

First Year Handbook - Communication to incoming student 2013-14



semesterisation 14 | 15

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From the academic year 2014/15 UCC will be semesterised. What does semesterisation mean and how will it affect you?

In simple terms, a semester-based system is one where modules can be wholly taught and assessed in a single teaching period. It also allows for formal university exams before Christmas as well as the familiar summer exams.

Semester-based systems are generally acknowledged to improve the student learning experience and allow more flexibility in teaching and access to programmes. It will also lay the foundations for the introduction of credit accumulation and enhance technology-enabled learning.

While the overall number of teaching weeks will remain the same, Semester 1 will commence earlier in September with examinations in December. Semester 2 will commence in January with examinations in May. Not every module will have a formal pre-Christmas exam: programmes and modules will be re-designed and your workload and assessments will be balanced between the two semesters.

Progression from semester 1 to semester 2 is automatic in most cases. Repeat examinations from both semesters will be held in August as is currently the case.

Visit <http://www.ucc.ie/en/semesterisation/> for further information on semesterisation, including the timetables for the academic years from 2014 - 2016.