Some considerations before you decide if you are going to study French or German

There are 1773 courses available to students through the CAO (Central Applications Office). Of these courses, 1384 do not require a modern language.

- The colleges of the National University of Ireland (NUI) have traditionally required an O6/H7 in a modern language for entry to many courses in the NUI colleges at Maynooth, Dublin, Galway, and Cork, and to a range of associated constituent colleges, all of which are listed on the [NUI Website](#)

- More recently, NUI colleges dropped their third language requirement for engineering and science programmes. UCD also dropped the third language requirement for their agricultural programmes. Maynooth has dropped the requirement for its Law, Business, Science and Computer/Engineering programs. [NUI Requirements -Page 13](#)

- Nursing in NUI colleges does not require a third language

- A third language must be included for arts, human sciences (some), law (some), social science, commerce, medicine and health sciences and some other degrees. For full details see [NUI Matriculation Regulations](#)

- **Trinity College Dublin** accepts Irish as a second language requirement. UL, DCU and the Technological Universities do not require a modern language for entry purposes to most of their courses, apart from those which involve the study of such a language.

- The Technological Universities do not require a modern language for entry, except for SE200 Arts with French / Spanish which recommends you present a language.

- **PLC (Post Leaving Certificate)** colleges **do not require** students to have taken a language. (If you progress to a university after completing your PLC course, the language requirement does not apply unless it is to a course with a specific language requirement e.g. MH101 French.

- **Apprenticeships do not require** a modern language.

- A modern language **is** a requirement for entry to a cadetship with the [Defence Forces](#) (Army, Navy, and Air Corps).
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- Having a language exemption excludes you from the third level requirement for all courses except the ones that specifically request one e.g., H4 Irish for Primary School Teaching. An exemption form will need to be completed for the NUI colleges, NUI [language exemption](#) and those that are not NUI, [Language exemption, TCD](#) but have a 2nd language requirement. These can be submitted online in 6th year.

Some Facts:

DCU
There are 82 courses in DCU & 73 of them do not require a modern language.

Trinty College
There are 142 courses in TCD and 80 of them do not require a modern language

University College Galway
There are 88 courses in UCG and 24 of them do not require a modern language

University College Dublin
There are 119 courses in UCD and 56 of them do not require a modern language.

For the purpose of this document, we will use **Maynooth University** & use **St Patrick's Pontifical University** an example as a large proportion of our student population progress to there from Scoil Dara every year. We will then give you the links to use so you can do your own research for every college in the CAO system.

Maynooth University
There are 85 courses in Maynooth University & 48 of them do not require a modern language.
In Maynooth University the courses that require a Modern Language are:
MH101 ARTS
MH103 Music
MH106 Psychology
MH107 Social Science
MH109 Media Studies

Traditionally, students from our school have used MH101 (Arts) to move into the 2nd year of the below listed courses. This happens when they do not achieve the points requirement for their course of choice and Arts is 2nd on their CAO form. None of these courses have a 3rd language requirement (but MH101, Arts does, so this is a serious consideration if your son/daughter may want to study one of these courses and wants to use MH101 as a backup on their CAO application) You can read about this here How to make my CAO Choices

MH401 Finance
MH403 Accountancy
MH404 Business
MH415 Economics
MH501 Law
MH601 Computer Science & Software Engineering

St Patrick's Pontifical University
MU0014 Theology & Arts requires a modern language.
Traditionally, students use Theology & Arts (MU001) as a steppingstone into other courses in Maynooth as outlined above, and there is a 3rd language requirement for this course. (Pontifical University). We generally have 1 student taking this option every year.

How To Do Further Research:

Below you will find 4 links that will allow you to do your research. Please do not just read the above and make your decision, Careers Portal and Qualifax are excellent tools to use to help you with your decision.

1. Going to College NUI **https://www.nui.ie/college/**

2. NUI Matriculation Regulations
   https://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs_2022_2023_ENG.pdf

3. Careers Portal
   You can search course that do and do not require a modern language by using the Careers Portal Course Finder Use the filters to select CAO courses, browse by subject, or college and then filter with 'CAO entry requirements' & 'Modern language not required.' This will give you a pretty good indication whether a modern language is advisable or not.

4. Qualifax
   You can also use Qualifax to do the same exercise

- Please accept that this information is correct on Nov 14th, 2023.

- Please check all data on the websites provided before making your decision.