



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

College of Arts, Social Sciences,  
and Celtic Studies



# Information Technology

Information Technology is a broad term that encompasses a wide spectrum of knowledge and skills related to the design, development and deployment of information and communication technologies in the modern world, as well as the study of the social and economic impacts of this deployment.

The study of Information Technology is suited to students who are inquisitive, creative, like problem solving and want to understand more about the workings of technology and how it is developed and deployed in the world around us. Information Technology students at NUI Galway develop the cognitive and applied skills needed for the design, application and support of computerised systems.

[www.it.nuigalway.ie](http://www.it.nuigalway.ie)

## Course Outline

In the first year of the Bachelor of Arts degree students will take Information Technology as one of three subjects. Progressing with their Information Technology studies to final year sees students combining Information Technology with one other subject for their final degree. A full range of other subject options is available at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/undergraduate-courses/arts.html>

## Curriculum Structure of IT Subject in BA:

### First Year

Introduction to the fundamentals of Information Technology and Computing

Development of logical thinking and problem solving skills

Computer programming and internet applications skills

Algorithms

### Second Year

OO Programming 1

OO Programming 2

Information Sys 1: Databases

Information Sys 2: Web-based

Information Systems

Systems Analysis & Design

Web Application Development

### Third Year

OO Programming 3

Humanities Applications

Final Year Project

Two Optional Modules from a selection such as: AI, HCI, Multimedia, Networks & Communications

All of the Information Technology courses are complemented by practical laboratory classes and assignments.

## Employment & Career Opportunities

While we all use Information Technology only some of us are lucky enough to be the creators and innovators responsible for developing new uses, products, services, and art forms using the core technical and inventive skills of the technology. Taken in combination with another Arts subject, the study of Information Technology provides a well-rounded, third-level education, matching the needs of the information society and providing the graduate with valuable vocational skills.

Graduates from the BA programme have all the traditional BA employment avenues available to them enhanced with the knowledge of computing acquired. More specific IT employment opportunities which exploit their other BA subject range from localization and translation through media and content careers to GIS. Students may also pursue postgraduate studies in the IT field and work in IT design and development in both IT firms or in companies from any industry sector.

Nationally and internationally, the computing and communications industries are experiencing phenomenal growth with many different opportunities to develop a fulfilling career.

### Find out more

Discipline of Information Technology

T 353 (0)91 493143

[www.it.nuigalway.ie](http://www.it.nuigalway.ie)

## Graduate Profile



**Tracey McEvoy,**  
BA Graduate 2013

*"When I first began studying Arts at NUI Galway I had envisioned myself becoming a Journalist. Because of that I decided to take English and Information Technology as my core subjects. Like many other students, however,*

*I did not fully understand what Information Technology had to offer me. But after my first year of college and my introduction to Information Technology, I was hooked!*

*Because Information Technology is such a broad subject, the Arts programme allows students a chance to learn about all fields of Information Technology and choose their favourites. For me, I found an unexpected love for computer programming and the problem solving that goes along with it!*

*I would highly recommend all Arts students to consider taking Information Technology as a subject because it's a chance to try something new, and to learn about an unfamiliar subject."*

### Did you know

- In the U.S. News 100 Best Jobs of 2014 listing, technology jobs took the two top spots with Software Developer and Computer Systems Analyst ranking #1 and #2 in the listing.
- "IBM's Watson computer can beat human contestants on the jeopardy quiz show by processing the equivalent of a million books per second" (2)
- "The computing required to process 1 Google search is equivalent to that used for the entire 11-year Apollo program to reach the moon." (1)

#### Sources:

[1] <http://insidesearch.blogspot.ie/2012/08/the-power-of-apollo-missions-in-single.html>

[2] <http://blogs.plos.org/retort/2011/02/14/how-ibm%E2%80%99s-watson-computer-will-excel-at-jeopardy/>