





AIT is an award-winning higher education institution located in the heart of Ireland. More than 6,000 students are undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Business, Humanities, Engineering and Science. €125 million has been invested in our campus since 2000, ensuring that students experience a world-class education with cutting-edge facilities.



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Ireland- some basic facts

Situation

Ireland is situated in the extreme north-west of the European continent. It is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the West Coast and the Irish Sea to the East. The nearest country to its west is the United States of America, to its east the United Kingdom. The total area of Ireland is 70,284 km². This comprises a large central lowland of limestone with a relief of hills and a number of coastal mountains, the highest of which is Carrantouhill in County Kerry at 1,040 m. The Shannon is the longest river and there are many lakes.

The country is divided geographically into four provinces: Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught. Each province is made up of a number of counties (regional divisions). There are 32 counties in total (26 in the Republic and 6 in Northern Ireland).

Ulster: Derry, Donegal, Antrim, Down, Cavan, Tyrone, Armagh, Fermanagh, Monaghan.

Munster: Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Clare.

Leinster: Dublin, Louth, Kildare, Meath, Westmeath, Wexford, Longford, Offaly, Laois, Wicklow, Carlow, Kilkenny.

Connaught: Mayo, Sligo, Galway, Leitrim, Roscommon.

Dublin, the capital, is in Leinster and is situated on the east coast at the mouth of the river Liffey. Athlone is approximately one hour twenty minutes by road from Dublin.

In political terms Ireland is also divided between Northern Ireland, which is governed by the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland, which is governed by the Irish government.

Athlone is ideally located in Ireland's Midlands, about 1.5 hours from Dublin and with motorway links to all other major towns and cities.

We are here!



Climate

Since the island is relatively small and no part of it is more than 110 km from the sea, the climate is almost uniform throughout the country. Ireland's uniform climate is due to its situation in the North temperature zone in the direct path of the warm waters of the Gulf Stream, a factor which raises its average temperature. Winters are generally mild and summers relatively cool. Rainfall, carried by the prevailing west winds from the Atlantic, is well distributed and frequent.

The west - nearer the Atlantic and more mountainous - generally has a higher annual rainfall than the east coast. In January and February, which are normally the coldest months of the year, temperatures average between 4°C (39°F) and 7°C (45°F). Snow occurs from time to time in the winter months, but it is seldom prolonged or severe and generally lasts for only a few days, even on higher ground. July and August - the warmest months of the year, while January and February are the coolest.

Average Monthly temperatures

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
High °C	7	7	10	11	15	17	19	19	17	13	10	8
High °F	45	45	50	52	59	63	66	66	63	55	50	46
Low °C	3	3	4	5	7	10	12	12	10	8	5	5
Low °F	37	37	39	41	45	50	54	54	50	46	41	41

People & Economy

The population of the Republic of Ireland has been on the increase since 1961 and is now approximately 4.8 million, 1.2 million of whom live in the greater Dublin area. The Irish Constitution recognizes Irish (Gaelic) as the first official language (English as the second) and official documents are published in both English and Irish. The use of Irish as a vernacular, however, is limited to certain areas known as the Gaeltacht. **English is the mother tongue of almost all the population.**

The Irish economy is very open. With a domestic market of only 4.6 million people it is heavily dependent on trade. The rapid pace of development and industrialization in recent decades has been due in large measure to policies designed to make Ireland an attractive location for overseas investment. Agriculture and tourism also play a very important part in the Irish economy.



Irish Language guide

Ireland is largely an English speaking country with only 3% of the population speaking the native language (As Gaeilge). Here are some words As Gaeilge...

Word	Translation	Pronunciation
Police	Garda	Guard-a
Post	An Post	An Post
Office	Oiffig	efegg
Irish prime minister	Taoiseach	tee-sha-ch (ch as in Loch Ness)
Hello	dia dhuit	dee-a gu-ith
Goodbye	slán	slahn
Welcome	fáilte	fall-che
How are you	Conas atá tú	con as tah too
My name is	is mise	is misha
Cheers	Sláinte!	slahn-che
Thank you.	Go raibh maith agat.	Go rayv mayth agat
You're welcome.	Tá fáilte romhat	taw fall-che roh-ut
Sorry.	Gabh mo leiscéal	Gaw ma lesh-sil
Please	le do thoil	la-dee thoil
Irish	Gaeilge	Gwayl-ga
Ireland	Éire	Era
Dublin	Baile Átha Cliath	Ball-yeh aw-ha cleeah
Galway	Gaillimh	Ga-lif
Limerick	Luimneach	Lim-nach (ch as in Loch Ness)
Cork	Corcaigh	Corky
Athlone	Bhaile Átha Luain	Ball-yeh ah loo-in

Arriving in Ireland

Athlone is situated in the centre of Ireland between Dublin city on the East coast and Galway city on the West coast. Dublin airport is the most direct air route to Ireland.

On arrival in Dublin airport, feeder buses/coaches (running every 25 minutes) travel from the airport to: Dublin Hueston Station (central train station, Dublin City Centre) and Busáras (central bus station, Dublin City Centre) which are both approximately a 45-minute journey from the airport.

Athlone IT provides transport for a all new students from airport to Athlone IT. However, there are a number of buses and trains travelling from Dublin to Athlone each day. All buses and trains can be booked online, reduced web fares apply.



Arrive in
Style

Bus services to Athlone from Dublin Airport

There are also direct bus connections from Dublin airport to Athlone bus station (Bus Eireann and Citylink options):

- Bus Eireann X20/20-final destination Galway city.

The drop off points for Bus Eireann buses are AIT campus and Athlone town bus station.

(For more information visit: www.buseireann.ie).

- Citylink 763

The drop off points for Citylink buses are AIT campus and B&Q store Coosan, Athlone.

(For more information visit: www.citylink.ie).

AIT, at the heart of the Midlands



Transport

Biking it...

A bicycle is very useful and a common means of transport for students in Ireland. Students may bring a bicycle with them, or try to find a cheap second-hand one here in Ireland via websites such as DoneDeal and Adverts, or bicycle shops. Prices vary from €80 to €150. There are limited cycling lanes in Ireland, a factor which may render cycling hazardous by the standards of some other European countries.

By Rail or Bus...

Ireland's major cities are connected by rail and bus services. Athlone has a mainline rail station together with regular bus services to Dublin and provincial towns. A daily service operates from many towns in the surrounding area. Bus and train timetables are posted on the Students' Union notice board.

Timetables

Bus and train timetables are posted on the Students' Union notice board, including the timetables for private bus companies.

More information (including timetables) can be found at www.irishrail.ie, www.buseireann.ie and www.athlone.ie.

Travel Discounts

All students in Ireland are entitled to apply for a 'travel save stamp'. This stamp, which is attached to the ISIC card (International Student Identity Card), allows students to travel on all buses and trains at a special student discount rate. You can find out more on this by contacting USIT Ireland or visiting www.usit.ie.

Do not forget to check possibilities and requirements for student discounts in relation to all travel costs.

By Rail.....



By Bus.....



By Bike.....



Athlone & the Midlands

Athlone today

Today, Athlone is a thriving town enjoying its central location in the heart of Ireland. At the confluence of the major east-west and north-south routes, it is the hub of an extensive road and rail network which maintains its importance as a major communications centre. With a population fast approaching 30,000, Athlone is a bustling town which can boast a wide range of shops, services and facilities catering for all needs.

The town provides two centrally-located shopping centres. The new shopping centre, Athlone Town Centre contains 70 shops and a variety of cafes and restaurants. Golden Island contains 40 shops including a large supermarket, Tesco, various small clothes shops, fast-food restaurants, a pharmacy and a book store. Both shopping centres are located just a mile from the Institute.

Bay Sports

Bay Sports, located at Hodson Bay, is home to the largest floating water park in Ireland and one of the largest floating waterslides in the world. You can also enjoy Kayaking and sailing by the majestic shores of Lough Ree.

Treks & Trails

Whether you want to hear peaceful whispers of the wind and water lapping on the shores of the Shannon or feeling more energetic and fancy a cycle on the Greenway, enjoy the fresh air and explore Athlone's treks and trails.



Explore the fun side



The Institute





Discover our Campus

The Campus

The Institute has developed rapidly since its foundation. To meet this growth, the original campus has been extended on several occasions. The main building, the oldest part of the Institute, currently houses the Humanities and Science Schools. The facilities of Science & Health and Business & Hotel Management. The Administration offices and the International Office are also contained in this building. A multipurpose hall, extra lecture rooms, a library, an information technology centre, a hotel and catering building and an administration block have been added in recent years. Engineering and technology building opened in 2010.

The Nursing Building and Innovation Centre is located on the East Campus, a five minutes' walk from the Main Campus. The AIT Sports Arena opened in 2013.

Dive right in to our warm, welcoming community at AIT. We know you don't want to be just another face in the crowd, and at AIT we go out of our way to welcome and support our new students.

At AIT we keep our class sizes small, and ensure our students get the personal, focused attention of our top-class academic staff. Our staff have an open-door policy, and they get involved in the day-to-day life on campus; you'll be a name, not a number in AIT. At AIT we have the highest proportion of Doctoral and Post-Doctoral teaching and research staff of any IoT in Ireland, and that's just one reason why we're on the advanced track towards becoming one of Ireland's first Technological Universities.

Fantastic Facilities

You know what you want to achieve, and we'll help you get there, with our excellent library, online study resources, superb science facilities and state-of-the-art Sports Science equipment or our dedicated, purpose-built Nursing Facilities. Our teaching and research facilities rival, or exceed, any other IoT in the country.

Great Services

What if you still feel unsure? Every major life-change raises its own issues, and it's to be expected that a small number of new students will experience some difficulties during the transition to a new culture, self-directed learning and college living in Ireland. We offer all our students a wide range of holistic supports through our dedicated teams of Student Ambassadors, counsellors, chaplains, PASS Leaders, and the very active Student Union.

Academic Writing Centre

The Academic Writing Centre is ready to support you when you have to complete your first assignment in English. You can book a session to assist you in helping to improve your writing skills.

Email; www.academicwritingcentre.ie.

Campus Card

AIT Campus Card

The AIT Campus Card is the official identification card for students at AIT. The card is multi-functional: it can be used in the following ways on campus:

- Printing and Photocopying
- Access Control (where applicable) Library identification and facilities

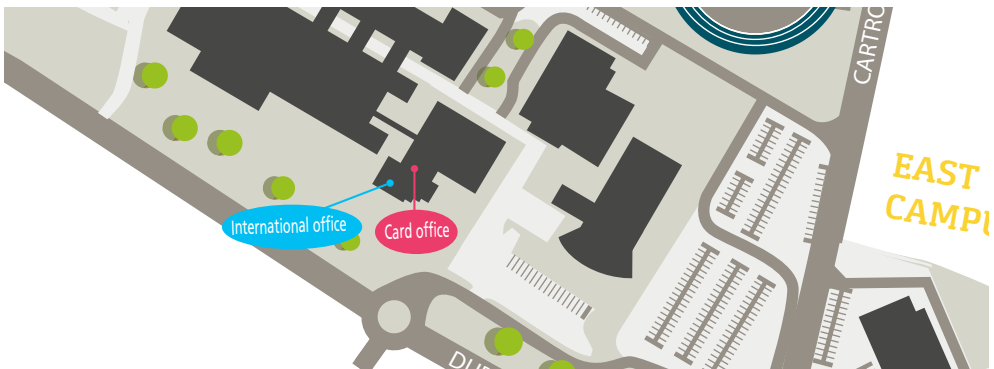
Lost Cards

If you have lost or had your card stolen, log on to the AIT Campus Card site immediately and hotlist (disable) your card. You can also get your card disabled at the AIT Card Office.

To get a replacement card go to the AIT Card Office. A replacement fee of €10 is applicable.

Cards Office

The Card Office is located in the registration department beside the International office



It is compulsory to have your student ID card while attending examinations.



Library

The library is one of the most important resources of the Institute and plays a central role in academic life. It is open to all registered students and staff.

The library has a fully automated circulation system and the computerized catalogue can be searched by means of four public access terminals. Staff is always available to help students to use the search facility and to locate books on the shelves. Any material not held in the library can be obtained from other libraries using the inter-library loans facility. Students are encouraged to conduct their own research by using some of the compact disc databases held in the computer room. These databases provide information on commercial, technical and scientific subjects.

Opening Hours are...

	Goldsmith (Main) Library	Health Science Library
Monday - Thursday	8.15am - 9.45pm	9.30am - 5.00pm
Friday	8.15am - 9.45pm	8.15am - 5.00pm
Saturday	9.15am - 5.00pm	9.30am - 1.00pm

Opening Hours - Summer (From mid-May, after exams)

	Goldsmith (Main) Library	Health Science Library
Monday - Friday	9.15am - 4.00pm	
Monday- Thursday		10.00am - 4.00pm

Details of borrowing procedures are available in the library.

Joanne Gillivan is the co-ordinator for International Students at AIT Library - Email jgillivan@ait.ie.

General Information

Immigration Regulations

EU Nationals do not require entry visas for Ireland. If you are a non-EU national from a visa required country, you must hold a valid Irish Visa on arrival in Ireland, for the duration of the programme of study. Overseas students arriving in Ireland must have the following documents:

- Valid passport (and visa if required);
- Letter of admission to Athlone Institute of Technology (letter of offer);
- Letter from parent or guardian guaranteeing the amount of funds available annually to support the student in Ireland;
- Further information on visa regulations is available from the Irish Nationalisation and Immigration Services, www.inis.gov.ie.
- Non-EU nationals must register with immigration as soon as possible after arrival in Athlone. The International Office will assist non-EU students to register at the immigration office, located at Athlone Garda Station, Barrack Street, Athlone.

NOTE: It is essential Non-Eu nationals students to get a Irish Residence Permit Card (IRP). The fee for this card is €300 payable at local immigration office.

Accommodation

An abundance of close, convenient, well cared-for accommodation within Athlone, makes house-hunting easy for new and current students. The Institute does not have on-site student accommodation facilities. Students generally live within close proximity to the Institute as there are a large number of student houses, student apartments and self-catering accommodation facilities available within 5 - 15 minutes' walk of the campus.

The International Office in association with the Students' Union Accommodations Officer will assist international students in their search for accommodation. The Students' Union office provides lists of houses, apartments, self-catering and host family accommodation. Check the Students' Union list of available accommodation through their website, <https://www.aitso.ie/accommodation..> It is advisable to book student apartments by emailing the manager of the student apartment prior to arrival in Athlone.



Cost of Living

Naturally, the cost of living varies from student to student, but as a general guideline a student would need between €600 and €800 per month. This includes rent, insurance, food, bills, leisure etc. Here is an infographic of typical costs.

Student apartment per week



Rent
€75 - €120



Mid-Day Snacks
€20



Food
€50



**Books/
Photocopying**
€12

House Sharing per week



Rent
€65 - €85



Heat &
Electric
€10



Mid-Day
Snacks
€20



Food
€50



Books/
Photo
copying
€12

Students' Union

What we're here for...

The Students' Union provides support, advice and information on a wide variety of issues and represents students throughout the Institute. It also provides students with the opportunity to have an excellent social life. It is an organisation run by students to cater for students' needs. The day to day running of the Union is carried out by the executive committee who are all elected by student ballot. The overall policy and direction of the Union is decided by students at union general meetings. Its principle aims are:

- To represent and protect the rights of students;
- To afford a recognized means of communication between the students and Institute authorities;
- To provide social and recreational facilities for students;
- To provide a commercial service to students.

Where to find us...

Our state-of-the-art Office is located on the bottom floor of the John Count McCormack Hall (MPH).

We represent you...

Representation is the central function of the Students' Union. Athlone Students' Union has a long tradition of good, effective student representation which is valued both by students and the Institute authorities. The Union represents students on many Institute bodies such as the Governing Body, Academic Council, Capitation Committee and Safety Committee.

Athlone Students' Union (Athlone SU) is affiliated to the Union of Students of Ireland (USI). Through USI, Athlone SU gains national representation - a voice for students at national level in negotiations with a wide variety of other organisations.

Accommodation - Somewhere to live

The Students' Union in Athlone provides an accommodation service. It provides up to date lists of the available accommodation from host family accommodation (i.e. digs) to self-catering to houses and flats. It also provides information on accommodation rights.



our supportive
side

Welfare and Advice

The Welfare Officer is available in the Students' Union to give information, advice and referral on various matters: finances, benefits, international students, personal counselling, legal advice, consumer advice. This is a confidential service. The Union handbook for first years also provides information on many welfare matters.

Education

The Union also deals with academic matters such as course changes, problems with examinations and training of course representatives.

The Union also offers services including cheap photocopying, passport photographs, photograph development, fuel orders, messages etc. The Students' Union is also involved in providing entertainment for students from lunch time gigs to regular discos and numerous top band concerts. Rag Week, the social event of the year, involves raising money for local and national charities and having a good time as well.

Services

The union provides many other services (some commercial) to students including:

- Binding
- Bus/train timetables
- Colour printing
- Fax service
- Lamination
- Post and message collection
- Photocopying
- Lockers
- Hoodies/Sports clothes
- Passport photos

Entertainment

The Union also provides a great mix of entertainment throughout the year. The entertainment service is an essential element of college/student life. The schedule ranges from mid-week gigs to numerous other events. Rag Week is normally held towards the end of February to raise money for local charities (while having a great time!).



Sports & Recreation

Leading the way

Athlone Institute of Technology is one of the leading Higher Education Institutes in the provision of sport and recreation programmes and services to its students. The Institute's recreation and physical education programmes contain a wide range of competitive and non-competitive activities. Different interests and all levels of ability are catered for to ensure maximum participation. The Institute recreational programmes facilitate all students who may wish to participate in activities at either a competitive or a non-competitive level.

Facilities

International Arena

Our state-of-the-art Arena includes;

- 6 x lane 200 metre indoor track
- 8 x lane 60 metre sprint track
- 4 x lane warm up track
- 2x long jump pits
- 1x pole vault area and equipment
- 1x shot putt area & shot putts
- 1 x high jump area
- Track hurdles

Outdoor track

- 8 x 400 metre lane outdoor track
- Shot putt area
- Long Jump pits x 2
- High Jump area x 2
- Infield warm up area

GYM

The gym and studios are located on the first floor of the AIT International Arena. Our large gym boasts over 70 diverse workout stations. Our top specification techno-gym equipment will ensure your workout is safe and effective. We have a wide range of both plate-loaded and traditional strength equipment, along with an extensive weight area. For cycling enthusiasts, we have a selection of the best bikes on the market including the Watt Bike, Keiser M3, Body Bike Connect and Airdyne so you are spoilt for choice.

AIT International Grand Prix

The AIT International Grand Prix takes place each February in our International Arena. The event attracts some of the top names in world, European and Irish athletics. Each year, sold-out crowds witness world-class athletics, including European records, stadium records and personal bests to match any athletics event in the country.



AIT International Grand Prix



World Class Gym



Great Outdoor Facilities

Clubs & Societies

A student with long hair in a ponytail, wearing a green and white AIT jersey and dark shorts, is captured in the middle of a discus throw. The discus is in the air to the right. The background shows a large green safety net, a grassy field, and a cloudy sky. The text 'Indulge your sporty side' is overlaid in a white, handwritten-style font on the left side of the image.

Indulge your sporty side

Join the competition!

A familiarization day to outline the activities and facilities is held at the beginning of each academic year. Recognition for students who have worked hard for their clubs, have represented them, and were successful in competitions is given at the annual Sports Awards Ceremony held in the Second half of each year.

The inter-college competitions take place under the umbrella of the Institute/Universities Governing Sports Bodies. These competitions are open to Institutes of Technology, Universities and Institutes of Higher Education, and are organized on a league and/or championship basis. The AIT has been highly successful in these events. Internal competitions for staff and students add an extra dimension to Institute life.

The recreation and physical education programme is implemented by full-time physical education and recreation officers, with the assistance of part-time coaching staff and the Students' Sports Representative.

Want to meet new people and experience new things? One of the best ways of doing both is by joining one of our many clubs and societies. A wide variety of sporting interests are catered for – indoor and outdoor activities, team and solo sports, field and water-based. A wide range is also evident in our societies and you will get the opportunity to develop your interest in your area of study or in more leisurely pursuits.

Social Clubs

- Apprentices
- Art/Design
- Amnesty International
- Catering
- Hospitality and Tourism (CATS)
- Chess
- Chinese
- Computer
- Cumann Gaelach
- Dancing
- Dental Nursing
- Drama
- Film
- International
- LGBT
- Mature Students
- Pharmacy Technician
- Postgraduate (Research)
- Science
- Social Studies
- St Vincent de Paul
- Veterinary Nursing,
- Yoga
- Young Parents Group

Sports Clubs

- Athletics
- Archery
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Canoeing
- Gaelic Football
- Golf
- Camogie
- Equestrian
- Handball
- Hockey
- Hurling
- Indoor soccer
- International GAA
- Orienteering
- Rugby
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Volleyball
- Weight Training

Students who wish to create a new club that is not currently catered for at the institute will be mentored in the process of setting up the new club by the staff of the Sports Department.



Induction Programme 2019

For new International students

Tuesday 3rd September Location - C1141

10.00am	Welcome Talk
11.00am	Coffee Break
11.30 - 1.30pm	Student Resources and Services
1.30 - 2.30pm	Lunch
2.30 - 3.30pm	Library Tours

Wednesday 4th September

10.00 - 11.30am	Meet The Faculty - Meeting room to be assigned to each course
11.30 - 1.00pm	Academic Writing skills - C2359
2.00 - 3.00pm	Campus Tours - Meet at AIT Students' Union to join tour

Thursday 5th September

	Group A	Location
12pm - 2pm	Team building skills for international students	AIT International Arena
	Group B	Location
2.30 - 4.30pm	Team building skills for international students	AIT International Arena

Friday 6th September

Outdoor activities (pick 1 of 2 options)	
Option 1	Baysports
Option 2	Viking boat tour on the river Shannon



Banking/Exchange/Post

Post

There are a number of post offices located in Athlone, in addition to numerous post boxes throughout the area. There is also a post box in the Institute near the administration area. Post offices are open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm, Saturdays 9.00am to 1.00pm.

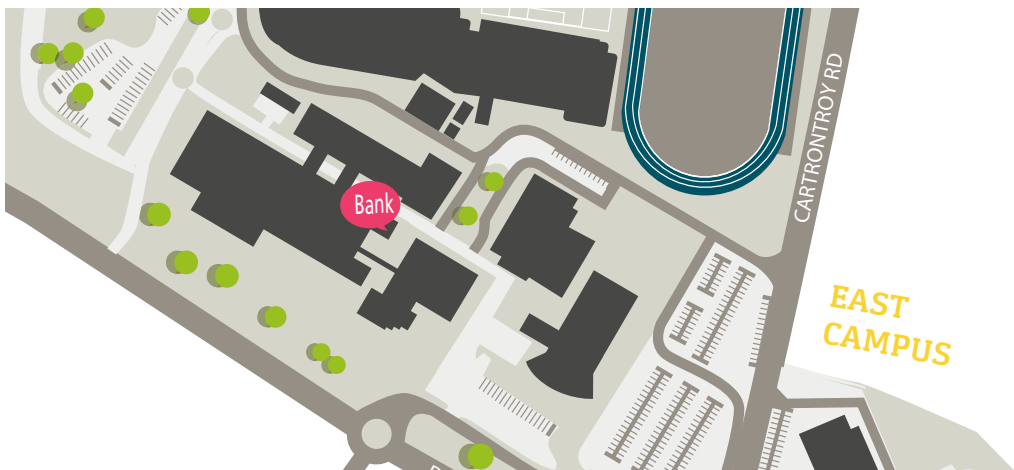
Stamps can also be bought in many newsagents, stationery shops and in the Students' Union shop (a standard letter costs €1, open or closed within Ireland and €1.35 for Europe). Further details from Irish Postal Service, An Post www.anpost.ie.

Bank

There is a Bank of Ireland branch located on the Institute campus. It is open from Monday to Friday, 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. All banking services are provided (withdrawals, credit transfers etc.). Students require their passport, a letter confirming registration and student ID card to open an account in Ireland. A Bank of Ireland automatic teller machine is also available in the Institute.

List of Documents needed:

- AIT Offer Letter (with home address)
- Passport
- AIT confirmed registration letter



Health & Insurance

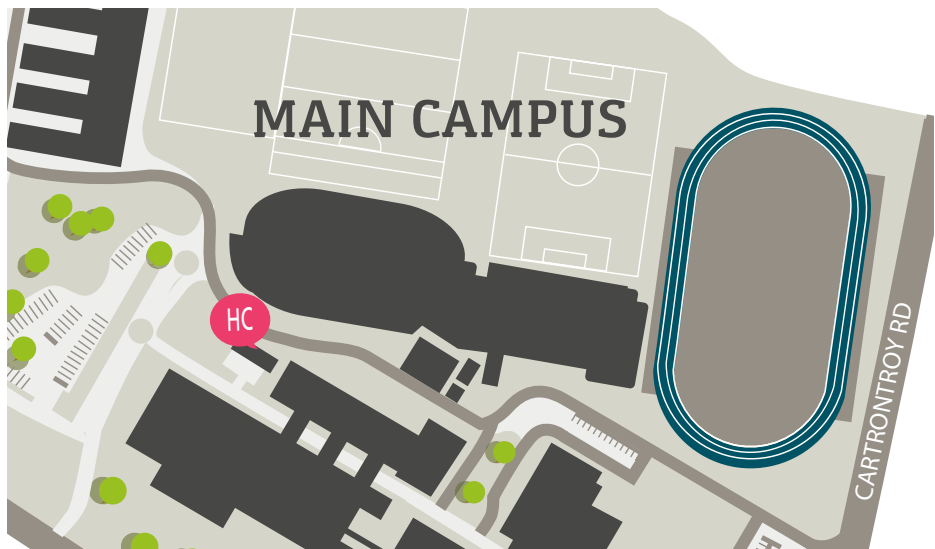
All European Union students are eligible to avail of the full medical services in Ireland. However, in order to do so, it is necessary to bring an EHIC - European Health Insurance Card (former E111, E101 or E128 form (for a work placement)) from the home country. It is valid for a period of one year and entitles students to the benefits provided by the legal health insurance scheme of the medical facilities of the country to which they are travelling (medical and dental care, prescriptions and hospitalization). If a student falls ill, he/she should hand in the E111, E101 or E128 form to the local Security organisation, indicated on the form. It is emphasized in Ireland that the E111, E101 or E128 entitles one to public health care for emergency medical treatment only. Anyone wishing to receive private health care is advised to make arrangements for cover with their insurance company in their own country. EFTA country citizens have the same social security entitlements as EU citizens.

Athlone IT has a Medical Centre

The on campus is beside main building, where a nurse is on duty full-time for attendance while an appointment is needed to see a doctor. Please check at the Medical Centre for their timetables and for an appointment.

Visit Nurse: Free of Charge

Visit Doctor: €15



Out of hours medical access

Emergency Doctors - Out of Hours Service

MIDOC, Primary Care Centre, Coosan Road, Athlone (Opposite B&Q Store)

Tel: 1850 302 702

Opening Hours : Monday - Friday 6:00pm - 8:00am

Saturday, Sunday, Public Holiday 24 Hours (Emergency only)

Private Medical Insurance for Non-EU students

Non-EU students must provide details of their private medical insurance policy in advance of applying for study visa to Ireland. It is important that Non-EU students assess private medical insurance options available to them in their home country and options available in Ireland in advance of visa application. Non-EU students will be required to present a copy of their private medical insurance on registering with the local immigration office on arrival in Ireland. <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Study>

The International Office, Athlone Institute of Technology has prepared summary of some options for medical insurance providers in Ireland but it is the responsibility of international students to purchase their own policy in advance of arrival at AIT.

- **Study & Protect**
<https://www.studyandprotect.com/Student-Medical.aspx> (Between €150 - €200)
- **VHI**
<https://www.vhi.ie/find-a-plan>
- **Laya Healthcare**
<https://www.layahealthcare.ie/lowestcost/>

Irish Life Health

<https://www.irishlifehealth.ie/compare-results?nbrYoungAdults=1&coverLvl=2>

- **Aviva Health (Require PPS number)**
<https://www.aviva.ie/health/>
- **Guard Me Policy**
<https://www.guard.me/>



LONDON

Useful Services

Canteen

The Institute has a restaurant/canteen which serves meals and snacks **Monday to Thursday between 8.15pm and 9.00pm, Friday from 8.15pm and 6.00pm**. The restaurant is run by the restaurant committee which aims to keep the cost of food as low as possible. In addition to tea and coffee, a three-course meal and a snack lunch are available daily.

Careers & Appointment service

The Careers Office is situated in Student Resources. All students and especially those who are interested in additional courses are invited to use the service throughout their studies at the Institute. Students seeking specific career counselling should make an appointment with the Careers Officer. Information is available to students (through the careers library and computer network) on higher education courses, employers of graduates and job vacancies in Ireland and abroad. Seminars are held throughout the academic year on the job market, application procedures and interview skills.

Contact: lsammon@ait.ie for booking appointments

Counselling

Living and studying in a foreign country can be difficult for some. Adapting to a new way of life and culture, developing good English language skills and being away from home may be a daunting prospect for others. The Institute counsellors provide a comprehensive service to students to help them cope with these and other problems. This is a free and confidential service.

Contact: [090 6468063](tel:0906468063) for booking appointments

Tutor System

Each class group is allocated a course tutor who is a member of the academic staff. The tutor is available to each student in matters pertaining to the course. The tutor is part of the Institute support network and may refer students to other services, where appropriate. Students are encouraged to get to know their tutor and to seek help whenever necessary.

Orientation Programme

AIT provides an orientation programme for overseas students on their arrival in the Institute. The programme is designed to help the student settle into Institute life and the new environment as quickly and easily as possible. The programme introduces students to the various services and systems in operation at the Institute, e.g. sports facilities, medical services, Institute societies, entertainment, as well as technical matters such as enrolment and choice of subjects etc. Please note that attendance is mandatory (students must attend). The Orientation Programme will commence on **Tuesday 3 September to Friday 6 September 2019. Classes will commence on Monday 9 September 2019.**

Emergency Numbers

Dial **999** or **112** and ask for the Emergency Service you require. For Fire, Garda (police), Lifeboats, Ambulance, Coastal, Mountain and Cave Rescue, dial **999** or **112** and ask the operator for the Emergency Service you require. When the Emergency Service answers, state the address or location at which help is needed. Calls to these services are free of charge.

College Chaplaincy

Living and studying in a foreign country can be difficult for some. Adapting to a new way of life and culture, developing good English language skills and being away from home may be a daunting prospect for others. Fr. Shay Casey, the Institute Chaplain, is available to advise international students. There is an emergency telephone service - **+353 87 2402514**. Email; scasey@ait.ie, or add **him on Facebook**.



Show your
colourful side

Important Services

Doctors & Hospitals

Newtown Medical Centre

1-2 Newtown Terrace
Athlone

Tel: 090 6472057 **Town Centre**

Athlone Town Surgery

Athlone Town shopping center
Athlone

Tel: 090 6472595

Dr Geraldine Cuffe

Medical Bureau,
District Hospital,
Athlone

Tel: 090 6472410

Midoc

Out of hours service

Tel: 1850 302 702

Located: Loughanaskin,
Athlone (opposite B&Q Store)

Portiuncula Hospital

Ballinasloe

Co. Galway

Tel: 0909648200

Tullamore Hospital

Arden Road,

Tullamore,

Co. Offaly

Tel: 0579321501

Athlone District Hospital

18 Northgate St,

Athlone

Tel: 090 647 5301

Dentists

Boland Tom BDS

Rosslevin

Ballymahon Rd,

Athlone

Tel: 090 6475956

DS Fitzgerald

18 Northgate St,

Athlone

Tel: 090 6475915

Dr D Campbell

25 St Patricks Terrace

Athlone

Tel: 0906472164

Other useful numbers

Garda (police) Athlone

Tel: 090 6492609

Examinations

EXAMS

Assessment is normally carried out through a combination of continuous written assessments, projects, assignments, and practical tests throughout the year, and written examinations held at the end of the first and second semesters (each examination being approximately 3 hours long). Semester 1 examinations take place in December and Semester 2 examinations take place in May. These procedures may vary depending on the programme of study chosen.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

All end of semester examination results (provisional) are listed on the Institute website www.ait.ie from mid-end January for semester 1 and mid-end June for the second semester. It is the responsibility of each student to obtain his/her results from the website. Students are subsequently notified of their results by post in July. No information regarding results is given over the telephone.

The repeat examinations start mid-August and results are available in September.

Results are classified as follows:

Higher Certificate / Bachelor Degree (Ordinary Level)

Pass with distinction level;

70%, or higher, on average

Pass at merit level;

Merit Grade I 60% - 69% on average

Merit Grade II 50% - 59% on average

Pass;

40% - 49% on average

Bachelor Degree (Honours Level) / Graduate Diploma

First Class honours;

70%, or higher, on average

Second Class honours Grade I

60% - 69% on average

Second Class honours Grade II

50% - 59% on average

Pass

40% - 49% on average

Grade	Percentage Band	Credits awarded	Indicative quality of performance
A	80-100	Yes	Excellent
B+	70-79	Yes	Very Good
B	60-69	Yes	Good
B-	55-59	Yes	Above average
C+	50-54	Yes	Fair
C	40-49	Yes	Pass
D	35-39	Yes	Poor
F		No	Fail
*I		No	Deferral of result (Section A7.14)
X		Yes	Student exempted from the requirements of subject/module because of previous equivalent learning
W			Withdrew
NP			Absent, Not present
WH			Withhold

Academic Calendar

Athlone Institute of Technology

2019/2020

Academic

Féilire Acadúil na

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sep 2019							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Oct 2019								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Nov 2019					S1 wk 8 Graduation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Dec 2019							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jan 2020		Christmas Holidays					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Feb 2020		New Year's Day					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mar 2020					S2 W3 →		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Apr 2020							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
May 2020							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jun 2020							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jul 2020							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Aug 2020							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Luain	Mair	Céad	Deár	Aoin	Sath	Dornn	Luain	Mair	Céad	Deár	Aoin	Sath	Dornn	Luain	Mair	Céad	Deár	Aoin	Sath

Lectures
Exams
Information/Events



Academic Year Planner

Mac Léinn 2019/2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri			
	Semester 1 week 2							Semester 1 week 3														
	Service to Students							Service to Students														
	Service to Students Registration section		Dept. Lifelong Learning, Apprenticeship, Continuing Units		Close of appeal 12 Noon		Dept. Lifelong Learning, Apprenticeship, Continuing Units		Learning experience Dept. Lifelong Learning (1st year)													
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
	Semester 1 week 6							Semester 1 week 7							Semester 1 week 8							
				Career & Further Study Expo											Bank Holiday				Semester 1 Exam due Graduation			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
	Semester 1 week 11							Semester 1 week 12														
														Final teaching day								
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30									
	Semester 1 Exams week 15							Christmas Holidays														
					Exams conclude			Closed	Christmas Day	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
	Semester 2 week 2							Semester 2 week 3														
	Semester 2 fees due											Exam results issued 12 Noon		Service to students								
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31										
	Semester 2 week 6							Semester 2 week 7														
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29									
	Semester 2 week 10							Semester 2 week 11														
		Bank Holiday																				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
	Winter Holidays							Semester 2 week 13							S2 Exams week 14							
								Reading/completion/tutorial														
Easter Saturday	Easter Monday															Exams commence						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								
	Service to students							Service to students														
	Service to students Registration section																					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
	Repeat Assessments							Repeat Assessments														
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
Domh	Luain	Mair	Céad	Déar	Aoin	Sath	Domh	Luain	Mair	Céad	Déar	Aoin	Sath	Domh	Luain	Mair	Céad					

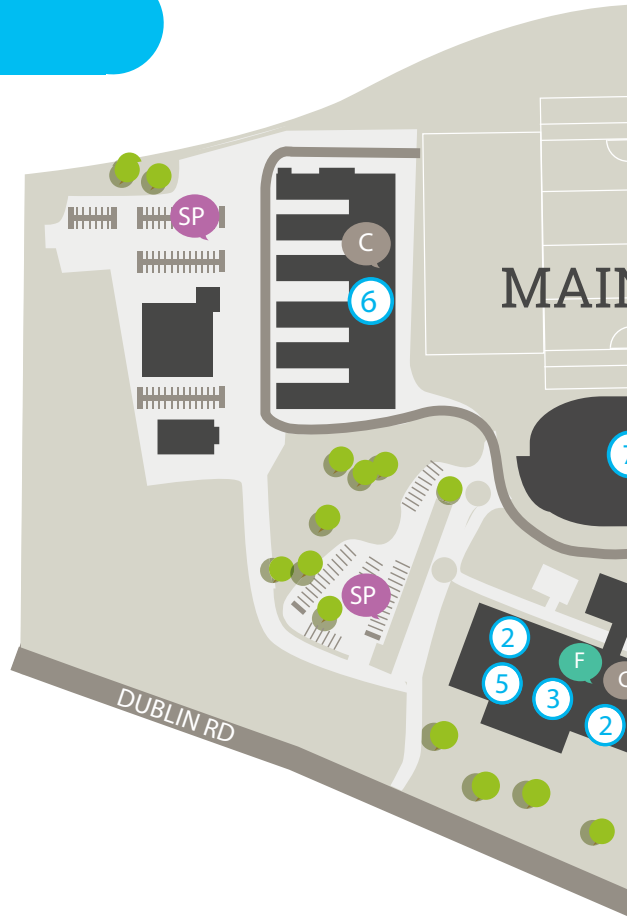
Campus Map

MAIN CAMPUS

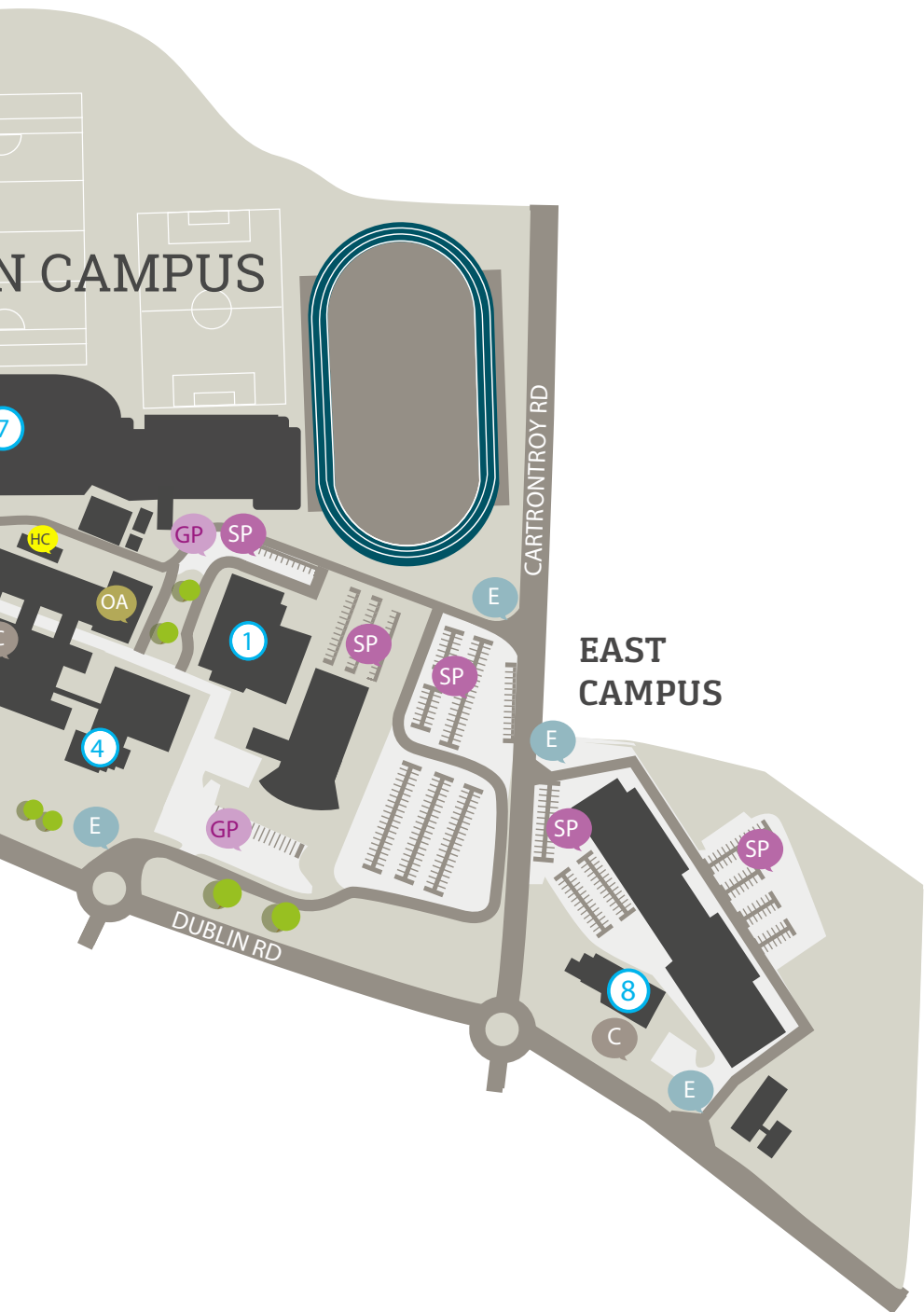
- ① Students Union
- ② Library
- ③ Douglas Hyde C1141
Induction
- ④ International Office
- ⑤ IT Labs (upstairs)
- ⑥ Engineering Building
- ⑦ International Arena

EAST CAMPUS

- ⑧ Nursing and Health
Nursing Library



- OA Open Access
- C Canteen
- F Fountain / Meeting Point
- E Entrance
- SP Student Parking
- GP Guest Parking
- HC Health Centre



WEST CAMPUS

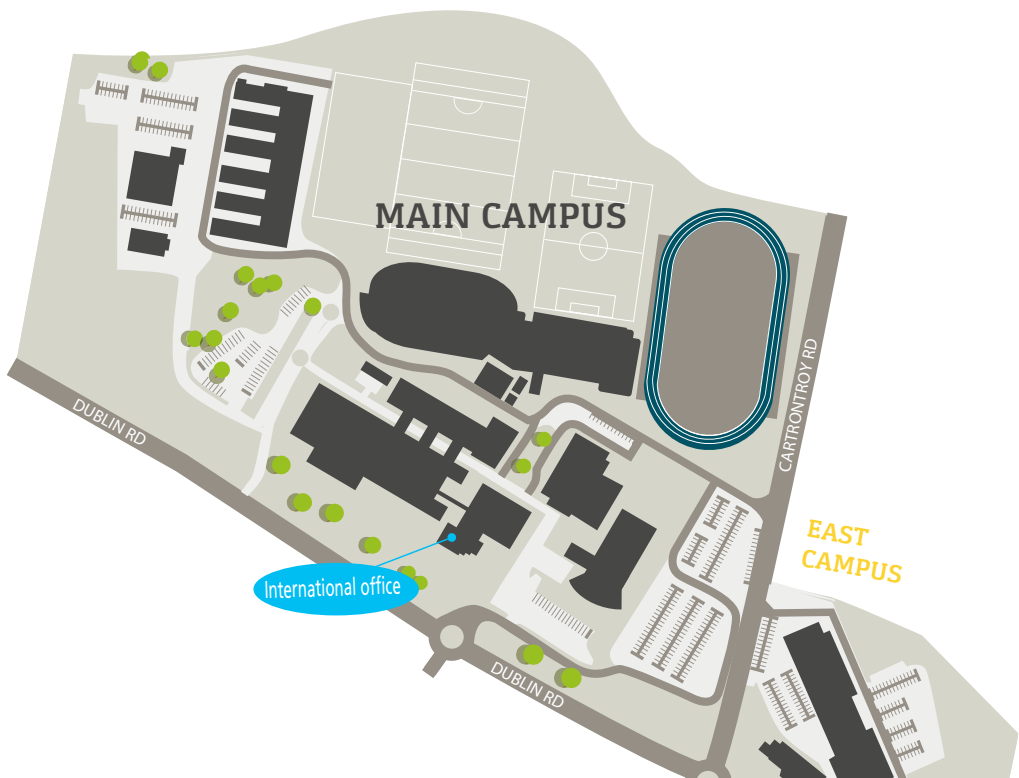
EAST CAMPUS

International Office Team

If you have any difficulties or require assistance, contact the International Office, which is situated on the Main Campus next to Registration Department. Please follow the signs for International Office.

Student hours: Monday to Friday, 11 am-1pm, 2pm-3.30pm
(closed for Lunch 1.00 pm-2.00 pm each day).

**Any member of the International team are available outside of office hours by appointment.*



Call

+353 (0)90 646 8273

Meet the Team



Director of International Relations - Mary Simpson
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Email: msimpson@ait.ie



Erasmus Coordinator - Annette Buckley
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