

# MSc Co-operatives, Agri-Food and Sustainable Development

CKL03



## MASTERS OF CO-OPERATIVES, AGRI-FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This one year MSc course will give participants the tools and knowledge to work successfully in co-operatives, sustainable development and the agri-food system.

This course and qualification will equip participants with the organisational, management, research and policy-analysis skills needed to make innovative contributions to the development of local and regional economies and sectors.

This unique course, with a strong practical emphasis, is aimed at graduates and mid-career professionals from a wide range of disciplines and sectors who wish to pursue or develop careers in sustainable development and innovative practice.

This course will lead to positions in the agri-food sector (ranging from local food enterprises to large multi-nationals); local and international rural development; collaborative and solidarity economy; NGOs; sectoral representative organisations; innovative community businesses including co-operatives and social enterprises; local and regional enterprise development; consultancy; corporate social responsibility; policy formulation and analysis.



### UNIQUE ASPECTS

- Only programme of its kind, which fully integrates co-operative approaches into the study of sustainable development and agri-food.
- Especially practical in delivery, including practice-based research project in an organisational setting (placement) and applied assessment.
- On-going exposure to practitioners and specialists in the field.
- Career and personal development focused to optimise employment opportunities.

### CAREER INFORMATION

Graduates can expect to work in a wide range of areas such as agri-food businesses (including co-operatives and artisan food enterprises), local government, NGOs (Irish and International), consultancy, research and policy analysis, social enterprise and local development agencies.

### ACCREDITATION

The programme has been accredited by the Institute of Management Consultants and Advisors, the national and internationally recognised professional institute for management consultants and business advisors.

## PRACTICALITIES & ASSESSMENT

### Practicalities

The programme involves approximately 12 hours of lectures per week with classes delivered Monday - Friday.

Additional hours will be scheduled for field visits and practical training as appropriate.

Ongoing project work will account for approximately 10-15 hours per week.

### Assessment

To develop critical thinking and writing skills, the programme stresses the importance of continuous assessment.

Students will be assessed on this basis for data analysis and report writing, presentations, quantitative and qualitative research projects, and in-computer laboratory work.

Students will also take examinations.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Applicants may apply for a range of scholarships to undertake this programme. These include the Jack Murphy FDC Group Scholarships which are valued at €12,500 each and include a highly relevant placement opportunity.

## COURSE DETAILS

**In Part I, students take 70 credits as follows:**

- Contemporary Socio-Economic and Environmental Issues (5)
- Co-operative and Collaborative Responses (10)
- Sustainable Rural Development (10)
- Economics of Agri-Food Markets and Value Chain Analysis (5)
- Global Food Policy Issues (5)
- Marketing for Sustainable Food Production and Consumption (5)
- Food Branding and Digital Media Marketing (5)
- Project Management (5)
- Sustainable Food Systems (5)
- The Sharing Economy (5)
- Research Methods (5)
- Professional Development (5)

**In Part II, students take 20 credits as follows:**

Practice-Based Research Project (20) – Students will complete a practice-based research project. This will be completed in collaboration with a relevant partner organisation, ensuring practical exposure to and involvement in the operations of actors in a relevant sector.

Programme Code: **CKL03**  
Duration: **1 year (Full-time)**  
Teaching Mode: **Classroom**  
Qualification: **MSc**  
NFQ Level: **Level 9**





## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS 2019

### Irish/EU Students and International Students

To apply for this programme,  
you will have:

A minimum second class honours  
degree (level 8) or equivalent,  
in a wide range of disciplines.

Consideration may be given to  
applicants who do not hold a second  
class honours degree but who have  
sufficient relevant experience, subject  
to approval by the School of Business.

### English Language Requirement:

Applicants from non-native English-speaking  
countries will be required to undertake a  
recognised English language test.

Please see accepted tests and minimum  
requirements below.

#### IELTS: 6.5

With no individual section lower than 5.5

#### TOEFL: 90

With minimum scores as follows:

- Listening: 17      - Reading: 18
- Speaking: 20    - Writing: 17

**Cambridge Proficiency Exam:** Grade C

**Cambridge Advanced Exam:** Grade B

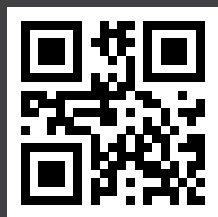
**Pearson PTE:** Minimum Score of 63

With no section score below 59

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Application for this programme is online  
at the Postgraduate Applications Centre  
[www.pac.ie/ucc](http://www.pac.ie/ucc) (PAC Code: CKL03)

For more information on the Programme:



### PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

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