



COLÁISTE CHEATHARLACH  
NAOMH PÁDRAIG

CARLOW COLLEGE  
ST. PATRICK'S

# POSTGRADUATE AND PART-TIME Prospectus

2025 – 2026



COLÁISTE CHEATHARLACH  
NAOMH PÁDRAIG

CARLOW COLLEGE  
ST. PATRICK'S

[www.carlowcollege.ie](http://www.carlowcollege.ie)



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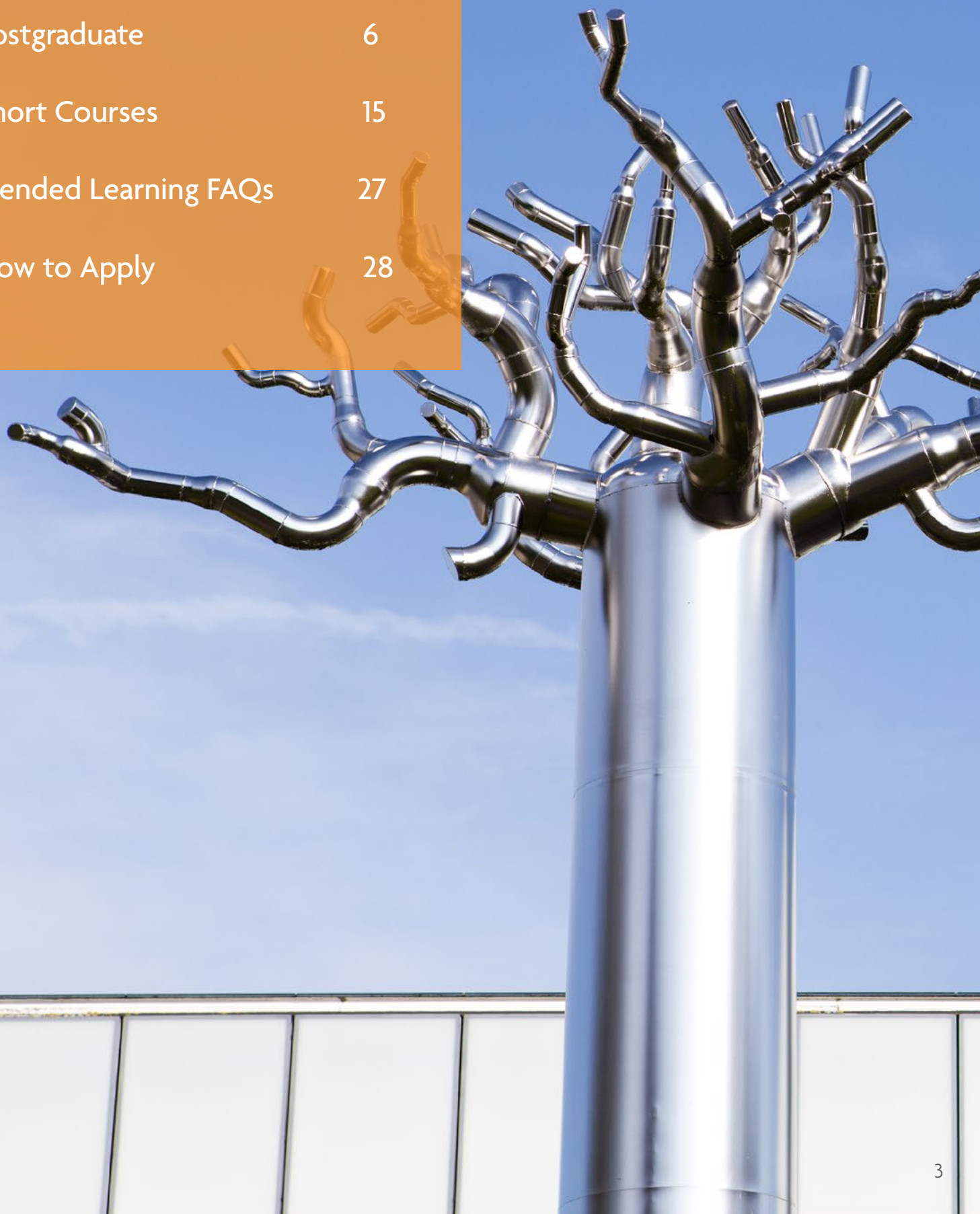
Ollscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Oirdheiscirt  
South East  
Technological  
University

All postgraduate and part-time programmes are offered subject to sufficient numbers of students.

This document is intended as a guide to programmes. Every effort has been made to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information contained in this publication. The college reserves the right to make changes to any content, schedules or fees contained herein.

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## Welcome,

Congratulations on taking the first step in developing your skills. Whether it's for professional or personal reasons, investing in your lifelong learning will always be the right choice.

We understand that pursuing higher education while balancing work, family, and other responsibilities can be a daunting task. However, our postgraduate and part-time study options are designed to provide you with the flexibility and convenience you need to achieve your educational goals.

At Carlow College, St. Patrick's, we offer a diverse range of programs and courses that cater to the needs of working professionals and adult learners. Our experienced lecturers are committed to providing you with a quality education that is relevant to your personal and professional goals.

Whether you are seeking to advance your career, acquire new skills, or explore a new field of study, we have a programme that can help you achieve your aspirations.

We are confident that you will find the resources, support, and community you need to thrive as a part-time student at Carlow College. We look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant and inclusive learning community.

**Dr Margaret Murphy**  
*Vice President for Academic Affairs  
& Registrar*

# Course Delivery

2025/26

Depending on the programme, there are a range of different course delivery methods used. These methods are selected based on delivering a high-quality learning experience, as well ensure the accessibility of our courses.

**Across our programmes, the following delivery methods may be employed:**



## On-site

All classes are held face-to-face on campus



## Blended

Course delivery is a mixture of on-site and online delivered

Where courses are delivered via a blended model, the majority of course content is delivered online, supported by on-campus workshop/s.

In general, online lectures are not recorded.

### Device Requirements

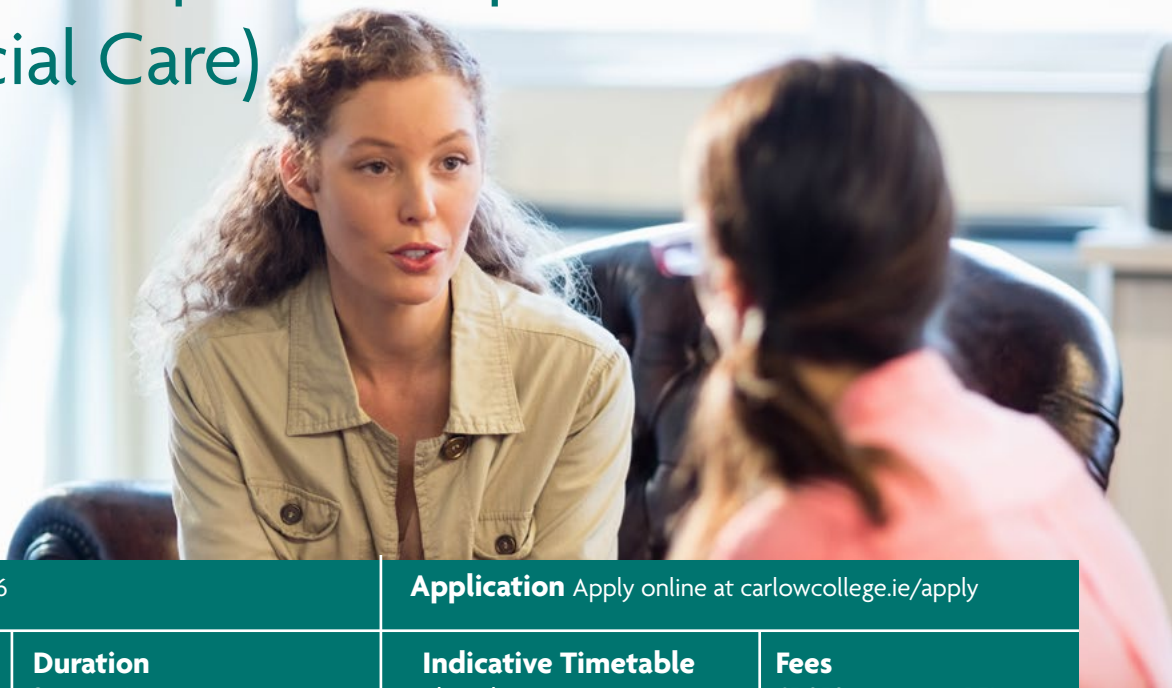
For programmes delivered via blended learning, it is a requirement that all learners applying to Carlow College have access to a suitable laptop and broadband that will allow them to engage with online classes and course materials.

Discover more about blended learning via our [FAQ Webpage](#).

# Postgraduate

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# MA in (Leadership in Therapeutic Child & Social Care)



<b>Next Intake in</b> Sept 2026		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
<b>Delivery</b> 📍 On-site	<b>Duration</b> 2 years; 4 semesters	<b>Indicative Timetable</b> Thursdays 10:00 – 17:30	<b>Fees</b> €5,050 per year + PEL

## Course Description

The MA (Leadership in Therapeutic Child & Social Care) was founded in order to promote fundamental and positive change in social care practice. We continue to believe that care settings that are therapeutic, client-centered and community minded are better and safer for the people we care for. This programme trains qualified staff to work in such settings or bring about changes in their present settings.

The course therefore works as a community of students and staff, a learning space that is co-operative and not competitive. It can be a safe place for students to explore and get support for personal issues, as well as professional and academic matters.

## Who is this course for?

The programme is aimed qualified practitioners in Social Care (and similar professions) who wish to work therapeutically and at a deeper level. We welcome applications from social care practitioners and other experienced professionals who are interested in progressive and therapeutic practice.

## Work Placements

### Visit of Observation

Students have the unique opportunity to be a participant observer at a work setting of their choice. This allows learners to see and experience how the work setting of their choice works and operates. Students' choice may be informed by their professional interest or the focus of their dissertation. The Visit is undertaken during the summer break between Year 1 and Year 2.

### Residential Community Experience

During the course, learners will twice have an opportunity, away from the campus, to experience living together as a community. This experience deepens the learning process and has been a huge contribution to the success of the students on the course.

## Course Content

The programme is designed to enhance the learners' knowledge and skills in the use of a variety of therapeutic approaches to the treatment of children and adults who have suffered emotional and psychological hurts. Modules studied include:

### Year 1

- Advanced Therapeutic Child and Social Care 1: Therapeutic Work in Context
- Philosophy and Ethics of Therapeutic Child and Social Care
- Observing and Understanding Organisational Life (incl. Visit of Observation)
- Experiential Group 1: Leading Self


### Year 2

- Advanced Therapeutic Child and Social Care 2: Therapeutic Communication
- Leadership and Management in Therapeutic Child and Social Care
- Experiential Group 2: Leading Self and Others
- Research Methods and Dissertation

## Career Opportunities

Graduates of the programme have become Directors of Care, Lecturers in Social Care, and HIQA Inspectors. Some have gone on to research at PhD level and to professional doctorates. Many are content to remain in practice, but work at a deeper and more clinical level. However, many students who arrived on the course as social care workers soon became team leaders because of the information and skills they were taking back to the workplace.

**Course Contact:** Colleen Macintosh-Hill  
T: 085 272 7254 | E: [cmhill@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:cmhill@carlowcollege.ie)



### Entry Requirements

Minimum requirements for this programme are:

1. Hold a primary degree (if experienced) or Honours Bachelor in Applied Social Studies or equivalent\*.
2. Be registered or eligible to register as a Professional Social Care Worker\*\*
- OR
3. Be in employment in a human services agency as a manager, team leader or front-line practitioner
4. Satisfactory pass at interview

\*Applicants who do not satisfy the academic criteria may be accepted onto the course if the Course Selection Board is satisfied that they have the ability to complete the course.


\*\* Applications are welcome from those professionally qualified in a discipline other than social care who have at least two years' professional practice experience. Please note: this programme is not a professional award for registration as a Social Care Worker

“The leaders of the course offered a wealth of experience and learnings. The group processes of the course, along with the residential workshops offered a unique learning experience that I do not believe you could experience anywhere else. The MA has contributed greatly to my chosen career and was a significant factor in me securing a role with an organisation that base their model of care on the learnings of this course.”

**Wayne Jacob, Deputy Manager, St Bernard's Children's Services  
MA in (Leadership in Therapeutic Child & Social Care) Graduate**


# MA and Postgraduate Diploma Irish Regional History



Start Date Sept 2025		Application Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
Delivery	Duration	Indicative Timetable	Fees
 <b>Blended</b> One evening on-campus and one evening online	<b>MA:</b> 2 years; 4 semesters <b>PgDip:</b> 18 months; 3 semesters	Semester 1 & 2: Tuesday (campus) and Thursday (online) 18:30 – 21:30 Semester 3: Tuesday (campus) 18:30 – 21:30 Semester 4: No lectures	€2,500 per year + PEL

## Course Description

The Masters in Irish Regional History offers both a challenging and rewarding introduction into the advanced study of history by combining a range of taught modules with opportunities for independent research. The programme aims to produce historians who will find, preserve and communicate this history within the academic and public arenas, and gain employment in the fields of heritage, tourism, media and education.

This course is validated by SETU  Óllscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Oirthuaiscirt  
South East  
Technological  
University

## Who is this course for?

This programme aims to produce historians who will find, preserve and communicate this history within the academic and public arenas, and gain employment in the fields of heritage, tourism, media and education.

## Entry Requirements

**Minimum requirements for this programme are:**

Hold a primary degree (Level 8) awarded at Second-Class Honours, Grade 2 or equivalent.

Applicants who hold a degree at Level 8 with an award of pass or who hold a degree at Level 7 (or equivalent) may be considered with evidence of relevant career practice for a minimum period of three years or a portfolio of publication in historical or cognate studies. In exceptional circumstances, applicants who do not hold a degree at Level 7 or Level 8 on the NFQ may be considered for entry subject to evidence of relevant career practice for a minimum period of 8 years or who can evidence a substantial portfolio of publication in historical or cognate studies.

All such applications will be subject to the College's Admissions Guidelines and Procedures for the Recognition of Prior Learning.

Carlow College reserves the right to require applicants to attend for interview to determine their suitability for the programme.

## Course Content

Over the course of three/four semesters, students will take seven modules, culminating in the completion of a significant independent research project.

## Delivery Mode

MA: On-site: 60% | Synchronous online: 40%  
PgDip: On-site: 67% | Synchronous online: 33%

- Exploring Historiography and Research Methods
- Discourse and Dissonance: Themes in Regional History
- Historical Research, Design and Practice
- Stories from the Archives: Doing Irish Regional History
- Cultural Heritage
- Revealing Hidden Voices: Oral History
- Emerging Histories: Research Seminars
- Thesis (MA) / Irish Regional History Project (PgDip)

## Career Opportunities

The M.A. in Irish Regional History aims to provide graduates with the skills and expertise to pursue a range of professional pathways, for example:

- heritage agencies and centres;
- County Council Heritage Officers;
- museums and tourism;
- charities and NGOs;
- Education (post-primary);
- research positions in government agencies, and
- arts administration.

It is also a fantastic opportunity for professional development for those in the wider heritage sector.

**Course Contact: Dr Elaine Callinan**

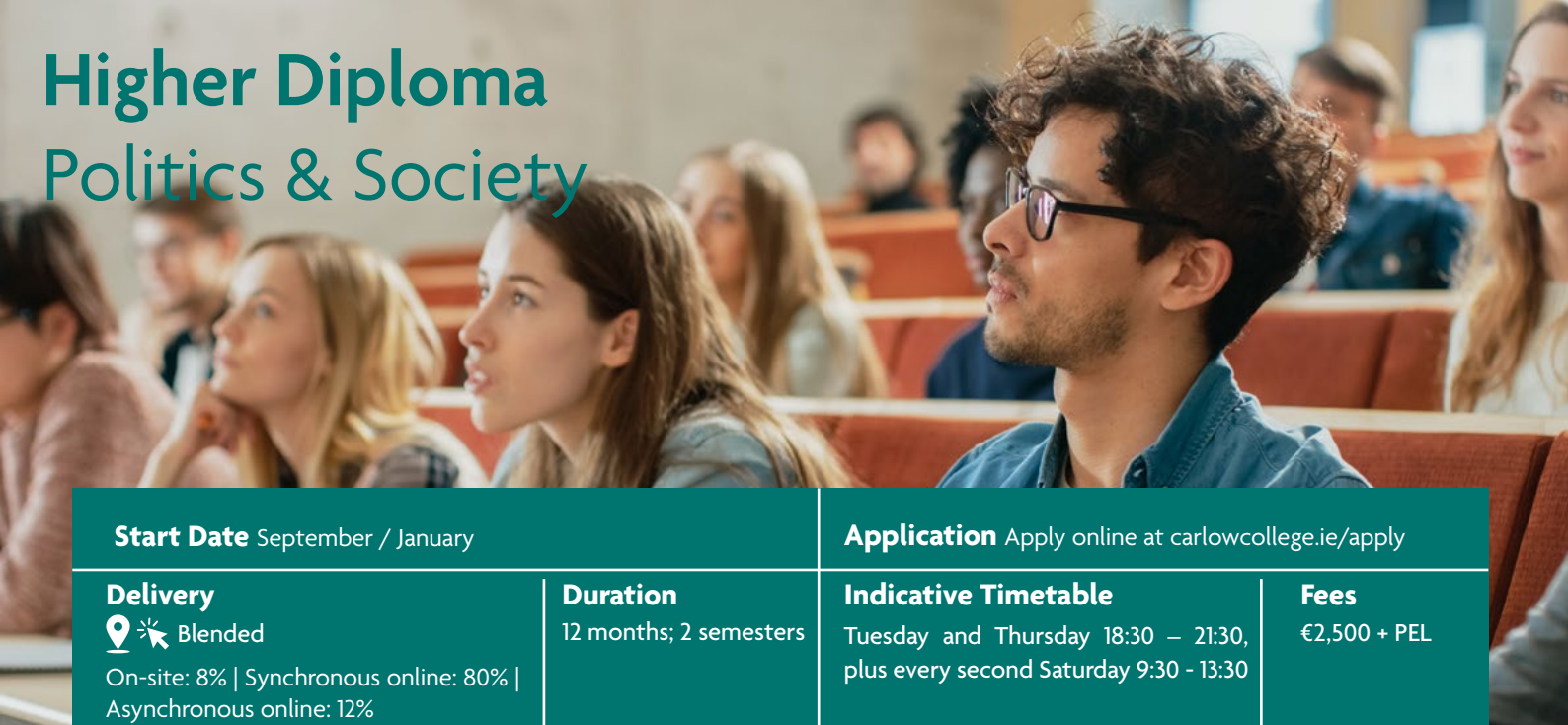
T: 059 915 3249 | E: [ecallinan@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:ecallinan@carlowcollege.ie)



“The things I like most about the course is the small class sizes really suit and you do a lot of peer learning. The lecturers are really passionate about their jobs – they live and breathe history and that reflects itself into the course and the modules, as well as the course work.”

**Regina Dunne**  
**Transition Tourism Activator, County Laois**

# Higher Diploma Politics & Society



<b>Start Date</b> September / January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
<b>Delivery</b> 📍📺 Blended On-site: 8%   Synchronous online: 80%   Asynchronous online: 12% Most classes delivered online with one on-site two-day workshop	<b>Duration</b> 12 months; 2 semesters	<b>Indicative Timetable</b> Tuesday and Thursday 18:30 – 21:30, plus every second Saturday 9:30 - 13:30	<b>Fees</b> €2,500 + PEL

## Course Description

The Higher Diploma in Politics & Society programme is a blended learning 60 ECTS programme taken over one year (part-time). It is primarily designed to align with the core senior cycle curriculum to upskill teachers who wish to teach Politics and Society at a secondary level or in the senior cycle. The course also has a broader aim of developing learner awareness of the complementary disciplines of Politics and Society and their practical application in both the classroom and wider community.

This course is validated by SETU



## Who is this course for?

The programme is aimed at primary and post-primary teachers looking to upskill to teach Politics & Society at secondary level. It is designed in line with the Teaching Council's curricular subject registration requirements for Politics & Society. It is also ideal for those who wish to pursue continuing education in politics and society to enhance career prospectus in the NGO, politics, human rights and advocacy sectors or for professional development for those already working in these sectors

## Entry Requirements

Minimum requirements for this programme are:

1. Any Level 7 or Level 8 programme in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. This includes programmes where applicants may have accumulated fewer than 60 ECTS in Politics and/or Society in the course of their degree programme.
2. Applicants who have undertaken substantial non-certified learning or CPD in fields directly relevant to Politics and Society may be considered for entry if they can additionally show evidence of relevant career practice for a minimum period of three years, or who can evidence a portfolio of publication (for instance, reports, discussion papers, resource packs) in political, societal or cognate studies.

3. In exceptional circumstances, applicants who do not hold a degree at level 7 or level 8 on the NFQ, or who have not taken any relevant non-certified learning, may be considered for entry subject to evidence of relevant career practice for a minimum period of 8 years or who can evidence a relatively substantial portfolio of publication (for instance, reports, discussion papers, resource packs) in political and/or sociology/societal studies.

All such applications will be subject to the College's Admissions Guidelines and Procedures for the Recognition of Prior Learning.

Carlow College reserves the right to require applicants to attend for interview to determine their suitability for the programme.

## Course Content

The programme is designed to introduce learners to the key elements of Politics and Society in a structured and manageable way. These include:

- Introduction to Politics
- Contemporary Politics and Public Policy
- Political Philosophy
- Media Studies and Digital Media Skills
- Citizenship, Identity, and Belonging
- Colonialism, Development, and Globalisation
- International Human Rights
- Pedagogy for Politics and Society

## Career Opportunities

Graduates of this programme will meet the Teaching Council of Ireland requirement for the purposes of teaching Politics and Society at second level. They can also pursue careers in the NGO, public policy, human rights, politics, community education, and advocacy sectors, as well as in the broader public sector.

## Course Contact: Steph Hanlon

T: 059 915 3290 | E: [shanlon@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:shanlon@carlowcollege.ie)



“I find the subject fascinating and the lecturers are very well informed and have done a lot to expand my knowledge further. I also find the online forum very convenient and it has been used excellently by lecturers to facilitate class discussions.”

**Derek Connolly**  
**Higher Diploma in Politics & Society**

# Higher Diploma Journalism & New Media Content



Start Date Sept 2025		Application via SETU Postgrad Application Form	
<b>Delivery</b> 📍🖱️ Blended Blended – most classes delivered online with some Saturday workshops on campus	<b>Duration</b> 12 months; 2 semesters	<b>Indicative Timetable</b> Tuesday and Thursday 18:30 – 21:30, plus some Saturday workshops in semester 2	<b>Fees</b> €2,500

## Course Description

The Higher Diploma in Arts in Journalism & New Media Content was co-designed and is delivered in partnership with South East Technological University (SETU) Carlow. It is a programme designed to attract, train and educate those who wish to have careers as writers in the cognate fields of journalism, content creation, media and communications; anywhere where precision and facts are vital to the success and empowerment of employers, audiences and democracy.

The programme is also aimed at those already working in media and journalism who might want to engage with deeper views and new methods to improve and expand their practice. Each module is designed to provide a comprehensive education and training in the skills, competencies and knowledge needed to become a journalist and/or media content creator.

Students will learn to construct stories factually, engagingly, and appropriately for different media platforms and audiences. Students will go beyond the mere training needed to write accurately in the journalistic mode and further their practice by engaging with advanced academic work to unveil deeper knowledge about the theory and practice of journalism and media writing.

This course is validated by SETU



## Who is this course for?

The programme is aimed at those already working in media and journalism who might want gain a formal qualification or to engage with deeper views and new methods to improve and expand their practice. It is also ideal for those looking to start their career in journalism or media content creation.

## Entry Requirements

All applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Applicants who do not have a Level 8 qualification at a 2.2 award level and who have relevant work experience and or other certificates and qualifications may also be considered through the Institute's RPL procedures. Relevant professional experience may be considered and individuals will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through RPL procedures.

SETU reserves the right to require applicants to attend for interview programme.

## Course Content

The programme comprises the following modules:

- News Gathering and Reporting
- Feature Writing
- Media Law, Values and Ethics
- Media Entrepreneurship
- Reporting and Publication
- Broadcasting
- Digital Journalism and Storytelling

## Career Opportunities

It is recognised that the journalism and media landscape is undergoing enormous changes and that traditional content, consumers and modes of production are evolving rapidly. The structure and content of this programme recognizes the need to prepare graduates for these challenges. The ability to reflect on one's own practice is a core element of many modules.

Graduates from this programme have progressed their careers in broadcasting, podcasting, print journalism, marketing and content creation.

**Course Contact: Dr Eoghan Smith**

T: 059 915 3200 | E: esmith@carlowcollege.ie



“ I have been a freelance reporter for many years now without any qualification. Having studied for this Higher Diploma it has been me greater confidence in the journalistic environment and I am familiar with many of the terms used in job descriptions which are advertised in the trade. I would recommend this course to anyone who is in journalism or would like to get into journalism. For those already working in a journalism environment and who may not have a qualification this course is a must-do.”

**Kieran Murphy**  
Presenter of *Across The Four Lakes* Podcast

# Short Courses

These short courses give you an in-depth understanding of a key subject area. Validated by SETU, the Certificate programmes are designed to help you explore an area of interest and develop new skills. Programmes are assessed using a variety of continuous assessment elements. As these courses are drawn from some of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, should you later decide to progress to a Major award programme, you will get credit for the modules you have completed.

## Creative Writing

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## Digital Media & Communications

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## History

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## Politics & Sociology

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Certificate Citizenship, Identity and Belonging	21
Certificate Contemporary Politics and Public Policy	22
Certificate International Human Rights	22
Certificate Political Philosophy	23
Certificate Pedagogy for Politics & Society	23
Certificate Introduction to Politics	24

## Psychology

Certificate Child Developmental Psychology	25
Certificate Cyberpsychology	25

## Theology

Certificate World Religions, Peace and Conflict	26
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## Key Contacts For Short Courses

Course Enquiries: [slo@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:slo@carlowcollege.ie)

Admissions: [directentry@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:directentry@carlowcollege.ie)





“Carlow College is a wonderful venue for study with excellent lecturers, a beautiful library and very enthusiastic co-learners in a relaxed, yet stimulating environment.”

**Katherine Coleman**

## Certificate Creative Writing (Fiction)

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 7 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b>  On-site	<b>Fees</b> €465 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Creative Writing (Fiction) aims to introduce learners to different writing disciplines and styles and encourage them to experiment with them. It will also require them to develop their skills as critics through the close reading of other writers work and their own and fellow learners' writing and texts.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

Over the course of the Certificate, learners will analyse and practice various modes of fiction writing.

- The course will cover aspects of fiction such as: the creative process; some techniques; keeping a writer's notebook
- Writing what you know, what you do know, what you think you know and what you think you don't know
- character
- Story setting
- Story structure: story, plot, action, time
- Narrative point of view and narration
- Showing and telling
- Editing for digital platforms
- Development of writer's portfolio

Each theme will be explored and developed through individual and group exercises in class, and at home in Learner's writing workbook

## Certificate Creative Writing (Poetry)

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 7 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b>  On-site	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Creative Writing (Fiction) aims to introduce learners to different writing disciplines and styles and encourage them to experiment with them. It will also require them to develop their skills as critics through the close reading of other writers work and their own and fellow learners' writing and texts.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

Learners will cover the following areas:

- Contemporary poetry
- Poems about family
- Poetic voice, and the importance of the aural to poetry as an art – the music of poetry.
- Poems about objects
- Ekphrastic poetry, poetry responding to art
- Poems in translation
- Prose poetry, satire, the dramatic monologue, metaphor, simile and symbol
- The sonnet, the sestina and villanelle, for example.
- Writing for digital platforms

Learning how to submit a number of their poems to magazines for consideration for publication in the course of this module.





“I returned to learning with this Certificate in Creative Writing (Fiction), very low in confidence about my ability. The environment created in class changed this. The environment created was one of trust and open collaboration, and while it pushed me out of my comfort zone to not only workshop and collaborate with classmates, it was so freeing to be afforded the chance to learn from others while being able to express myself.”

**Róisín McIntosh**

Following publication of her piece *Once Upon a Time a Woman* in Splonk #9

## Certificate Media Studies and Digital Skills

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b>   <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Creativity & Social Media aims to provide the learner with an understanding of the role and importance of creativity and innovation as an effective tool in social, political and community development. It surveys the most influential and effective social media platforms from local, national and international perspectives. The primary objective of this course is to enable learners to develop the knowledge and competence to creatively engage with online communities and to critically analyse the use and potential of social media in social, political and community contexts.

Learners will gain an understanding of creativity and social media theory and knowledge, as well as develop practical skills to enable the application of their learning to the virtual environment.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

The course will cover the following areas:

- Theoretical Perspectives on Media
- Contemporary and New Media
- Critical Media Literacy
- Digital Media Skills: curation and maintenance of online presence and familiarisation with key website builders and domain management.
- Media Analysis and Research Methods


Each theme will be explored and developed through individual and group exercises in class, and at home in Learner's writing workbook.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks

## Certificate Cultural Heritage

Start Date January		Application Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
NFQ Level	Duration	Delivery	Fees
8 5 Credit Module	12 weeks 1 evening per fortnight 18:30 – 21:30	 Blended	€465 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Cultural Heritage aims to enable learners to engage in profound and multifaceted discussion and analysis about cultural heritage from both a theoretical and practical perspective. Learners on the programme will explore an awareness of regional cultural heritage and the importance of heritage in Ireland. The main goal is to enable learners to understand the concept of cultural heritage and to apply this knowledge to current and possible future projects. Learners will examine the tangible and intangible or non-physical aspects of regional culture.

This programme also examines the processes of remembering the past by taking a case study approach to assess the ways in which heritage has been used politically, at regional, local and community level and by interest groups. Issues surrounding cultural heritage such as protection, repatriation, destruction and cultural property law will be analysed. A critical appraisal of how cultural heritage institutions use digital media, focusing on the relationship between material and digital objects, the impact of technology, and virtual heritage possibilities.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%.

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks

### Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to hold:

- Any Level 7 History or a cognate subject, OR Demonstration of a record of being employed in the field of history in some way, OR Evidence of publication in history in a good local historical journal.


Carlow College, St. Patrick's reserves the right to require applicants to attend for an interview to determine their suitability for the course.

### What will be covered?

The major topics of this programme will include:

- Defining cultural heritage based on current scholarship.
- Exploring people's experience and understanding of their personal, national, regional and local pasts.
- Interrogating and analysing different understandings of the past.
- An analysis and debate of the issues surrounding cultural heritage such as protection, repatriation, destruction and cultural property law.
- The use of new media in the service of cultural heritage.
- The relationship between material and digital objects in cultural heritage collections.

## Certificate Oral History

Start Date January		Application Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
NFQ Level	Duration	Delivery	Fees
8 5 Credit Module	12 weeks 1 evening per fortnight 18:30 – 21:30	 On-site	€465 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Oral History enables learners to practice oral history in a competent, methodologically robust and ethically sound way. It aims to introduce them to uses of oral history in museum and heritage settings, and to learn basic podcasting skills. The programme develops the methodology of collecting 'history from below', giving learners the skills to collect and interpret evidence that is not available in the written record. It enables learners to learn best practice standards in oral history methodologies. The programme has a special emphasis on developing oral history interview techniques and competencies, digital competencies and knowledge of ethical considerations that are vital to the ethical conduct of oral history.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to hold:

- Any Level 7 History or a cognate subject, OR
- Demonstration of a record of being employed in the field of history in some way, OR
- Evidence of publication in history in a good local historical journal.

Carlow College, St. Patrick's reserves the right to require applicants to attend for an interview to determine their suitability for the course.

### What will be covered?

This programme covers the following areas:

- Methodological and ethical approach to the collection,
- subsequent use and archiving of oral history,
- Key resources for best practice of oral history
- Ethics in the oral history process
- Interviewing skills and recording skills.
- Techniques to transcribe interviews, and to edit recordings.
- Analysing interviews, using other sources to check veracity.
- Podcasting.
- Developments in the digitisation of oral history, enabling wider use of oral history in websites, museum and other heritage settings

## Certificate Citizenship, Identity and Belonging

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b> 📍🖱️ <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Citizenship, Identity and Belonging aims to provide learners with an introduction to citizenship, which has become one of the most political ideas of our time. This course explores the process of politics and active citizenship, and creative involvement in political life whether at a community, national or global level. The course will also critically engage with the politics of citizenship, including the issues of membership, inclusion, and exclusion with reference to theoretical perspectives on nationalism, identity, and cultural conflict.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.

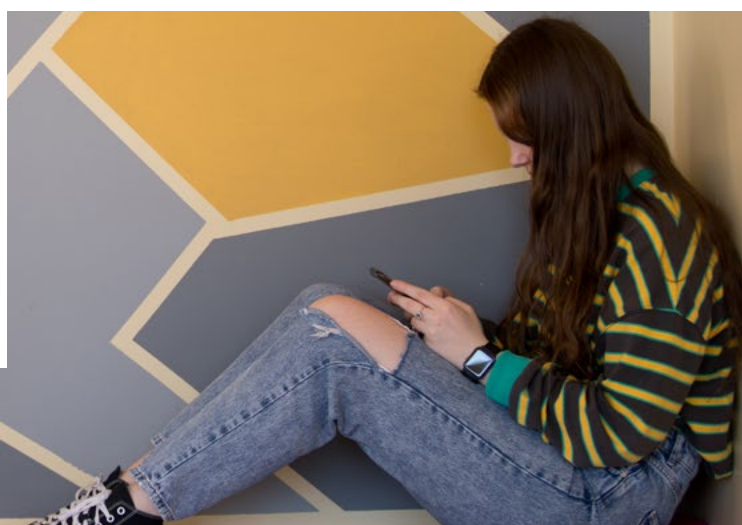
### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

The course is broken into 4 sections:

- The Macro Level: active citizenship, civil society, State-community relationship
- Citizenship and the Dimensions of Nationalism, Globalisation and Identity
- Applying Concepts to Case Studies
- From Knowledge to Action: initiatives, interest groups, representation, accessibility, research



## Certificate Colonialism, Development and Globalisation

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b> 📍🖱️ <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Colonialism, Development and Globalisation provides learners with a historical awareness of the conditions of power under which scholarly knowledge and dominant development discourse has been produced, by introducing postcolonial and post development theories and practices and interrogating how our own institutional context is shaped by the complexities of Ireland's relation to empire and capitalism, past and present.

The course aims to introduce learners to the key issues and ideas in international development and examines the historical context, economic and political basis of colonialism and development. The course also aims to critically evaluate development theoretical frameworks and practices. It supports learners to make connections between conceptual arguments in the broad field of international development – from colonialism to the paradigms of development, and global governance.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%



There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.

### What is this course about?

The course covers the following topics:

- Colonialism and the Age of Imperialism
- Theories and Paradigms of Development:
- Post Colonialism
- Globalisation – Global Governance, Development Institutions and Approaches:
- Development Aid
- Current Development Issues & Empirical Case Studies

## Certificate Contemporary Politics and Public Policy

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b>   <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Contemporary Politics and Public Policy aims to explore the way that public policy shapes our lives and the different forms that politics takes. It addresses a variety of ways of thinking about politics and provides some of the key concepts and analytical frameworks used in analysing politics. This includes examining the practices involved in organizing public life, regulating who gets involved in decision-making and on what terms, and shaping how much influence they get to have over those decisions, whether at local, national or transnational level.

A distinctive feature of this course is its applied nature. As part of developing learner's skills in undertaking political and policy research, this module also focuses on building critical media literacy skills that facilitate learners' active engagement in current affairs. The course provides the opportunity to develop learner capacity for rigorous oral and written argument. Learners will have an opportunity to carry out research into political life, developing analytical and debating skills.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%



There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks

### What will be covered?

Learners will cover the following areas:

- Public Policy and the Policymaking Process
- Politics of the European Union
- International Relations and Global Governance
- Civil Society, Interest Groups and the Media
- Political Research: Methods and Practical Skills.

## Certificate International Human Rights

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 2-hour lecture every second Saturday, plus self-directed learning	<b>Delivery</b>   <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in International Human Rights aims to introduce learners to the key theories, concepts, and frameworks of analysis of Human Rights theory. It will introduce learners to human rights instruments, including International Human Rights Articles, Declarations and Conventions on Human Rights with reference to empirical case studies. The course aims to foster analytic and critical thinking skills, and the ability to formulate independent coherent arguments through problem posing methods using a Rights-based perspective.

International Human Rights offers a lens to analyse complex global issues such as colonialism and development learners. Learners will be able to demonstrate advanced written, oral, presentation and digital skills as part of and to be able to conduct qualitative and quantitative analysis and critically analyse of how evidence and data are used to support arguments.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 17% | Synchronous online: 66% | Asynchronous online: 17%



There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.

### What will be covered?

The course will cover the following topics:

- Rights and responsibilities
- Human Rights Principles
- Human Rights & Equality
- Debating Human Rights
- Examining International Human Rights Instruments
- Conceptions of Human Rights and the West: Universal or Relative to Culture?

## Certificate Political Philosophy

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 2-hour lecture every second Saturday, plus self-directed learning	<b>Delivery</b>   <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 + PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Political Philosophy aims to provide learners with an overview of the classic topics in political philosophy and the major thinkers in the western political tradition, and support learners to examine the influence of these philosophical concepts influence on contemporary political structures. It also aims to deepen learner understanding of the links between into social, scientific, and philosophical subjects.

This course is divided into two parts. The first part examines classic topics in political philosophy, from the historical figures in Greek philosophy to social contract theories of Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, as well as key critiques. The second part of the course will explore issues within contemporary political philosophy, such as equality, human rights, and the politics of immigration with reference to contemporary case studies.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### Mode of Delivery


On-site: 17% | Synchronous online: 66% | Asynchronous online: 17%

### What will be covered?

This programme covers the following areas:

- Introduction to Political Philosophy and Philosophical Inquiry
- Theorists and Concepts
- Applying Political Philosophy to the Contemporary World.

## Certificate Pedagogy for Politics & Society

<b>Start Date</b> November		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 2 day workshop	<b>Delivery</b>  <b>On-site</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Pedagogy for Politics and Society facilitates learner engagement with the theoretical and practical aspects of teaching Politics and Society for Leaving Cert. The course is designed in line with the teaching and learning strategy outlined in the Politics and Society Curriculum Specifications.

The course content engages with pedagogical approaches to teaching Politics and Society and facilitates a Freirean approach to critically exploring the theories and processes that underpin differing conceptions of the Politics and Society syllabus. It equips learners with the tools to face challenging situations in the classroom and aims to develop learners' skillset to develop a classroom of inquiry and move between facilitator and problem poser.

The course is delivered over a two-day working, comprising:

- **Workshop 1:** Teaching and Learning Strategies for Politics and Society
- **Workshop 2:** Theory in Practice – Designing and Creating the E-Portfolio

### Entry Requirements


Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

The course is broken into six themes:

- Introduction: Sociology of Education
- Introduction to Pedagogy
- Freirean Pedagogy
- Reflective Practice
- The Politics & Society Classroom
- Teaching and Learning Strategies for Politics & Society

# Certificate Introduction to Politics

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="https://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 8 5 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 2-hour lecture every second Saturday, plus self-directed learning	<b>Delivery</b>   <b>Blended</b>	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

## What is this course about?

The Certificate in Introduction to Politics introduces the study of politics and is intended as a practical guide to some of the main concepts and vocabulary of political science. The course provides an introductory guide to important themes and issues related to the study of politics, such as the state, regime types, and political change and behaviour. It also introduces learners to some of the study skills that they need to complete assignments and assessments in the area of politics.

The course will also introduce learners to political and social science research methods. It will provide learners with a foundational knowledge of the theoretical dimensions of conducting research in the field of political and social sciences. A variety of qualitative and quantitative research methods, data sources and methods of data analysis are explored.

## Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

## Mode of Delivery

On-site: 17% | Synchronous online: 66% | Asynchronous online: 17%  
There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks

## What will be covered?

The course will cover the following topics:

- Thinking about Politics
- Foundational Concepts in Politics
- Participation and Public Opinion
- Power and the Legitimation of Authority
- Ideologies and the Political Spectrum
- Political Representation and Political Parties
- Electoral Systems and Elections
- Democracy and Democratic Government
- Political Institutions of Ireland and the European Union
- International Politics
- Researching Politics & Methods of Political Analysis



"I really like the blended learning element and how helpful all the lecturers have been. This has made the course enjoyable and as stress free as possible."

Sarah Sweetman, Higher Diploma in Politics & Society

## Certificate Child Developmental Psychology

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 7 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b> 📍🖱️ Blended	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in Child Developmental Psychology offers the chance to study the psychological needs of infants, toddlers and young children and how the family and other social contexts that influence the development of these individuals. It is targeted towards learners who need flexible options for upskilling and CPD such as teachers, counsellors, medical professionals, social workers, educators and childcare workers.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### What will be covered?

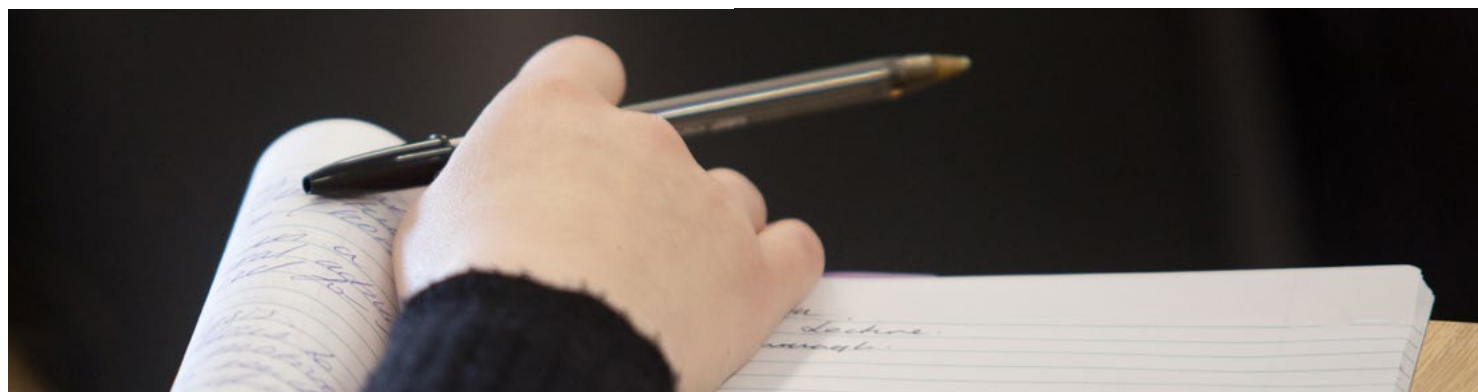
Learners will cover the following areas:

- Introduction to Developmental Psychology
- Developmental Processes and Periods
- Foetal Development
- Theories of Development
- The Developing Individual: The nature of Moral Development
- Developing in Context: The Child in the Family / Peer Group / Society

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.



## Certificate Cyberpsychology

<b>Start Date</b> January		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/">carlowcollege.ie/book-a-course/</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 7 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b> 📍🖱️ Blended	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The primary objective of the Certificate in Cyberpsychology is to introduce learners to the key concepts, theories, research methodologies and practical applications of Cyberpsychology. This course further aims to provide the learner with an understanding of the eight dimensions of Cyber Psychology architecture (identity, social, interactive, text, sensory, temporal, reality and physical).

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners.

### Mode of Delivery

On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.

### What is this course about?

The course will cover topics such as:

- Origins of Cyber Psychology
- The Eight Dimensions of Cyber Psychology Architecture Part One
- The Eight Dimensions of Cyber Psychology Architecture Part Two
- Portrayal of the Self Online
- Relationships in Cyberspace
- Online Groups and Communities The Dark Side of Cyberspace
- Mental Disorders in Cyberspace
- Cognitive Factors in Cyberspace
- Young People and Cyberspace
- Privacy and Trust Online

## Certificate World Religions, Peace and Conflict

<b>Start Date</b> September		<b>Application</b> Apply online at <a href="http://carlowcollege.ie/apply">carlowcollege.ie/apply</a>	
<b>NFQ Level</b> 7 10 Credit Module	<b>Duration</b> 12 weeks 1 evening per week 18:30 – 21:30	<b>Delivery</b> 📍💡 Blended	<b>Fees</b> €360 incl PEL

### What is this course about?

The Certificate in World Religions, Peace and Conflict aims at developing the learners' interpretative skills and cultivating insights into how to do Christian theology in today's pluralist world. In that, the course will introduce learners to the key belief systems, worldviews, truth claims, rituals, scriptures, etc. of Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism. Learners will be equipped with conceptual and practical skills in interfaith dialogue that are needed as a good citizen with the aim of promoting peaceful co-existence, mutual enrichment and common witness among the various traditions in a pluralist society.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants must be resident in Ireland and at least 18 years old at course commencement, in accordance with Carlow College Admission Guidelines and Procedures for Part-Time Learners

### Mode of Delivery

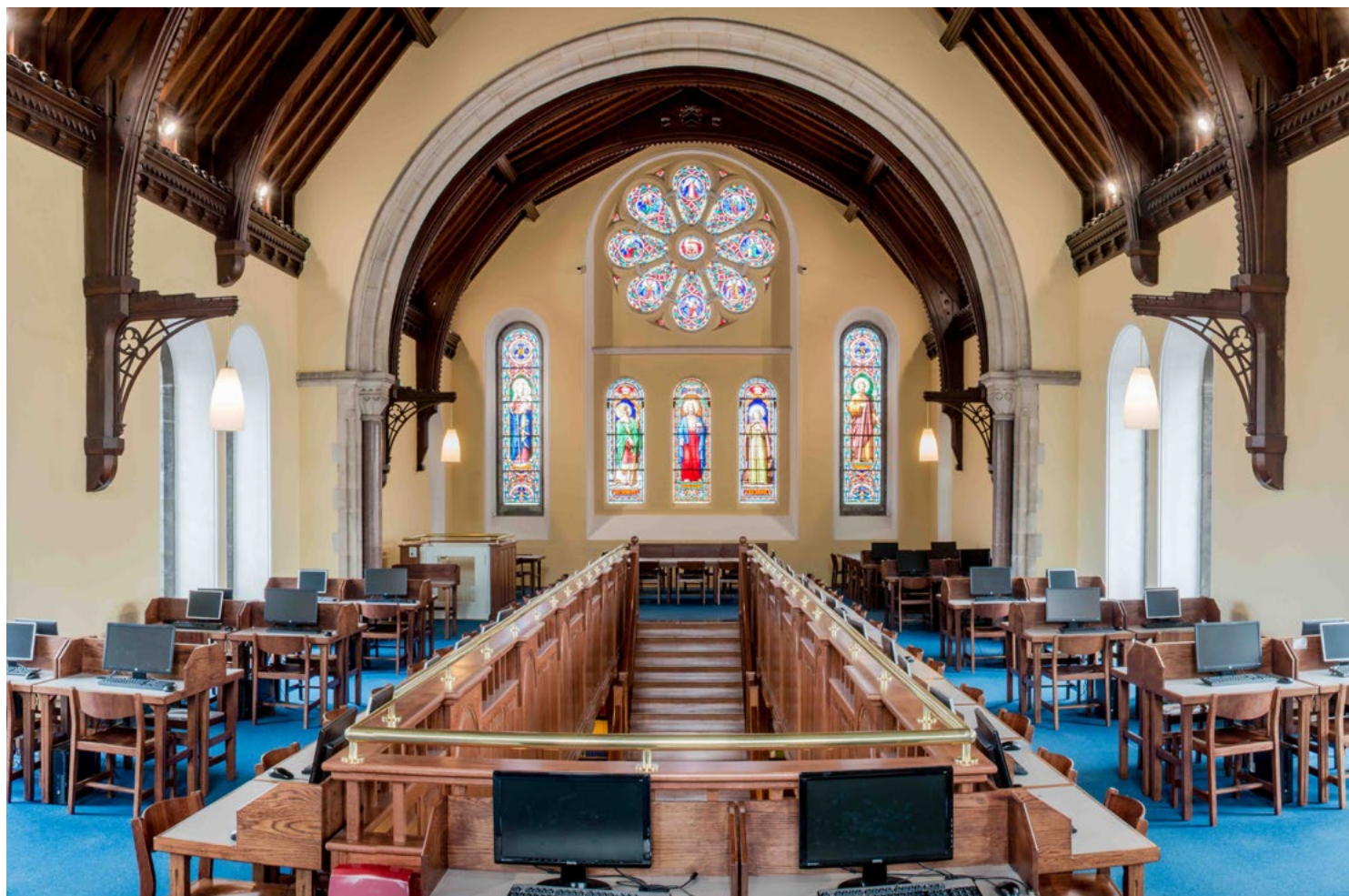
On-site: 8% | Synchronous online: 92%

There will be one on-campus workshop over the 12 weeks.

### What will be covered?

Topics covered in the course include:

- Christian approaches to other religions: Exclusivism, Inclusivism and Pluralism
- The three phases of progression of major religious traditions
- Analysis of scriptures of world religions and their specific historical, geographical and soteriological contexts Various interfaith initiatives of the churches and other religious traditions
- A critical evaluation of religion's role in violence and peace by engaging with various theoretical positions
- Identification of the historical trajectories of interpretations of religious traditions either to support war or peace.
- A critical analysis of various fundamentalist forms of religions and their relationship with the political field.
- An analysis of how the intersection between faith and reason has promoted non-violence and just-peace in the world



# Blended Learning FAQs

## Will I have access to Carlow College campus and facilities?

Yes, as an online student you will be registered as an Carlow College student with access to the same facilities as a full-time student, including the [library](#), [student supports](#) and health and well being services. Full details about services available to students is on our [Student Portal](#).

## Will I need to attend the Carlow College campus?

Where your course is listed as “blended” delivery, there will be an on-campus component, such as a workshop or similar, and students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Further information on attendance requirements can be found on the relevant course web page.

## How many hours a week do I need to commit to lectures, study and assignments?

Our Certificate courses have about 3 hours of live lectures per week. The rest of your study time consists of independent learning, communicating with your lecturers and classmates and carrying out assignments.

For Higher Diplomas, online lectures are two evenings per week (3 hours each) and then every second Saturday (4 hours).

Live lectures normally take place between 6.30pm and 9.30pm, Monday to Thursday but this may vary depending on the availability of specific lecturers. If the scheduled times for the live online lectures do not suit you, recordings are generally not available.

## How are blended courses assessed?

Students are generally assessed through continuous assessments for online courses. The methods of assessment can be found on the module links on the course web pages on our website.

Can my employer fund a part-time blended course?

Yes. If your employer is part- or fully-funding your studies, you should contact the Admissions Office by emailing [directentry@carlowcollege.ie](mailto:directentry@carlowcollege.ie)

Our Admissions team will supply a proforma invoice which your employer will need to arrange payment for.

## What equipment is needed for online lectures?

Students will need to have access to a PC that is connected to the internet. The PC must have speakers and access to a web camera is beneficial for engaging with lecturers and peers.

Many students opt to use headphones for listening to live lectures, but this is optional.

Your PC or laptop should have a minimum operating system of Windows 10 or equivalent.

For a smooth Microsoft Teams experience, a minimum of 1.5 Mbps download and 1.5 Mbps upload speed is recommended for one-on-one calls. For group video calls, aim for at least 4 Mbps download and upload speeds. You can check complete a [Internet Speed Test here](#).

Full details on blended delivery can be found on our [website](#).

# How to Apply

## Postgraduate Applications

Applications for postgraduate courses are to be made online at [carlowcollege.ie/postgraduate-applications](https://carlowcollege.ie/postgraduate-applications)

**For postgraduate courses, you will need to collate the following documents for your application:**

- Official transcripts for all Level 8 (or above) qualifications held
- Official certificates/documentation in relation to education/training completed which is relevant to the programme
- Personal Statement—minimum 300 words outlining your reasons for undertaking the chosen course.
- Written reference outlining your suitability for the programme applied for Intellectual qualities, including; professional and educational developments; present performance; personal qualities; career aspirations; and, research/study interests.
- If English is not your first language, you'll need to provide proof of English Language Proficiency

## Certificate Applications

Applications for **certificate** courses are to be made online at [carlowcollege.ie/certificates-application-form](https://carlowcollege.ie/certificates-application-form)

**For Certificate courses, in most cases, you will only need to submit a Personal Statement as part of your application, with the exception of History certificates.**

For Certificate courses in History, applicants must provide evidence of:

- Any Level 7 History or a cognate subject, OR
- Demonstration of a record of being employed in the field of history in some way, OR
- Evidence of publication in history in a good local historical journal.

### Fees

Full details of Programme Fees can be found at: <https://carlowcollege.ie/fees-grants/>



Pictured is Aishling Nic an Tuile, alongside poet Victoria Kennefick (left) and lecturer in English Creative Writing, Dr Derek Coyle (right), after Aishling received the first prize in *Prose* at the *Annual Literary Awards*, 2025. Aishling completed the Certificate in Creative Writing (Fiction) the same year.



**COLÁISTE CHEATHARLACH  
NAOMH PÁDRAIG**

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**CARLOW COLLEGE  
ST. PATRICK'S**

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