Why study Polish?

There are plenty of reasons why to study Polish. Here are some of them, expressed by students themselves (2009/2010):

I like Polish because it’s challenging.  
Daniel, 4th year, TSM

Choosing to study Polish was a great decision (...). The Polish department is very friendly and helpful. And it’s not all grammar and vocabulary. Courses in Polish history and culture gave me a great insight into Polish society before spending my third year in Kraków. The year of study abroad was a fantastic experience.  
James, 4th year, European Studies

Polish in TCD

Department of Russian & Slavonic Studies

The Polish language, as well as Poland’s history and culture is being taught in Trinity as part of three different programmes for undergraduate students:

- EUROPEAN STUDIES & POLISH;
- BUSINESS STUDIES & POLISH;
- TWO-SUBJECT MODERATORSHIP (Polish as an optional subject);

All Polish courses are taught by native speakers. Students are welcome to join various extramural activities:

- Polish Film Nights
- Pub Nights (conversation in Polish)
- Many Polish events in TCD and Dublin


Studying Polish is, for me, an eye-opener into the culture of Poland and indeed Eastern Europe in general. Studying the language is a gateway to first-hand experience of Poland and its culture which is otherwise unachievable.

I chose Polish because (...) it is very rare for an Irish person to have a degree in it, which can be a help when looking for work. Why Trinity? The only college in Ireland with a level 8 course in Polish. Also, as an added bonus, we get to spend a year in one of the most beautiful Eastern European cities, Kraków.  
Kevin, 1st year, Business & Polish

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James, 4th year, European Studies

(... Apart from being a beautiful language (...), Polish (...) is a useful language: 40 million speakers, a member of the EU and an expanding economy – Poland will be big in the future. Last year my sociology lecturer reinforced this growing view stating everyone will be learning Polish in a few years.  
Patrick, 2nd year, European Studies

The growing economy and market means with Polish we’ll be at the heart of the next big boom. Polish is (...) the most surprising and fun class, it breaks the day up, it’s my highlight of the day.  
Shane, 1st year, Business & Polish
POLISH AROUND THE WORLD

With a population of nearly 40 million, Poland is the largest country in Central Europe. It experiences a constant economic growth, even in the current climate. Polish people, after their country joined the EU, began to spread to different European countries, searching for jobs, new experiences and qualifications. It has been estimated that up to 200,000 Polish citizens have made Ireland their home. However, people tend to know very little about them and their home country…

- Family above everything?
  Yes, Poles resemble Italians in a way.
- John Paul II, Skłodowska-Curie, Chopin?
  Sure, but many more!
- Difficult history?
  Quite true.
- Attachment to tradition?
  Depends on the generation really.
- Declared love for vodka and fatty foods?
  Maybe…
- Beautiful women?
  Certainly!
- Polar bears walking on streets?
  Definitely not!
- Unstrained Slavonic fantasy?
  Check it out yourself!

If you want to know more about Poland, become a TCD student of Polish!

EVENING COURSES AT TCD

The Department also runs evening language courses for people who want to take up or stay in touch with Polish or another Slavic language.

- Russian (A1-C2; Beginners through Advanced+)
- Polish (A1-C1; Beginners through Advanced)
- Czech (A1-B1; Beginners and Intermediate)
- Bulgarian (A1-A2; Beginners)
- Croatian (A1-A2; Beginners)

New culture courses taught in English:
- Introduction to Polish culture
- Milestones in the History of Russian Culture
- Cultures of Central and Eastern Europe

Trinity College Dublin
School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies
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Web link: [www.tcd.ie/Russian/](http://www.tcd.ie/Russian/)