SPRINGBOARD+
www.springboardcourses.ie

lyit

Higher Diploma in Computing (Conversion Course into Computing) 1 Year

Who is the Higher Diploma in Computing (Conversion Course into Computing) for?

This is a level 8 honours-degree-equivalent conversion-style Higher Diploma in Computing. The objective of the course is to take graduates in non-computing fields and augment their skills and knowledge in readiness to begin a career in the computing industry.

According to the ManpowerGroup Skills Revolution 2.0 2018 report "digitization and automation is happening at different speeds impacting regions, sectors and organizations at different times in different ways." The report goes on to state that Administrative & Office functions expect the greatest decreases in headcount as a result of automation. However, "Most employers expect overall headcount to increase as a result of digitization, however, the impact varies by function. IT comes out on top as organizations invest in digital skills".

How will the course be delivered?

This course will be delivered part time (online) in the evenings. Delivery in this mode will facilitate upskilling and reskilling the widest possible group of company employees without requiring employees to cease employment while doing the course. As the course will be delivered online, it won't matter where in the country students are located.

Students who are unemployed or underemployed can do two modules per session with 3 sessions per academic year over one academic year.

Minimum Entry Requirements

The course will be available to applicants who meet the following criteria:

➢ A level-8 qualification in a non-Computing discipline.
➢ A level-7 qualification in a non-Computing discipline with 3 years appropriate work-experience.
➢ Candidates who do not hold these qualifications may also apply on the basis of Recognised Prior Learning which includes a combination of education, training and work experience.

Is there a demand for graduates with these skills?

The Skills Needs report showed that 22% of employers in the northwest identified upskilling employees IT Skills as critical to their continuing development. Meanwhile the Northwest remains an unemployment black-spot with over 10% unemployment and a large amount of underemployment and seasonal employment. Donegal accounts for over 60% of the population of the northwest but was the only county between 2008 and 2018 to suffer a population decline.

Meanwhile the European Commission estimates there will be a shortage of 800,000 skilled ICT graduates by 2020 (Labour Market Review 2016) with Ireland likely to experience significant shortages despite recent progress in increasing the number of ICT graduates. The need for a third-level qualification for workers moving into ICT is shown in the Future Skills Needs Vacancy Overview 2016 which shows that 75% of recent job hires in ICT had a third-level qualification. The National Skills Bulletin 2017 reported that this had risen to 80% by 2017. Encouragingly 91% of these new hires went into full-time roles. In 2016 35% of all "difficult to fill vacancies" were in ICT.

Course Structure

Modules	Mandatory/Elective	No of ECT credits
Database Technology	Mandatory	10
Computer Systems	Mandatory	10
Software Development	Mandatory	10
Software Development & Testing	Mandatory	10
Internet Applications Development	Mandatory	10
Software Engineering & Quality Assurance	Mandatory	10
Placement	Elective	10
Employability Studies	Elective	10

Timetables will be issued early to mid-September from the Department of Administration.

Delivery Notes

- 100% Online, all students registering on the course should check the landing page for additional course information.
- A 2MB Internet connection is recommended for online classes. Additional notes and student updates will be provided via Blackboard which is the online teaching support system (Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)).
- It is recommended that students have a headset for online classes and use a Chrome or Firefox web browser.
- When students have registered they will have access to additional detailed information about course delivery and college services through our website. Students should make sure they familiarise themselves with this information.

Course Fees

Springboard will cover 90% of the course fees for students who are currently in employment and 100% of the fees for students who are currently unemployed. The student contribution of 10% is €745.

Application Form

Applications can be made via the Springboard website www.springboardcourses.ie All applicants are required to provide a copy of their C.V., a copy of their highest education qualification certificate and documentary evidence of their eligibility for Springboard including residency (i.e. that they have been ordinarily resident in Ireland or the state EEA/EU/UK/Switzerland for 3 out of the last 5 years). Eligibility criteria for Springboard is available on the Springboard website at https://springboardcourses.ie/eligibility

Registration

Registration with LYIT will be in August 2021 through the Department of Admissions. The course will start on 1st September 2021.

Further Information

For further information on the course, contact Thomas Dowling, Head of Department of Computing, Letterkenny Institute of Technology on **E- Mail: thomas.dowling@lyit.ie**

For further information on applying via Springboard contact the Springboard Office, Letterkenny Institute of Technology on **E- Mail: springboard@lyit.ie**