



Mary Immaculate College
University of Limerick



Student Information Guide
2018 / 2019

Fáilte / Welcome

Traditionally, Irish people welcomed visitors by saying 'Céad Míle Fáilte' which literally means 'One Hundred Thousand Welcomes'. We are very pleased that you are coming to Mary Immaculate College and wish to assure you of a warm welcome.

Founded in 1898, Mary Immaculate College is a Catholic College of Education and the Arts. The College offers a wide range of programmes in Education and the Arts at both undergraduate and postgraduate level in excess of 3,500 students are engaged in studies here. Each year we welcome international students who come to study and enjoy themselves at the College. Because of its size, there is a friendly atmosphere, with many opportunities to make new friends.

The College is proud of its reputation as a caring institution where there is genuine concern for the individual. It provides the academic, physical and social environment in which not only learning, but also personal development, are encouraged and facilitated.

May we wish you a most enjoyable and beneficial period of study here.

Guímid gach rath ort anseo sa Choláiste!

Application & Registration

Please complete the **Student Application Form** and return it via e-mail to Ger.Cahillane@mic.ul.ie

Closing Dates for Receipt of Applications:

- **30 May 2018** for international students arriving in Autumn 2018
- **30 October 2018** for international students arriving in Spring 2019

Should you have any queries about the student programme, please contact:

Ger Cahillane
International Office
Mary Immaculate College,
South Circular Road,
Limerick,
Ireland
Tel: +353 61 204328
E-mail: Ger.Cahillane@mic.ul.ie



Academic Calendar 2018 / 2019

Autumn semester

Lectures Start:	10 September 2018
Lectures Finish:	30 November 2018
Study Days	3-6 December 2018
Examinations:	7-20 December 2018

Spring Term

Lectures Start:	21 January 2019
Lectures Finish:	12 April 2019
Study Week	22-26 April 2019
Examinations:	29 April - 10 May 2019 inclusive**

Breaks/Closures 2018/19

Graduation	25/26 October 2018
Public Holiday	29 October 2019
St Patrick's Day	18 March 2019 (as the 17th falls on Sunday)
Easter Break	13-21 April 2019 inclusive
May Bank Holiday	6 May 2019

Please note that international student orientation is held **before the commencement of each semester; please refer to page 6 for dates.*

***Please note that examinations for Year 2 modules are normally held **before** the official examination period in May.*

Orientation Programme

An orientation programme is organised before the start of each semester and it is very important that all international students attend. The programme provides information about the College, its academic programmes and student facilities. Students meet with their academic advisors and obtain advice and assistance in planning their academic programmes. Social events help students to get to know each other and settle in to their new surroundings.

Orientation Programme Dates

- Autumn Semester 5/6/7 September 2018 (to be confirmed)
- Spring Semester: 16/17/18 January 2019 (to be confirmed)



Academic Information

The academic programme is semesterised and modularised. Each semester comprises 15 weeks: 12 weeks of classes followed by 1 study week and 2 weeks of examinations. Each course module lasts one semester and normally involves a minimum of 3 hours of lectures / tutorials per week. It is recommended that international students take a **minimum of 4 course modules per semester of study**.

Student & Course Registration

Both student and module registration take place at Mary Immaculate College during the first week of each semester [after international student orientation]; you will receive your College identification [ID] card during student registration. Should you make any changes to your module choices during the semester, please advise **both** your Academic Advisor and the Student Academic Administration [Eithne Galvin - Eithne.Galvin@mic.ul.ie] of the change[s] **via e-mail**.

Attendance at Lectures, Tutorials & Practicals

All students are **required** to attend lectures, tutorials and practicals. It is important to check with the lecturer if there are tutorials in addition to the lecture. Absences should be reported to Student Academic Administration- **Room**: 112 [a medical certificate may be required].

Attendance at Examinations

All students are **required** to attend all scheduled assessments and examinations. If you miss an end-of-semester examination, contact Student Academic Administration [Room 112] for advice as a matter of priority. If you are registered for a module on an attendance-only basis (Auditing) and not required to take the examination, you are required to advise **both** your Academic Advisor and the Student Academic Administration, Eithne Galvin - Eithne.Galvin@mic.ul.ie **via e-mail**.

Grading System

A grade is awarded for each module for which a student is registered. The QPV (Quality Point Value) corresponds to the Grade Point Average [GPA] used in the North American system. The ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) grades apply to European students. Up-to-date information on the College's grading system can be found in the [Student Handbook](#)

Issuing of Results

A transcript of your grades is sent to your home university co-ordinator following the meeting of the College's Examination Board at the end of each semester of studies. Students can obtain their grades on-line.

Academic Programmes

Bachelor of Arts [B.A.]

Subjects available on the Arts [B.A.] programme include: English, French Studies, Geography, German Studies, History, Gaeilge [Irish], Mathematics, Media & Communication Studies, Music, Philosophy, Psychology and Theology & Religious Studies. Elective modules include: Irish Studies, Gender Studies and Information Technology. Special modules are offered to international students including Gaeilge *ab initio* [Irish for Beginners] and Léann Dúchais [Irish Heritage Studies]. **International students may take courses in any of the Arts subjects and at any level, subject to the fulfilment of any pre-requisites and/or departmental requirements.** Note, however, that class schedules may preclude certain course combinations and that student numbers in practical laboratory-based courses such as Media & Communications and Information Technology are limited. Please refer to detailed course and module information in the [Arts Module Descriptors for International Students](#)

Bachelor of Education [B. Ed.]

The Bachelor of Education [B.Ed.] programme comprises theoretical education, pedagogy of curricular areas, and teaching practice. International students may take modules from the Bachelor of Education programme only if their home university has a dedicated Education link with Mary Immaculate College. No other international students may take modules / module components from this programme under any circumstances. Please also note that teaching practice modules, micro-teaching and/or classroom observation are not available to international students. Please refer to detailed course and module information in the [Education Module Descriptors for International Students](#)

Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Care & Education [ECCE]

The B.A. in Early Childhood Care and Education is a full-time four-year degree course designed to provide an exciting and challenging programme for those interested in working with young children in a range of educational settings. International students may take modules from the B.A. ECCE programme only if their home university has a dedicated ECCE link with Mary Immaculate College. No other international students may take modules / module components from this programme under any circumstances. Please also note that placement modules are not available to international students at present. Please refer to detailed course and module information in the [BAECCE Module Descriptors for International Students](#)

Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary & Applied Theatre Studies

The BA programme in Contemporary & Applied Theatre Studies examines drama and theatre across a range of practical applications and non-traditional settings, including, but not defined by, stage performance or the study of literary texts. Contemporary theatre signals that the programme will deal largely with current and emergent modes of theatrical production and reception. Please refer to detailed course and module information in the [BACATS Module Descriptors for International Students](#)

Guide to College Services

Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

The ALC is a drop-in service for all students who are seeking advice or help on any aspect of learning at MIC.

Office: C1, C3, C4 (between the Library Building and the Foundation Building)

Tel: + 353 61-204373 **E-mail:** lsu@mic.ul.ie

Website: [Academic Learning Centre](#)

Access & Disability Service

The Access & Disability Officer co-ordinates the services available and provides information and advice to students from under-represented groups in third level, including socio-economically disadvantaged students, students with a disability, mature students, special minority groups etc. These students encouraged to contact the Access & Disability Officer to become familiar with the supports available.

Contact: Maura Moore, Access & Disability Officer

Room: G01 (Foundation Building)

Tel: +353 61-204927 **E-mail:** Maura.Moore@mic.ul.ie

Accommodation Service

Details of accommodation options can be found [here](#):

Contact: John Randles, Accommodation Manager MIC

Tel: +353 61-302500 **E-mail:** manager.summerville@mic.ul.ie

Arts Office

Deals with all matters relating to the **B.A. Degree** and to the Arts component of the B.Ed. and B.Ed. & Psychology Degrees, including the submission of coursework

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday from 10.00 - 12.45 and 14.00 - 16.30.

Room: RG1 (Foundation Building)

Banking

Bank of Ireland provides a service at Mary Immaculate College from Monday - Friday, 10:00 - 12:30 and 13:30 - 15:00 [Wednesday, 10:30 – 12:30 and 13:00 - 15:00]. To open a bank account with Bank of Ireland on campus, you will need to present your passport, your student ID card and a student status letter from the College. In addition, there is an ATM outlet on campus. All major credit and debit cards [e.g. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diner's Club, Delta] are accepted throughout Ireland.

Bookshop

An Siopa sells new titles for some of the courses taught in the College. It is also possible to buy second-hand books from other students – see College noticeboards.

Chaplaincy

The College welcomes students of all faiths and none. The facilities of the College Chaplaincy service are available to all students. The Chaplaincy Team strives to promote the spiritual and

psycho / social development of the entire College community, staff and students. It is possible to discuss issues of concern in confidence. Drop by for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee!

Contact: Fr. Michael Wall, Chaplain

Office: G48 (Foundation Building) **Chaplaincy Room:** T.1.08 [TARA]

Tel: +353 61-204331 **E-mail:** Chaplaincy.Team@mic.ul.ie

Website: [Chaplaincy Services](#)

Counselling Service

Mary Immaculate College provides a professional, on-campus Counselling Service which is available to all students, free of charge. This service provides all students with the opportunity to talk, in a confidential setting, about any issues which s/he may not feel comfortable discussing with anyone else.

Contact: Nessa Breen Nessa.Breen@mic.ul.ie or Bríd O'Connell Brid.OConnell@mic.ul.ie

Office: T.3.11 (TARA)

Office: T.3.12 (TARA)

or **E-mail:** or counselling@mic.ul.ie

Education Office

Deals with all matters relating to the Education component of the B.Ed Degree and all matters relating to the B.A. in Early Childhood Care and Education including the submission of coursework

Opening Hours: Monday - 09.00 - 12.00 p.m. and 14.00-16.00. Tuesday to Friday 09.00 - 12.45 and 14.00-16.00

Room: 307 (Foundation Building)

Health Promoting College

The initiative aims at promoting the health and well-being of all members of the college community through policy development, the provision of programmes and activities and the implementation of specific health promotion strategies. A wide range of services are available to students. Examples include: yoga classes, blood pressure checks and advice on a range of lifestyle topics.

Office: G06 (Foundation Building)

Tel: +353 61-204922 **E-mail:** healthpromotion@mic.ul.ie

Website: [Health Promotion](#)

ICT Services

Note that all computer use is subject to the provisions of a Code of Conduct for Users. The majority of the student computers run Microsoft Windows and all are connected to the MIC network. Open-access PC cluster opening times are Monday – Thursday 08:30 – 21.00, Friday 08.30 – 18.00. Printing and copying are available in the open-access computer rooms during opening times. Students are provided with e-mail accounts and full internet access is available from all networked student PCs. **Rooms:** G33c, G34, G35, G36 (Foundation Building)

Library

The Library is the focus of academic life in the College and is situated in Áras an Phiarsaigh to the rear of the Foundation Building. Services to students include: borrowing facilities, reference and information services and photocopying.

Rooms: LG1 – LG4 and L201 – L203 **Tel:** +353 61-204370

Opening Hours: Normal opening hours are 09.00 – 22.00 during term with shorter hours outside of term. **Website:** [College Library](#)

Meals

Breakfast and lunch are available in the College restaurant during term. A tea and coffee service, together with a wide variety of snacks, is available in both the College restaurant and *An Siopa* throughout the day.

Medical Centre

The Medical Centre offers urgent, private and confidential acute medical care during college term. This service costs €10 to all students.

- Opening hours Monday to Friday 10.00 – 12.00 and 14.00-16.00
- To make a doctor's appointment- student must meet with a nurse between 10.00 – 12.00
- Doctors' appointments are in the afternoon between 14.00-16.00 (appointments cannot be made over the phone).

Weekend and afterhours service is not provided by MIC Medical Centre. Students who need to see a doctor out of hours should contact Shannon doc on 1850212999. This is a GP service which covers Limerick and surrounding areas. See www.shannondoc.ie for further information.

Students who need urgent medical attention should proceed to the Casualty Department at the University Hospital Limerick which provides 24hour cover. Telephone; +353 61 301111.

If you are taking prescribed medication, please bring your up-to-date prescription with you as you will need it when seeing the doctor here for that particular illness/condition

Medical Centre (TARA Building) **Room:** T.3.07 (3rd floor) **Tel:** +353 61-204343

Notice Boards

For information relating to timetables, change of schedules, events or plans etc. these notices will appear on the notice boards situated along the '**Information Corridor**' (beside the main stairs in the Foundation Building). Additional notice boards containing news items are located in various areas of the College. The [Student Services online Noticeboard](#) contains up-to-date information for MIC Students such as timetables etc.

Post

There is a post-box in the Reception area for outward mail, with a daily collection at 17:00.

Radio Station [Wired FM]

Wired FM is a student community radio station, broadcasting to third-level students of Limerick city and suburbs. The station provides a voice for the students of Limerick and gives them a chance to offer a real alternative for fans of great music and speech-based radio in the city. The station also broadcasts weekly film, literature, sports, Irish language and arts programmes, combined with student current affairs output.

Office: LG05 **Tel:** +353 61-315773 **E-mail:** manager@wiredfm.ie or studio@wiredfm.ie

Website: Wired FM

Security

College and Campus Security personnel can be contacted on 061 204982 / +353 87-6594341 or via the Main Reception desk.

Shop

The Students' Union shop, *An Siopa*, is located in the TARA Building and sells books, stationery, food, phone credit, stamps, newspapers (at discounted prices), soft drinks, takeaway tea, coffee, sandwiches, soup & hot chocolate.

Opening Hours during term: Monday - Thursday 08:30 -20:30, Friday 08:30 - 16:30.

Sports

Mary Immaculate College encourages all students to take part in sport and recreation. Coaching is provided at introductory and advanced levels. Tailteann (Gym) is open Monday – Thursday until 22:00 and Friday until 18:00. To use the Gym, new members must first attend a brief induction session.

Tailteann Reception **Tel:** +353 61 204306 **Website:** Tailteann

Student Union /Clubs & Societies

Mary Immaculate College Students' Union (MISU) provides support, representation and services to its members. MISU represents the student body in negotiations with college staff and management and with other organisations on a local, national and international level. Students are represented by the elected students' union executive committee officers. The union is administered by the general manager, the student activities officer and office administrator.

MISU also promotes and co-ordinates the activities of clubs and societies and stimulates the growth of new societies. Clubs and Societies are a great way of meeting new people in college, providing an opportunity to mix with like-minded individuals. New members are always welcome and students are encouraged to set up new clubs and societies, ensuring there is something for everyone. To join a club / society, go along to Clubs & Societies Day which takes place in Week 1 of each semester or call in to the MISU.

Contact: MISU **Tel:** + 353 61-400013 **Website:** MISU

Student Parent Co-ordinator

If you or your partner become pregnant or if you are a student parent, the Student Parent Co-ordinator will ensure that you are aware of the supports available to you, both within the College and with external agencies. **Contact:** Nicola Hurley, Student Parent Co-ordinator

Office: Room T.3.07 (TARA Building) **Tel:** +353 61-204347 **E-mail:** Nicola.Hurley@mic.ul.ie

Student Academic Administration

Services provided include admissions, registration, examinations, grants and access / disability.

Room: 112 (Foundation Building) **Opening hours:** 09:30 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 16:30

Website: [Student Services](#)



Travel to MIC

Mary Immaculate College is situated within fifteen minutes' walk of the city centre and close to the many social and cultural amenities of this historic city.

Arrival at Shannon Airport

Limerick City is 25km south of [Shannon Airport](#). Transport to Limerick is available by bus or taxi. The bus journey from Shannon Airport to Limerick city bus / railway station costs approximately €7 [student rate] and takes approximately 20 – 25 minutes. Please see: <http://www.buseireann.ie/>. If you have luggage, you may wish to take a taxi from the train / bus station to your accommodation or Mary Immaculate College; ask the driver for the fare in advance.

Arrival at Dublin Airport

There are many bus services outside the Arrivals Hall at [Dublin Airport](#) which will bring you directly to Limerick - or to Heuston Train Station from where you can catch a train. Details of train services between Dublin and Limerick can be found at [Irish Rail](#). The train journey takes about two and a half hours and is cheapest if you purchase in advance. You can also get a bus to Limerick, see: [Dublin Coach Bus Eireann](#), [JJ Kavanagh](#) and [Eireagle](#)

If you intend arriving at Cork or Kerry Airport please contact me.

If you arrive late at night to any airport, train or bus station, please ensure you have booked your first night's accommodation and have arranged transport to your destination in advance.

Travel Links

Further travel information is available as follows:

Aer Lingus - www.aerlingus.com

Ryanair - www.ryanair.com

Irish Ferries - www.irishferries.co.uk

Irish Tourist Board - www.discoverireland.ie

Visa & Immigration Requirements

Citizens of certain countries require an entry visa for Ireland. Please check the Government of Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs website to see if you are a citizen of a country that requires a visa to enter Ireland - www.dfa.ie. It is the responsibility of the student to apply for his/her own entry visa. All citizens of non-EEA countries, whether they require a visa or not, are subject to immigration control at the point of entry to Ireland.

Immigration Requirements - Non-EEA Nationals

All non-EEA nationals are required to formally register their stay with the Immigration authorities in Limerick within two weeks of arrival. They will need to have the following documentation:

- Valid up-to-date passport;
- Evidence of sufficient funds to support yourself during your stay in Ireland or a letter of sponsorship*. An ATM receipt is **not** acceptable.
- Proof of health insurance for duration of stay;
- Student Status Letter [letter from Mary Immaculate College confirming you are a full-time registered student].

Students should have these documents in their hand luggage when travelling to Ireland as they may be asked to produce them at the point of entry to Ireland [this is not a substitute for the formal registration of their stay in Ireland].

Once the applicant has been formally registered they will be issued with an immigration card stating the period in which the applicant is **allowed to remain in the State**. The immigration authorities currently apply a charge of €300 for this card, payable by credit card, debit card or bank giro, **not** cash.

**Letter of Sponsorship Requirements – the letter should state that the sponsor will provide all financial and medical support necessary for the person named while they remain in Ireland. It should be specified that if granted permission to remain the person named will not become a burden on the State.*

Documented proof during the academic year 2018/2019 should show the student having at least €400.00 per month at his/her disposal.

Money Matters & Practicalities

Cost of Living

It is estimated that a budget of approximately €300 per week covers accommodation, meals and other living costs. Individual budgets vary depending on the cost of accommodation and level of personal expenditure.

Electricity

In Ireland and the UK we use different plugs and voltage to the rest of the world. If you are bringing any electrical goods with you, you should purchase an adapter in your home country as it may be cheaper there but check the voltage! Voltage in Ireland is **220V AC, at 50Hz**. Most European appliances should work no problem. The plug in Ireland is a standard 3-pin plug so you will need an adapter to suit this.



Shopping

Bedding / Towels / Homewares

Some student accommodation provides bedding – but not all do.

You should be able to find reasonably-priced homewares, bed linen and towels in the following stores:

- Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Limerick City
- Guineys, William Street, Limerick City
- Heatons, Crescent Shopping Centre, Dooradoyle, Limerick
- Penneys, O'Connell Street, Limerick City & Crescent Shopping Centre, Dooradoyle, Limerick

Weather in Ireland can be changeable and unpredictable. It is a good idea to purchase an umbrella, a waterproof jacket / coat / poncho, suitable warm clothing and footwear.

Food

- Aldi, Childers Road, Limerick City
- Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Limerick City
- Lidl, Childers Road, Limerick City – a five minute walk from Mary Immaculate College
- Tesco, Crescent Shopping Centre, Dooradoyle and Arthur's Quay Limerick City

Limerick City

Limerick is situated on the West Coast of Ireland at the mouth of the river Shannon and is the Republic of Ireland's third largest city. Limerick city was founded as a Viking fortress in the 10th century. Reminders of the city's eventful past include the 12th century King John's Castle, the medieval precinct and St. Mary's Cathedral. The population of Limerick City is about 60,000 and, with five institutions of higher education, there is a strong student culture. Limerick offers many activities for students, including a variety of historical, artistic and theatrical activities. There is a lively pub music scene catering for a variety of musical tastes, from Irish traditional music to jazz. Mary Immaculate College's [Lime Tree Theatre](#) and the University of Limerick's [Concert Hall](#) offer a range of concerts and theatre shows.

Tourist Information Office

20 O'Connell St, Limerick

Tel: +353 61-317522

Limerick Web Links

Limerick - Official Web Site - www.limerick.ie

Shannon Heritage - www.shannonheritage.com

Limerick Post - www.limerickpost.ie

Limerick Leader - www.limerickleader.ie

Irish Tourist Board - www.discoverireland.ie

