



National University of Ireland, Galway

Official Languages Act, 2003
Language Scheme
2018-2021

Table of contents

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background	3
1.1 Introduction	3
1.2 Preparation and Content of the Scheme	3
1.3 Commencement date of the Scheme	4
Chapter 2: An overview of the National University of Ireland, Galway	5
2.1 Mission and Vision	5
2.2 Key objectives	5
2.3 Customers and Clients	5
2.4 The Translation Service	5
Chapter 3: The Support Services which are available bilingually	7
3.1 Services for NUI Galway Students	8
Chapter 4: Improving the Provision of Services through the medium Irish	11
4.1 Communication with the Public	12
4.2 The University's Website	12
4.3 Marketing and Communications Office	13
4.4 Improving Provision of Services through the medium of Irish in the Gaeltacht	15
4.5 University off-campus locations	16
Chapter 5: Academic Services provided through the medium Irish	17
Chapter 6: Improving Competency in Irish	19
6.1 The Role of the President of the University	19
6.2 Language Plan	19
6.3 Recruitment	20
6.4 Training and Development	20
Chapter 7: Monitoring and Reviewing	22
Chapter 8: Publicising the Agreed Scheme	22
Appendix 1: The University's Website	23

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

The Official Languages Act, 2003 provides that public bodies prepare a language scheme which shall provide detailed information of the services that will be provided:

- through the medium of Irish,
- through the medium of English, and
- through the medium of Irish and English

and the methods that will be employed to ensure any service that is not being provided by the body through the medium of Irish will be provided within an agreed time frame.

According to section 14(3) of the Act, language schemes remain in force for a period of three years or until the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs ratifies a new scheme, whichever comes last.

1.2 Preparation and Content of the Scheme

Due regard was given to the Guidelines issued by the Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht in the preparation of this scheme.

The National University of Ireland, Galway is guided by the principle that the provision of services through the medium of Irish is based on:

- the basic level of demand for certain services through the medium of Irish,
- the importance of a proactive approach for the provision of such services, and
- resources, including human resources and finance, and the ability to develop or to access the necessary language capability.

This scheme fulfils the principles pertaining to a high quality customer service and our Customer Charter. The scheme is prepared with the aim of the National University of Ireland, Galway fulfilling every relevant obligation under the Official Languages Act, 2003 on a phased basis, under this scheme and subsequent schemes. The Scheme is based on all of the commitments of any previous scheme and which are being implemented on a continuous basis.

Regarding the specific approach to the development of the Scheme, advertisements seeking submissions from interested parties were published in January 2016 pursuant to section 13 of the Official Languages Act, 2003. An advertisement was placed on: www.tuairisc.ie; on the *Blackboard* University site; an email message was sent to University staff and an announcement was made on all the multimedia screens on campus. The Scheme is based on those submissions and on the opinions received from staff, students and the community during this period.

	Staff	Students	Community	Total
Number of submissions	5	4	1	10

The University would like to thank all those involved in this important process.

1.3 Commencement date of the Scheme

This scheme has been ratified by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The scheme takes effect from the 29 January 2018 and shall remain in force for a period of 3 years from this date or until a new scheme has been ratified, whichever comes last.

Chapter 2: An overview of the National University of Ireland, Galway

2.1 Mission and Vision

To conserve a vibrant community of students and staff, where a high quality of learning, effective research and creative thinking is shared with the world. NUI Galway will be a global pioneering university, and will be renowned for its specific research areas, which will be recognised as a highly sought after institution in regards to its teaching and learning which will be celebrated for its excellent participation with the larger community, and which will be enriched by a network of dynamic partnerships.

2.2 Key objectives

There are five core values which are fundamental to the activities and the work of NUI Galway:

- Ambition – we are committed to achieving excellence and displaying leadership, whilst achieving our mission.
- Creativity – as a result of our very distinctive environment, there is a certain creativity pertaining to all we do.
- Influence – our participation and activities will have a positive effect on Galway, on the rest of the country, and on the whole world.
- Collaboration – strong, mutually beneficial partnerships are an integral part of our approach, as we collaborate on a local and international level.
- Integrity – as we develop our rich heritage, we place an emphasis on openness, diversity and good citizenship.

2.3 Customers and Clients

The University has both internal customers (University staff and students) and external customers (the community in general). Among these customers are the Gaeltacht community and the Irish-language speaking community. This University aims to serve the Gaeltacht and the Irish-language community, and to create an exemplary bilingual campus as is specifically stated in the University's Strategic Plan.¹ The University serves these groups in two main areas, namely administration and education.

2.4 The Translation Service

The University Translation Service operates under the auspices of Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge and it serves the language requirements of the National University of Ireland, Galway. The Translation Service provides translation and language advisory services to University staff in order to ensure the University is compliant with the statutory obligations placed upon it regarding bilingualism. The Service is a steadfast part of the University's efforts to create an exemplary

¹ www.nuigalway.ie/vision2020/

bilingual campus in NUI Galway. The Service provides support for departments in the University of Limerick as part of the Strategic Alliance between the two institutions.

As a result of the work conducted by the Service, the University is able to provide various material – advertisements, reports, questionnaires, forms etc. – which are used internally and externally, in Irish and in English to the University community and to the wider community.

Chapter 3: The Support Services which are available bilingually

The University's Support Services have been defined in a competition for the President's Awards for Support Service Excellence as: every category of staff other than academic and research staff. In the University's first language scheme, specific areas of the University's operations were designated as administrative offices/units in order to provide certain services to the public through the medium of Irish, as well as the services through the medium of Irish available in the Gaeltacht centres. This was further developed in the second scheme and emphasis was placed on the offices and support services which most serve students of the University on a daily and continuous basis. A number of changes have been made to the organisational structure of the University since then. The following are the services available bilingually in the support services in the university at the time this scheme was written (August 2017):

Offices which provide bilingual services, August 2017	
University Support Services	Available bilingually, in Irish and in English
President's Office	Service available in Irish and English.
Secretary's Office	Service available in Irish and English.
Bursar's Office	Bursar's Office (Main office); Payroll Office, Office of the Director of Financial Accounting; Payments Office; Office of the Director of Management Accounting - service is available in Irish and English.
Buildings and Estates	Service from the Facilities Management Department is available in Irish and English.
Registrar's Office	Service available in Irish and English.
Marketing and Communications Office	Service available in Irish and English.
Human Resources Office	Reception service available in Irish and English.
Admissions Office	Service available in Irish and English.
Library and IT Service Desk	Service available in Irish and English.
Student Information Desk	Service available in Irish and English.
Student Services Office	Service available in Irish and English.
The Access Centre	A contact person with Irish is available to deal with the Gaeltacht outreach centres.
Schools Liaison Office	A contact person with Irish is available to provide Irish language or bilingual presentations in all-Irish or Gaeltacht schools.
Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching	An Irish language service is available from recognised staff members regarding enquiries in the Language laboratories, 'Blackboard', Multimedia Studio and related technologies.
Services available in the Gaeltacht	
The Irish language is and will continue to be used as the working language in the Gaeltacht centres in an Cheathrú Rua, in Carna, and in Gaoth Dobhair.	

3.1 Services for NUI Galway Students (continuous and new services)

In this scheme, we will focus on the areas which have regular contact with University students.

Irish Language Residency Scheme

The University will provide an Irish Language Residency Scheme for students before the end of this scheme.

The Library

The purpose of the library is to provide excellent information to students and researchers which is relevant to their study and research through training, tours and advice provided in person or online through the website. The library IT services and circulation desk services were amalgamated during the second Scheme. There is a bilingual service available from the Library and IT Service Desk. Information leaflets will also be available bilingually from the Service Desk. The user can select Irish or English on the self-service machines and all library forms are available in Irish and in English or bilingually. All library forms² are available online and a bilingual version is available. There is an Irish and English version of the users' guidebook available also.

Tours and Training

By the end of this scheme, students and researchers will have the opportunity to undertake training and tours of the library through the medium of Irish.

Centre of Academic Writing

A bilingual service is available in the writing centre. This is a free service which provides support to students with their writing.

Student Information Desk (SID)

This is the main contact centre for students. General registration queries are dealt with at the information desk, including:

- Change of a registered name
- Change of address
- Registration and Attendance Statements
- PhD registration
- Re-issuing of ID cards
- Course Withdrawal

Stamping of forms (i.e. social welfare forms, J1 visa), as well as general queries regarding the Examinations Office, Admissions Office, Conferring, Lost and found items.

² Book suggestion form, Thesis request, Book request, Journal request, Newspaper Request, Interlibrary Loan Request, Request for books on order/Processing

There is a bilingual service available at this information desk and all forms are available in Irish and in English or bilingually online.

Counselling Services

A team of qualified counsellors, psychologists and psychotherapists work in the Counselling Service. A counselling service is available through the medium of Irish in the University by making an appointment with the counsellor who provides this service.

Career Development Centre

A number of changes have taken place in the Career Development Centre over the last few years. The Unit does not have a main information booklet. It now provides small booklets and a lot of information is available in the Student Handbook. The centres main booklets will be available in Irish and in English, these include: Your CV, Your Personal Statement, Interview Skills.

Students Union in NUI Galway

According to section 18 of the NUI Galway Students Union constitution:

18 B. The Union shall have two official equal languages: Irish and English.

18 C. All official material pertaining to the Union in written or electronic form shall be available in Irish and English.

The Students Union operate many of the university resources and services including 'Bia Léinn' which is situated in Áras na Gaeilge on campus, a restaurant which offers a full service through the medium of Irish. The Union operates the shop, the college bar and many other cafes on campus. As part of the Active Offer, a slogan or badge will be placed on the t-shirts of staff working in the cafes which provide a service through the medium of Irish.

Forms and Information Leaflets (continuous and new commitments)

The following forms/information leaflets will be available:

Reception (Marketing and Communications Office)

There is a new guidebook now available entitled 'Campus Cultural Trail'. 'The Visitors Guide' is no longer being published.

A bilingual version of the information leaflet 'Find your Lecture' is available to University students.

Graduate Studies — Relevant Official Forms:

Declaration by part-time Research Student Form for employment in the University during studies
Approval for Examination
Examination of a PhD degree Applicant (online)
Report of the Examiners
Research Masters Degree – Approval of Examiners,
Report of the Examiners
Declaration by full-time Research Student Form for employment in the University during studies
Student and Supervisor(s) Meeting Form
Progress Report of Supervisor(s) (to be submitted to the Graduate Research Committee)
Committee's Progress Report Form
Graduation Details for MD Applicant
Graduation Details for Doctorate in Psychological Science (Clinical Psychology)
Leave of Absence for Research Students

Financial Accounting:

Change of Bank Details - Payroll
Application for Cheque Cancellation
Exam Marking Claim Form and Pay Rates
Overtime Claim
Application for P45
Payroll Deduction Claim
Payroll Payment Form
Petty Cash Request Form
Scholarship Form

The Research Office:

Proposal Application Form
Initial Contract Set-up Form
Criterion Leaflet Template
Scholarship Forms
Scholarship Form Guidebook

Examinations Office:

Examinations Checklist
FAQ regarding timetables

Parking Office:

Parking Permit Application
Information Leaflet and FAQs, Lost Permits,
Clamping Appeals Form

Counselling Service:

The Counselling Service's Information Leaflets for Students are available bilingually.

Chapter 4: Improving the Provision of Services through the medium of Irish

The provisions in the table below are compulsory requirements under the Official Languages Act, 2003 and the University shall adhere to these provisions.

Method of Communication with the Public		Commitment
Verbal pre-recorded announcements		<p>The following pre-recorded announcements will be available in Irish or bilingually:</p> <p>(a) Verbally recorded announcements will be made in Irish or bilingually on the phone when our offices are closed;</p> <p>(b) Verbally recorded announcements which are broadcasted on the public announcement system will be made in Irish or bilingually;</p> <p>(c) Verbal announcements created and broadcasted through the electronic messaging system or through the electronic telephone answering system will be made in Irish or bilingually.</p> <p>Please note that this pertains to ‘recorded’ announcements rather than ‘live’ announcements.</p> <p>If a Placenames Order is in effect, the Irish language version of the placename which is stated in that Order shall be used in announcements that are verbally recorded by public bodies or on their behalf.</p>
Communication in written form	Letters and Electronic mail	All written correspondence will be responded to in the official language in which it was received.
	Stationery	Provision of headings on certain stationery including note paper, compliments slips, fax cover sheets, file covers and other folders, labels and cover letters in Irish or bilingually.
Signage	Signage	All signage erected by NUI Galway or on behalf of NUI Galway should be in Irish or bilingual, according to regulations (S.I. No. 391/2008).
Publications	Publications	Documents containing public policy proposals, audit accounts or financial statements, annual reports and strategy statements shall be published in Irish and in English concurrently.
	Circulars / Mail shots	In the event of a public body communicating in writing or by electronic mail with the general public or with a section of the general community to disseminate information to the community or to the section, the body will ensure that the communication will be in Irish, or in English and in Irish.
The Gaeltacht	Gaeltacht Placenames	The official placenames of Gaeltacht areas shall be used in accordance with the ratified legislation.

4.1 Communication with the Public

As agreed in the first language scheme, the University will ensure that the pre-recorded message welcoming callers will be bilingual, with the Irish language first followed by the English version. If a person answers a call on the University switchboard, the caller will be greeted in Irish in the first instance and in English afterwards. The conversation to follow will be in the language of choice of the person making the call. The customer who calls the University externally has an option to choose option number 4 to select a service through the medium of Irish. If the customer knows the appropriate extension, the connection can be made automatically; alternatively the customer will be put through to an Irish speaking exchange operator.

In keeping with the standard good practice of the provision of high quality services to customers, it will be ensured that:

- exchange operators will greet customers in both Irish and English,
- exchange operators will be familiar with the Active Offer Concept,
- suitable arrangements will be made so that they can connect customers without delay through the medium of Irish to whichever office or officer responsible for the service sought.

4.2 The University's Website

Some changes have been made to the organisational structure, services and offices/departments of the University since the beginning of the Second Language Scheme. During the Second Language Scheme, the University website was placed on a new technical platform.

The commitments of the Second Language Scheme³ regarding the University website will be upheld and this material will be updated on a continuous basis⁴ in order for the most important aspects required by University staff and students, and the public in general who wish to deal with the University through the medium of Irish, are available.

In addition to this, a new portal page for the Irish language will be created during this scheme.

³ This material will be available on www.nuigalway.ie and www.oegaillimh.ie

⁴ See appendix 1.

4.3 Marketing and Communications Office

The Marketing and Communications Office connects the media with the expertise available in NUI Galway. There are three main departments in the Office. The Press Office communicates with the media on a daily basis and they issue press releases and photographs regarding University news stories and events. The marketing team focuses on promoting the University's reputation nationally and internationally. It is the responsibility of the Internal Communications Officer to update the NUI Galway community – both students and staff – on University work and life.

Press Releases

The University will proceed with the system that was put in place in the first scheme to issue certain University press releases (corporate press releases⁵, nonurgent press releases, etc.) in Irish and in English. In the second scheme, it was agreed that 33% of the University's corporate press releases which are specifically directed at the University's internal and external clients and customers would be issued in Irish and in English simultaneously. In the case of press releases issued only to the Irish-language media, these will be issued in Irish only.

Contact with the Media

During the first language scheme, a panel of Irish speakers who would be available for interviews with the Irish language media was formed. The Irish language spokespersons directory will be updated as appropriate. This directory will be available on the Marketing and Communications Office website before the end of this scheme.

University Marketing Campaigns

The University undertakes many marketing campaigns. In this language scheme an emphasis will be placed on the major marketing campaigns run by the University on an annual basis which are focussed on current students, prospective students and the University community in general.

⁵ 'Corporate Affairs' refer to affairs relating to the University in general, rather than to a particular department or activity which would not be of significant interest to the University's general community. Examples that would fall into this category would be major capitalisation projects, a significant academic policy project, a major development that would be to the students' betterment, a visit from the President or an Taoiseach, the conferring of honorary degrees and so on. Judgment must always be made, however, regarding the importance of a particular event or story in the general context of the University.

External Campaigns

University Open Days

- Undergraduate Open Days
- Postgraduate Open Days

Open Days are a very important part of the NUI Galway recruitment strategy. We understand the significant importance of Open Days and the central role of the Irish language in them. Bilingual correspondence in letter form will be sent to all second level schools inviting them to the Open Days and giving them information pertaining to them. Correspondence to Gaelcholáistí and Gaeltacht second level schools around the country will be in Irish only or bilingual.

There will be a dedicated stand at Open Days with information about all the Irish language services available in the university. People participating in these open days who can provide a service through the medium of Irish will be wearing specially designed 'G' badges.

Tours of the campus are organised during undergraduate open days. Prospective students, parents, teachers and career guidance teachers will have the opportunity to take a tour of the campus through the medium of Irish.

Campaigns related to the Central Applications Office (CAO)

Each year, two major University CAO campaigns are undertaken.

- **CAO**
- **CAO Change of Mind**

These are important campaigns in the University calendar and the Irish language has a specific role in these campaigns also. Leaving Certificate students are the target group of the above-mentioned campaigns and letters are sent to second level schools in Irish only or bilingually. 10% of the University's students are studying Irish or through the medium of Irish.⁶

First years Induction Week

The Active Offer and the symbol 'G' will be publicised in College and School booklets. The symbol 'G' will be placed next to the offices and the centres in which there is an Irish language service available. The symbol 'G' will also be publicised in the Students Union Diary. Irish language speakers involved in the University Welcome *Fest* and induction week events for first years will wear the specially designed 'G' badge.

⁶ 2016 Undergraduate Prospectus

Internal Campaigns

- **National Student Survey**

This survey is conducted annually. It is disseminated among students in First Year, Final Year and students on Postgraduate Taught Courses. Students have a choice to complete the survey in Irish or in English.

- **FYI (First Year In) Ezine**

This is an electronic magazine circulated among first year students at important periods during the academic year. Nine different bilingual editions will be circulated among students during the year.

Interactive Services

As agreed in the second language scheme, interactive services will be placed on the internet i.e. the services which enable the community/public to make an application, to receive benefits or to make payments. NUI Galway's Bilingual Interactive Internet Services are as follows:

PAC System: Applications for postgraduate courses can be completed online in Irish or in English.

Parking Payment System: Users have a choice to use the Irish or English version of the system.

4.4 Improving Provision of Services through the medium of Irish in the Gaeltacht

Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge has three University Centres in Gaeltacht regions. There is equivalent to 39 full-time staff members employed in these Centres which are located in Gaoth Dobhair, Co. Donegal, Carna and an Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway. Various academic programmes at level 7-8 of the National Qualification Framework are offered in the Gaeltacht Centres. During the academic year and during the summer there are a mixture of courses available including language acquisition immersion courses, intensive language acquisition courses and specialist programmes, such as Gaeltacht Learning Periods for Trainee Teachers in all the Centres. A large number of students attend these courses in the Centres with the objective of acquiring the Irish language.

Also, specialist programmes in community education (University Access Programme) and similar programmes are offered which serve the educational needs of the communities in which the Centres operate. It is noted that the Centres are located in various Language Planning Areas, regions which have a significant role as a language perpetuation region subject to the Gaeltacht Act, 2012. The University Centres will work in the Gaeltacht with the local communities to give purpose to Language Plans approved by the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht as part of the language planning process in the Gaeltacht.

The following services will be available through the medium of Irish in the Centres:

- Teaching and Research Services
- Services relating to the Academic Administration of Acadamh Academic Programmes

- Information services for the Community, Students and the University Community
- Accommodation Service for Students

4.5 University off-campus locations

In order to ensure that the University achieves its national objectives, it is focussing on the Higher Education Authority's strategy, the *Landscape* strategy. St. Angela's College in Sligo and Shannon Hotel Management College are being placed completely under the auspices of the University. The University has 4 Medical Academies (Ballinasloe, Castlebar, Sligo and Letterkenny) and it is also connected to the Burren College of Art. These locations will also be investigated during the implementation period of the scheme and the appropriate arrangements will be made accordingly in order to comply with the Act and with the commitments of the scheme.

Chapter 5: Academic Services provided through Irish

A unique aspect of NUI Galway's role as a University is its strategic commitment to the provision of University education through the medium of Irish. That commitment was set out initially in the University College Act, 1929. Based on the recommendation from the University, it was accorded renewed recognition by the State in the University College Galway (Amendment) Act, 2006 as an essential continuing element of the University's strategic development planning. The Gaeltacht and the Irish language community are specifically mentioned in the University's current Strategic Plan and this University has an important primary role nationally in providing university education through the medium of Irish. Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge is the University's main vehicle in achieving this requirement. It provides clear academic leadership to the Irish language community, and it is responsible for developing and providing programmes, research and other services through the medium of Irish. NUI Galway will continue to promote excellence in language acquisition in the University's Irish language programmes. Additionally, we will endeavour to recognise our graduates' language competencies as a skill which enhances their employability.

The Gaeltacht centres in an Cheathrú Rua, Carna and Gaoth Dobhair are central in supplying high quality linguistic offerings and learning experiences to students. We will continue to provide accredited language immersion programmes in the University's Gaeltacht centres to students of NUI Galway and other higher education institutions in Ireland and abroad. Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge and Roinn na Gaeilge continuously enhance the status and the use of Irish by focusing on the vibrant language community in the University, among both students and staff, in realistic and relevant ways. We also confirm our role in assisting the Irish language community in the region and our role in supporting Galway as a bilingual city.

Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge also provides support to the College of Business in delivering the BComm with Irish and in delivering language-based modules at Level 8 in the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. Irish modules at Level 8 are available to students of the College of Science (BSc) since September 2016. The programmes offered by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge through the Central Applications Office are as follows: BA (Cumarsáid) and BA (Gaeilge & Léann an Aistriúcháin). Léann an Aistriúcháin as a subject is also available to students of the College of Arts. A review of GY106 (BA Cumarsáid) has been completed and a revised degree BA (Cumarsáid & Gaeilge) is now being offered on the University's campus in Galway since September 2016. Students have the opportunity to study Léann an Aistriúcháin and French through Irish as a joint degree in the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies, as a result of the Third call for proposals under the Advanced Irish Language Skills Initiative. A part-time programme at Level 8, the BA (Gaeilge Fheidhmeach), is also provided in conjunction with Roinn na Gaeilge. This is a four year programme which is delivered via blended learning. Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge will assist with the delivery of a new four year Irish degree in NUI Galway, whose main objective will be to enhance the linguistic competence of the University's graduates.

Postgraduate Courses

MA (Léann Teanga) [Language Studies]

The objective of this course is to provide postgraduate training in all aspects of applied language studies to students enabling them to professionally work in various sectors through the medium of Irish. With this approach students can specialise in Translation studies or Language Planning as well as the core modules in language sciences, research and Irish. This MA/Postgraduate Diploma (Léann Teanga) is offered via blended learning and is run over a two year period.

MA/Postgraduate Diploma (Ateangaireacht Chomhdhála) [Conference Interpreting]

The objective of this course is to provide students with the specific skills required for the conference interpreting profession and the knowledge expertise related to that profession to enable students to avail of the employment opportunities in interpreting. This programme is based on the European Master's Degree in Conference Interpreting, which was developed initially in conjunction with the European Union institutions and is now available in 18 countries in Europe. This is the only programme of its kind available in Ireland.

MA/Postgraduate Diploma (Cumarsáid) [Communications]

The objective of this course is to provide students with training in various aspects of the Communications profession. The programme offers an overview of the main academic areas relating to the media and offers practical-based opportunities in journalism, filming and in other related areas of the media. A critical analysis of the models and of the ways media material is designed will be covered and the contemporary trends in the media will be discussed in so far as history, social, cultural and language terms are concerned.

Postgraduate Certificate (Ardscileanna Gaeilge do Mhúinteoirí) [Advanced Irish language Skills for Teachers]

This Postgraduate Certificate at Level 9 is offered by the National University of Ireland, Galway, based on the National Qualification Framework, to qualified teacher who wish to further develop their language skills and to achieve advanced language accuracy and improve their use of the language in teaching and learning contexts. The course is suitable for primary school and post-primary school Irish teachers and for Irish teachers in all-Irish schools, in Irish colleges and in Gaeltacht schools. This Postgraduate Certificate meets the aspirations and goals of the Policy on Gaeltacht Education issued by the Department of Education and Skills in 2017.

Higher Diploma (Gaeilge Fheidhmeach) [Applied Irish]

This Higher Diploma (Gaeilge Fheidhmeach) is a two year course which focuses mainly on students who have completed an honours degree previously in a discipline other than Irish and who wish to study Irish as an academic subject at level 8. Programme material has been designed to ensure the qualification concurs with the requirements of the Teaching Council as per the Irish language curriculum.

School of Education

The School of Education runs the Máistir Gairmiúil san Oideachas (MGO). The MGO is a master's programme in initial teacher education at second level. It is the only programme in initial teacher education at second level in Ireland offered through the medium of Irish.

Chapter 6: Improving Competency in Irish

6.1 The Role of the President of the University

The University Authority confirmed the University's commitment to the Irish language and culture and the statute of the President's role has been amended in order to require the President to display a strong leadership in promoting the Irish language and culture. As well as that, the new President shall demonstrate determination and personal best practice in his/her leadership in respect of these responsibilities. According to the statute:

“The requirement for the President of the University to have a proficiency in the Irish language is hereby revoked. The President, however, shall exercise strong leadership in supporting and promoting the University's commitment to the Irish language and culture as set out in the University College Galway (Amendment) Act, 2006, and Sections 12 and 18 of the Universities Act, 1997 each as may be amended. In addition, the President shall actively support and promote the work of University personnel directly involved in developing and furthering the Irish language and culture. This encompasses but is not limited to the work of: Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, the University's Standing Committee for Language Qualification, the Discipline of Gaeilge in the University, the Centre for Irish Studies, and the Marketing and Communications Office in the University. The President shall also lead the implementation of the University Language Scheme in accordance with Section II of the Official Languages Act, 2003 as may be amended. In discharging all of the aforementioned responsibilities, the President shall have regard to the unique public role of the University in supporting Gaeltacht and other All-Irish communities. In fulfilling the University's commitment to the Irish language and culture, the President shall lead by personal example and endeavour”.

6.2 Language Plan

A Language Plan for the Institution will be prepared during the period of this scheme. The aim of the plan is to maintain an accurate account of the number of Irish language speakers among the University community, the language competency level of staff and to recognise language sites/networks in order to maintain a continuous institutional language competency. This work will assist with the preparatory work for the system which will replace the language statutory schemes as may be decided by Oireachtas Éireann.

Based on the number of staff, and on the result of broad consultations with staff, a comprehensive plan will be prepared for the provision of academic services and supports through Irish in NUI Galway. A steering committee will be established to manage the planning process and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge will be responsible for supplying drafts of the plan to be approved by the steering committee. A draft plan shall be available at the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic session.

6.3 Recruitment

Appointing staff with capable Irish skills in all aspects of the National University of Ireland, Galway's work is essentially the primary route to greatly improve the availability of services through the medium of Irish. The Standing Committee for Language Qualification (SCLQ) will be responsible for deciding the level of Irish language competency required when specific vacancies arise in the University.

The committee's membership will be renewed during the course of this Scheme. The committee will include representatives from the University community and external members as appropriate. It is the committee's remit to examine the language requirement of all posts in the University. The SCQL will advise in regards to the composition of interview boards and the implementation of the Statute regarding appointments. The Standing Committee will be responsible for the design of a reliable assessment system in relation to the appropriate language level associated with all posts, and it will annually review the implementation of the assessment system in accordance with international best practices for language testing. The Committee will prepare an annual report in which all posts assessed throughout the year will be listed, the language level associated with the post and the number of candidates who underwent an exam will also be listed.

The SCQL will provide general advice regarding the University's approach to Irish language affairs. The University's recruitment policy will highlight, in accordance with the national framework of agreed procedures for recruitment, the need to improve Irish language competency on a phased basis. An induction package which will include a copy of the agreed scheme will be provided to all staff to ensure their awareness of our commitments under legislation.

6.4 Training and Development

The National University of Ireland, Galway is committed to providing staff the opportunity to attend accredited Irish language courses. The University will continue to provide extra-curricular Irish language classes to staff and to students. By doing so, we recognise this provision as one of the University's main strengths as the University provides access to education and services through Irish; this also assists with further initiatives which aim to promote multilingualism and linguistic diversity on an international campus. All staff are informed of facilities/opportunities available to them to improve their Irish language competency. Irish language courses are provided to staff both during and outside of office hours. The Diplóma sa Ghaeilge is available at four different levels: A2, B1, B2, and C1 as outlined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Workshops on language awareness and customers' rights are organised for staff in the workplace in the departments mentioned in the schemes to ensure staff are equipped to effectively implement the 'Active Offer' approach when providing bilingual services to the University's customers.

During the 2016-2017 academic year 14 members of staff attended the Diplóma sa Ghaeilge classes at various levels.

Level	Year	Number of Staff
A2	2	1
B1	1	6
B2	2	2
C1	1	3
C1	2	2

59 members of staff registered for Irish language classes specifically for staff which were held at lunch time during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Participation in activities to promote the Irish language/to provide resources

During the third scheme, a comprehensive plan of cultural and social events will be put in place and these language-based events will take place on the University's campus. The appointment of a Strategic Coordinator in relation to Irish language awareness activities on campus and in the work domain will take place during the course of this scheme. This person will be responsible for the implementation of the University's Language Schemes and all aspects associated with the Act in NUI Galway.⁷

⁷ Due to the relocation of a staff member, there is currently one Feidhmeannach Teanga responsible for the implementation of the language schemes. When the above-mentioned appointment is made, s/he will also be dealing with the language schemes and with ATO 2003 in NUI Galway.

Chapter 7: Monitoring and Reviewing

The Secretary's Office is responsible for the University's language schemes.

The Secretary's Office will monitor and review the scheme on a regular basis.

Chapter 8: Publicising the Agreed Scheme

The scheme will be publicised internally and externally via press release. A bilingual version of the scheme will be available on our website and will be provided to all members of staff and to relevant agencies. Other methods can also be used to publicise the scheme.

Furthermore, we will avail of every opportunity in our daily interactions with customers to promote the services we provide through Irish and to publicise them as follows:

- to inform customers directly, in a proactive manner, of the options available to them in fulfilling their duties through Irish, for example, by displaying adverts and the symbol 'G' at reception which conveys services through Irish are available;
- to list those services on our website where they will be clearly visible;
- we will notify via guidebooks, factsheets and certain application forms that certain documents are also available in Irish, that is, if a bilingual version is not available;
- we will give equal importance to material in Irish and in English.

A copy of the agreed scheme will be forwarded to the Office of an Coimisinéir Teanga.

The Irish version is the official version of this Scheme.

Appendix 1 (New and Continued Commitments)

The University's Website

President's Office

www.nuigalway.ie/president/

www.nuigalway.ie/president/staff.html

www.nuigalway.ie/president/reports.html

www.nuigalway.ie/president/presidents_awards.html

Registrar's Office

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/staff.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/contact.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/AcademicRestructuring.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/priorities_sub_committee.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/Forms.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/formspage.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/Promote_Progress.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registrar/StudentNumbers.html

Secretary's Office

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/team/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/what-we-do/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/regionaldevelopment/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/foianddataprotection/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/an-ghaeilge/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/governance/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/legislationandstatutes/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/contactus/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/udaraselections2017-postgraduateelection/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/ombudsman/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/policies-procedures/
www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/universitymeetings/
www.nuigalway.ie/udaraselections2016/
www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/office-secretary/udasafebruary12016tojanuary312021/

Buildings and Estates

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/welcome/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/alerts-notice/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/awards/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/buildings-engineering/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/contact-us/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/dangan/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/emergency/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/energy_environment/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/fire-prevention/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/helpdesk/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/insurance/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/landscape-grounds/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/maps/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/mail-services/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/moving-office/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/get-to-around/parking/parking-faqs/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/get-to-around/parking/parking-permits-info/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/get-to-around/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/photo-gallery/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/planning-projects/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/policies-procedures/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/recycling/
www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/retired-staff/

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/security/

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/space-room-events/

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/space-room-events/book-room/

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/student-information/

www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/travel-plan/

Access Centre

www.nuigalway.ie/accesscentre/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/

www.nuigalway.ie/mature/

www.nuigalway.ie/access/mature-students/

www.nuigalway.ie/media/access/files/Guidebook-for-Access-Mature-Students-NUIG-2017.pdf

www.nuigalway.ie/access/

www.nuigalway.ie/access/school-leavers/

www.nuigalway.ie/media/access/files/DONE-Guidebook-for-Access-School-Leavers-NUIG-2017.pdf

www.nuigalway.ie/access/get-involved/

www.nuigalway.ie/access/secondary-school/

www.nuigalway.ie/access/documents/studyguide_schoolleavers.pdf

www.nuigalway.ie/access/primary-school/

Adult Learning

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/how-to-apply/online-applications/

www.nuigalway.ie/courses/adult-and-continuing-education-courses/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/brochures/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/science-&-technology/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/early-childhood-studies/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/training-&-education/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/community-education/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/arts-&-social-science/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/business-&-management/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/languages/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/information-technology/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/healthpromotion/
www.nuigalway.ie/international-summer-school/
www.nuigalway.ie/international-summer-school/courses/
www.nuigalway.ie/international-summer-school/whatsnext/
www.nuigalway.ie/international-summer-school/apply/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/cpd/
www.nuigalway.ie/courses/adult-and-continuing-education-courses/shortcourses/short-courses.html
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/events/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/policiesprocedures/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/contact-us/
www.nuigalway.ie/onlinelearning/
www.nuigalway.ie/onlinelearning/fully-online-courses/
www.nuigalway.ie/onlinelearning/blended-learning/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/springboard/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/recognition-of-prior-learning/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/how-to-apply/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/fees-funding-&-scholarships/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/qualifications-and-entry-requirements/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/student-services/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/what-learning-suits-you/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/learning--support/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/about-us/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/about-us/who-are-we/
www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/news-and-events/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/about-us/location/

www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/about-us/our-staff/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/about-us/whatourstudentssay/
www.nuigalway.ie/adulteducation/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/fees-funding-&-scholarships/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/qualifications-and-entry-requirements/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/student-services/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/what-learning-suits-you/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/learning-support/
www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/faqs/how-to-apply/

Student Services

www.nuigalway.ie/student-services/
www.nuigalway.ie/student-services/about-us/

Accommodation and Welfare Office

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation/

Career Development Centre

www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/job/cv/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/events/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/aboutus/findus/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/aboutus/statement/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/aboutus/feedback/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/advertise-your-vacancy/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/meettheteam/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/placement/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/raise-your-profile/
www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/aboutus/statement/

www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/explore/graduatedestinations/#tab1

www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforemployers/employer-events/

www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/job/cv/

www.nuigalway.ie/media/careerdevelopmentcentre/files/otherbooklets/cv_checklist.pdf

www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/job/interview/

Disability Support Service

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/faqs/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/register/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/examination-accommodations/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/assistive-technology/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/esw/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/academic-resources/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/personal-assistants/

www.nuigalway.ie/disability/support/mainstream-supports/

Student Services

www.nuigalway.ie/student-services/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-services/about-us/

www.nuigalway.ie/sports/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation/finding-accommodation/

www.nuigstudentpad.ie/Landlords

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation/financial-matters/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-connect/

Students' Societies

www.nuigalway.ie/societies/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/about-galway/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/campus-activities/

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/campus-activities/study-facilities.html

Chaplaincy

www.nuigalway.ie/chaplains/

Counselling

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/resources/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/resources/ (cáipéis Word 1)

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/resources/ (cáipéis 2, Powerpoint)

[www.nuigalway.ie/media/counselling/10-Tips-for-better-room-mate-relations-\(9\).pdf](http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/counselling/10-Tips-for-better-room-mate-relations-(9).pdf)

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/appointments/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/self-help/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/about-us/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/faqs/

www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/complaints/

Information Solutions and Services

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/

<http://servicedesk.nuigalway.ie/helpdesk/WebObjects/Helpdesk.woa>

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-students/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/aboutus/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-students/campusaccount/activate/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/aboutus/contactus/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-students/top10faq/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-students/advice-support/getting-started/

[www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/servicesforstaff/](http://www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-staff/)

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/aboutus/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/aboutus/contactus/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/servicesforstaff/top10faqforstaff/

www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/servicesforstaff/advice-support/getting-started/

Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

www.nuigalway.ie/celt/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/professionaldevelopment/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/teachinglearning/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/innovationleadership/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/innovationleadership/presidentsawards/#tab1

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/researchscholarship/vicedeans/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/innovationleadership/innovations/

www.nuigalway.ie/centre-excellence-learning-teaching/innovationleadership/getinvolved/

History

www.nuigalway.ie/history/

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/humanities/disciplines-centres/history/undergraduate-courses/

Geography

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/geography-archaeology/disciplines/geography/

Archaeology

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/geography-archaeology/disciplines/archaeology/

School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

www.nuigalway.ie/languages_literatures_cultures/

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/language-literatures-culture/disciplines/roinn-na-hollscolaiochta-gaeilge/celtic-civilisation/

Graduate Studies

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/currentstudents/newstudentguides/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/currentstudents/postgraduateresearchstudentsorientation/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/currentstudents/guidelines-regulations-forms/relevantofficialformsforstudents/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/currentstudents/guidelines-regulations-forms/relevantofficialformsforstudents/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/staff/structuredphds/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/staff/gsmodules/

www.nuigalway.ie/hardiman-scholarships/

www.nuigalway.ie/graduate-studies/staff/onlinephdmexaminersystem/

Marketing and Communications Office

www.nuigalway.ie/press/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/

www.nuigalway.ie/vision2020/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/jobs/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/contact-us/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/university-management/

www.nuigalway.ie/sustainability/

www.nuigalway.ie/opendays/

www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/open-day/

www.nuigalway.ie/postgraduate-open-day/register/

www.nuigalway.ie/guidance-counsellors/schoolvisitrequest/

www.nuigalway.ie/guidance-counsellors/schoolvisitrequest/requestavisit/

www.nuigalway.ie/visitus2016/campustours/

www.nuigalway.ie/guidance-counsellors/

www.nuigalway.ie/visitus2016/parents-information/

www.nuigalway.ie/guidance-counsellors/upcomingevents/careerguidanceinformationday/

Examinations Office

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/FAQ/

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/FAQ/#studentfaq

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/FAQ/stafffaq.html

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/capping.html

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/procedures.html

www.nuigalway.ie/exams/contact.html

On line Forms and Booklets

SID (Student Information Desk)

http://examinations_office_nuig.formstack.com/forms/student_id_card_replacment

http://examinations_office_nuig.formstack.com/forms/untitled_form_1

http://examinations_office_nuig.formstack.com/forms/untitled_form_4

www.nuigalway.ie/sid/documents/withdrawal_questionnaire.pdf

www.nuigalway.ie/sid/sid_policies.html

www.nuigalway.ie/sid/sid_policies.html

Financial Accounting

www.nuigalway.ie/financial-accounting/forms/

www.nuigalway.ie/financial-accounting/forms/