Top facts about the Trinity Education Project for students

1. What is the Trinity Education Project?

The Trinity Education Project (TEP) is a university-wide project to renew and refresh the undergraduate curriculum.

We want to take what makes a Trinity education distinctive, and make it even better. So, along with becoming thoroughly versed in your particular area of study, we want you to develop as fully as possible through your studies and co- and extra-curriculum what we are calling the ‘graduate attributes’.

2. TEP will enable you to

- Complete an independent piece of work called the ‘capstone’ in your final year (see No. 5 – 6)
- Experience a range of teaching, learning and assessment strategies (see No. 4)
- Learn outside of your core discipline (see No. 8 – 9)
- Have more flexibility – a student in some programmes may enter through one pathway and choose to exit through another e.g. entry to Single Honors History & exit with Single Honors History with a minor
- Avail of additional international mobility and internship opportunities
When does TEP start and for whom?

In 2018/19 students will be admitted to Year 1 of the new programme architecture/structure for Science (via the four new Science streams), Health Sciences and Engineering programmes. The new academic year structure for all students starts in 2018/19. That is not to say that some elements of TEP such as the introduction of new forms of assessment might not start in individual programmes before 2018/19.

What will the new academic year structure look like? When are exams?

This is for all students apart from those in programmes that currently fall outside the current academic year structure e.g. Health Sciences programmes.

Will current students have Christmas exams?

From 2018/19, all Michaelmas modules will be assessed before Christmas. That means that if a Michaelmas module is assessed by a final exam, one of the SU’s long-term goals will be realised, and you’ll have a Christmas exam.

It is hoped and expected that the number of assessments by examination will be reduced, to be replaced by other forms of assessment, so that learning and assessment become more fully part of a continuum. There is an Assessment Framework that was approved by University Council in May 2016; how best to implement it will be determined by each programme of study.
What does the Capstone Project mean for me?

The compulsory ‘capstone’ will enable you to integrate your knowledge, skills and competencies acquired while studying and demonstrate them in an appropriate form decided by your course/programme.

It could be a: dissertation/composition/performance/recital/film/case study/the design of a product or software to meet a specific need. The capstone for clinical/health sciences degrees is being considered.

When will the Capstone Project start?

If you are admitted into the new programme architecture associated with TEP from 2018/19, you will complete the ‘capstone’ in your final year. Current regulations apply until then, although some programmes already have capstones.

Will co- and extra-curriculum activities be given credit?

Co- and extra-curricular activity will **not** be given credit (ECTS), but a number of innovative ways are being explored to make these vital and vibrant parts of the student experience more fully recognised.
Will TEP let me study outside of my core subject area?

Yes, TEP will give you opportunities to learn outside of your core subject areas. You can broaden your knowledge base, experience a wider range of teaching, learning and assessment methods, take an active, self-directed approach and enhance transferable skills.

In a world in which fixed boundaries between disciplines and areas of knowledge are constantly shifting, enhancing your particular programme of study with a broader vision will be particularly important.

An Approved Module – is a complementary module to your core subject area. Each programme/course determines the range of approved modules from which you choose. So, for instance, a Science student could have the opportunity of taking up a Business or an Ethics module as an approved module, an English student could have the opportunity of taking up a Philosophy module, and a Computer Science and Statistics student could have the opportunity of taking up an Engineering subject.

Give me some examples:

Trinity Electives - 5 ECTS credit modules available to undergraduate students across the university. These are currently being developed (for introduction in 2019/20 for some programmes), and will introduce students to an exciting range of interdisciplinary courses. Modules under consideration at the moment include: ‘Making Ireland’, a multi-disciplinary module linked to a Research Theme, and Philosophy of Science, a multi-disciplinary module offered by Science. Consideration is also being given to some language modules as Trinity Electives. All Trinity Electives will be open to all students, and the decision which module to take will be yours.

Any questions?

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