HIGHER DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE IN
FINTECH

FACTFILE

Delivery
Blended - Livestream with some Campus Stream classes, scheduled in advance. See page 4 for more information

Application
Apply online at www.ncirl.ie

Start Date
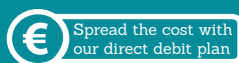Sept 2022

Part-time Schedule

Indicative Schedule
Three evenings per week 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00

Fees
€4,725
(Fees revised annually)

€ Spread the cost with our direct debit plan

Duration
This course is 3 semesters delivered over 1 calendar year

Course Description

Finance is a highly regulated industry dominated by banks that resist disruption and change. However, information technology innovations and computing resources availability have revolutionised the financial sector in the last decades. Data analytics, new technologies (e.g., blockchain) and business models (e.g., crowdfunding), and the modernisation of the financial sector regulations are creating opportunities to the emergence of disruptive services and challenger institutions.

This course provides learners with the latest knowledge and competencies at the intersection of finance and information technology, qualifying them to enter the rapidly evolving area that is fintech.

NCI is perfectly placed to deliver an industry-focused programme inspired by its location at the heart of the International Financial Services Centre. The course is completely delivered by faculty and industry practitioners with established experience in the fintech domain.

Who is the course for?

This course typically appeals to those who possess a level 8 qualification in any discipline and wish to transfer to a career in fintech.

Note that the course is technical in nature and entails a significant amount of independent study. Given the content and the timescale learners need to have a strong commitment to the course and a willingness to fully engage with the technical content.

Career Prospects

Fintech is an area of rapid growth and significant job opportunity at the intersection of finance and information technology. This programme gives learners the knowledge, skills, and a recognised qualification to avail of these opportunities. This course has been designed in consultation with industry to provide graduates with relevant skills that qualifies learners for roles such as junior business analyst, junior data analyst, junior financial analyst, quantitative first and second tier support engineer, junior blockchain software developer, assistant digital forensic accountant, assistant financial auditor.

Award and Progression

Higher Diploma in Fintech as awarded by QQI at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications. Graduates can progress onto the MSc in Fintech at National College of Ireland.

Entry Requirements

A level 8 degree (2.2 award) or its equivalent in any discipline. Non-standard applications to the programme will also be considered on an individual basis by the programme board. Non-standard applications will be also considered on an individual basis. The college operates a Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme – meaning applicants who do not meet the normal academic entry requirements, may be considered based on relevant work or other experience. This may be assessed through an interview and assessment. Non-English-speaking applicants must demonstrate fluency in the English language as demonstrated by IELTS score of at least 6.0 or equivalent.

Laptop Requirement

This programme has a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy. Specifically, students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. A suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 processor (Intel i5 or superior); 250+ GB of available space in hard disk; WiFi card; and a recent version of Ubuntu, macOS or Windows. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure their laptop is functioning correctly and that they have full administrator rights to the machine.
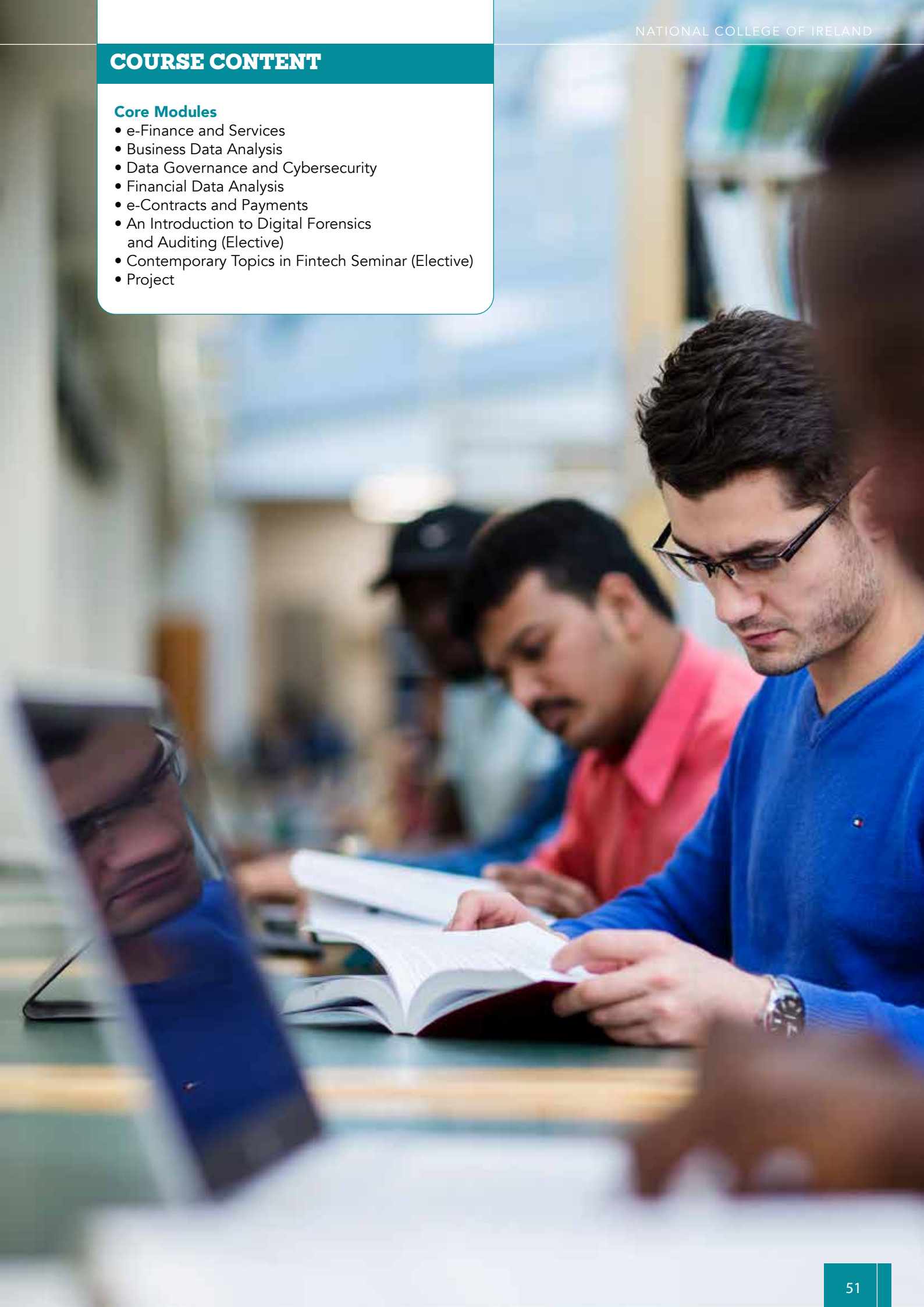
NCI IT does not provide support for personal devices.

Some students may be able to avail of the Student Laptop Loan Scheme, subject to eligibility. See page 77 for more information.

COURSE CONTENT

Core Modules
- e-Finance and Services
- Business Data Analysis
- Data Governance and Cybersecurity
- Financial Data Analysis
- e-Contracts and Payments
- An Introduction to Digital Forensics
  and Auditing (Elective)
- Contemporary Topics in Fintech Seminar (Elective)
- Project

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COURSE DELIVERY
for 2022/23

The majority of NCI's part-time programmes featured in this prospectus will be delivered in a blended format for 2022/23.

In most programmes this will mean the majority of the programme content will be delivered online but with some on-campus sessions. This will vary with the programme, but the breakdown of your course will be communicated to you in advance, and you will be able to plan for any required campus elements.

Across courses the following delivery methods may be employed:

Campus – The learning event (lecture, tutorial, laboratory, or seminar) takes place face to face on campus.
Livestream – The learning event takes place online.
Campus-stream – The learning event takes place face to face on campus and is simultaneously streamed online.
Directed e-learning – There are specified tasks to be carried out by students during a designated time interval (such as viewing a video, taking a quiz)

How these elements are broken down for each course will be available on the course pages on ncirl.ie.

In some instances, recorded lectures may also be available.

Bring Your Own Device
Given the amount of online content in these programmes it is a requirement that all students applying to NCI have access to a suitable laptop and broadband that will allow them to engage with online and other classes. A student laptop loan scheme is available for eligible students. See page 77.