



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Coláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí
Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh
College of Arts, Social Sciences
& Celtic Studies

Children Studies at University of Galway



University
of Galway.ie

Course Overview

Do you want to make a difference?

Do you want to make the world a better place for children?

Do you want to work with or on behalf of children?

Then Children's Studies is the course for you!

University of Galway offers two exciting programmes dedicated to Children's Studies, an interdisciplinary area which examines the social, cultural, legal, psychological and historical discourses shaping the lives of children and youth today.

University of Galway has an international reputation in children's research, and thus is ideally placed to offer these unique programmes. These programmes prepare graduates for working with children in areas such as teaching, advocacy work, public policy, arts administration, child-welfare work, children's rights activism and play therapy

Bachelor of Arts (Children's Studies) (ACS)

- > Dedicated to Children's Studies
- > Applied Degree: Working with Children
- > Active Learning Strategy
- > Cutting-edge Teaching Methods
- > Specifically recommended for those interested in Primary School Teaching

Bachelor of Arts with Children's Studies (AWC)

- > General Arts Degree with Specialism in Children's Studies
- > Selected Children's Studies Modules Alongside the Arts Subjects
- > Specifically recommended for those interested in Secondary School Teaching

Bachelor of Arts (Children's Studies)

This programme provides unique and applied training that is not available anywhere else in Europe

Programme Outline

Year 1: > 40 Credits - CORE* (Children's Studies)
> 20 Credits - Optional**

Year 2: > 40 Credits - CORE* (Children's Studies)
> 20 Credits - Optional**

Year 3: > Students will complete Children's Studies modules in Semester 1 and undertake a work placement or study abroad in Semester 2.

Year 4: > 40 Credits - CORE* (Children's Studies)
> 20 Credits - Optional**

Sample CORE Modules: Children's Health, Child Development, European Educational Approaches, Children and Storytelling, Children and Transition. Children and Play, Children's Culture and Media.

OPTIONAL Modules: There are two pathways for optional modules. Students can choose to take either modules in one modern language OR additional Children's Studies modules.

Modules offered may change from year to year, depending on availability.

Work Placement

The third year of the degree incorporates a placement and/or exchange. Students are encouraged to tailor their work placements to their chosen career paths.

National placements include Schools, Child Care, Hospital Playrooms and working with Children with Disabilities. International placements include SEK Schools in Spain, International Festivals, English Language Assistant Schemes and Language Exchanges.

Find Out More

Dr Devon Goodwin

Programme Director

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies

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CAO Code:	GY110 ACS (On your CAO application please indicate which stream of GY110 you would like to study)
Duration:	4 years
Course Level:	8
Minimum Entry Points 2026:	389
Entry Requirements:	Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 level in the Leaving Certificate including Irish, English, another language, and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes.
Additional Information:	Students must satisfy Garda/Police vetting procedures before acceptance onto the course.
Average Intake:	60

Bachelor of Arts (Arts with Children Studies)

The BA with Children's Studies is the only degree in Ireland and Europe that enables students to combine an Arts degree with a specialism in Children's Studies.

Programme Outline

Year 1: > 3 Arts subjects + 3 Children's Studies modules

Year 2: > 2 Arts subjects (drop 1) + 2 Children's Studies modules

Year 3: > Dedicated to Children's Studies specialism. Students will complete Children's Studies modules in Semester 1 and undertake a work placement or study abroad in Semester 2.

Year 4: > Complete 2 Arts subjects (no Children's Studies modules)

Sample Children's Studies modules: Irish Children's Literature, Children in Social Contexts, European Educational Approaches, Developmental Psychology, Children's Rights.

Modules offered may change from year to year, depending on availability.

Work Placement

The third year of the degree incorporates a placement and/or exchange. Students are encouraged to tailor their work placements to their chosen career paths.

National placements include Schools, Child Care, Hospital Playrooms and working with Children with Disabilities. International placements include SEK Schools in Spain, International Festivals, English Language Assistant Schemes and Language Exchanges.

Find Out More

Dr. Kate Harvey

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CAO Code:	GY110 AWC (On your CAO application please indicate which stream of GY110 you would like to study)
Duration:	4 years
Course Level:	8
Minimum Entry Points 2026:	389
Entry Requirements:	Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 level in the Leaving Certificate including Irish, English, another language, and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes.
Additional Information:	Students must satisfy Garda/Police vetting procedures before acceptance onto the course.
Average Intake:	30



Graduate Career Paths

BA (Children's Studies)

The BA (Children's Studies) provides students with the knowledge, confidence and transferable skills to identify their preferred career path. Graduates will be well-placed to pursue postgraduate study and careers in education, the social care sector and community development work, play therapy, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, social work, health promotion, arts administration, special-needs and public advocacy. Excellent for those interested in Primary School Teaching*

*This requires the addition of a Professional Master of Education

BA with Children's Studies

The expertise acquired through a BA with Children's Studies will assist students in identifying the career path that best suits their particular talents and ambitions. It is the perfect platform from which to pursue postgraduate study and careers in social work, advocacy, the creative arts, education and community development. Recent graduates are currently studying and working in speech and language therapy, play therapy, social work, and public policy, as well as teaching and educational support in Ireland and abroad.

Excellent for those interested in Primary and / or Secondary School Teaching*

*This requires the addition of a Professional Master of Education

What Our Students Say

"The Bachelor of Arts with Children's Studies programme has exposed me to different types of teaching methods and career paths available to me in my desire to work with children. I thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experience I got from completing my placement in third year. It gave me a great taste of what working in the field with children is like. It has given me a strong foundation to build on as I prepare to begin my career. I am in the process of becoming a Play Therapist, which the BA with Children's Studies course has given me great confidence to do"

-Molly Sullivan. Bachelor of Arts with Children's Studies

"This course has given me the confidence and experience to progress my skills for working with children, and has provided me with ample opportunity to work with children through service learning and placement. I cannot recommend the denominated BA Children's Studies course enough, as it is the only degree of its kind in Europe, with an internationally recognised qualification, and dedicated, hard-working staff who ensure the success of each student"

-Jade Hume. Bachelor of Arts (Children's Studies)

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