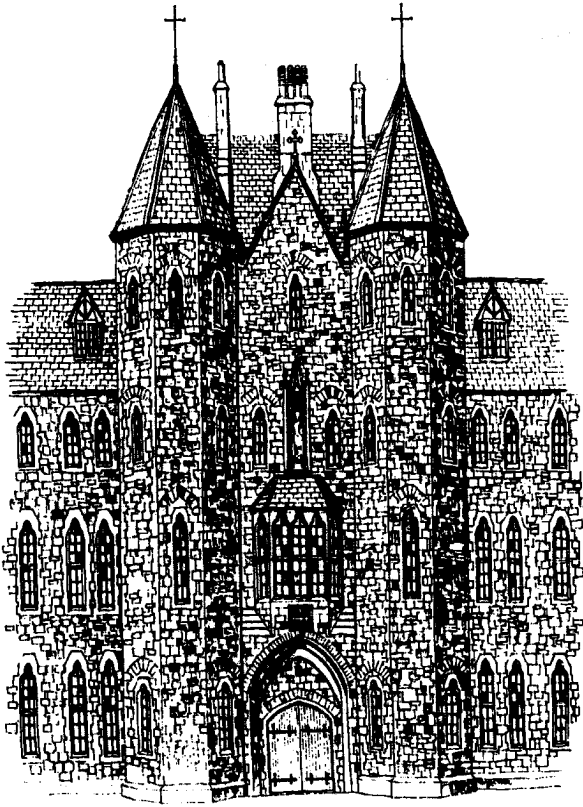


Chapter I

Information and Personnel



The President's Arch in Saint Patrick's House
Designed by A W Pugin

Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth



As we begin a new academic year at St Patrick's College, I am pleased to extend a warm and sincere welcome to all members of our learning community—returning students and staff, and those who are joining us for the first time.

St Patrick's Pontifical University is a component of St Patrick's College, along with the National Seminary. It is situated within a distinctive and historic campus,

shared with Maynooth University. This shared environment fosters a rich and diverse atmosphere for study, reflection, and exchange. It is a place where tradition meets innovation, and where the life of the mind is cultivated alongside personal and professional formation

St Patrick's has a long-standing tradition of excellence in higher education, one rooted in both academic rigour and personal attention. Students often speak of the close interaction with faculty as one of the most defining and rewarding aspects of their time here. Our lecturers and staff are deeply committed to supporting students as they engage with complex questions, develop their intellectual and practical skills, and discern how best to contribute to the world around them.

We aim to offer an educational experience that is at once academically challenging and personally supportive. Whether you are preparing for a vocation in ministry, a career in education, or further research, the formation you receive here will combine critical thinking, ethical depth, and a keen awareness of the broader societal context. Our graduates leave not only with knowledge, but with the confidence and clarity to serve and lead in diverse settings.

Your years at Maynooth are a time of real possibility – for growth in understanding, for meaningful relationships, and for the kind of learning that shapes both mind and character. It is a place where different perspectives are welcomed and where students are encouraged to reflect deeply on their values, aspirations, and responsibilities.

As we look ahead to the year to come, we do so with a shared sense of purpose. Students, faculty, and staff all have a part to play in building a university community grounded in respect, dialogue, and integrity. Together, we pursue knowledge not for its own sake, but for the good it can do in the world.

Thank you for choosing St Patrick's. I look forward to the year ahead and to all we will discover and achieve together.

Reverend Dr Michael Shortall
President

Coláiste Phádraig, Má Nuad

Agus muid ag cur tús le bliain acadúil nua abhus anseo ag Coláiste Phádraig, ba mhian liom an deis seo a thapú d'fhonn fearadh na fáilte a chur romhaibh uilig.

Cuirim fáilte speisialta rompu siúd atá inár measc den chéad uair riamh.

Is cuid de Choláiste Phádraig í Ollscoil Phontaifiúil Phádraig maille leis an gCliarscoil Náisiúnta. Táimid lonnaithe ar champas suaithinseach stairiúil a roinnimid le hOllscoil Mhá Nuad. Ar an gcaoi sin, thiocthadh leat a rá go dtagann traidisiún agus nuálaíocht le chéile ar an gcampas uathúil s'againne. Gan aon agó, cothaíonn an timpeallacht chomhroinnte siúd atmaisféar borriúil agus fiúntach a chuireann go mór le heispéaras na mac léinn agus lena gcuid staidéir chomh maith. Saothraítear intinn an mhic léinn agus iad ag staidéar linn. Fásann siad mar dhaoine agus oíltear iad do shaol na hoibre, fosta.

Bhí sé de chuspóir againn riamh anall barr feabhais a bhaint amach ar gach gné de shaol na hollscoile. Dar leis na mic léinn s'againne, is mór an tairbhe é an dlúthchaidreamh a bhíonn acu le comhaltaí dáimhe agus iad i mbun staidéir linn. Leoga féin, is saintréith de chuid an choláiste é an dlúthghaol siúd atá eadrainn. Gan amhras ar bith, gheobhaidh tú timpeallacht thacúil agus spreagúil anseo ag Coláiste Phádraig. Rachaidh tú i ngleic le ceisteanna cigilteacha agus casta. Cuirfear go mór le d'intleacht agus forbróidh tú scileanna praiticiúla inaistrithe, freisin. Thar aon cheo eile, cuirfear ar do chumas a bheith i do shaoránach gníomhach sa tsochaí amach anseo.

Gan aon agó, tá blianta dúshlánacha agus fiúntacha romhat agus tú i do mhac léinn i gColáiste Phádraig. Gheobhaidh tú scileanna criticiúla; déanfaidh tú staidéar ar aincheisteanna eiticíúla agus cuirfear le d'fheasacht shóisialta agus chultúrtha chomh maith. Cuirtear fáilte roimh dhearcthaí éagsúla agus iarrtar ar mhic léinn machnamh a dhéanamh ar a gcuid luachanna; ar na huailmhianta s'acusan agus ar a gcuid freagrachtaí sa tsochaí agus sa saol i gcoitinne. Agus tú i do chéimí s'againne, beidh an t-eolas riachtanach agat in éineacht leis na scileanna cuí d'fhonn ionchur fóna a dhéanamh sa ghairm s'agat amach anseo.

Mar is iondúil, tabharfaimid faoin mbliain acadúil atá amach romhainn i gcomhar le chéile. Ní foláir dúinn uilig pobal a chruthú ina bhfuil meas; dialóg; macántacht agus ionracas go smíor is go smúsach ann.

Go deimhin féin, is cuí go mbíimid de shíor ar thóir na tuisceana abhus ag Coláiste Phádraig. Fós féin, ní dhéantar seo díreach ar mhaithe lena dhéanamh. A chontrárthacht sin, tugaimid faoin taighde s'againne bliain i ndiaidh bliana toisc go gcreidimid go diongbháilte go rachaidh sé chun sochair don chine daonna agus don domhan trí chéile.

Mar bhuille scoir, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil leat as Coláiste Phádraig a roghnú. Caithfidh mé a rá go bhfuilim ag tnúth go mór leis an mbliain acadúil atá amach romhainn agus leis na nithe go léir a fhoghlaimoimid agus a bhainfimid amach i dteannta a chéile.

An Dochtúir Mícheál Soirtéil

Uachtarán

The Governing Body

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(Incorporated 8 & 9 Vic., C.25)

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Most Reverend Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin
Most Reverend Kevin Doran, Bishop of Elphin
Most Reverend Alphonsus Cullinan, Bishop of Waterford & Lismore
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Most Reverend Tom Deenihan, Bishop of Meath
Most Reverend Lawrence Duffy, Bishop of Clogher
Most Reverend Fintan Gavin, Bishop of Cork & Ross
Most Reverend Michael Router, Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh

Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Very Reverend Dr. Enda Cunningham

Visiting Prelates

His Grace Most Reverend Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh
His Grace Most Reverend Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin
His Grace Most Reverend Kieran O'Reilly, Archbishop of Cashel & Emlly
His Grace Most Reverend Francis Duffy, Archbishop of Tuam
Most Reverend Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry
Most Reverend William Crean, Bishop of Cloyne
Most Reverend Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin
Most Reverend Kevin Doran, Bishop of Elphin

Officials of Saint Patrick's College

President

Reverend Dr Michael Shortall, MA, STD

Seminary Rector

Reverend Tomás Surlis, BRelSc, BD, STL, STD

Bursar

Fidelma Madden, FCA, AITI

Officials of the National Seminary

Seminary Rector

Reverend Tomás Surlis, BRelSc, BD, STL, SThD

Coordinator of Human and Pastoral Formation (Stage of Discipleship)

Reverend Shane O'Neill MA, BPhil, BD

Coordinator of Human and Pastoral Formation (Stage of Configuration)

Reverend Seán Corkery, DD

Coordinator of Intellectual Formation

Reverend Peter O'Kane BPh BD MMus JCL MA LicDiv

Spiritual Directors

Reverend Chris Hayden STL, PhD

Reverend Brendan Comerford SJ

Vocational Growth Formators

Reverend Tim Healy SJ

Sr Cáit O'Dwyer RSM

Seminary Council

Reverend Tomás Surlis

Reverend Seán Corkery

Reverend Shane O'Neill

Reverend Peter O'Kane

Officials of the Pontifical University

President

Reverend Dr Michael Shortall, MA, STD

Registrar

Gaven Kerr, BA, MPhil, PhD

Dean, Faculty of Theology

Reverend Luke Macnamara, LSS, OSB

Dean, Faculty of Philosophy

Gaven Kerr, BA, MPhil, PhD (*Interim*)

Dean, Postgraduate Studies

Reverend Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, PhD (*Interim*)

Academic Personnel

Faculty of Theology

DEAN

Reverend Luke Macnamara, LSS, OSB

SECRETARY

Aoife McGrath, PhD

PROFESSORS

<i>Canon Law:</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>Ecclesiastical History:</i>	Salvador Ryan, BA, BD, PhD
<i>Faith & Culture:</i>	Reverend Michael Conway, MSc, STL, DTheol
<i>Homiletics:</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>Liturgy:</i>	Reverend Liam Tracey OSM, STB, SLD, Dip Mar, Dip Pastoral Theology
<i>Moral Theology:</i>	Tobias Winright, MDiv, MA, PhD
<i>Sacred Scripture:</i>	Reverend Séamus O'Connell, BSc, LSS, DTh
<i>Systematic Theology:</i>	<i>Vacant</i>

PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATORS

<i>Pastoral Theology:</i>	Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA Maureen Kelly, MA
<i>Postgraduate Studies:</i>	Reverend Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, PhD (<i>Interim</i>)
<i>Sacred Music:</i>	John O'Keeffe, PhD, HDE, LTCL
<i>Education Programmes:</i>	Reverend John-Paul Sheridan, BA, STL, MEd, PhD
<i>Liturgical programmes:</i>	Reverend Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, PhD

LECTURERS

<i>Moral Theology:</i>	Reverend Pádraig Corkery, BSc, STD Reverend Michael Shortall, MA, STD Aoife McGrath, PhD
<i>Sacred Music:</i>	John O'Keeffe, PhD, HDE, LTCL
<i>Sacred Scripture:</i>	Reverend Jeremy Corley MA, PhD Jessie Rogers, BSc, LTh, MA, DPhil Reverend Luke Macnamara, LSS, OSB
<i>Systematic Theology:</i>	Reverend Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, PhD Joshua Furnel, MA, PhD Reverend Carl Scerri STL, DPhil Tom McLean, BSc, MA, STL
<i>Pastoral Theology:</i>	Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA Maureen Kelly, MA
<i>Canon Law:</i>	Reverend Peter O'Kane BPh BD MMus JCL MA LicDiv

Faculty of Canon Law

PROFESSOR

Vacant

Faculty of Philosophy

DEAN

Dr Gaven Kerr, BA, MPhil, PhD (QUB) (*Interim*),

LECTURERS

Dr Robert McNamara BSc, BPhil, HDipSc, HDipTh, MTS, PhD (LHU)
Dr Jordan McFadden, B.A, M.A, MPhil, PhD (CUA)
Reverend Dr Patrick Gorevan, DPh (UCD)

Additional Personnel

Office of the President: Tracey Flinter, Caroline Tennyson

Accounts Office: Fidelma Madden, FCA, AITI (*Bursar*),

Catherine Loane, FCA (*College Accountant*) Elaine Cahill, Carol Vaudrion, Catherine Chandler.

Admissions Office: Undergrad: Sheila Browne

Postgrad: Rachel McHugh

Archivist: Sarah Freeland

Auditor: Baker Tilly Mooney Moore, Belfast

Catering Department:

Catering Manager: Dearbhaile McAuley

Domestic Supervisor: Noreen O'Connor & Lillian Sandu

Health & Safety Office: Daniel McDermott

Library: The Library facilities are shared by *Saint Patrick's Pontifical University* and the *Maynooth University*

Librarian: Cathal McCauley, BA, MLIS, Dip FM

Marketing: Paul Hurley, Cian Roche

Maynooth Campus Conference & Accommodation:

Manager: Bill Tinley, PhD

Sales & Marketing: Katja Nolan

Reservations: Annika Devitt

Events: Fiona Smith

Accounts: Siobhan Brett

Maynooth University Bookshop: Proprietor: John Byrne

National Science Museum: Honorary Curator: Neil Trappe, PhD

Pontifical University Office: Sheila Browne, Sharon Walsh, Sandra Norgrove, Elizabeth Winright.

Quality Assurance Office: Moria Crowley

Solicitor: Mason Hayes Curran Solicitors, Dublin

School Liaison: Ruth Daly

Student Recruitment: Rachel McHugh

Useful Contacts for Students

Calls originating outside the republic of Ireland should prefix the following numbers with +353-1.

Calls originating in Ireland outside the 01 area should prefix the following numbers with 01.

Calls originating on University phones should dial the last four digits only.

Faculty of Theology:

Conway, Rev Prof Michael	9 Dunboyne	708-6293 michael.conway@spcm.ie
Corkery, Rev Dr Pádraig	5 Dunboyne	708-3506 padraig.corkery@spcm.ie
Corley, Rev Dr Jeremy	2 Dunboyne	708-3371 jeremy.corley@spcm.ie
Furnal, Dr Joshua	12 Dunboyne	708-3625 joshua.furnal@spcm.ie
Macnamara OSB, Rev Dr Luke	21 Dunboyne	708-3600 luke.macnamara@spcm.ie
McGrath, Dr Aoife	20 Dunboyne	708-3497 aoife.mcgrath@spcm.ie
McLean, Tom	3 Dunboyne	474-7665 Tom.mclean@spcm.ie
O'Connell, Rev Prof Séamus	11 Dunboyne	708-3505 seamus.oconnell@spcm.ie
O'Donoghue, Rev Neil Xavier	Liturgy Centre	708-3909 neilxavier.odonoghue@spcm.ie
O'Kane, Rev Peter	10 Dunboyne	708-3498 Peter.okane@spcm.ie
Rogers, Dr Jessie	4 Dunboyne	708-3360 jessie.rogers@spcm.ie

Ryan, Prof Salvador	1 Dunboyne	708-3972 salvador.ryan@spcm.ie
Sheridan, Rev Dr John-Paul	18 Dunboyne	708-3637 johnpaul.sheridan@spcm.ie
Shortall, Rev Dr Michael	6 Dunboyne	708-6165 michael.shortall@spcm.ie
Tracey OSM, Rev Prof Liam	16 Dunboyne	708-3442 liam.tracey@spcm.ie
Winright, Prof Tobias	15 Dunboyne	708-3507 tobias.winright@spcm.ie

Faculty of Philosophy:

Kerr, Dr Gaven	19 Dunboyne	708-6466 gaven.kerr@spcm.ie
McNamara, Robert	17 Dunboyne	708-6375 Robert.mcnamara@spcm.ie

The National Seminary:

Corkery, Rev Dr. Seán	St. Mary's	708-3615 sean.corkery@spcm.ie
Hayden, Rev. Chris	Dunboyne	708-3649 chris.hayden@spcm.ie
O'Neill, Rev Shane	St Mary's	474 7240 shane.oneill@spcm.ie
Surlis, Rev. Dr Tomás <i>Rector</i>	St. Mary's	708-3727 rector@spcm.ie

SPCM Staff:

Browne, Sheila	Pontifical University Office	708-4778 sheila.browne@spcm.ie
Cahill, Elaine	Accounts Department	708-4707 elaine.cahill@spcm.ie
Chandler, Catherine	Accounts Department	708-4752 catherine.chandler@spcm.ie
Crowley, Moria	Quality Assurance Office, Dunboyne House	474-7453 Moria.crowley@spcm.ie
Daly, Ruth	School Liaison	087-162 3379 ruth.daly@spcm.ie
Flannery, Teresa	Buildings/Utilities	708-4739 teresa.flannery@mu.ie

Flinter, Tracey	President's/Rector's Office	708-3958/3727 tracey.flinter@spcm.ie
Freeland, Sarah	Archives Department	708-3576 sarah.larkin@spcm.ie
Hurley, Paul	Marketing Department	708-4748 paul.hurley@spcm.ie
Loane, Catherine	Accounts Department	708-4753 catherine.loane@spcm.ie
McHugh, Rachel	Admissions/ Student recruitment	087 2976514 Rachel.mchugh@spcm.ie
Madden, Fidelma	Bursar	708-4750 fidelma.madden@spcm.ie
Norgrove, Sandra	Postgraduate Studies/ Pastoral Theology	708-3391 sandra.norgrove@scpcm.ie
O'Keeffe, Dr John	Director of Sacred Music	708-3732 john.okeeffe@spcm.ie
Roche, Cian	Marketing Department	708 – 4746 Cian.roche@spcm.ie
Ridge, Martin	Estate Management	708-4742 martin.ridge@spcm.ie
Seaman, Charles	Buildings/Utilities Department	708-6316 charles.seaman@spcm.ie
Tennyson, Caroline	Events & Fundraising/President's Office	708-3964 caroline.tennyson@spcm.ie
Vaudrion, Carol	Accounts Department	708-4751 carol.vaudrion@spcm.ie
Walsh, Sharon	Pontifical University Office	708-3600 sharon.walsh@spcm.ie
Winright, Elizabeth	Pontifical University Office	708-3600 Elizabeth.winright@spcm.ie

Offices:

Opening hours at the Pontifical University Office at Saint Patrick's Pontifical University Maynooth are as follows:

Monday – Thursday:

9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Friday:

9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m

If you should have difficulty contacting one of the specific offices below, you may contact the Pontifical University Office at 708-3600 for assistance.

Academic Advisory Office *	59 Arts Building	708-3368
Access Office *	Humanity House	708-4519
Admissions Office	Pontifical University Office	708-4772
Alumni Office *	Humanity House	708-6492
Careers & Appointments Office *	Arts Building	708-3592
Chaplaincy *	Student Services Centre	708-3320
Counselling *	Riverstown House	708-3554
Dean of Theology	4 Dunboyne	708-3360
Examinations Office	Pontifical University Office	708-3600
Fees & Accounts Office	Stoyte House	708-4751
International Office *	Humanity House	708-3417
National Centre for Liturgy	Long Corridor	708-3478
Pontifical University Office	Pontifical University Office	708-3600
Postgraduate Studies Office	16 Dunboyne	708-3442
President's Office	Stoyte House	708-3958
Rector's Office	St. Mary's	708-3727
Registrar's Office	Ground loor Dunboyne	708-7453
Sports Office *	Sports Complex	708-3824
Student Services *	Sports Complex	708-3825
Students' Union *	Sports Complex	708-3669

* This office is a joint service between *Saint Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth* (SPPU) and Maynooth University.

Seminary Council

Reverend Tomás Surlis - *Seminary Rector*
Reverend Seán Corkery - *Coordinator of Human and Pastoral Formation*
Reverend Shane O'Neill - *Coordinator of Human and Pastoral Formation*
Reverend Peter O'Kane - *Coordinator of Intellectual Formation*

Finance Council

Reverend Michael Mullaney, *President*
Reverend Tomás Surlis, *Seminary Rector*
Ms Fidelma Madden, *Bursar*
Ms. Catherine Loane, *College Accountant*
Reverend Pádraig Corkery
Mr Gus Mulligan

Priests in Residence

Conway, Reverend Michael
Corkery, Reverend Pádraig
Corkery, Reverend Seán
Corley, Reverend Jeremy
Hayden, Reverend Chris
Kavanagh, Reverend Brian
McGuinness, Rt Rev Msgr Joseph
O'Connell, Reverend Séamus

O'Donoghue, Reverend Neil Xavier
O'Kane, Reverend Peter
O'Neill, Reverend Shane
Scerri, Reverend Carl
Shortall, Reverend Michael
Surlis, Reverend Tomás
Sheridan, Reverend John-Paul

Important Dates 2025 – 2026

SEPTEMBER	
Sunday 7 th	All seminarians return
Monday 8 th –Friday 12 th	Seminary Introductory Programmes
Monday 15 th –Wednesday 17 th	Human Formation Workshop
Thursday 18 th –Sunday 21 st	Opening of the Year Retreat
Monday 22 nd	Academic Year begins/Lectures commence
OCTOBER	
Tuesday 9 th	Opening of the Year Academic Mass
Saturday 11 th – Sunday 12 th	Day of Recollection
Thursday 23 rd	Ministry of Acolyte
Monday 27 th	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 28 th – Friday 31 st	Reading Week
Friday 31st	Seminarians Return
Friday 31st – Sunday 2 nd	Retreat (All Saints & All Souls)
NOVEMBER	
Monday 3 rd	Lectures resume
Friday 7 th	Prizes and Scholarships Awards Ceremony
Saturday 8 th	Pontifical University Conferring
Sunday 9 th	Mass for Deceased Benefactors of College
Saturday 29 th - Sunday 30 th	Advent Day of Recollection
DECEMBER	
Thursday 4 th	Evening Mass for Admission to Candidacy
Monday 8 th	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Friday 19 th	Christmas vacation commences on conclusion of lectures

JANUARY	
Monday 5 th PM	Seminary schedule resumes/Reading Week
Tuesday 6 th	Solemnity of the Epiphany
Wednesday 7 th - Saturday 24 th	January examinations
Sunday 11 th	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Inter-Semester Break
Monday 26 th – Wednesday 28 th	Formation Workshop
Friday 30 th - Sunday 1 st	Opening of Second Semester Retreat

SECOND SEMESTER	
FEBRUARY	
Monday 2 nd	Bank Holiday- St. Brigid's Day
Tuesday 3 rd	Lecture's resume
Wednesday 18 th	Ash Wednesday
Thursday 19 th	Ministry of Lector
Saturday 21 st – Sunday 22 nd	Day of Recollection (First Sunday of Lent)
MARCH	
Tuesday 3 rd	SPCM Annual Trócaire Lenten Lecture
Thursday 12 th	Patron's Day Celebration – PM
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th	Reading Week
Friday 27 th – Sunday 29 th	Lenten Retreat

APRIL	
Thursday 2 nd	Holy Thursday
Friday 23 rd	Good Friday
Saturday 4 th	Holy Saturday
Sunday 5 th	Easter Sunday
Sunday 5 th – Sunday 12 th	Easter Vacation
Monday 13 th	Lecture's Resume
Sunday 26 th	Good Shepard Sunday (Seminarians Vocations Promotion)

MAY	
Saturday 2 nd - Sunday 3 rd	Day of Recollection
Monday 4 th	Bank Holiday
Friday 8 th	Conclusion of Lectures
Wednesday 13 th – Saturday 30 th	Summer Examinations
Sunday 17 th	Ascension Sunday
Sunday 24 th	Pentecost Sunday/Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
Sunday 31 st	Trinity Sunday
JUNE	
Tuesday 9 th	Maynooth Union

Academic Schedule 2025 – 2026

SEPTEMBER	
8th Monday	CCRETS/PGCCRETS Lectures commence Orientation and Registration for Pastoral Theology/DYM Programmes
17th Wednesday	Lectures commence HDip in Theological Studies, Diaconal Studies
15th – 19th Monday - Friday	Postgraduate and Undergraduate Orientation and Registration Week
22nd Monday	Lectures Commence for all Full time Programmes
OCTOBER	
9 th Thursday	Opening of the Academic Year Mass
10 th Friday	Change of Module Deadline for all continuing Students
17 th Friday	Change of Arts subject deadline for BATH Year 1 Students
24 th Friday	Study week commences on conclusion of lectures
31 st Friday	Deadline to withdraw from studies without losing “Free Fee Status”
NOVEMBER	
3 rd Monday	Resumption of Lectures
7 th Friday	Prizes and Scholarships Awards Ceremony
8 th Saturday	Pontifical University Conferring
DECEMBER	
19 th Friday	Christmas vacation commences on conclusion of lectures
JANUARY	
7 th – 24 th	SPPU January Examinations
26 th – 30 th	Inter Semester Break
30 th Friday	Deadline to withdraw from studies and retain 50% “Free Fee Status”

SECOND SEMESTER	
FEBRUARY	
3 rd Tuesday	Lectures resume
13 th Friday	Deadline for change of 2 nd Semester Modules for all UG students
MARCH	
5 th Tuesday	Post Graduate Open Evening (3 – 7 pm) TBC
13 th Friday	Study week commences on conclusion of lecturers
APRIL	
1 st Wednesday	Easter Vacation Commences on conclusion of lectures (SPPU only)
13 th Monday	Lectures resume
MAY	
8 th Friday	Conclusion of Lectures
13 th - 31 st	SPPU Summer Examinations (End date TBC with MU Exams Office)
JUNE	
TBC	Consultation period
AUGUST	
TBC	Repeat Exams

Fees and Accounts 2025/2026

The Fees Office at Saint Patrick's Pontifical University deals with all matters relating to course fees and grants. All queries in relation to fees must be sent by email to fees@spcm.ie. Appointments are by request. For Full list of Fees for all programmes please visit <https://sppu.ie/fees-and-funding>

Undergraduate - Free Fees Initiative and Grants

Courses MU001 & MU002 - are covered under the free fees initiative.

Students are only liable for the following amounts:

- SUSI (100%) Grant holders pay €150 prior to registration.
- SUSI (50%) Grant holders pay €900 prior to registration and €750 in January.
- Non-Grant holders pay €1650 prior to registration and €1500 in January.
- Students Ineligible for Free Fees i.e. from previous higher education, Non-EU students, Repeating Students & other ineligible students, please contact fees@spcm.ie

- International Student Fees are due in full prior to registration

All Full time Masters programs above come under the Full time Masters course listed on SUSI

The B.Th. and the BA.Th. Degree courses qualify for the Government's 'Free Fees' Scheme and for Higher Education Grants (SUSI). The total fee of €5,779 above is inclusive of €3,000 Student Contribution and €150 Student Levy. Non-Grant Holders, who are entitled to free fees, must pay the student contribution of €3,000 plus the student levy of €150. Eligible grant holders, who must apply to Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) for approval, may have part or all of the student contribution paid by SUSI. All students are liable for the student levy.

New & Existing Undergraduate Students:

The Course Fee includes tuition and examination fees, but does not include repeat examination fees, late payment fees or late registration fees.

Tuition fees may be paid by the Exchequer in respect of full-time students who have been ordinarily resident in an EU/UK/EEA/Swiss State for at least three of the five years preceding their entry to their third-level course and who meet the criteria of the scheme. Eligibility under the scheme is determined at date of entry to the course.

The scheme is subject to the the following conditions:

1. Tuition fees will be paid in respect only of students attending full-time undergraduate courses.
2. The courses must, other than exceptionally, be of a minimum of two years duration.
3. Tuition fees will not be paid in respect of:
 - students pursuing a second undergraduate course.
 - students who already hold a postgraduate qualification

Notwithstanding this condition and subject to compliance with the other conditions of the Free Fees initiative, students who already hold a Level 6 qualification (Higher Certificate or National Certificate) or a Level 7 qualification (Ordinary Bachelor Degree or National Diploma) and are progressing to a Level 8 (Honours Bachelor Degree) course without necessarily having received an exemption from the normal duration of the course may be deemed eligible for free fees.

4. Tuition fees will also not be paid in respect of students undertaking a repeat year of study at the same year level. In this regard, this condition may be waived where evidence of exceptional circumstances, such as cases of certified serious illness, is provided.
5. Subject to compliance with the other conditions of the Free Fees initiative, students who have previously pursued but have not completed a course of third level study and subsequently resume third level studies:
 - a) may be deemed eligible for free fees where the third level course concerned did not attract any exchequer funding (e.g. fees, maintenance, tax relief, subsidy towards course cost)
 - b) are not eligible for free fees for the equivalent period of time spent on the first course of study where the third level course concerned did attract exchequer funding (as above). Part-time and evening students are included in this category.
6. Tuition fees will be paid in respect of eligible students who, having attended but not completed approved courses, are returning following a break of at least five years in order to pursue approved courses at the same level in the 2025-2026 academic year.

7. The tuition fees payable do not include the payment to be made by students towards the cost of registration, examination and student services.

Further details of the scheme including nationality criteria to be applied are available at [Free Fees Initiative | Funding, Governance and Performance | Higher Education Authority \(hea.ie\)](#)

Retiring from a 'Free Fees' Undergraduate Course:

In September, the University is obliged to confirm to the Higher Education Authority the student ID numbers of all students who register. This process is repeated in February for those still registered. Students retiring from University must notify the Pontifical University Office and return their student ID card without delay. They must complete an official withdrawal form in the Pontifical University Office to confirm that they are de-registered. Students who fail to complete the official withdrawal form may have free fees claimed on their behalf and be liable for full fees if attending another course subsequently.

Fee Implications for:

- **Students retiring before 31st October**
Students who register but withdraw before October 31st are charged a €150 administration fee to be held from any monies already paid. Students who have not paid any amount will need to pay €150 in order to de-register.
- **Students retiring in order to pursue a different course**
If a student accepts a place and then retires after October 31st and prior to 31st January, the student will subsequently become liable for fees for a half year if attending the same level of a third level course within the next five years.
- **Students retiring after 31st January**
Full fees will be claimed from the Higher Education Authority for students in attendance at the beginning of the second term. Any student retiring after 31st January will become liable for full fees if attending the same year level of a third level course within the next five years.
- **Students retiring on medical or other grounds**
Students retiring in exceptional circumstances such as certified illness may apply to the Registrar for permission to re-attend as 'Free Fee' Students.

Undergraduate Students:

Continuing students and first-time applicants, having accepted a place via the CAO for the Academic year, will register and pay their fees online per the instructions emailed directly after your acceptance.

- Non-grant-holders entitled to free fees, are required to pay €3,150, which includes Student Contribution of €3,000 and the Student Levy of €150. Payment can be made as follows:
 - In Full i.e. €3,150 : to be paid before registration
 - Or by instalment -
 - First instalment €1,650: to be paid before registration (Levy + half contribution)
 - Second instalment €1,500: to be paid by 31st January 2026
- Confirmed Grant-holders are required to pay the Student Levy of €150 before registration **and** to provide their SUSI application number during online registration at the University.
- Students who have applied for a SUSI Grant but who have not yet received an award **may** be required to pay €1,650 until their grant position is clarified. Students must provide their SUSI application number during online registration at the University.
- Students who are not entitled to free fees (e.g. those with previous third level participation,) must pay half the course fee of €2814.50 plus the student levy €150, totalling €2964.50 before registration and the balance of €2814.50 by 31st January 2026.

Overseas & Occasional Students:

All Non-EU/Overseas and Occasional fees must be paid in full prior to registration.

The Non-EU/Overseas Fee is not payable in the following cases:

- Where a student holds a Birth Certificate from a country within the European Union.
 - Where a student's permanent home residence is within the European Union
- and*
- Where a student has completed three years full-time second level education within the European Union or has three years' work experience within the European Union immediately prior to University entry.

Notes:

- Evidence of EU citizenship alone is not sufficient for exemption from the overseas fees.

- A student deemed liable for the overseas fees at time of registration cannot subsequently have his/her status altered while attending the University.

Should you require clarification of any of the above please contact fees@spcm.ie.

Postgraduate, Repeat & Other Course Students:

Postgraduate (EU) students who are not in receipt of a SUSI Grant, repeat students and all other students, should pay half of the required fee plus the student levy prior to registration and the balance before the 31st January 2026. Late payment fees of €50 will apply.

Overseas and Non-EU students must pay fees **in full** prior to registration. If in receipt of sponsorship from an outside agency, details of same must be conveyed to the Fees and Grants Office not later than August 31st, 2025, so that payment of fees can be secured by the University.

Payment Information:

Fee payments can be made online via the Student registration system, details of which will be sent out to all students in advance of Registration. .

Should you wish to pay by another method rather than online i.e. by direct bank payment, you must request the details by contacting fees@spcm.ie

It is vital that you quote your student number, the name under which you are registered and your course details on any correspondence with the University and subsequently on any detail of payments made.

Higher Education Grants:

All students in receipt of SUSI Grants are required to pay the Student Levy of €150, which is not covered by the Grant Scheme. This sum will be used for the development of student sports, social and recreational facilities.

Applications for grants must be made directly to SUSI. Before registration can be completed confirmation of your SUSI Application number must be provided to the University for verification with SUSI. Students may be required to pay €1,650 until their grant is confirmed. Any such payment will be refunded in full (less €150 student levy) if a grant is subsequently awarded and the University has received notification from SUSI. Should no award be forthcoming any outstanding balance must be settled before 31st January 2026.

Maintenance Awards:

Maintenance grants awarded by SUSI are paid directly into students' bank accounts. All queries should be directed to SUSI.

Funding - Student Assistance Fund

The Student Assistance Fund is managed by the Higher Education Authority on behalf of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. It provides financial support to students who are in financial difficulty and whose participation at university would be at risk without support. The Fund is best described as a contributory payment which helps students meet some of the **extra** costs associated with being at university. Registered students do not necessarily need to be grant holders to apply for funding.

Applications are **means tested** and funding is **targeted** at those students who are in most financial need.

Funding is available to **all full-time & some part-time registered students** of the Pontifical University attending an approved course. Full details of the Fund are available at

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office/SAF>

Details of approved courses are available at

<https://www.susi.ie/eligibility-criteria/approved-courses/undergraduate-students-approved-institutions-and-courses---full-time-courses/prescribed-courses-in-other-higher-education-institutions/pontifical-university-of-maynooth/>

<https://www.susi.ie/eligibility-criteria/approved-courses/postgraduate-approved-institutions-and-courses/approved-higher-education-institutions-for-postgraduate-study---prescribed-courses/pontifical-college-of-maynooth-/>



Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Fees Office.

E-mail: fees@spcm.ie
Web Page: www.sppu.ie
Telephone: (+353) 01 7084751

General Rules of the University

1. ***Guidelines regarding Covid-19*** The health and safety of staff and students is a priority of St Patrick's Pontifical University. Our policies with regard to the COVID-19 align to National Guidelines for Further and Higher Education of the Department of Skills and Education (published 15 June 2021 and last updated 1 July 2021). (See: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bcd91-a-safe-return-to-on-site-further-and-higher-education-and-research/>)

The policies of St Patrick's Pontifical University (The Pontifical University) are continually updated and available at <https://maynoothPontificalUniversity.ie/news-events/2020/guidance-re-covid-19> and are to be read in conjunction with the policies of Maynooth University. Every student will be required to be acquainted with the policies and to act in responsible manner.

The documents are also available by contacting the Registrar.

2. Student Identity Cards, issued to each student at Registration, shall be carefully retained and produced on demand to any Pontifical University official or member of the academic staff or properly authorised Pontifical University employee. If a student fails or refuses to produce his / her Student Identity Card on such demand, he or she may be denied access to any or all University premises and facilities. If the Student's Identity Card is lost he / she should immediately inform the Pontifical University Office. A replacement may be issued on payment of a fee.

3. A student entered for a course or courses is expected to attend all lectures, tutorials and classes etc given in each course for which he / she is registered.

4. If a student changes his / her address, he / she must notify the Pontifical University Office as soon as possible.

5. A student who wishes to withdraw from the Pontifical University should:

- Notify the Pontifical University Office
- Notify the Library
- Return Student Identity Card to the Pontifical University Office. Failure to do so could affect later claims regarding fee remission or social welfare entitlements.

6. The *Public Health (Tobacco) Acts 2002 & 2004* prohibit smoking in all enclosed areas. The legislation applies to all Pontifical University buildings, including offices, lecture halls, class halls, restaurants and the Students' Union Bar. Smoking will not be permitted in student accommodation with the exception of designated smoking apartments. A fine of up to €3,000 may be imposed on any person found in breach of the provisions of the legislation.

7. The consumption of alcohol on the campus or University grounds is prohibited without the expressed permission of the Pontifical University authorities.

8. Vehicles on Campus

- Motorists and cyclists must exercise due care and adhere to the speed limit of 25 Km per hour that applies throughout campus.
- Motor cycles are not permitted on the South Campus and must be parked in the vicinity of the bicycle racks at the Main Gate.
- Bicycles must be left in bicycle racks which are provided in key locations around the campus.
- Cycling is prohibited in Saint Joseph's Square, in the vicinity of the John Paul II library and in such areas as are indicated in signposts.

9. Parking:

- A pay and display car park is available for visitors.
- Vehicles must be parked in the car parks or designated parking areas.
- Parking in Saint Joseph's Square is reserved for resident staff of Saint Patrick's Pontifical University.
- Parking to the front of Stoyte House and Long Corridor is restricted to designated staff of Saint Patrick's Pontifical University.

10. Saint Joseph's Square is a formal garden. Picnics, sunbathing and sitting on the grass are not allowed within the Square.

11. By way of Medical and Counseling support, the Pontifical University authorities may require a student, during his / her period of study at the Pontifical University, to attend a nominated medical practitioner or counselor. The authorities would require such attendance only where they consider it to be necessary to the well being of the student concerned and / or the well being of another member / members of the University community or otherwise. The Pontifical University authorities would be responsible for the cost of the initial attendance but not in respect of any further attendance for treatment indicated.

12. A student may be denied access to any or all Pontifical University premises or facilities without notice, and for such period of time as the Pontifical University authorities see fit, in the event that the Pontifical University authorities deem such exclusion to be necessary in the interests of the safety and well being of that student and / or any other member / members of the Pontifical University.

13. Any accident that occurs on Campus must be reported to a security officer, without undue delay.

14. All property found on campus is to be handed in to Security. Property not claimed after a period of three months by the true owner becomes the property of the Pontifical University or Maynooth University.

15. Failure to comply with these rules may result in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions (including expulsion, fines, campus service and, in the case of the rule in relation to vehicles, the placing of adhesive stickers on vehicles and vehicle clamping, requiring a release fee of at least €80).

Disciplinary Code for Students

Introduction

The purpose of a code of discipline within the Pontifical University is to ensure that the pursuit of the objectives of the University shall not be disrupted. These are primarily the advancement, promotion, gathering and dissemination of knowledge and understanding through research, teaching, learning and rational discussion. To enable these aims to be fulfilled in a satisfactory manner it is necessary that a suitable academic environment be maintained. A code of discipline is a positive thing, which promotes concern and respect for people's rights and property. This helps to enhance the quality of life for all members of the Pontifical University community - staff and students. A student who registers for any course in the University shall be expected to accept these objectives and to observe the rules and regulations of the Pontifical University.

A Committee of Discipline exists to help maintain good discipline within the University and its general environs.

The Code of discipline and its implementation are subject to the present Statutes of the Pontifical University and to amendment by the Pontifical University authorities. The Code of Discipline is subject to review at such intervals and in such manner as the Pontifical University authorities consider appropriate.

Rules and Breaches

The two basic rules of the Code of Discipline are:

1. Every student is expected and required to respect the rights of fellow students and the authority of the Pontifical University academics and other staff in the performance of their duties. At all times every student is expected to observe the rules and regulations of the Pontifical University and conduct themselves in a manner conducive to the academic environment of the Pontifical University and the promotion of its objectives.

2. Every student is expected and required to respect the rights of fellow students in the enjoyment of the facilities of the Pontifical University, including its clubs and societies, and all privileges in relation to those facilities, and to observe applicable rules or regulations and at all times to respect the property of the Pontifical University or of other students, members of the Pontifical University staff or other persons working in or visiting the Pontifical University.

In interpreting the two basic rules the Committee of Discipline would normally regard as serious offences against the code such examples as:

- Plagiarism, cheating or the use of unauthorised material during an examination or other breaches of examination Regulations. Breaches of the Examination Regulations shall be dealt with directly by Officers of the Pontifical University.
- Disruption of teaching, study, research or administration of the Pontifical University.
- Obstruction of members of the Pontifical University administrative staff, academic staff, officers, students or servants of the Pontifical University in the performance of their duties.
- Furnishing false information to the Pontifical University with intent to deceive or in circumstances calculated to deceive.
- Forging, alteration, or misuse of Pontifical University documents, records or identity cards.
- Intimidation or harassment of any kind, physical abuse or verbal abuse of a defamatory character of another person.
- Malicious or reckless damage or theft of Pontifical University property or any other property on the Pontifical University grounds. Misuse of Pontifical University property including library materials or private property on the campus.
- Forcible occupation of Pontifical University buildings or grounds.
- Unwarranted interference with the Pontifical University's safety equipment, fire fighting equipment, security systems and alarm systems.
- On or off-campus conduct likely to bring the Pontifical University into disrepute.
- Engaging in activities that contravene the laws of the State and infringe either of the Pontifical University's two basic rules of discipline.
- Refusal to produce a Student Identity Card when requested to do so by a Pontifical University Staff member who shall identify himself / herself.
- Failure to pay a fine or comply with a disciplinary sanction imposed for a breach of discipline (subject to any right of appeal applicable).
- A serious failure to comply with the regulations governing the use of University Computer services (Code of Conduct for users of Computing Facilities listed below) and Library services which, in the case of a breach

of Library Regulations, has not been dealt with by the librarian in accordance with the terms of those regulations.

Membership of the Committee of Discipline

The Committee of Discipline shall comprise:

- Dean of the relevant Faculty (or his or her delegate)
- Two members of the relevant Faculty elected by the Council of the Faculty
- One of the student representatives on the Council of the relevant Faculty

Academic members are elected for a period of three years, student representatives for a period of one year.

The Dean or his/her delegate shall be the Chairman of the Committee and one member of the Faculty shall be the Secretary. Three members, one at least of whom must be a student representative, shall constitute a quorum. Should a meeting duly called fail to have a quorum because no student representative is in attendance, then the proposed meeting may proceed within a reasonable time, provided that three committee members are in attendance. An agenda will be circulated in advance of Committee meetings and its deliberations will be kept in confidence. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

Procedure

It is open to any staff or student member of the Pontifical University community to report in writing any alleged breach of discipline to the Chairman of the Committee of Discipline. If an allegation of a serious breach of the Code has been made against a student, the President of St Patrick's Pontifical University or his nominee shall have the power to exclude that student from Pontifical University premises, if he deems fit, while the alleged breach of discipline is being investigated.

The Chairman of the Committee of Discipline is empowered to handle summarily what he regards as minor breaches of the Code of Discipline. In cases where the alleged breach is judged to be of a serious character the Chairman shall refer the issue in writing to the Committee of Discipline at the earliest convenient opportunity.

An appeal from a decision by the Chairman of the committee of Discipline shall be to the Committee of Discipline (excluding the Chairman). The appeal procedure shall apply to such an appeal only to the extent relevant. A reasonable effort must be made to inform the student in writing of the alleged breach:

- Detailing the nature of the allegation, and any grounds on which it has been made
- Informing the student of his / her rights and

- Inviting him / her to attend a meeting of the Committee of Discipline convened to deal with the allegation, and to make such representations in relation to the allegation as he or she sees fit.

The student is entitled to have present to assist him / her at the meeting a representative who is a registered student or a member of the academic or administrative staff of the Pontifical University.

The Pontifical University or the student in question may have a legal adviser present at the meeting, subject to prior notice having been given to the student or the Committee as the case may be. If a student fails to respond to such an invitation, and / or to present himself or herself at the meeting, the matter may be dealt with in his / her absence.

If a member of the Committee of Discipline is a complainant or is otherwise involved in the alleged breach of conduct, he / she shall be replaced at the meeting by a nominee of the President of the Pontifical University. The Committee, having considered the allegation, the evidence received in relation to it, and any representations made by or on behalf of the student, and made such enquiries as it sees fit, shall deliberate in private and shall notify the student of the outcome within three days, where practicable. The Committee shall forward a written report of its handling of any serious breach of conduct to the President and, in the event of an appeal, following the expiry of that appeal, to the Dean of the appropriate Faculty.

Where a Head of Department or the Head of Security (hereinafter referred to as “the Relevant Head”) becomes aware of a breach of the Code of Discipline of the type described below, he or she may elect not to refer the breach to the Committee of Discipline where: in his / her opinion,

- the breach is such that it could appropriately be dealt with by the Relevant Head
- the student has admitted the breach of the Code, and confirmed in writing that he or she wishes to have the matter dealt with by the Relevant Head.

The Relevant Head shall promptly inform the Chairman of the committee of Discipline that he or she is dealing with such a breach. The disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed by a relevant head are confined to a fine not exceeding €64, campus service up to 5 hours, a reprimand, warning or advice, and repay compensation for loss or damage caused.

In deciding what disciplinary sanction will apply, the Relevant Head will ensure that the student is informed of the full case against him / her, and offer the student an opportunity to explain any mitigating circumstances to the Relevant Head. A written summary of the facts of, and the decision taken, in any such case will be supplied to the Chairman of the Committee of Discipline. An appeal from a decision

by the Relevant head shall be to the Chairman of the Committee of Discipline, and the appeal procedures shall apply to such an appeal only to the extent relevant.

Disciplinary Sanctions

The Committee of Discipline may recommend to the President that the following sanctions be imposed upon a student who has been found in breach of discipline.

- *Expulsion* - that the student ceases to be a member of the Pontifical University and that he / she be barred from any property occupied by the Pontifical University. This penalty shall appear on the student's record permanently.
- *Withdrawal* - that the student be requested to withdraw from the Pontifical University permanently or for a stated period, or until he / she has complied with the requirements laid down by the Committee.
- *Suspension* - that the student be suspended from the Pontifical University, or be barred from certain activities for a stated period, or until he / she has complied with the requirements laid down by the Committee, or the Relevant Head.
- *Fine* - that the student be fined a sum determined by the Committee or the Relevant Head.
- *Campus Service* - that the student be required to carry out a period of service on the Pontifical University Campus of a nature and on such terms as are determined by the Committee or the Relevant Head
- *Reprimand* - that the student be reprimanded and warned that if further breaches of discipline occur in future his / her present breach would be taken into consideration by the Committee or the Relevant Head in making a decision.
- *Conditional Discharge* - that no further action be taken against the student, provided he / she fulfils the conditions laid down by the Committee. The Committee reserves the right to impose conditions involving compensation in the case of damage to property or persons. The Committee may also give an absolute discharge. Save as provided above, any sanction imposed shall appear on the student's record for such period of time as the Committee may decide.

Appeal Procedure

A student who is aggrieved by a decision of the Committee of Discipline shall have the right of appeal to the President of the Pontifical University. The President may, at his discretion, nominate an Appeal Committee of three people to conduct an inquiry into the appeal. An Appeal Committee shall consist of two nominees of the President, one of whom must be a member of the academic staff. A third member shall be a student, nominated by the President of the Student's Union. The appointment of an appeal Committee shall be notified to the student in question.

No member of the Committee of Discipline which made the appealed decision shall be a member of an Appeal Committee.

Appeals must be brought within twenty eight days of the date of service of the original decision. References below to the appellate authority are to the President, or where he decides that an appeal will be dealt with by an Appeal Committee, the Appeal Committee. Appeals will not normally involve a rehearing of the evidence but arrangements must be made for written submissions, appearing in person and / or producing fresh evidence.

The student shall convey in writing to the appellate authority the grounds of the appeal and any relevant evidence supportive of the case for appeal. The aggrieved student may also represent his / her case in person to the appellate authority, and may be accompanied by a registered student or by a member of the academic or administrative staff of the Pontifical University. The Pontifical University or student may have a legal adviser present subject to prior notice having been given to the student or the appellate authority.

The appellate authority may affirm, reverse or vary any decision of the Committee of Discipline, or remit the case to the Committee of Discipline for reconsideration. The decision arrived at through the appeals procedure shall be final.

Attendance Monitoring Policy

Introduction

The purpose of this *Student Attendance Policy* is to enhance a supportive learning environment for students to achieve their full potential. (See Strategic Plan, *Enhance Student Experience / Value highest standards in teaching and learning*, Goal 2.4.10). The Pontifical University remains mindful of its obligations to a duty of care and protection of privacy.

Rationale

Class attendance and academic achievement are closely linked. Attendance is a vital element in maintaining student retention, progression, achievement and employability. Students who actively participate by attending classes are more likely to

- a. have a rewarding experience,
- b. successfully complete their course and
- c. achieve better results.

This policy therefore complements the Policies and Initiatives on *Student Success and Retention* (2017).

The following policy proposes establishing consistent monitoring practices for attendance. Keeping an overview of attendance helps to

- increase individual focus and engagement, and enhance and facilitate group dynamics
- encourage a better student experience by identifying students with issues (academic or personal) and facilitating a proactive response. This has been demonstrated to support retention and student wellbeing.
- mitigate against first year students leaving university prematurely. A systematic approach to monitoring attendance from the start of a programme fosters a culture of attendance in subsequent years
- It helps students to build work patterns appropriate for their time after university.

Having an established Attendance Policy therefore enables programmes to facilitate the Graduate Attributes of the Pontifical University.

Consistent monitoring allows for early intervention. Students who are identified as regularly absent from class may be contacted in order to offer supports or to have the consequences of absenteeism outlined.

Academic Staff are encouraged to incorporate formative assessment within the modules to encourage student engagement and learning.

Policy

Attendance will be taken at all lectures, by way of a student register (or similar means) which will be recorded on the Moodle page of the relevant module. Anyone not attending will be checked absent, no matter what the reason. Non-attendance for medical reasons requires a medical certificate to be provided to the Pontifical University Office. Absences for medical reasons will be noted on the record when the medical certificate has been provided.

Paid employment is not an acceptable reason for non-attendance.

Responsibilities

Students are responsible for:

1. Attending all learning and teaching sessions associated with their programme
2. Knowing if there are specific attendance requirements for individual modules
3. Ensuring that they have been signed into the attendance register. Late arrival may lead to students being marked absent
4. Maintaining a record of their own attendance
5. Notifying lecturers or tutors in advance if they expect to be absent from timetabled classes

6. Providing a medical certificate to the Pontifical University Office, where required
7. Informing the tutor or lecturer in advance if, due to exceptional circumstances, a student is obliged to leave a session before it concludes
8. Obtaining all the information presented by the lecturer or tutor during the missed class.

Academic staff are responsible for:

1. Reminding students of the importance of regular attendance
2. Recording student attendance
3. Writing to students who are exhibiting patterns of absenteeism. (See table below)
4. Alerting Academic and Pastoral Support Co-ordinator to 'at risk' students. (See table below)
5. Enrolling the Academic and Pastoral Support Co-ordinator as a “non-editing lecturer” to the module Moodle page.

The Academic and Pastoral Support Co-ordinator is responsible for:

1. Contacting ‘at risk’ students
2. Facilitating students' access to student support services

The Registrar is responsible for ensuring that:

1. teaching staff maintain a record of student attendance
2. appropriate systems are in place to maintain a student attendance record
3. appropriate systems are in place to facilitate notification by students of absence
4. Students are informed of the Attendance Policy
5. Students are advised of available supports
6. Students are warned of the consequences of persistent non-attendance.

Contacting Students

By and large, non-attendance occurs early in a module. As a principle, students need to be contacted as soon as the pattern becomes discernible, and followed up as appropriate, if it persists.

The following tables are *indicative*.

For a five credit module.

Week	Absent	Action
1-3	3 sessions	Email from the lecturer, cc to the APS Coordinator
1-4	4 sessions	Email from and meeting with the APS Coordinator
1-6	6 sessions	Email from and meeting with The Registrar

For a 2.5 credit module

Week	Absent	Action
1-3	2 sessions	Email from the lecturer, cc to the APS Coordinator
1-6	3 sessions	Email from and meeting with APS Coordinator / The Registrar

Please note: If a student shows patterns of non-attendance later in the module they should also be identified and contacted.

Where a student's attendance is identified as a cause of concern, one or more of the following actions may be taken:

1. The student will be asked for an explanation
2. Students will be invited to discuss with the Registrar / Academic and Pastoral Support Coordinator how their attendance will be improved and whether further support is appropriate
3. Students will be issued with a formal written warning about their attendance
4. Staff writing references for students may refer to students' record of attendance
5. Exam boards may take into account students' attendance in exercising discretion in matters of progression and grading.

Misogyny/Hate Speech/Discriminatory Language

The Pontifical University requires all students and staff to use respectful language when expressing their opinions whether verbally or in writing. Every person has a right to be treated with respect without discrimination because of race, colour, ethnic

origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status or disability.

The University does not tolerate any forms of misogyny, hate speech or discriminatory language. Students should be aware of this requirement in their written work (e.g. essays, examinations, dissertations, and other course work) and in their verbal interactions in class, seminars and throughout the campus.

If a member of the University staff considers that a student has violated the above policy, he or she will alert the student (and the Dean of the relevant Faculty) to highlight the issue. If possible, the issue should be rectified at this stage. Where the violation relates to academic work marks (up to 10%) may be deducted at the discretion of the lecturer. Staff are also free to bring the matter to the attention of the Committee of Discipline and the Disciplinary Sanctions available to the Committee will apply to egregious violations of the policy.

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity involves: “Compliance with ethical and professional principles, standards and practices and a consistent system of values, that serves as guidance for making decisions and taking actions in education, research and scholarship” Maintaining academic integrity is critical to the reputation of higher education, and to the recognition of a graduate’s academic learning and resulting qualifications.

The University has a public duty to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the conduct of assessment. The proper discharge of this duty is essential to safeguard the legitimate interests of its students and the University’s academic standards and reputation. Academic misconduct is taken very seriously. The University will take action against any student who contravenes these regulations through negligence, imprudence, ignorance or by deliberate intent.

The purpose of the procedures described in these regulations is to obtain all relevant facts and to reach a fair decision based on the evidence available. The process to be observed at all hearings and meetings convened under these regulations is inquisitorial rather than adversarial. It is not a judicial process, although it should be recognised that the University has an authority deriving from its contractual relationship with the individual Student and from the Student's agreement to be bound by the regulations in force in the period of study for which s/he is a student. Any student subject to academic misconduct proceedings in accordance with these regulations may obtain advice and guidance from the Registrar.

These regulations apply to all taught undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to former taught undergraduate and postgraduate students in relation to assessment

previously undertaken whilst a student of the University. Separate regulations pertain to the academic misconduct of postgraduate research students. Research students are governed by a separate policy.

These regulations will also be applicable to all taught undergraduate and postgraduate students (and former students) undertaking a course leading to an award of the University but delivered under a collaborative arrangement with an affiliate institution, unless otherwise agreed and stated in the partnership agreement. An allegation of academic misconduct may be investigated at any point, whether or not a final mark has been assigned to the work in question.

Exceptionally, an alleged offence may come to light after an Exams Board has met and agreed results have been published. In such cases, the allegation must be referred directly to the Registrar, who will consult with the Chair of the Exams Board. They will take account of the seriousness of the offence, the time, which has elapsed since it was committed, the reasons why it was not discovered earlier, and the regulations of any external validating or professional body, in determining whether or not to proceed with the case.

General Principles

The Dean acts on behalf of the relevant Faculty in overseeing the implementation of the quality assurance process within each Faculty. This includes responsibility for monitoring cases of academic misconduct to ensure the University maintains its academic standards. The Registrar has oversight of all cases of academic misconduct in order that s/he can ensure consistency and carry out the University's reporting requirements. This will include responding to requests for information under the Freedom of Information and GDPR.

Students involved in academic misconduct procedures shall have the rights outlined within the *Academic Misconduct Policy*.

The University reserves the right not to proceed with any investigation following an allegation of academic misconduct against a student if it is considered that there are insufficient grounds or evidence to do so. The standard of proof to be adopted during the application of these regulations will be the balance of probabilities.

If it is determined, at any stage, that a false allegation has been made by a student or member of staff with vexatious or mischievous intent, the University may initiate an appropriate disciplinary process against the person or persons making that allegation. Where a student is enrolled on a course that is regulated by a professional, statutory or regulatory body (PSRB) and that student is found, under the provisions of these regulations, to have committed academic misconduct, the

Pontifical University may, depending on the nature of the offence, be obliged to report that fact to the PSRB.

Written communications will be sent to students via their Pontifical University e-mail address. Students are expected to check regularly their Pontifical University e-mail account for updates on their case. Non-receipt of properly dispatched correspondence will not be accepted as valid grounds for delay or annulment of procedures or outcomes under these regulations, nor will it be accepted as grounds for appeal.

Where a student is found to have committed academic misconduct this will be recorded on the student's file and retained in accordance with the Pontifical University's records retention schedule. The Student's misconduct record may be referred to in future references and will be referred to should any subsequent allegation of academic misconduct be reported within a period of twelve months. All decisions taken under this section shall take full account of natural justice, fairness and equity, and all penalties should be applied consistently within, and between, proceedings at an Academic Disciplinary Hearing.

These regulations provide guidance on the appropriate penalties. Each body which imposes a penalty has the discretion to vary the penalty it can impose but must provide clear reasons as to why they have varied the penalty. Any penalty imposed as the result of an academic misconduct investigation overrides any decision taken with regard to a mitigating circumstance claim in respect of that assessment.

In general, the University will not consider mitigation in cases of academic misconduct. Students who are unable to complete an assessment, through illness or other personal circumstances, should apply for mitigation through the appropriate channels at the time that the circumstances and/or illness occurs, and such circumstances cannot be considered as an excuse for academic misconduct.

Where a student is found to have committed academic misconduct in an assessment component, that fact will not necessarily preclude the condonement of a module where condonement is permitted in accordance with the academic regulations.

For the purpose of these regulations, 'examination' includes both written and oral examinations, and module tests. 'Assessed coursework' includes coursework, essays, assignments, in-class assessments, laboratory tests, projects, dissertations, practical work, presentations, placements, or field trip reports, designs, theses, artefacts, digital photographic media, and computer-based analyses, etc.

Definition of Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is where a student gains, or seeks, attempts or intends to gain, advantage in relation to assessment, either for him/herself or for another person, by unfair or improper means.

An act of academic misconduct is committed regardless of whether or not the student intended to commit the act. For example, plagiarism may be committed irrespective of whether or not the student intended to deceive the examiners. The intention or otherwise of a student to deceive the examiners will not normally influence the penalty imposed.

Types of Academic Misconduct

The following is a non-exhaustive list of types of academic misconduct:

Collusion is where a student either:

- presents for assessment work done in collaboration with another as entirely his/her own; or
- collaborates with another student on work which is submitted as that other student's work.

Where students in a class are instructed or encouraged to work together in the pursuit of an assignment or other assessed task, such activity is regarded as approved collaboration and not collusion, although there may be a requirement for each student to identify his/her own contribution.

Duplication is where a student uses or re-uses significant, identical, or nearly identical portion(s) of their own work where such work has been previously submitted for credit within the University or at another institution.

Copying or Permitting Copying is where a student copies another student's work or permits another student to copy their work submitted for assessment. Both parties will be dealt with in accordance with academic misconduct procedures. It is a student's responsibility to protect their own work. Students should ensure that electronic copies of their work are stored securely and cannot be copied or stolen by another person; for example, in computer laboratories

Contract Cheating is where a student commissions or seeks to commission (either paid or unpaid) another individual or artificial intelligence software tool to complete academic work on their behalf. The use of material prepared in whole or in part, by means of generative artificial-intelligence (AI) tools, including and

without limitation to chatbots, such as Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer (Chat GPT), or other language generating tools is contrary to academic integrity and is a form of plagiarism as it is not the presentation of the student's own referenced work. The University reserves the right to screen work to identify the use of such tools.

Plagiarism (including self-plagiarism) is where a student either:

- presents work for assessment which contains the unacknowledged published or unpublished words, thoughts, judgements, ideas, structures or images of some other person or persons. This includes material downloaded from electronic sources, and material sourced or contracted from a third party;

or

- presents for assessment work which that student has previously submitted for assessment as part of the same or another module or course, or at another institution, without citing that it was used previously This is known as self-plagiarism, and relates to the principle that a student may not receive credit for the same piece of work more than once unless specifically required to resubmit work as a requirement of re-assessment.

It is not an offence for a student to draw upon the work or ideas of another person where this is appropriately acknowledged. Plagiarism can be avoided by the accurate use of academic apparatus including quotation marks, the provision of detailed references and a full bibliography. Quotations from the published or unpublished work of other persons must always be attributed, both at the appropriate point in the text, and in the bibliography at the end of the piece of work. Extensive quotations, close paraphrasing, copying from the work of another person, including another student, or using the ideas of another person, without proper acknowledgement, may constitute plagiarism.

Plagiarism in postgraduate or research material is a particularly serious offence. Penalties imposed may involve suspension or expulsion from the programme and from the University, in addition to deduction of marks.

Examination Offences include, but are not limited to:

- taking unauthorised material into the examination room;
- making use of unauthorised material in the examination room;
- communicating or attempting to communicate in any way with another student during the examination;

- failure to comply with an invigilator's instructions;
- being party to any arrangement whereby a person other than the student fraudulently represents, or intends to represent, the student at an examination.
- any other breach of examination regulations in which the student is seeking to gain an unfair advantage.

Dishonest Practice includes but is not limited to:

- offering a bribe or inducement to any staff (academic or administrative) involved in the assessment process;
- seeking to obtain access to confidential information e.g. examination questions, prior to the examination;
- falsifying transcripts, certificates or other official University documentation relating to assessment outcomes.

Cheating during Examinations involves the actual, intended, or attempted deception and/or dishonest action with regard to any academic work.

The Pontifical University operates a zero-tolerance policy to cheating during examinations.

This list is not exhaustive; any attempt on the part of one or more students to gain an unfair advantage may be construed as academic misconduct and dealt with under these regulations, irrespective of whether any benefit was gained by the student(s) concerned. Where an alleged offence, or near equivalent, is not represented the Registrar will normally make an informed decision.

Procedure for Reporting and Investigating Academic Misconduct

1. Following the notification of a suspicion or allegation of academic misconduct, the module convenor (or nominee), in consultation with the relevant dean, will review the evidence provided and in the case of coursework normally within 15 working days of receipt of the allegation and in the case of an examination normally within 5 working days of receipt of the allegation will reach one of the following judgements:

that there is no case to answer, in which case the assessment will be marked as normal and without prejudice

that academic misconduct has occurred, in which case the module convenor, or nominee shall provide a written report, including all relevant evidence, to the Registrar

2. Upon receipt of a report of academic misconduct from a module convenor, the Registrar shall refer to the list of penalties published below and will determine, in liaison with the module convenor and relevant dean, the nature of the alleged offence and the consequent offence category.

Verification Assessment

Where the module convenor suspects that a breach of academic integrity may have occurred, but has insufficient evidence to make a determination, they, in consultation with the dean, may seek to verify the authenticity of the work through an additional verification assessment. This may be a viva-voce examination, or an alternative assessment, as determined by the dean and module convenor. If the student is unwilling to cooperate with this verification assessment, the result for the module may be withheld. If a breach of academic integrity has been determined following the verification assessment, the module convenor, in consultation with the dean, will apply the relevant penalty as set out below and will in turn inform the Pontifical University office of the offence.

Penalties

The University strives to ensure fairness and consistency in the application of penalties. The following list of penalties serves to ensure that all students are aware of the possible penalties that they may receive if they are found guilty of academic misconduct.

The penalties stated below are recommendations. Each body which imposes a penalty has the discretion to vary the penalty it can impose but must provide clear reasons as to why they have varied the penalty.

At all stages the following criteria will be considered in deciding the level of penalty to be imposed or other action to be taken:

- i. The extent of the plagiarism or other academic offence.
- ii. The degree of intent.
- iii. The level of study and previous educational background of the student.
- iv. Any previous history of having committed an academic offence.
- v. The extent of the student's knowledge and understanding of the concept of academic misconduct and of the correct procedures for referencing in the discipline; and
- vi. The impact of the penalty on the student's progress or award.

Upon judgement that academic misconduct has occurred, the following penalties may be applied (in order of severity):

- i. A written warning to the student;
- ii. Declare the relevant work submitted as null and void and permit the student to re-do the component (for that attempt) with no further penalty (i.e. the full mark obtained is allowed to stand);
- iii. Declare the relevant work submitted as null and void and permit the student to re-do the component (for that attempt) for a maximum of the pass mark;
- iv. Award a mark of zero for the component but not permit the student to re-do it for that attempt.

Repeat offences will result in the student being reported to the Committee of Discipline.

Policy for Responsible Computing

In support of its mission of teaching, research and public service, Saint Patrick's Pontifical University provides access to computing and information resources for students and staff, within institutional priorities and financial capabilities.

Preamble

The Policy for Responsible Computing at the Pontifical University contains the governing philosophy for regulating staff and student use of the Pontifical University's computing resources. It spells out the general principles regarding appropriate use of equipment, software and networks. By adopting this policy, the Academic Council recognises that all members of the Pontifical University are also bound by local, national and international laws relating to copyrights, security and other statutes regarding electronic media. The policy also recognises the responsibility of academic staff and system administrators to take a leadership role in implementing the policy and assuring that the Pontifical University community honours the policy.

Policy

All Members of the Pontifical University community who use the University's computing and information resources must act responsibly.

All users and system administrators must guard against abuses that disrupt or threaten the viability of systems, including those at the University and those on networks to which the University's systems are connected.

Every user is responsible for the integrity of these resources. All users of University-owned or University-leased computing systems must respect the rights of other computing users, respect the integrity of the physical facilities and controls and respect all pertinent license and contractual agreements. It is the policy of

Saint Patrick's Pontifical University that all members of its community act in accordance with these responsibilities, relevant laws and contractual obligations and the highest standard of ethics.

Access to the University's computing facilities is a privilege granted to Pontifical University staff and students. The Pontifical University reserves the right to limit, restrict or extend computing privileges and access to its information resources.

Data owners - whether academic departments, administrative departments or students - may allow individuals other than Pontifical University staff and students access to information for which they are responsible, so long as such access does not violate any license or contractual agreement, Pontifical University policy, or any national or international law. The data owner must also take account of the need to know on the part of the applicant for access, the sensitivity of the information and the risk of damage to, or loss by the Pontifical University, should the information be misused. Pontifical University computing facilities and accounts are to be used for the Pontifical University-related activities for which they are assigned. This policy applies equally to all Pontifical University-owned or Pontifical University-leased computers.

Data Protection Declaration:

Saint Patrick's Pontifical University processes your personal information (including the e-mail address assigned to you by the Pontifical University) within the Pontifical University only for administrative purposes, both prior to and on your admission, at registration, for examinations, and on your graduation. Save in cases where the Pontifical University is by law required or permitted to disclose your details to others, third party disclosure only takes place to:

- Funding Bodies and agencies that support and sponsor your education
- Professional, Educational or similar institutions that you have approached
- Third party service providers
- Organise Conferring Ceremonies where your graduate status or other award is publicly acknowledged
- The Maynooth Alumni Association and Development Office to facilitate future contact between you, the Pontifical University and fellow alumni.

Access to information resources without proper authorisation from the data owner, unauthorised use of University computing facilities and intentional corruption or misuse of information resources are direct violations of the University's Code of Conduct for Users of Computing Facilities as outlined in the *Kalendarium* of Saint Patrick's Pontifical University. Such instances may also be considered civil or criminal offences.

Implementation

Appropriate Pontifical University administrators should adopt guidelines for the implementation of this policy within each department and regularly revise these guidelines as circumstances warrant. The Computer Centre shall, from time to time, issue recommended guidelines to assist departments and units with this effort.

Enforcement

Alleged violations of this policy may be dealt with by the Pontifical University in accordance with such disciplinary codes and/or procedures as are in place, from time to time, in respect of students and / or staff of the Pontifical University.

Code of Conduct for Users of Computing Facilities

This code of conduct supports the Pontifical University Policy for Responsible Computing. It should be read in conjunction with the Notes on the Code of Conduct (below).

Staff, registered students, and registered visitors are authorised to use certain computing and networking facilities provided by Saint Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth in support of its mission of teaching, research and public service.

Usernames and passwords are required to gain access to specific services. Students are assigned Usernames and Passwords and e-mail addresses at registration which allow them access to a range of facilities. Staff are allocated e-mail accounts on request.

All users must comply with the code of conduct for users of computer facilities at Saint Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth or Maynooth University that is outlined below.

Under the Code of Conduct you are not permitted to:

- engage in activities which waste resources (people, networks, computers)
- engage in activities which are likely to cause a serious disruption or denial of service to other users
- use computer or network resources to access, distribute or publish material that is obscene, libelous, threatening or defamatory or in violation of any right of any third party
- use computer or network resources for any activities which contravene the laws of the state, or the destination country in the case of data being transmitted abroad

- use computer or network resources for commercial activities which are not part of your work in Saint Patrick’s Pontifical University, Maynooth
- infringe copyright or the proprietary rights of software
- share usernames or e-mail addresses, transfer them to other users, or divulge your passwords to other users. Assigned group Usernames and accounts are to be used only for the Pontifical University-related activities for which they are assigned
- access or interfere with data, displays or storage media belonging to another user, except with their permission
- undertake any actions that are likely to bring Saint Patrick’s Pontifical University, Maynooth into disrepute

Notes on the Code of Conduct

1. While network traffic or information stored on Pontifical University equipment is not normally monitored, it may be necessary to monitor if there is reason to suspect that this Code of Conduct is being breached, or for purposes of backup or problem-solving. You must therefore be aware that such monitoring may occur.
2. Software and/or information provided by Saint Patrick’s Pontifical University may only be used as part of user’s duties as a member of staff of Saint Patrick’s Pontifical University or for educational purposes.
3. The user is responsible and accountable for all activities carried out under their username.
4. Passwords used must adhere to accepted good password practice.
5. Attempts to access or use any username which is not authorised to the user may be in breach of the *Criminal Damages Act (1991)*.
6. Existing norms of behaviour apply to computer-based information technology just as they apply to more traditional media. The ability to undertake a particular action does not imply that it is acceptable.
7. If you store personal data about others on a computer, you must comply with the provisions of the *Data Protection Act, 1988 to 2003* and the *Freedom of Information Act (1997)* and any applicable legislation from time to time.
8. The user may use approved Pontifical University links to other computing facilities which they are authorised to use. When using external facilities the user must also abide by their rules or code of conduct, insofar as such rules or codes of conduct are not incompatible with the Pontifical University Codes of Conduct.
9. All Computer usage is subject to compliance with the *Child Trafficking and Pornography Act 1998*. Users are hereby informed that Section 5 of the Act makes it an offence to knowingly produce, distribute, print or publish any child pornography. The term “distribution” in relation to child pornography is defined in the Act as including “parting with possession of it to, or exposing or offering it for acquisition by another person”. Persons guilty of producing, distributing, printing or publishing any child pornography are liable:

- on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding €1,905 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or both or;
- on conviction on indictment, to a fine or to imprisonment not exceeding 14 years or both.

The Gárda Síochána have powers of entry, search and seizure where they believe that an offence has been or is being committed under the Act. A person who obstructs a Gárda is guilty of an offence, and may be tried summarily and if convicted, be subject to a fine of not more than €1,905 or imprisonment for not longer than 12 months.

10. The attention of all network users is drawn to the fact that attempts at ‘hacking’ across networks may result in criminal prosecution in the State or elsewhere.

11. This code of Conduct is reviewed from time to time and any new regulations must be observed by all users.

12. Alleged violations of this code of conduct may result in the service being withdrawn and may be dealt with by the Pontifical University in accordance with such disciplinary codes and / or procedures as are in place, from time to time, in respect of students and / or staff of the Pontifical University.

Policy on Dignity at Work / Studies

Policy

Saint Patrick’s College Maynooth, including the National Seminary and the Pontifical University recognises the entitlement of all the members of the University community to work and study in an environment free from inappropriate behaviour. Any member of the Pontifical University community is prohibited from behaving in a manner that is inappropriate to any other member of the Pontifical University community.

Scope

The Policy extends to the entire staff, students, visitors, contractors, sub-contractors and others associated with the Pontifical University (referred to in this Policy as “members of the Pontifical University community”).

Nothing herein shall constitute as “inappropriate behaviour” the legitimate exercise of responsibility by the President and / or the Seminary Council and / or the Trustees of the Pontifical University in the upholding of the Seminary Rule, this Policy and adherence to the Pontifical University Statutes.

Additional Requirements of the National Seminary

All members of the community must comply with those requirements set out in the Policy. The conduct and behaviour required of seminarians in addition to this Policy is set out in the Seminary Rule.

Principles

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Define “inappropriate behaviour”;
- Promote awareness of the issue amongst members of the Pontifical University community;
- Provide an effective procedure for dealing with allegations of inappropriate behaviour;
- Explain the possible outcomes if inappropriate behaviour is established.

Definitions

“Inappropriate behaviour” may be intentional or unintentional. However, it must be noted that where an allegation of inappropriate behaviour is made, the intention of the alleged bullying or harassment is irrelevant. It is the effect of the behaviour upon the individual which is important. “Inappropriate behaviour” includes but is not limited to, Sexual Harassment, Harassment, and Bullying which are defined as follows:

A. Sexual Harassment

The definition of sexual harassment includes:

“any form of unwanted verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature which has the purpose or effect of violating a person’s dignity and creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for the person”.

B. Harassment

The definition of harassment is similar to that of sexual harassment but without the sexual element. Harassment is any act or conduct (including spoken words, gestures, or the production, display or circulation of written words, pictures or other material), if the action or conduct is any form of unwanted conduct related to any of the discriminatory grounds* which has the purpose or effect of violating a person’s dignity and creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating, or offensive environment for the person.

“Relevant characteristics” (as defined by the Employment Equality Acts, 1998 - 2015 and the Equal Status Acts 2000 and 2004) are: gender; civil status; family status; sexual orientation; religion; age; disability; race, or membership of the Traveller community.

C. Bullying

Repeated inappropriate behaviour, direct and indirect, whether verbal, physical or otherwise, conducted by one or more persons against another or others which could reasonably be regarded as undermining the individual's right to dignity in their place of work or study.

An isolated incident of the behaviour described in this definition may be an affront to dignity in their place of work or study, of itself is grounds for disciplinary action but, as a once off incident, it is not considered to be bullying.

Effects of Harassment / Bullying

Harassment and bullying have serious ramifications for both the victim and the Pontifical University. They can seriously affect the health and well-being of the individual. They can undermine the self-confidence of students or staff by communicating to them that they are not taken seriously or accorded the personal respect to which they are entitled. They also impact on the broader Pontifical University community and may have serious negative implications.

Protection against victimisation

Where in good faith a member of the Pontifical University Community reports an incident of alleged inappropriate behaviour or assists in any way in an investigation into same, the Pontifical University will provide such member with all reasonable protection against victimisation.

Any member of the Pontifical University community who victimises another member who has reported an incident of alleged inappropriate behaviour or assisted in any way in an investigation into same may be subject to disciplinary action by the Pontifical University.

Malicious complaints

Any member of the Pontifical University community, who maliciously makes a false complaint of inappropriate behaviour, may be subject to disciplinary action by the Pontifical University.

Complaints Procedure

1. Persons who make complaints regarding inappropriate behaviour are encouraged to raise their concerns at the earliest opportunity.
2. A Designated Person is to be appointed by the Trustees to hear concerns of students in relation to the inappropriate behaviour of any member of the Pontifical University community towards another member of the Pontifical University Community. It is often preferable for all concerned that complaints under this policy

are dealt with and resolved informally between the parties whenever possible. This is likely to produce solutions which are speedy, effective and minimise embarrassment and the risk of breaching confidentiality, while also protecting the working relationship. The objective of the informal approach is to stop the bullying, harassment, or sexual harassment with the minimum conflict and stress for the individuals concerned. In many cases, the Employee whose behaviour is causing offence may be unaware that his or her actions are inappropriate, or it may be that his or her words or actions have been misinterpreted. In such cases, every attempt should be made to clear up any misunderstanding quickly on an informal basis.

3. The name, address and telephone number of the Designated Person shall be given to all students who are to be informed of the role of this person. A copy of the policy and procedure should be provided to the complainant.

4. Where the conduct complained of is violent or criminal in nature, the Gardai should be contacted without delay by the designated person. The complainant should be encouraged and supported to make a complaint to the Gardai.

5. The informal process provides options for resolving disputes including mediation, where appropriate.

6. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout any investigation to the extent that it is consistent with the requirements of a fair investigation. All individuals involved in the procedure referred to are expected to maintain the utmost confidentiality on the subject. However, appropriate persons will be obliged to disclose the details of any complaint to such persons and to such extent as is necessary to investigate the complaint.

7. Care shall be taken at all times to follow fair procedures and not to impugn unjustly the good name of any person.

Informal Procedure

In many cases, the Employee/student whose behaviour is causing offence may be unaware that his or her actions are inappropriate, or it may be that his or her words or actions have been misinterpreted. In such cases, every attempt should be made to clear up any misunderstanding quickly, on an informal basis.

The informal process provides options for resolving disputes including mediation, where appropriate.

The informal procedure consists of a low key and non-confrontational approach by the recipient of the behaviour to the party causing offence to advise him/her of the impact of their behaviour and to ask them to cease behaving in this manner.

The approach should be made in private, and should be non-confrontational. Advice in relation to this procedure should be sought from the nominated contact person and the Designated Person shall seek to support the resolution of the complaint at the informal stage.

Formal Procedure

It is acknowledged that it may not always be practical to use the informal procedure to resolve an issue. A member of the Pontifical University Community may not feel comfortable to approach the other party, or may feel that the issue is too serious to be addressed through the informal procedure. In such circumstances, or where the informal process has failed to resolve an issue, the formal procedure set out in this policy should be followed.

In order to make a formal complaint an initial approach may be made to a nominated contact person regarding the issue. Although the initial complaint may be provided verbally, it is a requirement that the complaint is lodged in writing to ensure that a fair process may be followed. Where assistance is required to put the complaint in writing, the member of the Pontifical University Community should consult the nominated contact person to arrange this.

The complaint should state:

- The name of the alleged perpetrator
- The nature of alleged bullying, harassment, or sexual harassment
- Dates/times and locations of where and when the alleged bullying/harassment/sexual harassment occurred
- Names of witnesses to any alleged incidents
- Details of any action already taken to stop the bullying/harassment/sexual harassment
- Consent to your identity and the facts of the allegation being disclosed to the alleged perpetrator. This is required in order to allow the Organisation to investigate and to take action in appropriate circumstances.

If the behaviour complained of does not concern bullying, harassment, or sexual harassment as defined, an alternative approach may be put in place and a rationale recorded. If there are no concrete examples given, it will be deemed that there is no complaint to be answered by the alleged perpetrator as they have no recourse to repudiating an accusation that does not give any specifics.

Where an alternative approach is not deemed appropriate, the alleged perpetrator(s) will be notified in writing that a complaint has been made against him/her and provided with a copy of this complaint. The person investigating the complaint will indicate a timeframe for the resolution of the complaint, however such timeframes

may be extended where necessary. The alleged perpetrator(s) shall be afforded a fair opportunity to respond to the allegation(s), normally five working days.

All members of the Pontifical University Community involved in an investigation must respect the need for confidentiality; a failure to do so may represent a serious disciplinary offence. Confidentiality is assured in so far as it is reasonably practicable. If one party to the complaint is an Employee he/she may be suspended with pay, without any negative inference, pending the outcome of an investigation, where deemed appropriate by Management. However, where this is not possible, the parties to the complaint will be expected to maintain a positive relationship.

The investigation will be conducted in accordance with the organisation's Anti-Bullying, Anti-Harassment & Sexual Harassment Policy and will be governed by terms of reference which will detail the likely time scale for its completion (an indicative timeframe will be outlined) and the scope of the investigation, indicating that the investigator(s) will consider whether the complaint falls within the definition of harassment or sexual harassment and whether the complaint has been upheld.

The investigation will be conducted by a Panel of members including an external consultant, or external assistance may be necessary to deal with complaints in some circumstances so as to ensure impartiality, objectivity and fairness. The investigation will be conducted thoroughly, objectively, and with sensitivity. The utmost confidentiality will be protected in so far as it is reasonably practicable. Due respect will be had for the rights of the complainant, the alleged perpetrator(s), and any witnesses involved in the process.

The investigator(s) will meet with the complainant in the first instance to learn more regarding the complaint and to put the alleged perpetrator's responses to the complainant. Next, the alleged perpetrator will be invited to a meeting to explore their responses to the complaint and to put any relevant evidence to them. Evidence will be provided in advance of the meetings to allow the Employee to prepare their response to that evidence.

As many interviews as are necessary will be conducted until the investigator(s) is/are satisfied that all evidence has been collected and all parties have had a fair opportunity to state their case. Witnesses may also be interviewed with a view to establishing the facts surrounding the allegation(s).

Statements from the complainant, the alleged perpetrator, and any witnesses will be recorded in writing.

All parties required to attend investigation meetings are entitled to be accompanied by a representative, whose role is to provide moral support, oversee the process, and

ensure that the parties are afforded a fair opportunity to respond and provide evidence at any investigation meetings.

Every effort will be made to carry out and complete the investigation as quickly as possible and preferably within an agreed timeframe. On completion of the investigation, the investigator(s) will submit a written report to a member of Management, containing the findings of the investigation. Both parties will be given the opportunity to comment on the findings before any action is decided upon by Management.

The complainant and the alleged perpetrator(s) will be informed in writing of the findings of the investigation, i.e. whether the complaint is upheld, not upheld, or whether the complaint is deemed to be malicious or vexatious.

Investigation Outcomes

Where a complaint is upheld, both parties will be informed of this outcome, and the relevant level of Management will also be advised. Management will take appropriate action based on the outcome of the investigation. This may include formal disciplinary action in line with the organisation's disciplinary procedure, or training, or another appropriate intervention deemed necessary to prevent a recurrence of the behaviour.

The organisation will also consider providing further supervision, reassignment or re-organisation of work. Prior to any disciplinary action being taken, a fair disciplinary hearing will be held in line with the organisation's disciplinary procedure. It is important that members of the Pontifical University Community are aware that certain acts of bullying, harassment, or sexual harassment may be deemed as gross misconduct in the case of Employees or serious infringements in the case of students by the organisation and may result in summary dismissal or, in the case of a student, expulsion.

Where an investigation is inconclusive and the complaint is not upheld, there will be no negative inference against any party to the complaint. All parties to the complaint will be expected to continue studying/working as normal, and to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at work.

Where it is found that the complaint was malicious or vexatious, then a disciplinary hearing will be held with the complainant to explore this further. In this situation a disciplinary sanction may be imposed on the complainant. Lodging a malicious or vexatious complaint is a serious disciplinary offence, and, depending on the seriousness of the issue, may be deemed gross misconduct by the organisation and may result in summary dismissal.

In all cases, whether the complaint is upheld or otherwise, the place of study and/or work will be monitored to ensure that the parties to the complaint conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and do not engage in any improper conduct. Appropriate support will be made available to both parties. The organisation will take such action as is required to eliminate the risk of that behaviour recurring or continuing and will keep records of interventions used for this purpose.

Appeal

Either party may appeal the decision, outlining in writing to the President the reason for the appeal. Such appeals will be heard by the President/Chair of the Trustees and independent advice and support will be sought if required.

Victimisation

No person engaging in the procedures outlined here will be subject to unfavourable treatment for their role in the process, whether they are making a complaint in good faith, supporting a complainant, giving evidence in the proceedings, or giving notice of intention to do any of the foregoing, except where they are found guilty of an offence under the policy.

Third Party Harassment/Sexual Harassment

The procedures outlined in this policy should be employed to deal with harassment or sexual harassment by a third party. Sanctions which may be imposed on a third party may include exclusion from the premises, termination of a contract, or other measures to prevent the recurrence of the inappropriate behaviour.

Third Party Bullying

The procedures outlined in this policy should be employed to deal with bullying by a third party. Sanctions which may be imposed on a third party may include exclusion from the premises, termination of a contract, or other measures to prevent the recurrence of the inappropriate behaviour.

Responsibilities

Management will endeavour to ensure that this policy is communicated to all members of the Pontifical University Community and will ensure that the policy is maintained and updated in line with legislative changes and any amendments to the relevant Code of Practice. Where required, measures will be taken to ensure the accessibility of policies and procedures for all Employees and Students.

The Pontifical University has a particular responsibility to prevent bullying, harassment, or sexual harassment and is expected to lead by example, promote awareness of this policy, be vigilant for signs of harassment and/or bullying, tackle problems before they escalate, deal sensitively with Students and Staff involved in

a harassment/bullying complaint and monitor the situation in the workplace and Pontifical University environment so that bullying, harassment or sexual harassment does not occur or reoccur.

Employees and students alike are expected to conduct themselves so as to respect the rights of others to dignity in the Pontifical University Community, to comply with this policy and to raise issues of concern through the procedures outlined in the policy.

Outcome

1. Any member of the Pontifical University community who is found to have engaged in inappropriate behaviour may be subject to disciplinary action and/or other sanctions, which in the case of employees may include dismissal for serious offences. Penalties and procedures are in accordance with the normal disciplinary procedure and/or employee’s contract of employment and/or the students’ Code of Discipline.

2. Persons found to have engaged in inappropriate behaviour who are neither staff nor students of the Pontifical University may be excluded from the campus.

***Designated Person: Telephone.....**
* Current Designated Person’s name nominated contact person name and telephone number(s) are available from the Pontifical University Office: 01-708-3600.

The Library

Librarian: Cathal McCauley, BA, MLIS, Dip FM, ALAI

The *John Paul II Library* was opened in 1984 and is the main College and University Library, named after the Pope who blessed the foundation stone during his visit to the College on 1st October 1979. A major €20 million extension was completed in 2013.

The Russell Library is a research Library containing the early printed books, manuscripts and archives, and a collection of about two-thousand bibles in over six-hundred languages.

The *John Paul II Library* contains approximately 1,500 reader places and more than 100 PCs and laptops are available in the Library. Print book stock current numbers in excess of 420,000 volumes, the library provides access to over 300,000 electronic books and over 40,000 journals primarily in electronic format. The Library is a beneficiary of the statutory deposit provisions of the Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000.

Books are arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and most are available for borrowing. The reference books for each subject area are shelved at the beginning of the sequence. Books in heavy demand for undergraduate courses are clearly identified and have a restricted loan period so they will be available for the use of as many readers as possible.

The Library provides a wide range of services to the staff and students of St Patrick's Pontifical University. To follow the latest news about the Library log onto our website at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library>, follow us on Twitter or Instagram or 'like' our Facebook page.

The Library provides a range of skills training throughout the academic year such as successful searching, referencing and assignment preparation skills. Online versions of these tutorials are available from the Library website along with a range of useful guides and information https://nuim.libguides.com/guides_tutorials. Members of Library staff are available to help with general enquiries at the Information Desk.

Library Search, available from the Library homepage, provides access to a range of print and electronic resources held in the Library. Details of how to access this information off-campus is provided on the web site. Access to other academic libraries can be arranged and inter Library lending facilities are available for material not held in the Library.

Library Rules and Regulations

1. Library Admission

- 1.1. All registered Maynooth University (MU) and St. Patrick's Pontifical University Maynooth (SPPU) staff and students are entitled to access Maynooth University Library. Other categories of membership are available and may incur a fee
- 1.2. All users must have a current approved access card to gain entry and exit to the Library
- 1.3. The Library foyer is open to all members of the public including children. Children are permitted past the turnstiles once a responsible adult signs a waiver and the child must be supervised at all times
- 1.4. With the exception of Guide Dogs, animals are not permitted in any part of the Library
- 1.5. Maynooth University Library reserves the right to refuse admission
Further information can be found at
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/using-library/information-visitors>

2. Borrowing and Consultation of Library Information Resources

As a user of Maynooth University Library, you are expected to:

- 2.1. Use our digital and electronic resources such as, but not limited to, online databases, e-journals and e-books within their specified terms of use
- 2.2. Be responsible for the material that you borrow and ensure it is returned correctly by the due date and time. Fines will apply for the late return of high demand items, unreturned items and damaged material
- 2.3. Only remove items from the Library that have been borrowed correctly
- 2.4. Return all items correctly
- 2.5. Return items that are recalled within the time requested on the recall notice
- 2.6. Handle all rare and sensitive material according to the specified guidelines and as directed by Library staff
- 2.7. If you have a fine of more than €10 on your account, you will be unable to borrow

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/using-library/borrowing>

Conduct in the Library

As a user of Maynooth University Library, you are expected to:

- 2.8. Respect your fellow users and Library staff at all times
- 2.9. Treat all Library materials and the Library building with respect
- 2.10. Ensure you have your approved access card with you at all times and produce it if requested by a member of Library or Security staff
- 2.11. Refrain from reserving study spaces in the Library
- 2.12. Use PCs in the Library according to the Public Access Computer Rooms (PACRs) Acceptable Use Policy and Code of Conduct
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/it-services/public-access-computer-rooms-pacr>
- 2.13. Take responsibility for all of your personal belongings, particularly electronic items, and not leave them unattended at any time as MU Library cannot be held responsible for their loss or damage
- 2.14. Only consume food on the Ground Floor of the Library and only bring bottled drinks and hot drinks in a covered, reusable cup past the Library turnstiles. All other drinks and food are not allowed in the Library past the turnstiles. Liquids are not permitted in the Russell Library or the Special Collections Reading Room
- 2.15. Keep noise to a minimum so as not to disturb other users
- 2.16. Keep your phone/mobile device on silent. Phone calls can be made and received outside the turnstiles on the Ground Floor and in designated phone zones only
- 2.17. Produce Library material in your possession to a member of Library staff if the book alarm sounds
- 2.18. Co-operate with Library and Security staff if the fire alarm sounds and vacate the premises as requested
- 2.19. Smoking and the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited in the Library Building and in the no-smoking zone outside the Library in the vicinity of the revolving door
- 2.20. The consumption of alcohol is not permitted in any part of the Library at any time unless at specific events approved in advance of said event by the University Librarian or his/her nominee.

3. Study Room Regulations

Group Study Rooms, the Postgraduate Reading Room, Training Rooms and the Silent Study Room are for the use of Registered MU and SPCM students and staff only, as outlined below:

Group Study Rooms:

- 3.1 Group Study Rooms are for group work purposes only and should not be used for teaching
- 3.2 Users must book Group Study Rooms via the Library website using their MU email address
http://nuim.libcal.com/booking/MU_GroupStudyRooms
- 3.3 Group Study Rooms should be used by groups (maximum of 8, minimum of 3) only
- 3.4 Group Study Rooms cannot be reserved for individual use
- 3.5 Each Group Study Room reservation is for a maximum of two hours per day
- 3.6 All personal belongings should be removed and the room should be left tidy. Material should not be attached to the walls or windows
- 3.7 Any user in a Group Study Room without a reservation must leave if requested by a group who has a reservation

Postgraduate Study Room:

- 3.8 The Postgraduate Study Room is for the use of registered MU and SPCM postgraduate students (taught Masters level and above) and staff only
- 3.9 Access is granted at the Admission Desk on Ground Floor of the Library
- 3.10 The door to the Postgraduate Study Room should be kept shut at all times

Training Rooms:

- 3.11 Training rooms must be vacated when a training session is scheduled
- 3.12 Users are expected to check availability on the booking notice outside each door before entering

4. Russell Library & Special Collections Reading Room

4.1. Users of the Russell Library and the Special Collections Reading Room must adhere to their specific terms of use

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/collections/russell-library>
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/collections/special-collections-and-archives>

Material in the Russell Library and the Special Collections Reading Room...

4.2. May be viewed during official opening hours and by appointment only

4.3. Is for reference only and may not be borrowed

4.4. May not be photocopied. Photographs may be made available at the Librarian's discretion