

<u>Your University Dictionary</u>	
Admissions Officers:	Each H.E.I. will have someone who is responsible for prospectuses, application forms and other enquiries about the admissions process. They generally have a School's Liaison specifically for dealing with secondary schools.
Alumni:	People who have graduated (i.e. completed a course and gained a qualification) from a particular university are called alumni.
Campus:	This usually refers to the buildings and surroundings of a university where the university is the principal or sole occupier of an area.
Careers Services:	These provide a very important service for all students whatever stage they are at in their course. They can help in terms of providing guidance about a vast range of career possibilities which students might want to consider once they have completed their course. Many universities are also able to provide information about opportunities for part-time and temporary jobs during their time as a student. Often future employers will visit universities to recruit students for employment and the Careers Service will have details of these "milk round" events.
Debt:	This is the amount of money that many students find they need to repay at the end of their studies. Most students do leave university with some debt – usually to a bank. Bank loans often have to be repaid on graduating.
Degree:	A qualification awarded by a university after the satisfactory completion of the equivalent of 3/4/5 years of full-time study at university level.
Essays:	Essays are pieces of written work, which are submitted by students to the university and are one form of assessment. Essays usually have a set number of words (depending on the subject or tutor but often around 2000 words) and students are expected to answer a question, showing that they have done some research and are able to discuss the issues clearly and logically. Essays are more common with some subjects than others such as Art subjects.
Faculty:	A faculty is a grouping of academic departments that are grouped together for teaching, research and administrative purposes. For example Faculty of Science, Faculty of Law, etc. Sometimes they are also called Schools e.g. School of Health Studies etc.
Finals:	Finals is the name given to the final exams taken by students at the end of their study. In the past nearly all of the assessment for a degree was based on the outcome of these exams. Most degrees today rely far less on the results from finals and tend to use continuous assessment throughout the course.
Freshers:	Students beginning their time at a university are often referred to as Freshers and a Freshers Week may be organised to introduce them to university life. This can include social events as well as introduction to libraries, clubs and other resources.
Graduate:	A graduate is a person who has been awarded a degree from a university. Whilst studying for a degree you will be known as an undergraduate. After the award of a degree you become a postgraduate.
Halls:	Halls of residence are blocks of student accommodation, which either provide meals or self-catering facilities. Priority for places in halls is usually given to first year students. There are usually a variety of other facilities like laundrettes and common rooms. Sometimes there are shared amenities such as bathrooms and showers but some do have en-suite facilities.
Lecture:	A lecture is usually a formal presentation of ideas and information by a member of the academic staff to a fairly large number of students. Many

	lectures are accompanied with student handouts or online material, although you will generally be encouraged to make your own notes too. In recent times lectures have become less formal in many universities with lecturers encouraging active participation from students.
Modular Courses:	Some courses are divided into modules and students are required to pass a number of modules to complete a degree programme. To achieve a degree you will usually have to study a number of mandatory and elective modules.
PhD (Doctor of Philosophy):	A person who has a degree and has undertaken years of research and has published their work and been assessed, may be awarded a PhD and can use the title of Doctor. This is a specialist degree that is usually awarded for at least 3 years of supervised, but original research work. All research students starting Ph.D. research would expect to hold a good degree first or a Masters. A person with a Ph.D. degree uses the title "Dr".
Plagiarism:	Plagiarism is when someone uses someone else's writing or ideas and pretends that they are their own. Universities are very keen that students should not cheat in this way and so if you do any research then you should always reference your source of information.
Postgraduate Courses:	Courses at a higher level that are usually only available for those who have already passed their degree. Postgraduate study can lead to a Masters degree or a Postgraduate Diploma or Professional Diploma.
Reading week:	A period during a semester or term when students can concentrate on their individual learning and research. During these weeks there are usually no formal teaching sessions.
Research:	Research is a key feature of most university courses. Research involves collecting information about a subject from a variety of sources including books, journals and the Internet or by carrying out experiments or talking to people and analysis of this information
Semester:	Some universities divide the student year into 3 terms, some divide it into 2 semesters. A semester is half a study year.
Seminar	A group of students meet to discuss a subject with a tutor; usually someone prepares a paper for discussion and shares the research they have done and their opinions on the subject. Seminars are more interactive than a lecture and are often student led.
Societies (Soc):	Clubs where like minded people can share their interests, beliefs, religion or sport.
Sports Union:	This is usually a part of the main Students Union and is organised by students to provide a wide range of sporting opportunities (from tennis to kickboxing) that will suit people of a whole range of abilities. Competitions are organised between universities too.
Students Union:	Each university will have a Students Union (which will probably be part of the Union of Students in Ireland). The Union will represent the interests of students and works in their interest about a whole range of issues. The union can also provide the focal point of student activities.
Tutorial:	A small group meets to discuss with each other and their tutor the work they are doing and more general course issues. Tutorials can also be on an individual basis with a student discussing their work with a tutor.
C.A.O.	The Central Applications Office for Ireland. All students applying for full-time courses apply through C.A.O.
Undergraduate:	Someone studying either full or part time for a first degree including Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Education (Bed), LLB(Law) etc.