



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

College of Arts, Social Sciences,
and Celtic Studies

BA (Children's Studies)

NUI Galway is pleased to introduce an exciting new programme dedicated to Children's Studies, an interdisciplinary degree designed to equip students with a theoretical and practical understanding of the lives of children and youth today. This four-year degree draws on expertise from a wide range of areas including the creative arts, literature, law, health, human rights, history, sociology and psychology, and incorporates the optional study of one modern language.

The programme prepares graduates for working with children in areas such as advocacy, public policy, arts administration, child-welfare, children's rights activism, play therapy, children's research and international development, and serves as an entry route for professional Masters in Education (primary-school).

BA(Denominated) Children's Studies

Course level: Level 8

Duration: 4 years

Entry Requirements:

Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate, including Irish, English, another language, and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes.

Additional Requirements:

Students must satisfy the Garda/police vetting requirements.

Applying:

www.pac.ie/nuigalway

PAC code: GY121

Places Available: 40

Key Fact:

This programme provides training that is not available anywhere else in Europe, resulting in a unique and internationally marketable qualification.



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Why study Children's Studies?

NUI Galway has an international reputation in children's research, and thus is ideally placed to offer this unique programme. The BA (Children's Studies) is an expansion of the successful BA CONNECT with Children's Studies and is the only interdisciplinary programme of its kind in Europe. The degree provides exposure to a wide range of theoretical and practical approaches to childhood and adolescence, as well as the opportunity to study a modern language. Community-based service-learning and enquiry-based learning are embedded across the degree and the third year placement combines valuable practical experience with specific career-orientated goals.

Programme outline

Year 1: Introduction to Children's Studies

The first year focuses on providing the foundations of the programme and builds core study skills, by introducing students to essay writing, discipline-specific research skills, service-learning and guided enquiry-based learning.

Year 2: Children in the Irish Context

The second year focuses on the position of children and young adults in Ireland from historical, cultural, legal and societal aspects. It builds on the study skills acquired in the first year, and introduces students to the concepts of child-centered research.

Year 3: Children in Global Context

The third year focuses on developing comparative views of children and young people across nations. It provides an opportunity for students to have real-life work placements in the national and international community and it includes an optional international exchange.

Year 4: Contemporary Issues in Children's Lives

Year four concentrates on current issues in the lives of children and adolescents. It is centered on cutting-edge topics and phenomena, and it includes a guided research project designed to enable students to develop the knowledge gained in the previous three years.

International Links

Students who take a foreign language as part of their BA(Children's Studies) will have the option to study for a semester at a European University under the ERASMUS exchange programme and/or carry out their second semester work placement abroad. A limited number of international exchange opportunities (consideration for which is based on grade averages) are also available to students not studying a foreign language.

Employment and Career opportunities

The BA (Children's Studies) provides students with the knowledge, confidence and transferrable skills to identify their preferred career path as well as to succeed in their chosen field nationally or internationally. Graduates will be well-placed to pursue careers in primary school teaching (this requires the addition of a Professional Master of Education), social care sectors and community development work as well as to gain entry to postgraduate degrees in play therapy, social work, health promotion, children's librarianship, museum curation, arts administration, special-needs teaching, public advocacy and activism. 88% of the graduates from the BA CONNECT are in further education or in employment.

What our students say



"I chose this course having always known I wanted to pursue a career with children but not knowing in what capacity. This course is academic but encompasses and nurtures creativity and provides experiential learning that has really stood out to me. The knowledge and experience I have gained have been invaluable and I'm on the path to my dream career."

Denise Gordon, 2013 graduate BA CONNECT with Children's Studies

www.nuigalway.ie/courses/undergraduate-courses/arts-with-childrens-studies.html

Contact information/Enquiries to:

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