Skills Centre

Case Study of Good Practice



Fheabhsú Cáilíochta Quality Enhancement

Title: Unlocking Student Potential

Presenter: Kathy Bradley, The Skills Centre



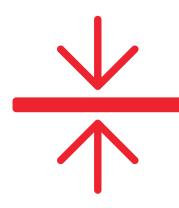
E Case Study Synopsis

The Skills Centre provides a dedicated, responsive and active learning space for the enhancement of study skills and is committed to further contributing to a positive and successful student experience here in UCC. The Skills Centre enhances the student experience through the provision of customised workshops and sessions. These sessions will help develop and enhance students' skills. We offer a free and friendly place for all UCC students to improve their approach to university living and studying, digital skills, academic writing and reading, and presentation skills.



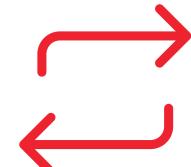
Key Impacts

- Peer tutors and staff members facilitate group sessions, one to one appointments and drop-in sessions. Core learning is strengthened through the delivery of study strategies, providing the scaffolding and building blocks for independent and critical thinking.
- The Skills Centre therefore encourages many aspects of good practice such as its active endorsement of student partnership/engagement, its awareness/understandings of the value of learning and teaching enhancement, and most importantly, its ability to foster a culture of enhancement within/across subject areas.
- Skills Centre hires students from all different cultural, educational, and social backgrounds with a variety of experience of external commitments or caring responsibilities as part time or full time students. The tutors are representative of, and empathetic to, students from all backgrounds and through training develop how best to engage with students regardless of discipline.
- The ethos of the Skills Centre reinforces the benefits of transferrable skills, regardless of discipline or past educational experience, making the tutors a valuable asset to all departments in UCC.



Area of Alignment

Student Success



Intended Changes

Enhancement of study skills and enabling a positive and successful student experience in UCC. Skills Centre tutors are committed to the student experience, identifying learners' base level of skills, and how to best enhance their learning in a way most beneficial to the student and their needs.



Additional Information

Skills Centre offers additional administrative supports such as our Success Zone material on Canvas, which provides students with 24/7 access to all of our academic and transitioning to university resources. Students are encouraged to sign up to our Digital Badges, receive written feedback on their essays through our asynchronous service and meet with our tutors in a one-to-one capacity through Google Meet to discuss essays.

Students are also welcome to avail of this service for IT specific skills or academic study coaching. In 2021, an Assignment Calculator was launched on the Skills Centre website which equips students with a helpful guide to completing their essay in manageable chunks from the beginning of planning to editing and proofreading.



Video Links | Graphics

- Blog If I knew then what I know now.
- Reels Day in the Life.
- YouTube Gimme Two Minutes.
- Assignment Calculator.

