

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS) IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT *Complete your degree in 2 years*

FACTFILE

Start Date
Sept 2026

Duration
Three stages over 2 years.

Delivery
Blended (Online with some face-to-face classes).

Indicative Timetable
Two evenings per week online plus some Saturdays on campus. Exams may take the form of online or in person.

Fees
€4,250 per stage
(€12,750 total fee)
Full degree encompasses three stages
(Fees revised annually)

€ Spread the cost with our direct debit plan

Application: Apply online at www.ncirl.ie

Course Description

This honours degree programme will give you the knowledge and skills required for all areas of business management. You will cover all the latest thinking and how it contributes to organisational success. You will gain an in-depth knowledge of a wide range of management and general business issues, theory, practice, and development. You will also learn to appreciate wider factors impacting business decision making such as the organisation culture, entrepreneurship and the external economic environment.

Students come from a variety of organisations and the course helps you understand the implications of different business contexts and varied stakeholders on the management of business.

The course will progress you through an in-depth knowledge of business management from its basic operational foundations to the more strategic level, and inform you of emerging new issues in this sphere. Our experienced faculty and the block delivery nature of the programme enables the course to offer you an interesting range of business assignments that will see you critically assessing approaches taken in work examples and case studies. This emphasis on practical assignments together with expert industry guest lecturers and a range of online materials will make for a fulfilling learning experience.

How is the course delivered?

This course is designed to radically change the experience of part-time study, with the learner no longer bound to traditional academic semesters that are more suited to full-time students. The course is delivered over three stages with each stage consisting of a block of 11 to 13 weeks with a short break built in after completion of each block and over the summer period. Submission deadlines and exams may fall within the break period.

This course is supported with online materials that supplement classroom-based lectures. This gives students the opportunity to meet up in the college and speak directly with lecturers.

Typically, the schedule would be:

STAGE 1

Block One

September to mid-December 2026
Break

Block Two

Mid-January to mid-late April 2027
Break

STAGE 2

Block Three

Mid-May to end of July 2027/beginning of August
Break

Block Four

Mid-September to mid-December 2027
Break

STAGE 3

Block Five

Mid-January to end-April 2028
Break

Block Six

May to August 2028

Who is the course for?

This part-time course is aimed at people working in business and management areas or intending to move into them.



Entry Requirements

The course is designed to appeal to those at work or seeking to re-enter the workforce. There are no specific academic requirements with applicants considered based on work and other experience. Applicants under 21 will be assessed based on Leaving Certificate or equivalent.

Note that applicants with a Certificate in First Line Management or a Certificate in Retail Management will get exemptions from some modules in stage 1. Applicants who have previously completed a Higher Certificate in Business may in some circumstances be eligible to enter the programme at Stage 2.

Any applicant with substantial experience may be eligible for module exemptions, you can apply by showing evidence of prior learning based on your employment experience.

Note that applicants with a Certificate in First Line Management or a Certificate in Retail Management will get exemptions from some modules in stage 1. Applicants who have previously completed a Higher Certificate in Business may in some circumstances be eligible to enter the programme at Stage 2.

Any applicant with substantial experience may be eligible for module exemptions, you can apply by showing evidence of prior learning based on your employment experience.

Award and Progression

This programme is designed to offer learners the maximum of flexibility with different entry and exit points and awards. This allows learners to stage their studies as suits them best. The full Bachelor of Arts Honours in Business Management is awarded by QQI at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications. This award will allow progression to level 9 courses on the NFW such as NCI's MA in Human Resource Management.

However, students may exit after completing stage 1 (60 credits) and receive a Certificate in Business Management at level 6, or after completing stage 2 (120 credits) and receive a Diploma in Business Management at level 7 awarded by QQI on the NFW. If you exit with a minor award you can still return later to finish the whole degree – you set the pace.

Laptop Requirement

All students applying to NCI must have access to a laptop that will allow them to attend classes online and, where relevant, to participate in on-campus learning. Some students may be able to avail of the Student Laptop Loan Scheme, subject to eligibility. See page 83 for more information.

COURSE CONTENT

Stage 1

Block 1

- Business Management Practice
- Leadership and Influencing
- Working with People

Block 2

- Aspects of Business Law
- Financial Accounting
- Economics of the World
- Business Communication

Stage 2

Block 1

- HRM in the Business Framework
- Business Economics
- Marketing
- Introduction to Business Statistics and Analytics

Block 2

- Business Statistics and Analytics for Decision Making
- Essentials of Employment Law
- Management Accounting
- Technology for Business

Stage 3

Block 1

- Entrepreneurship
- Strategic Management
- Economic and Social Policy

Block 2

- Change Management
- Project Management
- Sustainability and Business Ethics

This course is delivered with online lectures and online learning materials and, supported by classroom-based learning events. This gives students the opportunity to meet up in the College and speak directly with lecturers and fellow learners.