

Kildalton College



Full and Part-time Courses in Horticulture

Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture

Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture

Level 7 Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (WIT)

Part-time and Component Awards





Certificate in Horticulture

Level 5

Introduction

This is a QQI certified one year full time course which runs from September to May. It provides an introduction to horticulture for people who wish to establish a career in horticulture. Students on this course gain a foundation in the fundamentals of horticulture. Many who complete this course go to work in hands-on roles within the industry or continue into the Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture.

It provides students with the opportunity to learn about horticulture through both theory and practical experience. Students gain experience in a wide range of horticulture sectors including fruit and vegetable production, nursery stock production, landscape construction and maintenance and sportsturf at the colleges extensive horticultural unit. Students complete 28 weeks in the college and 4 weeks on practical learning in a horticultural sector of their choice.

Applications

Applications are made directly to the college. Students must be 17 years of age on the 1st of January in the year following entry to the course. There is no minimum educational requirement to apply for this course. Application forms are available at www.teagasc.ie/education/going-to-college/application-forms

Please contact the college directly for information on course fees.



Course Structure

Subjects covered on this course include:

- Plant Identification and Use
- Plant Protection
- Soil Science and Growing Media
- Plant Science
- Horticultural Mechanisation
- Plant Propagation

Electives:

- Landscape Construction and Maintenance
- Fruit and Vegetable Production
- Turfgrass Establishment and Maintenance

(electives are run subject to class size and timetable constraints).

Students attend Kildalton College five days a week, Monday to Friday.

Students also complete a four week Practical Learning Period with a registered horticultural host.

Progression

Students who successfully complete this course can progress into the Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture.

Students can also use the course to enter further education through the Higher Education Links Scheme.



Advanced Certificate in Horticulture

Level 6

Introduction

This QQI certified course is an add-on year for students who have successfully completed the Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture. This course builds on the skills and knowledge gained in the level 5 course.

It provides students with the opportunity to develop management knowledge and skills to carry out and manage the tasks associated with a commercial or amenity horticulture business.

This is a full time course consisting of 8 or 16 weeks practical learning period on an appropriate host (between July and December) and 16 weeks in Kildalton College from January to May. The practical learning period must take place in the sector in which the student chooses to specialise. Students have the opportunity to complete this learning period in Ireland or abroad.

Successful completion of this course fulfils the requirements for the 'Green Cert' which qualifies a person as a 'trained farmer'.

Applications

Applications are made directly to the college.

Application forms are available at: www.teagasc.ie/education/going-to-college/application-forms

Please contact the college directly for information on course fees.



Course Structure

Students must choose one area of horticulture they wish to specialise in:

- Nursery Stock Production
- Fruit and Vegetable Production
- Landscape Construction and Maintenance
- Sportsturf

(These options are offered subject to minimum numbers each year).

Other Subjects Covered include:

- Horticultural Production Mechanisation
- Ecology and the Environment
- Tree and Shrub Management
- Garden and Parks Supervision
- Garden Centre Operations
- Entrepreneurship

This course is suitable for those seeking employment as supervisors, technicians or unit managers or those considering setting up their own business.

Progression

Students who successfully complete the Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture with merit or distinction are eligible to apply for advanced entry to Year 2 of the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (WIT) which is also offered at Kildalton College. Applications are made directly to WIT.



Bachelor of Science in Horticulture

Level 7

Introduction

This is a three year full time course. It is designed to train professional horticulturalists (run in conjunction with Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT)). The course is based in both Kildalton College and WIT. Students gain the best of both worlds by studying in the Institute of Technology with all of the facilities it provides and gaining a diverse range of practical experience on the extensive horticultural unit at Kildalton College. The business and laboratory based modules are taken at WIT and the horticulture modules at Kildalton College. A free bus service operates between WIT and Kildalton.

Successful completion of this course fulfils the requirements for the 'Green Cert' which qualifies a person as a 'trained farmer'.

Applications

CAO Code: WD096,

Mature students can apply directly to WIT. Students who have successfully completed a Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture may apply for advanced transfer into year 2 of the BSc in Horticulture (certain conditions and interview apply).

Students who have a pre-2013 level 5 or 6 horticultural qualification can contact the course leader for details on transferring into year 2 or 3 (Cara Daly- cdaly@wit.ie).

Course Structure

Year 1	Year 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Identification & Specification • Plant Biology • Plant Protection • Mechanisation and Safety • Plant Propagation • Soils Management • Horticultural Building Construction • Computer Applications • Horticultural Mechanisation • Plant Identification and Garden Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horticulture Business Accounting • Biodiversity and Horticulture • Plant Identification and Use <p>Choose 1 of the following electives: Landscape Design, Market Gardening, Nursery Stock Production, Turfgrass, Laboratory Skills.</p> <p>Choose 1 of the following: Garden Management, Floristry, Protected Crop Production.</p>
<p>(electives are run subject to class sizes and timetable constraints).</p> <p>Students complete a 15 week practical learning period during the second semester of 2nd year.</p>	
Year 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law for Horticulturalists • People Management • Research Project • Small Business Management <p>Choose 1 of the following electives: Landscape Design, Nursery Stock Production, Market Gardening, Turfgrass, Laboratory Skills.</p>	<p>Choose 2 of the following: Horticulture Therapy, Greenkeeping, Landscape Design Advanced, Computer Aided Design, Garden Centre Operations, Field Crop Production, Interior Landscaping, Plants and Society.</p>

(electives are run subject to class sizes and timetable constraints).

Progression

Students who successfully complete this course can apply for the Level 8, Bachelor of Science in Land Management (Horticulture) at WIT. Applications are made directly to WIT.



Part-time and Component Awards QQI

Level 5

Introduction

These QQI modules are ideal for people who want to study horticulture but who cannot commit to a full time course. Students can opt to study one or as many modules as they choose from the level 5 course and use these to build a Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture over time. All part time and component modules run from September to May (28 weeks). All modules consist of theory and hands on practicals.

Course Structure

Level 5 Component Awards Available:

- Horticulture Mechanisation
- Plant Identification and Use
- Plant Protection
- Landscape Construction and Maintenance
- Fruit and Vegetable Production
- Plant Propagation

Students can opt to complete their level 5 Certificate in Horticulture over 2 or more years by building up the component awards.

Applications

Applications are made directly to the college. Please contact the college directly for application forms and information on module fees.



Part-time and Component Awards QQI

Level 6

Introduction

These QQI modules are available for those who have already completed a Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture and want to further develop their horticultural knowledge but cannot commit to a full time course. These modules may also suit those who have been working in the horticultural industry for a minimum of 3 years. These component awards help students build on the horticultural knowledge they already have and develop their management knowledge and skills to further develop their competencies in the horticultural industry. Modules are offered over a 16 week period from January to May each year. Students will attend between 3 hours to 2 days per week depending on the module.

Course Structure

Level 6 Component Awards Available:

- Landscape Design and Construction
- Nursery Stock Production
- Sportsturf Science and Maintenance
- Market Gardening
- Tree and Shrub Management
- Garden Centre Operations
- Ecology and the Environment

Students can opt to complete their level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture over 2 or more years by building up the component awards.

Applications

Applications are made directly to the college. Please contact the college directly for application forms and information on module fees.

Kildalton College has been providing horticultural education since 1971. It is the largest land based college in Ireland providing 12 separate courses in Horticulture, Agriculture and Equine. With a student population of approximately 900, there is a great mix of young and mature students from all parts of the country and beyond. The campus comprises modern facilities including lecture theatres, laboratories, library, IT rooms and student recreation and catering facilities.

Grants

Teagasc student maintenance grants are available for students attending full time level 5 and 6 courses at Kildalton college. Means testing applies to the processing of grants. Those in receipt to a Back to Education Allowance are not eligible to apply for a Teagasc maintenance grant. Further information on Teagasc maintenance grants is available at: www.teagasc.ie/training/

About Kildalton Horticulture

Horticulture attracts a range of people and classes are generally a mix of young and mature students. Kildalton welcomes horticultural enthusiasts of all ages to participate in courses. Kildalton College can offer students a unique opportunity to experience a diverse range of horticultural sectors through the extensive horticultural unit and classroom learning through the horticultural team on campus.

Fruit and Vegetable Production

The college orchard consists of 4ha of dessert, culinary and cider apples some of which are new varieties on trial. We also have other top fruit including pears, plums, damsons and cherries. Soft fruit produced in Kildalton include strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, red & black currants, gooseberries and rhubarb. Students also receive experience of vegetable field production including: potatoes, cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, onions, leaks, carrots and asparagus. Students are involved in the sowing, planting and harvesting of these crops.

Amenity

Kildalton College is situated on 16 hectares of established gardens and woodlands. The grounds provide horticultural students with a perfect backdrop to develop their plant knowledge and practical skills for a career in the industry. These skills include plant identification, plant combinations and maintenance techniques such as planting and pruning.



Nursery

The college's commercial nursery produces in excess of 25,000 plants per year. There is a wide range of stock produced ranging from herbaceous plants and alpine to trees and shrubs. The facilities include polytunnels, 2,200m² glasshouse and outdoor growing areas. Students will see and gain practical experience of plants being produced from start to finish.

Protected Crops

Kildalton has a glasshouse and polythene tunnels dedicated to the production of high value protected crops. These include cut flowers and foliage, strawberries, food crops (lettuce, celery, early potatoes) and a range of bedding plants. Students are involved in the production of all of these crops from sowing to harvest. The glasshouse is also used by students to conduct research projects as part of the third year project in the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture.

Sportsturf

Kildalton has a golf facility that contains three par 3 greens as well as a sports pitch. Students are allowed to use these facilities in their down time. The turfgrass facility allows students to gain hands on practical knowledge and experience of maintaining greens, fairways, bunkers and sports fields to an ideal standard. Students have the opportunity to use machinery like specialised mowers, line marking equipment, aerators and fertiliser spreaders.

Cut Foliage Unit

Kildalton has a 1 hectare trial site with over 100 different genus of cut foliage shrubs. This plantation provides a valuable learning opportunity for horticulture students as these shrubs are used for plant identification and pest and disease identification. Agronomy practices such as plant density and optimum pruning regimes are also carried out.



Contact:

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