & Course Insights
Preferred Area: **Entrepreneurship**

 Job Satisfaction Very Good 50 %	 Earnings Potential Very Good € 41,000	 Class Sizes Small 49	 Point Trends Falling -6.0 %
--	--	--	--

2. INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The challenge of choosing the right college course for students, parents and career guidance professionals has intensified in recent years following an expansion in the number of available courses (CAO, 2015). Research (ESRI, 2014) shows that students who regretted their career choices were likely to say that they 'did not have enough information about post-school options' and 'would like to know more about possible jobs and courses after leaving school'. Our models help resolve this by suggesting options to students based on their personal interests and current academic performance. Key benefits include:

1. **Focused:** Compared to manual searching, the models efficiently search, score and rank thousands of potential courses and careers and return a manageable list of relevant options.
2. **Personalised:** Unlike the publicly available information sources on career guidance which are general in nature, the models produce options which match strongly with personal preferences.
3. **Fast:** Rather than investing hours trawling through online resources, our models produce results automatically following completion of our short survey.

How Our Models Work

To identify your matched courses and careers, we employ a multi-criteria recommender system (MCRS) model. The model matches, scores and ranks your self-reported preferences against thousands of CAO courses in Ireland and careers internationally. The model uses a weighting system to score your survey responses against each course or career. For example, in the course model a 45% weighting is attached to your study preferences (i.e. engineering, politics or nursing), 25% to college preferences and 15% to subject preferences (i.e. English or Business Studies). Where the course entry requirements significantly exceed your expected Leaving Certificate points (+ 50 points), or if you are not taking a required subject, the model removes that course. A similar approach is taken to match careers.

How to Use this Report

To put this information to best use, we suggest considering these steps:

1. **Use Matches to Focus your Research:** While the options are ranked, any of those listed may be worth considering. Note the course code and name and then research the course further on Qualifax.ie and the college website.
2. **Discuss with a Guidance Professional:** We suggest discussing this report with a Guidance Counsellor. The findings are distinct from, but complementary to, other aptitude and interest tests which you may wish to complete.

Structure of this Report

The remainder of this report is structured as follows:

1. Risk Assessment;
2. Review; and
3. Main Findings.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT

Personalised Risk Assessment

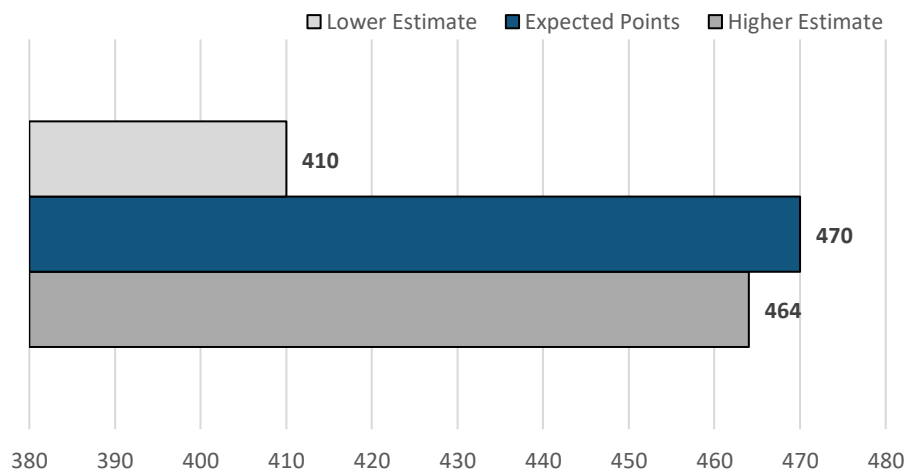
This section provides a personalised assessment of academic and dropout risk (Exhibit B).

Current subject grades are a good predictor of Leaving Certificate performance. Exhibit B(A) shows your expected Leaving Certificate points of 470 (in blue) compared to a lower and upper range based on your current grades. Expected points which are above the current grade ranges may indicate unrealistic expectations. Similarly, expected points below the current grades ranges may indicate that you could performance better at Leaving Certificate than you think.

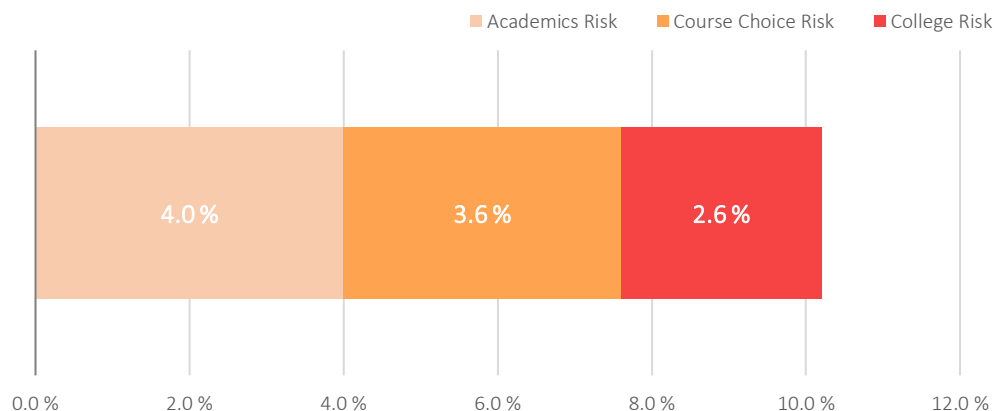
Current dropout rates in Ireland are 1 in 6 (16%). While dropouts vary significantly across courses and colleges, the strongest predictor of dropout in Ireland is academic achievement. For this reason, we estimate three individual dropout rates based on each of the following: academic performance, course choices and college choices. We then calculate an overall dropout rate based on a weighting of these three. While a dropout risk should not dissuade you from taking any course, it is important to know the risks (on average), what is the greatest contributor to those risk (course, college or points) and your relative risk compared to the national average.

EXHIBIT B: ACADEMIC & COURSE RISKS

A: Academic Performance – Expected Points: 470



B: Dropout Risk - Overall Risk Score: 10.2 %

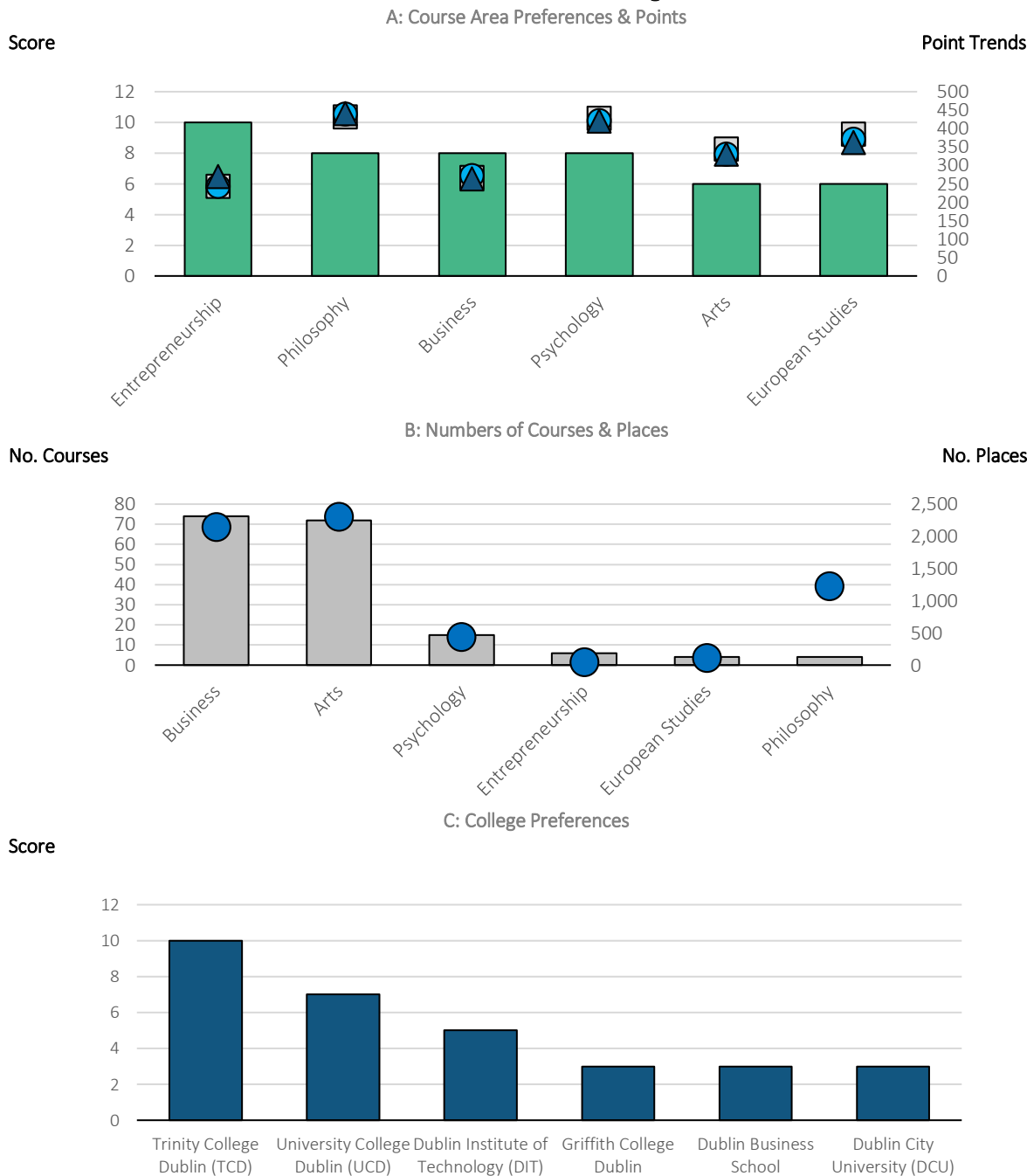


4. REVIEW

Preferences Review

Before presenting the main findings, Exhibit C reviews your course and college choices in order of preference, as indicated in your survey response. Figure C(A) examines the typical points in these areas in recent years (dark blue triangle is 2017; light blue circle is 2016 and light gray box is 2015). Figure C(B) shows the availability of courses and places for each course area. Finally, Figure C(C) reports your college preferences.

EXHIBIT C: Course-Area & College Choices



4. MAIN FINDINGS

Introduction

Choosing the right college course is an important decision which can have important implications for your future career. In the tables that follow overleaf, detailed findings are presented based on your self-reported responses.

The purpose of these findings is to refine your college, course and career options. Keep in mind that our models are targeted so they represent a small proportion of available options. For example, the 30 courses identified represent about 2% of all CAO courses. For this reason, we recommend complementing these findings with your own research and discussions with your guidance counsellor.

Course Options

Exhibit D overleaf presents your Top 30 ranked courses suggested by our modelling. For each course, the official course code, title and college (abbreviated) is shown. The courses are ranked by how closely they match your preferences with the score showing the extent of the match. The course and college score show your self-reported preferences for that course-area or college. Points are also shown for 2016 and 2017. Additional metrics include the percentage change in points on the previous year, the number of available places and an estimate of your personalised dropout risk for that course (note this dropout is based on your reported academic performance in addition to the course area and college). If a course is missing from your selection it may be due to high points compared to your expected points or a subject requirement (e.g. honours maths).

Career Options

Exhibit E overleaf presents your Top 30 ranked careers suggested by our modelling. The score in the last column shows the extent of the match. Also shown is the educational, experience and training requirements of each job role. We have also added the estimated number of jobs in Ireland for that role, the expected growth in that job role between now and 2020 and the typical salary. The factor shows the salary relative to the average. Career model is designed based on international career options.

EXHIBIT D: COURSE MATCHES

COURSE DETAILS			YOUR SCORES			POINTS		METRICS		
Course	Area	Level	Score	Course	College	2017	2016	%Change	Places	Dropout
DN670 : Quantitative Business, UCD	Business	8	100 %	8	7	589	585	1 %		9.8 %
DN650 : Commerce, UCD	Business	8	100 %	8	7	505	500	1 %	257	9.8 %
DN519 : Psychology, UCD	Psychology	8	100 %	8	7	498	500	-0 %	76	9.8 %
DN500 : Philosophy - BA - Joint Honours, UCD	Philosophy	8	100 %	8	7	326	320	2 %	1170	9.8 %
DT365 : Business & Management, DIT	Business	8	92 %	8	5	444	450	-1 %	144	10.8 %
DN500 : Art History - BA - Joint Honours, UCD	Arts	8	87 %	6	7	326	320	2 %	1170	9.8 %
DN500 : Mathematics - BA - Joint Honours, UCD	Arts	8	87 %	6	7	326	320	2 %	1170	9.8 %
DN500 : Music - BA - Joint Honours, UCD	Arts	8	87 %	6	7	326	320	2 %	1170	9.8 %
GA186 : Business with Entrepreneurship, GMIT	Entrepreneurship	8	84 %	10		290	290	0 %		7.6 %
MH411 : Entrepreneurship, NUIM	Entrepreneurship	8	84 %	10		356				7.6 %
DL823 : Business Studies - Entrepreneurship & Management, IADT	Entrepreneurship	8	84 %	10		202	225	-10 %	45	7.6 %
LC226 : Business - Enterprise & Innovation, LIT	Entrepreneurship	8	84 %	10		230	230	0 %	4	7.6 %
DB512 : Business Studies, DBS	Business	8	83 %	8	3	234	275	-15 %		10.8 %
GC300 : Business Studies, Griffith	Business	8	83 %	8	3	275	260	6 %		10.8 %
GC200 : Business Studies, Griffith	Business	8	83 %	8	3	226	280	-19 %		10.8 %
DC208 : Psychology, DCU	Psychology	8	83 %	8	3	500	505	-1 %	32	10.0 %
DC111 : Business Studies, DCU	Business	8	83 %	8	3	466	470	-1 %	179	10.0 %
DB520 : Business Studies - with work placement, DBS	Business	8	83 %	8	3	260	265	-2 %		10.8 %
DB562 : Psychology, DBS	Psychology	8	83 %	8	3	252	240	5 %		10.8 %
DB569 : Business - Psychology, DBS	Psychology	8	83 %	8	3	289	235	23 %		10.8 %
DT533 : Contemporary Visual Culture, DIT	Arts	8	79 %	6	5	311	300	4 %	7	10.8 %
DT315 : Business Studies, DIT	Business	6	77 %	8	5	340	330	3 %		10.8 %
DT324 : Business Management, DIT	Business	6	77 %	8	5	340	325	5 %		10.8 %
GA176 : Business with Entrepreneurship, GMIT	Entrepreneurship	7	74 %	10		270	270	0 %		7.6 %
DL701 : Business - Applied Entrepreneurship, IADT	Entrepreneurship	7	74 %	10			200			7.6 %
DB571 : Business Studies, DBS	Business	7	74 %	8	3	176				10.8 %
GC311 : Business, Griffith	Business	7	74 %	8	3	160	135	19 %		10.8 %
AL854 : Business Psychology, AIT	Psychology	8	71 %	8		291	305	-5 %	11	7.6 %
BN101 : Business, ITB	Business	8	71 %	8		253	250	1 %	18	7.6 %
AL850 : Business, AIT	Business	8	71 %	8		296	300	-1 %	19	7.6 %

EXHIBIT E: CAREER MATCHES

CAREER DETAILS		REQUIREMENTS				METRICS			
Job	Area	Education	Experience	No. Jobs	Growth	Salary	Factor	Score	
Industrial-Organizational Psychologists	Life and Social Science	Masters	None	100	19.1 %	€ 69,100	1.1	100 %	
Public Relations Managers	Management	Degree (Hons)	5+	900	7.1 %	€ 89,600	0.9	99 %	
School Psychologists	Life and Social Science							99 %	
Compensation and Benefits Managers	Management	Degree (Hons)	5+	300	6.5 %	€ 97,100	1.3	99 %	
Clinical Psychologists	Life and Social Science							98 %	
Marriage and Family Therapists	Social Services	Masters	None	500	14.8 %	€ 41,100	0.9	98 %	
Health Educators	Social Services	Degree (Hons)	None	900	12.2 %	€ 44,300	0.9	98 %	
Training and Development Specialists	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	<5	3,500	7.5 %	€ 49,300	1	98 %	
Fundraisers	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	None	1,000	9.3 %	€ 45,200	1.1	98 %	
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	Management	Masters	<5	2,400	8.7 %	€ 75,800	1	98 %	
Counseling Psychologists	Life and Social Science							98 %	
Compensation, Benefits Specialists	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	<5	1,200	4.0 %	€ 51,800	1.1	97 %	
Agents of Artists and Athletes	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	<5	300	2.5 %	€ 51,800	0.6	97 %	
Spa Managers	Personal Care							97 %	
Healthcare Social Workers	Social Services	Masters	None	2,200	19.3 %	€ 44,900	1.2	97 %	
Neuropsychologist	Life and Social Science							97 %	
Human Resources Managers	Management	Degree (Hons)	5+	1,700	8.8 %	€ 89,300	0.9	97 %	
Arbitrators, Mediators, and Conciliators	Legal	Degree (Hons)	<5	200	9.2 %	€ 49,900	0.6	97 %	
Training Managers	Management	Degree (Hons)	5+	500	7.0 %	€ 88,400	1	97 %	
Financial Managers, Branch	Management							97 %	
Personal Financial Advisors	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	None	3,400	29.6 %	€ 75,600	1.1	97 %	
Social Work Teachers, Postsecondary	Education and Training	PhD	None	200	13.9 %	€ 53,500	0.6	96 %	
Clergy	Social Services	Degree (Hons)	None	3,400	5.6 %	€ 38,200	1.1	96 %	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	Social Services	Degree (Hons)	None	4,200	6.2 %	€ 36,100	1	96 %	
Copy Writers	Arts, Entertainment, Sport							96 %	
Naturopathic Physicians	Healthcare Practitioners							96 %	
Fitness and Wellness Coordinators	Management							96 %	
Door-To-Door Sales Workers	Sales	No Formal Education	None	1,100	-1.4 %	€ 20,300	1	96 %	
Speech-Language Pathologists	Healthcare Practitioners	Masters	None	1,900	21.3 %	€ 62,400	1.3	96 %	
Labor Relations Specialists	Business and Financial	Degree (Hons)	<5	1,200	-7.8 %	€ 52,000	1.8	96 %	

EXHIBIT F: COURSE-AREA MATCHES

Course Area	ASSESSMENT				METRICS						PREFERENCE
	Job Sat	Earnings	Class Size	Point Trends	Job Sat (%)	Earnings (€)	Places (Avg)	Point Trends (%)	Courses Up (%)	Dropout Risk (%)	Your Score
Entrepreneurship	Very Good	Very Good	Small	Falling	1	41,000	25	0	0	0	10
Philosophy	Average	Good	Large	Stable	0	37,000	408	0	0	0	8
Business	Good	Very Good	Large	Stable	0	41,000	98	0	0	0	8
Psychology	Very Good	Average	Average	Falling	1	35,000	36	0	0	0	8
Arts	Average	Good	Large	Stable	0	37,000	655	0	0	0	6
European Studies	Average	Good	Small	Falling	0	37,000	28	0	0	0	6