

**ATHLONE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES**

ELECTIVES FORM	2011/2012
-----------------------	------------------

NAME:

STUDENT NUMBER:

COURSE :

**Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Social Studies
in Social Care**

CODE :

AL_HSOCS_C

YEAR :

Year 1

MANDATORY				
Semester 1: Learning to Learn; Applied Social Studies; Introduction to Sociology; Introduction to Law				
Semester 2: Applied Social Studies; Developmental Psychology; Interactional Approaches to Social Care				
ELECTIVE(S)				
(PLEASE CHOOSE 1 ELECTIVES FROM THE LIST BELOW)				
			Credits	Please tick
13242	POLT H1001	Modern Irish Politics 1 – Semester 1	5	
68680	POLT H1007	Modern Irish Politics 2 – Semester 2	5	
69509	FREN H1030	French 1.1 – Semester 1	5	
46954	FREN H1021	French 1.2 – Semester 2	5	
69512	SPAN H1024	Spanish 1.1 – Semester 1	5	
46957	SPAN H1013	Spanish 1.2 – Semester 2	5	

SIGNATURE

DATE

Higher Certificate in Applied Social Studies in Social Care 1

SEMESTER 1

French 1.1 & Spanish 1.1

See Languages Page

Modern Irish Politics I

This module aims to introduce students to a number of key political concepts and explore how such concepts apply (in the form of case studies) to real life political and social issues and debates in Ireland - such welfare; terrorism and civil liberties; environment; minority rights; freedom of speech and range of other topics.

SEMESTER 2

French 1.2 & Spanish 1.2

See Languages Page

Modern Irish Politics II

This module will provide students with an integrated understanding of key Irish political institutions and actors that inform and underlie political, social and economic change. Topics include the constitution, judiciary, legislature; government; electoral system etc.

Languages

French Year 1

ELECTIVE FRENCH I

"It is more important than ever that our graduates have an understanding of European societies and languages. It makes them more attractive to employers, but also sensitive to cultural issues and different methods of learning."

GERRY O'SULLIVAN, HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY, JUNE 14, 2011.

French is offered at post-Leaving Cert level, and may also be offered at Beginners level, subject to demand. The course builds on the skills already acquired at second level – oral, aural and written. Class groups are small, allowing for greater individual attention. The text book *Access French 1*, combined with interactive learning in the multi-media language laboratory makes the learning experience interesting and exciting. This year will see the introduction of a pilot Tandem Learning Programme, where each student will team up with a native French student studying at AIT to practise their conversation skills and gain a new friend! There will also be a number of fun Language activities happening in the college throughout the year. Learning French also provides you with a perfect opportunity to travel and spend an extended period of time in France, on a study period or a work placement.

Spanish Year 1 to 4

Why learn Spanish?

If you speak Spanish, you can communicate with almost 500 million people worldwide! Think how many more employment options that gives you! And if you want to take a trip to Spain or to Central or Latin America, a little knowledge of Spanish will go a long way.

Learning Spanish is fun! Spanish is easy to learn & to pronounce. Spanish is spoken in more than 28 countries. It is the world's third most spoken language, after Mandarin Chinese & English, and ranks second in terms of native speakers. Spanish is the second most used language in international communication. Being fluent in a foreign language is also a major advantage for job seekers, since more & more Irish companies trade internationally.

So why Spanish? Because not only is learning Spanish becoming increasingly important in terms of the global economy, it can also play a major role in your own personal development. The Spanish passion for living is contagious & visiting the country itself can be the experience of a lifetime. Once you get a taste for their language & culture; experience their music & dance, fiestas & siestas, food & drink; you may not want to come home!

So why choose Spanish as an elective in AIT?

This module will provide you with the practical language skills you need to survive when travelling around Spain, Central & Latin America. The course is designed for students who have **no** previous knowledge of the language & is aimed at providing you with some **basic survival** Spanish which would be of use on the ground in a Spanish-speaking country.

By the end of year 2 you can expect to be able to hold a conversation in the target language about yourself, your family, your hobbies & student life. You will learn about life in Spain, Central & Latin America. You will also be able to cope in basic situational tasks such as shopping, eating & drinking, travelling around Spain, e.g. booking tickets & accommodation, asking for directions & tourist information.

If you wish to continue with the elective after year 2, then the material will become more specialised, in relation to your chosen course of study. In year 3 you will learn how to apply for a job, do a job interview in your chosen discipline. You will be able to talk about working life & your own work experience. You will discover more about life in Spain, its culture & society. You will also be equipped with the practical language skills needed when studying, working or travelling around a Spanish-speaking country.

By the end of year 4, you can expect to be able to have a detailed discussion on a variety of topics from the syllabus and to be in a position to give a ten minute presentation on a topic of your choice. All of the material which is prepared for oral and aural work will also be applied to written work.