

What does ECTS mean?

It stands for ***European Credit Transfer System***. It is a standardised method of allocating credit to modules across the EU. It helps students who spend a year abroad, and it also ensures that a degree from NUI Galway is not far more difficult (or easy) than one from any other European University.

The system is based upon the estimated amount of time/effort a student has to put in to complete a module. It assumes students are studying full-time (9-5 pm, 5 days a week), and are taking 60 ECTS each year.

Each 5 ECTS module should therefore typically involve at least 100 hours of work, including attending lectures, reading, writing coursework, preparing for exams and sitting exams. That's about 7 hours a week, on average.

*-from **The Second-Year Joint Honours History Handbook** (available in the History Department)*