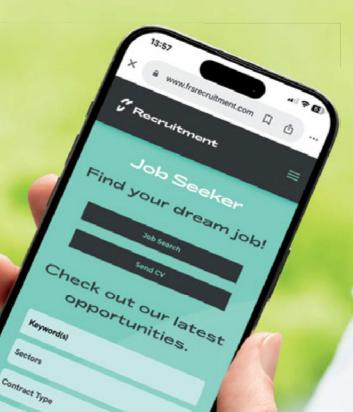








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## **Bachelor of Agricultural Science (BAgrSc)**

**Bachelor of Human Nutrition (BSc)** 

**Bachelor of Food Science (BSc)** 

# **University College Dublin**



## **GRADUATE HANDBOOK 2025**

**Produced by** 

**UCD Agricultural Science Careers Committee 2024/2025** 



# UCD Agriculture, Food Science & Human Nutrition Careers Day

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## UCD Student Centre

## **Programme**

08:00-09:00 Company Registration: UCD Ad Astra Hall

09:00-09:50 Official Opening: UCD Fitzgerald Debating Chamber

MC: Mr James Higgins

Welcome: Professor Karina Pierce UCD

**Keynote Addresses:** 

Martin Heydon TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food, & The Marine

Mr Neil Keane, Head of Agriculture at FRS Co-op

Ms Susan Maher, President ASA

Mr Christopher Cahill, FBD Young Farmer of the Year 2024

Ms Emily Cassells, UCD AgSoc Careers Chairperson 2024/25

09:50-10:00 Stage 4 Photograph: UCD Student Centre

10:00-13:00 UCD Agriculture, Food Science & Human Nutrition Careers Fair

UCD Ad Astra Hall

**Discussion Session** 

Companies / Potential employers meet students in an informal setting, Opportunity to submit CV's

11:00-12:30 Company Presentations: Blue Room UCD Student Centre

A selection of companies will provide short presentations on their graduate programs, positions, training, etc.

Discussion session in Ad Astra Hall will be ongoing

13:00 Careers Fair Close

Lunch: The Clubhouse Bar, and/or Poolside Café,

Complimentary lunch for exhibitors.

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## Foreword from the Dean of Agriculture



It is a great pleasure to contribute to the School of Agriculture & Food Science 2025 graduate handbook. As I read the biographies I am struck by the range and depth of expertise and interest represented among our upcoming graduates. The Agri-Food sector and the wider global workforce is indeed fortunate to have so many enthusiastic, well educated, UCD graduates

about to embark on their working careers and make a positive contribution.

The class of 2025 will be following in the footsteps of illustrious alumni of UCD Agriculture & Food Science including former EU Commissioner, Mairead McGuinness; the CEO of Bord Bia, Jim O'Toole; the Director of Teagasc, Professor Frank O'Mara; the Chief Technology Officer at Kerry, Therese O'Rourke; the Chief Science Adviser at New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, Dr John Roche; the CEO of Tirlán, Sean Molloy; the CEO of the Agri-Food Regulator, Niamh Lenehan, to name but a few.

Now more than ever there is a need for graduates who will pursue careers that impact positively on our shared planet, and pursue their careers with passion, curiosity, an innovative 'can do' approach and the ambition to be leaders.

The challenges and their associated opportunities are many and varied and the graduates of our different degree specialisations in the School of Agriculture & Food Science have an important role to play in grasping the opportunities and addressing the challenges. These challenges involve feeding a growing world population with limited agricultural land and resources, while at the same time achieving carbon neutrality and halting global warming. Undernutrition is a reality for many of the world's poorest while ill-health, associated with poor

food choices and 'overnutrition' in the developed world, poses different challenges.

Graduates in the Animal and Crop Production, Animal Science, Crop Science and Agricultural Systems Technology will find yourselves working to create more sustainable animal and crop production systems through efficient use of farm inputs, animal breeding, smart technologies and a range of measures capable of contributing to achieving national and global climate targets. Graduates in Agri-Environmental Sciences will be essential to developing and implementing actions that support the evolution of agricultural systems into ones that protect, sustain and nurture our natural environment into the future. Ambitious targets for the Forestry sector, offering opportunities for our Forestry graduates. A sustainable Horticulture sector must play a bigger part in the agriculture of the future with increasing demands for high quality fruit and vegetables to the need for a more balanced and sustainable healthy human diet and a reduction in food's carbon footprint. Graduates in Food Science and Human Nutrition are uniquely placed to positively influence consumer food choice, to develop innovative foods to meet diverse needs, and to advocate for healthy sustainable diets for a growing world population.

All of the above must be achieved in a way that makes economic sense and our graduates with food business acumen (Food and Agribusiness Management; Dairy Business, Food Business with Chinese) will be in demand across all sectors. Graduates of our Animal Science Equine programme will support the Irish and international equine sector which has its roots in and supports rural agriculture-based business and enterprises. As our students come to the end of their degree programme at UCD I wish them every success and look forward to following their career successes with pride and witnessing the positive impact they will no doubt have as our alumni.

Go n-éirí libh

Professor Frank Monahan Dean of Agriculture February 2025

## **Foreword from Chairperson**



As Chairperson of the UCD Agricultural Science Careers Committee, I am pleased to welcome you all to UCD School Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers 2025. Today marks a very important day in calendar for all final-year students as it is a day where students can showcase the knowledge and skills that they have developed over the

course of their studies in one of the fourteen honours degree programs offered by the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. I hope all of you have an enjoyable day, whether you are a student, exhibitor, potential employer, or one of our distinguished guests.

I am delighted to be the Careers Chairperson of the Agricultural Science Society. It has been a pleasure to organise this student-led careers fair alongside my careers committee. The UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers Fair attracts the very best companies and organisations from right across the agricultural sector. UCD has fully equipped its graduates to emerge as leaders, policy makers, and innovative farmers, enabling them to drive change and respond effectively within the diverse agricultural sector. It's wonderful to see so many alumni here today, highlighting the strong connections between UCD, businesses, and students.

I am proud to present this booklet, which showcases the incredible talent and dedication of our students. This booklet provides an insight into the diverse backgrounds, skills, and aspirations of the Class of 2024/2025 students. It also serves as a valuable resource for agricultural companies seeking to connect with the next generation of professionals in the field. Each student featured in this booklet has written a personal piece about their experiences, passions, and career aspirations within the agricultural industry. Their stories reflect a deep commitment to advancing sustainable practices, embracing innovation, and contributing to the future of agriculture. These individuals will bring fresh perspectives and a strong work ethic to any organisation they join.

Today focuses on preparing the UCD students of 2024/2025 for the future and bridging the gap between academia and the agricultural and food science industries. Throughout the year, students have participated in various career-building

activities, including CV and interview skills workshops, mock interviews, and engaging talks about graduate programs. These student-led activities were undertaken to equip students with the necessary skills, knowledge, and experience to transition into a professional working environment seamlessly.

Ireland is synonymous with agriculture. Our farms are globally recognised for their high-quality meat, milk, and welfare standards along with tillage and equine. This year's graduates have contributed to this reputation while on their professional work experience by applying the knowledge they gained from their lecturers and visits to UCD Lyons Research Farm. The agricultural industry in Ireland is constantly evolving, we face many challenges, including climate change, water quality, derogations, the growing need for biodiversity, and an aging farming population. However, challenges create opportunities and possibilities.

As graduate class of 2024/2025, we have gained valuable experience in a variety of farming and professional settings through our work placements, both in Ireland and around the world. This exposure has prepared us to adapt to an everchanging landscape.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made this day possible. FRS Recruitment has supported us for many years by kindly sponsoring our graduate handbook. I would also like to express my gratitude to our speakers: Minister Martin Heydon, Neil Keane, Susan Maher, and Christopher Cahill, for their valuable contributions.

A special thanks goes to Frank Monahan, our Dean of Agriculture and head of the School, as well as Karina Pierce, Professor at UCD, for their unwavering support and efforts in making today's event happen.

Additionally, I want to extend my appreciation to Damian Dempsey, Georgina Dwyer, and everyone in the programs office for dedicating so much of their time and effort to ensure the success of today's event.

Lastly, thank you to all my peers for the great memories and experiences we've shared over the past four years. It's been a pleasure to be part of this journey with all of you. Being the Careers Committee Chairperson for the Agricultural Science Society has been a truly rewarding experience. As we head into the next chapter, I wish you all the best of luck in your careers and future endeavours. May your future be filled with success, fulfillment, and opportunities to make a lasting impact in the agricultural and food science industry and beyond.

Le Meas, Emily Cassells Careers Committee Chairperson Agricultural Science Society 2024/2025

## **AgSoc Careers Committee 2024/2025**



Left to Right:

James Higgins - Dairy Business,

Laoise Burns – Food and Agri-Business Management,

**Sarah Lavery** – Agri-Environmental Science,

**Professor Frank Monahan** (Dean of Agriculture and Head of

School appointed at UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science),

Emily Cassells – Animal and Crop Production (Careers

Committee Chairperson),

Clìona Beirne - Animal and Crop Production

## Acknowledgements

The Agricultural Science Careers Committee would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the preparation and success of Careers Day 2025. An event of this scale is only possible through the dedication and cooperation of many individuals and groups, and we deeply appreciate the support we have received.

We extend a special thank you to the Dean of Agriculture, Professor Frank Monahan, for his invaluable guidance and encouragement in the lead-up to this event and on the day itself. His unwavering support has been instrumental in ensuring its success.

We also sincerely thank the staff of the School of Agriculture for their ongoing support, not just for today's event but for all the student-led activities throughout the year. Your involvement is crucial to the achievements of our community.

Our gratitude goes to Clare Frances Photography for providing professional headshots. A special mention must also go to Damien Dempsey, Georgina Dwyer, and Karina Pierce, whose efforts behind the scenes over recent weeks and months have been pivotal. Their commitment and hard work have ensured that this event ran smoothly and effectively.

We are also incredibly grateful to Christopher Cahill for delivering an impactful speech during the event. His insights and words of encouragement have undoubtedly left a lasting impression on everyone in attendance.

Additionally, we acknowledge the staff and management of the Student Centre at UCD and the staff of the Clubhouse for their outstanding efforts in preparing and providing such excellent facilities for today's event.

This year, the Agricultural Science Society proudly supports two fantastic charities: *Make the Moove* and *The Dillon Quirke Foundation*, we are grateful for the opportunity to support these organisations and for the motivation they have instilled in our students.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the companies and organisations that have generously provided sponsorships and donations to the society and this committee, both for today's event and throughout the year. A special acknowledgment goes to FRS Recruitment for once again sponsoring this year's Graduate Handbook.

Finally, we thank all the companies and organisations that participated in today's Careers Fair. Your presence is the cornerstone of this event, providing invaluable opportunities for students to network and explore their future career paths. Without your involvement, the Careers Fair would not be possible.

Thank you all for your support, contributions, and dedication to making Careers Day 2025 a resounding success. We look forward to continuing to work together in building a thriving agricultural science community.

## ANIMAL AND CROP PRODUCTION

UCD's Animal and Crop Production programme offers a comprehensive education in the science and business of animal and crop production. Students learn about the development and improvement in farm animal and crop production, gain broad knowledge on growth, physiology, nutrient utilisation, agribusiness, agri-environment and develop the skills to create economical and sustainable agricultural production systems.



#### Clíona Beirne

My studies in UCD and Cornell University along with my range of PWE experiences have confirmed to me that the agricultural industry is where I want to work. Working on a 1200-cow dairy farm in Scotland, a 1500-sheep farm in England, a piggery with 30,000 animals in Germany, Kepak's 900 beef farm and my industry work in ABP and Seedtech have shown me the range of possibilities this degree has equipped me for.



#### Lauren Beirne

Pursuing a career in agriculture has always been an ambition of mine, my passion for the sector developed from a young age growing up on a suckler, beef and sheep farm in Co. Roscommon and working in my family's agri store. Studying in UCD and completing my PWE has allowed me to gain knowledge and experience in a multitude of agricultural sectors. I would consider myself hard working and ambitious and I look forward to continuing to expand my knowledge and skills in my future career.



#### Ciaran Burke

Growing up on a suckler beef farm fueled my passion for agriculture and instilled a strong work ethic. My professional work placement enhanced this foundation, providing practical insights into modern farming and agribusiness operations. Additionally, representing my club and county in GAA has developed my teamwork, leadership, and discipline. These experiences have equipped me with technical knowledge, resilience, and problem-solving skills, which I am eager to apply to my agricultural career.



#### **Derek Byrne**

Growing up on a farm in Wicklow, I developed a deep-rooted passion for agriculture, which has shaped me into a hardworking, driven, and dedicated individual. During my time at UCD, I have honed my knowledge and skills, which I am eager to apply in contributing to the advancement of one of the world's most esteemed food systems – the Irish Agricultural Industry. I aspire to foster greater sustainability within the sector, ensuring its reliance and growth for the future.



#### Grace Cadden

I am studying Agricultural Science with an interest in understanding the challenges and opportunities within the agricultural sector. I aim to gain practical knowledge and skills that will allow me to contribute effectively to the industry. My focus is on learning how to improve agricultural practices and support sustainable development. Through my studies, I hope to build a solid foundation for a career in agriculture.

#### Laura Cash

Coming from a Beef and Tillage farm in County Wexford, my ambition to work in the Agricultural industry was instilled in me from a very young age. Four years of studying Animal and Crop Production in UCD has improved my knowledge of this industry and has expanded my skill set. My PWE allowed me to use my theoretical knowledge and apply it in a practical setting. I consider myself determined and enthusiastic for my future in this sector, giving 100% effort in everything I do. I look forward to a challenging yet rewarding career in the industry.



#### **Emily Cassells**

Growing up on a dairy and beef farm, I developed a passion for agriculture. As Careers Committee Chairperson for Ag Soc 2024/25 and a Stage 4 Scholarship Academic Award recipient, I am driven, ambitious, and take pride in everything I do. My study abroad at Iowa State University broadened my perspective, and I've shared my enthusiasm for the sector being part of my UNI Life on RTE1. I am an effective communicator and determined. I am driven independently and in teams, striving to achieve excellence, and ready to contribute passionately to the agricultural industry.



#### **David Codd**

Growing up on a mixed farm in county Wexford, agriculture has always been a huge passion of mine. Time spent working on the farm from a young age has thought me lifelong lessons in hard work and perseverance. During my time in UCD, the progressive theory aspect of the course and invaluable PWE has further developed my knowledge in animal and crop production systems. In the future, I hope to contribute this knowledge in the agricultural sector.



## Aideen Cooper

On our family farm in County Offaly, we operate a beef and sheep enterprise. From a young age I had a keen interest in agriculture, which inspired me to study Agriculture science with animal and crop production been my chosen area of specialisation. I gained a broad knowledge and in depth education in various agricultural sectors through my PWE. I aspire to expanding my knowledge as a UCD graduate, and look forward to the career opportunities that lie ahead.



#### Maeve Cooper

Growing up on a dairy farm in Cork shaped my passion for agriculture, leading me to choose a degree in Animal and Crop Production. Throughout my PWE, I gained valuable experience in America and Ireland, working both on farms and in the industry, expanding my technical skills and knowledge. My role as auditor for AgSoc enhanced my communication and organisational abilities. I am determined, enthusiastic, and committed to making a valuable contribution to the evolving agricultural sector.



UCD 2025 Animal & Crop Production



#### Ava Donoghue

Growing up on a beef farm in a Galway ignited my passion for agriculture. On my PWE I Pursuing a career in agriculture was always runner for me as I grew up on a beef farm in Westmeath. The last four years in UCD have expanded my knowledge across the different industries in agriculture and my PWE experience was great and I got to go to Scotland and see how the industry runs in different places. I am excited for my future in agriculture and I hope to expand my knowledge as I enter the working world and build a successful career.



#### John Doris

Agriculture has always been a passion and interest of mine, having grown up on our family dairy farm in Co. Longford. Studying in UCD has given me a great opportunity to broaden my knowledge of the agricultural sector. The professional work experience allowed me to gain invaluable experience in the agricultural industry which I believe will be extremely beneficial, in both my studies and future employment. I look forward to facing the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead as I commence my career in the agricultural sector.



#### **Peter Doyle**

Having grown up on a suckler farm in Cavan, my time at UCD has been both rewarding and fulfilling, providing me with invaluable experiences and connections. PWE gave me the opportunity to further enhance my skill set, allowing me to gain hands-on experience both in Ireland and abroad across various elements of the Agri-food industry. As I look ahead to my professional journey, I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that await.



Sinéad Duffy

I really enjoyed my time studying Agricultural Science in UCD. This has been something I have been interested in since a young age. During this time, I have gained valuable experience during my PWE where I got to work in all aspects of the agricultural industry. This was the highlight of my degree. I am hardworking, enthusiastic and passionate about working in the agricultural sector and plan to use the knowledge and skills I gained through my degree in the future.



#### **Eoin English**

My time in UCD has been challenging and rewarding, studying the different sectors of Agriculture through ACP, and has given me a very good education. I played fresher hurling, did charity boxing, and used all sporting facilities. My highlight was PWE which I completed in Canada and Ireland. It was an amazing experience and it helped shape me. I am ambitious and hard working, with big aspirations for the future.

Animal & Crop Production UCD 2025

#### Sam Evans

My passion for agriculture has been instilled in me from a young age having grown up on my family dairy farm. Through my time in UCD, I have gained a comprehensive knowledge of the agri-food sector. Studying in Cornell University in the US as part of the study abroad programme, further allowed me to combine my desire for travel and agriculture while at the same time providing a great insight into the Agri-sector on a global scale.



#### **Aaron Farrell**

Animal and crop production in UCD has been a very enjoyable and valuable experience. The wide and varied PWE enabled me to get work experience across both industry and farming sectors which in no doubt will hold me in good stead for my future career path, outside of my college life I enjoy playing football.



#### **Dylan Farrell**

It is hard to believe how quickly the last few years have flown by. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience in UCD. Coming from a farming background ground in North Wexford, I have always had an avid interest in the agricultural sector. Coming to UCD I was unsure of the path I wanted to pursue, through the diversity in animal and crop production I now have found the sector I will strive to achieve in. I look forward to applying my knowledge learned from UCD in my future endeavours.



#### John Farrell

Coming from a dairy farm in County Laois has led me to develop a keen interest in the agricultural sector. This interest was nurtured during my time at UCD, as it enabled me to learn more about the sector. During my Professional Work Experience, I spent time in New Zealand, which really allowed me to further develop as a worker in a team but also gave me the chance to become more independent and better at working on my own.



## **Sophie Furlong**

Starting in 2021, I had no experience in farming, but after four years at UCD, I've developed a passion for it. Studying ACP expanded my knowledge across various sectors, and my third-year PWE was invaluable. The highlight of my degree was spending four months at Cornell University in New York, followed by work placement on a dairy research farm in Holland as part of PWE. I'm a hardworking, motivated individual, eager to expand my knowledge and experience in a future career in agriculture.



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#### Sean Gill

My passion for agriculture was instilled in me from a young age due to growing up on a suckler and sheep farm. I consider myself a motivated and hard working individual with a focus on attention to detail. Studying animal & crop production in UCD has enhanced my knowledge of the agriculture industry while allowing me to apply technical theory to everyday tasks on our own farm. I look forward to my future career in the agriculture industry while using all the invaluable skills I have acquired during my time in UCD.



#### Joseph Gilsenan

I'm from Moynalty in Co Meath and I've always had a strong passion about Irish agriculture. I come from a beef and sheep farm and we run an agri store where I have gained a wealth of knowledge and experience from dealing with farmers in different agricultural sectors. I am hard working and enthusiastic about everything I do. Doing Agricultural science in UCD has shown me that there is unlimited amount of potential and opportunities to succeed in agriculture in the future.



#### **Ally Gormley**

Coming from a vegetable farm in County Dublin,I have always had a great love for agriculture and outdoors. As part of PWE, I have spent time in New Zealand and around Ireland, acquiring new information which I was keen to bring home with me. In the year, I developed a new love for the animal side of the sector. Skills and knowledge from PWE as well as my time in UCD studying and in my role as the Secretary of UCD AgSoc have prepared me and will benefit me in the world of work. The agri-sector requires graduates who are quick thinking, efficient and open to change, and I feel that my time in UCD paired with my experience in the industry, that I am left in an exciting position to be part of the change to come.



#### Sinéad Grenham

Growing up on a beef farm in Co. Roscommon inspired me to study Agricultural Science in UCD. I would consider myself a dedicated, enthusiastic and ambitious individual, with a strong commitment to advancing the agricultural sector. The knowledge and hands-on experience I have gained through my PWE has broadened my understanding of different agricultural enterprises, equipping me with the skills necessary to excel in an ever-evolving agricultural sector. I look forward to expanding my knowledge further in my career in Agriculture.



#### **Nicole Hartford**

As a graduate of Animal and Crop Production and not directly from a farming background, I am passionate about advancing in the agricultural sector and advocating for sustainable and innovative agricultural practices that balance productivity with environmental stewardship. My studies in UCD have equipped me with a strong foundation in animal husbandry, crop science, and a sense of the importance of innovative agricultural systems.

Animal & Crop Production UCD 2025

#### **Grace Hoare**

My ambition to work in the Agricultural Industry was instilled in me from a young age. I grew up on a dairy and beef farm in Co Offaly. Studying in UCD enabled me to broaden my knowledge and skills. During my PWE I completed an internship working as a news journalist with the Irish Farmers Journal. I am a highly motivated, enthusiastic, and hardworking individual with a commitment to excellence in all that I do. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead as I embrace my career in the ever evolving Agricultural Sector.



#### Siobhan Hodgins

I grew up on a beef and sheep farm in the west of Ireland. I've always had a great interest in agriculture and I am delighted to have extended my education in the agricultural sector, studying Animal and Crop production in UCD. I really enjoyed my Work Placement getting excellent experience in a range of areas in the agri sector and achieving a distinction. I am hardworking, motivated and looking forward to my future career in the agricultural sector.



#### **Patrick Irwin**

My passion for farming began at a young age, when I worked on my family's beef and dairy farm. This degree has taught me both, about myself and the science behind farming. I have gained an unexpected interest in tillage farming, an area I had no prior experience in. The PWE allowed me to explore new industries and bring my practical experience and knowledge together. I am hardworking, knowledgeable and interested in animal and crop production, and I look forward to starting my career.



## Cailín Keaveney

I am a committed individual with a strong work ethic who prioritizes excellence and isn't afraid to seek clarification when needed. I am consistently eager to explore new opportunities and play a key role in the local community as a dedicated team player, both on and off the GAA field. With a background in farming, I have gained extensive experience in animal breeding, research trials, and commercial agriculture. I have a good sense of humor and enjoy socializing, making me truly enjoy meeting new people.



### Emma Kilcoyne

Growing up on a beef farm in Westmeath, I have always had an interest in agriculture. Over my four years in UCD, my interest for the industry has grown and studying animal and crop production has allowed me to gain experience in each enterprise including beef, sheep, pigs, dairy and tillage. In PWE I received a distinction and gained invaluable experience with Tirlán and Teagasc Grange. I look forward to working in a challenging but rewarding industry.



UCD 2025 Animal & Crop Production



#### Joseph Larkin

I am thoroughly delighted to graduate from UCD with my agricultural science degree. Looking forward to entering the working world and best of luck to all my peers.

**Tom Larkin** 



Growing up on a beef & sheep farm in Co. Meath, I have always had a keen interest in the industry. It has always been an ambition of mine to study Agricultural Science at UCD, throughout my studies at UCD, I feel I have grown personally & educationally, especially throughout my PWE. Where I worked alongside top professionals within the sector, & it really excelled my experience. I would consider myself a hard-working and determined individual. I am excited to further develop my knowledge while pursuing a career in the ever-growing agri-sector.





A dedicated Agricultural Science student at UCD from Cork, I grew up on a tillage and beef farm, fostering a strong connection to agriculture from an early age. Specialising in Animal and Crop Production, I complemented my academic studies with PWE in Ireland and England, gaining practical skills and insights into modern farming practices. My background, education, and hands-on experience have prepared me to contribute effectively to the agricultural industry, with a strong focus on innovation, efficiency, and sustainability.





I have always had a passion for agriculture having grown up on a busy sheep and suckler farm in County Dublin. Pursuing a degree in ACP has expanded my knowledge of the industry and PWE allowed me to advance my practical skills by working in Ireland, Germany and the Netherlands which I thoroughly enjoyed. I am a determined, reliable individual with a strong work ethic. I look forward to a challenging and rewarding career in the Ag Sector.

## **Daragh Mc Elearney**



Growing up on a dairy farm in County Monaghan, the love of agriculture was instilled into me from a young age particularly the dairy industry. I've gained valuable experience throughout my PWE working on intensive and progressive farms while also working 3 months in a Teagasc Advisory centre. I am a reliable, hardworking and diligent person with a huge interest in the agriculture sector. I've represented my club, school, college and county at high levels in GAA and I believe this is where I've excelled in areas like teamwork, professionalism and leadership.

Animal & Crop Production UCD 2025

#### Caolán McCabe

Growing up on a beef farm in Ardee, Co. Louth, I developed a strong passion for agriculture. My studies at UCD have deepened my knowledge of livestock and crop production systems, enhanced by hands-on learning during my PWE. I'm hardworking, motivated, and extremely eager to apply my skills to build a successful career in agriculture while continuing to grow my knowledge and contribute to the sector.



#### **David McDonald**

I grew up on a tillage farm in Laois and have always been interested in farming. I am hardworking and looking forward to building my career in the agricultural industry. Through my studies at UCD I gained valuable knowledge through both coursework and professional work experience in New Zealand. I'm now looking forward to applying my skills within the industry.



#### Saoirse McGovern

Growing up on a suckler farm in county Leitrim agricultural has always been a passion and keen interest of mine. Studying in UCD has helped me broaden my knowledge and gain valuable experience. I consider myself a hard working, self-motivated and dedicated individual with a huge passion for all things agriculture. I look forward to using this education and experience I have gained as I move forward into the agricultural industry.



#### Áine McKissock

Following the completion of my degree I am excited and enthusiastic about my future career within the Agricultural sector by utilising the fantastic knowledge that my Animal and Crop Production degree has provided me with over the past four years, as well as the hands on invaluable knowledge I have gained on multiple farms within Ireland and the USA while on internships. I have strong endeavors to succeed & reach my full potential within the sector.



#### Lorcan McMahon

Growing up on a sheep and beef farm in north county Dublin, I have spent my time farming alongside my father. Over my 4 years in UCD my love of farming and working in agriculture has only grown. During my studies I have gained great experience and I am looking forward to applying this both at home and in future employment.



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#### **Conor Mitchell**

My passion for farming on our mixed beef and sheep farm in north Galway led me to pursue a career in agriculture. Although I was nervous about moving to Dublin, I have made great friends along the way and have fond memories of my time in UCD. The highlight of my degree was the period of work placement in 3rd year, in which I travelled to England for sheep placement with Sean Myles.



#### **Emer Mulchrone**

I am a final year student studying animal & crop production from Co. Mayo with a passion for agriculture coming from a sheep farming background. Through my professional work experience, I gained invaluable knowledge & experience in innovative agricultural practices. I am looking forward to being part of the ever-changing agricultural sector, combining my knowledge from UCD as well as my practical experience.



#### Cathal Mulhall

Growing up on a dairy farm in Kilkenny had me keen on agriculture from a young age. During my time studying Animal and Crop Production in UCD, I've gained huge interest in other industries too. I consider myself to be a hard working and willing to learn type of person. My course has given me huge opportunities with the PWE program, being able to work in every sector. I am excited to start my career working in the agricultural industry.



#### **Aoibhe Murphy**

Pursuing a career in the agricultural industry has always been an ambition of mine from growing up on a dairy and beef farm in county Kilkenny. I would describe my self as a hardworking, motivated individual who enjoys interacting with people. I have gained a lot of agricultural knowledge over the past 4 years studying animal and crop production in UCD. My skills and opportunities gained from my PWE has enhanced my understanding and knowledge of different enterprises across the agricultural sector.



#### **Donal Murphy**

Growing up on a family farm in Co. Carlow has provided me with the drive to follow my interest in Agriculture. Specialising in Animal & Crop production in UCD has further developed my technical and practical skills from in class learnings and completing PWE on a large scale beef & tillage farm in Canada and an intensive sheep farms in Wales. These experiences have fueled my desire to pursue a career in the Ag Sector and I look forward to putting my skills and knowledge into action to improve and overcome future challenges.

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#### **Niamh Murphy**

Coming from a farm in Westmeath, I have always had an interest in the sector. Through my PWE, I gained experience in agri-journalism, industry and advisory. Exposure to various aspects of the industry offered me an opportunity to expand my skillset and knowledge, connecting the industry, from producer to consumer. I have a greater awareness of challenges both on the ground and at policy level, and I look forward to further developing my knowledge and skills in the coming years.



#### Sean Myles

Pursuing a career in Agriculture has always interested me coming from a beef and sheep farm in County Meath. Studying at UCD has expanded my understanding in varies aspects of the Agricultural sector. PWE has been my favourite part of the course getting hands on learning in multiple sectors. I was on dairy farm using robots and synchronised calving, a large beef and Sheep farm in England, a vegetable farm with its own packaging and distribution straight to supermarkets and ended in Kepak Feedlot where I learned all about nutrition and market demands of beef processing.



#### Iarla Nolan

Growing up on a dairy farm in Kildare has shaped my understanding of agriculture and fostered my passion for the industry. This foundation has been further strengthened by my studies in Agricultural Science at University College Dublin, where I've developed a strong theoretical and practical understanding of animal and crop production. I would describe myself as a determined and diligent person, which has allowed me to embrace challenges living on a robotic dairy farm.



## **Lucy O Brien**

Growing up in Limerick around my father's horse-breeding business sparked my passion for agriculture. Studying Agricultural Science at UCD allowed me to expand my knowledge beyond breeding, exploring different sectors and hands-on experience during my PWE. This has strengthened my skills and deepened my understanding of the industry. I'm excited to be part of the future of agriculture and its ongoing transformation!



#### Shane O'Brien

I am a highly motivated and driven individual who has been passionate about agriculture all my life. I was reared on a suckler farm in county Leitrim where I learned the value of hard work and determination. Studying through UCD has presented multiple opportunities to enhance my knowledge of agriculture. Professional work experience in Ireland, England and Canada has been invaluable for my development as I continue to pursue a career in agriculture.



UCD 2025 Animal & Crop Production



#### Cian O Connor

I am a proud graduate of Agricultural Science, inspired to pursue a career in agriculture by my early experiences working on dairy and tillage farms. A highlight of my studies was my Erasmus exchange to Cornell University, which provided me with invaluable global insights. Being awarded a Bachelor of Agricultural Science Stage 4 Scholarship was a significant milestone in my academic journey. I am excited to contribute to the future of agriculture using the knowledge and experiences I've gained.



Jack O Connor

Studying Agricultural Science has deepened my understanding of sustainable farming, innovation, and the vital role agriculture plays in our world. Growing up on a dairy farm has inspired my passion for advancing practices that balance productivity with environmental stewardship. I am excited to contribute to the future of agriculture, ensuring a thriving industry for generations to come.



**Keith O Mahony** 

As a passionate agricultural science student inspired by Norman Borlaug's vision, I am committed to advancing sustainable agriculture. My undergraduate studies, including coursework and PWE, have deepened my interest in addressing global food security. I am grateful to have been the recipient of the Paul Mulhere award for the most outstanding performance on PWE. Dedicated to academic excellence and innovation, I aspire to build a career in academia and research, contributing meaningful solutions to agricultural challenges.



Matthew Quinn

I am passionate about the Irish Agri/Food industry and eager to develop my skills to improve the sector. My interest in agriculture comes from my family farm, and my studies at UCD have been invaluable for my growth. Through my PWE, I engaged in grass-based dairy farming in the U.S., witnessed the anaerobic digestion industry's development in Ireland, and gained insights into the pig and poultry sectors. I look forward to contributing to the industry's future.



**Patrick Redmond** 

I have had a keen interest in the agricultural sector from a young age, growing up on a beef and sheep farm in Co. Wexford. I consider myself to be a hard-working, confident and an ambitious student. During my time in UCD, I have broadened my skills and knowledge for each specific enterprise in the Ag-Sector. Highlight of my time in UCD was the opportunity to go on exchange to Iowa State University aswell as PWE in Ireland and the UK. I look forward to embracing the challenge of working in an ever-changing agricultural industry.

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#### **James Ruane**

Growing up on a farm in Co. Mayo I have always had a passion for all aspects of agriculture. Converting from sucklers to dairy and continually expanding along with Agri contracting and beef finishing, I recognise the importance of adaptability and re-evaluation as key skills for success in the agricultural sector both here at home and was evident from my PWE on farms in the UK also. I look forward to embracing challenges that agriculture faces with a positive attitude.



#### John Ryan

Growing up on a dairy farm in Kilkenny, it has always been my ambition to study Agricultural Science in UCD. Working on the farm from a young age has given me invaluable experience. During my years in UCD I have been able to further my knowledge through the coursework and PWE. For my PWE I had the chance to spend 2 months working on a beef and tillage farm in Canada which gave me a great insight into a large scale farm abroad. I am a hardworking and ambitious person and look forward to further developing my skills in the agricultural sector.



#### **Ryan Strong**

From a young age, agriculture has been a fundamental part of my life. Growing up on a beef and tillage farm in county Offaly, I've always been certain that a career in agricultural sector was the path I wanted to follow. With the knowledge I've gained in UCD, alongside my practical background I feel I have a keen understanding of many areas within the agricultural sector.



## Ciaran Tangney

Coming from a dairy farm in County Limerick, pursuing a career in the agricultural sector has always been an ambition of mine.

Studying in UCD has given me a wealth of knowledge in both the practical and technical side of agriculture. The work placement opportunity further enhanced my skill set by allowing me to travel abroad, work on progressive farms and make connections across the agricultural industry. I regard myself as a hardworking, driven, and look forward to having a positive impact on the agricultural industry in many years to come.



#### Catherine Tyrrell

I come from a beef and sheep farm in the Wicklow Mountains. I've always had a great interest in all things agricultural. I've enjoyed my time in UCD and made lifelong friends. PWE was my highlight, I worked on pig, dairy, sheep, beef and tillage farms gaining valuable insight and experience in sectors I never envisaged myself working in. I'm a driven, determined and reliable individual which is reflected in my work. I'm looking forward to an agricultural career and putting my knowledge to use.

"It's hard to soar like an eagle when your working with turkeys".



UCD 2025 Animal & Crop Production



#### Áine Usher

Having not come from an agricultural background. I went into professional work experience with the outlook of learning everything I could and took every chance possible to ask questions about the enterprises. Working with pedigree cattle, sheep, pigs, breeding stallions and mares, and Eurofins trialling fungicides and herbicides for cereal crops has broaden my knowledge of the industry and has given me insight on where I see my future career heading and I'm excited with the opportunities that lie ahead.



#### John Whelan

Growing up on a potato enterprise in South County Wexford inspired my passion to pursue Agricultural Science in UCD. Over the last 4 years of my degree, I've gained extensive knowledge and experience of the industry, especially through my 8 month PWE which has allowed me to experience different sectors in the agricultural industry. I'm excited for what the future may hold for me and I look forward to expanding my knowledge of the agricultural sector through my career.



#### **Katelyn Young**

From a young age, I was inspired to pursue a career in agriculture, driven by my deep interest in the equine world. My passion for expanding my knowledge and understanding of the industry has been a guiding force throughout my journey. During my time at UCD, I gained valuable hands-on experience across various sectors, working with respected organizations such as Dovea Genetics and J. Grennan & Sons. I am eager to apply my skills and expertise in a meaningful role, while continuing to grow and contribute to the agricultural industry.

## **FOOD & AGRI-BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

In the Food & Agribusiness Management degree, students explore how business and economic principles relate to farming, food production, and marketing. They begin with core science subjects in their first year before specialising in agribusiness in later years. Students gain insight into how both Irish and global food systems deliver desired food products and services, while learning how farmers and food manufacturers can achieve profitability and sustainability.

#### Anna Axelsson

I am a hardworking, ambitious and highly motivated student with a passion for the food and agribusiness sector, aspiring to hold a career in the business field. My experience to date in UCD has given me plenty of opportunities which is beneficial for my career in the future. Throughout third year, I completed a 28 week professional work experience in PwC's asset and wealth management department where I gained invaluable experience. This has helped me to develop my personal and professional skills in the workplace.



#### **Patrick Brady**

Currently pursuing a degree in Food and Agribusiness management in UCD. Originating from Kildare, being surrounded by farms ignited my passion for agriculture. I further increased my passion when I got the opportunity to study the Agricultural Science for my Leaving Cert. My PWE enabled me to further develop my personal skills such as communication, teamwork and creativity. This experience helped me to develop into a highly adaptable, driven and hard working individual ready to expand my knowledge of the industry and work with like minded people.



#### **Eoin Browne**

I am an energetic, adaptable and ambitious Food and Agribusiness Management graduate with diverse work experience in both a fast-paced sales and marketing context, and in an innovative agtech start-up. Through my academic and work experience, I have honed my problem-solving, research and communication skills. As a UCD Boat Club rower and two-time national champion, I developed exceptional teamwork and time management skills, and demonstrated resilience and the strong work ethic needed to excel in a high-pressure environment.



#### **Laoise Burns**

I am a hardworking and highly motivated final-year Food and Agribusiness Management student. My time at UCD has been an exceptional experience, especially with the opportunity to study abroad at Iowa State University, which broadened my global perspective and deepened my understanding of the agribusiness sector. Additionally, my professional work experience with Mint Catering and Grant Thornton proved invaluable in furthering my academic and career progression, providing me with hands-on exposure to the industry and enhancing my practical skills.



#### **Shauna Butler**

I am a hardworking, highly ambitious student aspiring to cultivate a career in food marketing. I have a strong academic record which helped me to obtain a 8-month placement with McCambridge, greatly improving my knowledge, which will stand to me in my future career.





#### **Molly Clarke**

I am a hardworking and enthusiastic individual with a strong interest in the food and agribusiness industry. Throughout my time at UCD, I have gained valuable knowledge and experience, while forming lifelong friendships and connections. I look forward to using the skills and insights I've gained in my last four years at UCD as I pursue a career in the agricultural sector.



#### **Holly Codd**

I am a motivated student from Tullow, Co. Carlow, currently studying Food and Agribusiness Management at UCD. I grew up on my family's mushroom farm, which sparked my interest in the agricultural and food industries. As part of my studies, I completed my placement at the Teagasc Research Centre, where I gained valuable experience in agricultural research and innovation. Combining my practical background with my academic insights, I am excited about future opportunities to contribute to the growth and development of the sector.



**Macy Connellan** 

As a dedicated Food and Agribusiness Management student at UCD, I have honed my expertise in business strategy, consumer behaviour, and sustainable food systems. Winning the Professional Work Experience Award of Excellence highlights my ability to excel in real-world applications, fostering innovation and leadership. Passionate about bridging the gap between agriculture and business, I aim to contribute to the evolving global food industry by driving impactful, sustainable solutions that benefit producers, consumers, and the environment alike.



Tim Cope

I have always aspired to pursue a career within the agricultural sector, having grown up on a tillage and beef farm. I am a hardworking and motivated individual who gained a global perspective while studying abroad at Iowa State University. Additionally, I completed 30 weeks of professional work experience with MSD Animal Health. My goal is to combine my knowledge and experience to make a positive impact on the agricultural industry.



**James Donohoe** 

I'm a final year Food and Agribusiness Management student at UCD, on track for a first class honours. I've gained financial experience and opportunities at StoneX. I've developed analytical skills and a keen interest in trading dairy commodities. I'm currently writing a thesis on how milk price hedging strategies can benefit Irish Dairy farmers margins.

#### **Tom Downey**

Growing up on a thoroughbred stud farm in Co.Tipperary, pursuing a career within the agricultural business sector has always been a great passion of mine. I have developed many new skills and attributes throughout my journey in UCD through my Erasmus exchange in Michigan State University and working in the KPMG audit department on placement. I was delighted to receive the Patrick Hogan memorial scholarship award for top results in my 3rd year of college. I would consider myself a hardworking and ambitious person, eager to learn and progress.



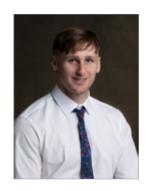
#### **Sinead Doyle**

Despite not coming directly from a farm I have been surrounded by it all my life and my time in UCD has deepened both my knowledge and understanding of the importance of agriculture even further. I have gained invaluable experience throughout my degree, especially during my 28 week placement in the finance industry. I now look forward to applying the skills and knowledge I've gained to a career in the agricultural and finance sectors.



#### James Duggan

Hailing from a beef and tillage farm in Durrow. I have always had a keen interest in agriculture. I specialised in food and agribusiness management which I thoroughly enjoy. As part of my PWE I completed it in Both the Queally group and Daltons Chancellor Mills. This gave me a great perspective of working not only in and office setting but also the practical side of things on the yard. I am a hard working dedicated individual and look forward to working in agri sector in the near future.



#### James Dunne

Growing up on a beef farm in Offaly sparked my passion for agriculture and business, which I developed further while studying Food and Agri-Business Management at UCD. A semester at Texas A&M expanded my global perspective, and my time with Tirlan's milk supply team enhanced my knowledge of Ireland's dairy sector. These experiences have given me a well-rounded understanding of the industry and I'm excited to join the workforce and contribute to the future of the agricultural sector.



## Ava Fitzpatrick

I am a hardworking, determined and motivated final year student studying Food & Agribusiness management in UCD. Throughout this degree I gained valuable knowledge on business management and agriculture production systems. I also have a keen interest in Irish agriculture and I am looking forward to applying my knowledge in the agri-food sector. I completed a 28 week placement in KPMG. I worked in the audit department where I learnt valuable skills in both personal and professional development.





#### Zoe Galvin

Looking forward to the future and going to miss my time studying at UCD. Hoping to achieve great things in the food and agriculture industry. Excited to see where the future takes me, if that's back to KPMG, or to bord bia or traveling the world. Grateful to be giving this opportunity.





A hardworking and enthusiastic student with a strong passion for the food and agribusiness sectors. My time at UCD has taught me valuable lessons and equipped me with skills essential for my future career. I gained practical experience during my 28-week professional work experience in Brussels, Belgium. I am eager to apply my degree and further develop my knowledge in the dynamic Food and Agri-Business industry.

Ella Godsil



I am a dedicated and enthusiastic student studying Food and Agribusiness Management, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my academic journey. My experience in this course has included a transformative seven-month internship with BFree Foods. This hands-on experience sparked my passion for the food industry, and I am eager to contribute to its growth, particularly in sustainability and technological advancements, as I begin my career in this dynamic sector.

**Kevin Gordon** 



Growing up on a dairy farm in Mayo sparked my interest to learn more about the agricultural industry. Specializing in Food and Agribusiness Management allowed me to gain a fantastic understanding of the industry. I got the opportunity to go on Erasmus to Iowa State University, USA. I completed 7 months of work experience when I carried out my PWE in the Tax department at Grant Thornton. I am looking forward to beginning my career in the food and agribusiness Industry.

John Gormley



I am an enthusiastic and driven 4th year student with a passion for agribusiness. Coming from a tillage farm in North County Dublin, UCD has allowed me to expand my knowledge in the industry.

During my 4 years of study at UCD, I was giving the opportunity to complete 8 months of PWE in AIB has an Ag advisor. These experiences provided me with a substantial amount of industry insights and skills that I will carry with me into my professional career. I am looking forward to beginning a career in the sector and hope to develop my skills as I continue to work.

#### Jordan Greiner

I am a highly motivated, dedicated and ambitious individual capable of working effectively by myself and in a team. I have a deep passion for the food industry, particularly the meat industry. Having completed my 28 weeks of PWE but also having four and half years working on the floor and in the office at Irish Country Meats, giving me a thorough insight of the industry. I eagerly anticipate expanding my knowledge, but also apply my experience and knowledge that I have gained to launch a successful career in food and agribusiness.



#### **Unathi Gulubane**

I am a hard-working and disciplined final-year Food and Agribusiness Management student. My time at UCD has provided me with the opportunity to gain a strong understanding and appreciation for the Irish agribusiness sector, knowledge I will always carry. For PWE, I worked with KPMG, which allowed me to develop my personal and professional skills in a workplace setting. I am excited about the future and eager to continue developing my expertise and making an impact in this field.



#### **Helen Hanly**

I am an enthusiastic, hardworking 4th year Food and Agribusiness Management student. My time at UCD has provided me with a solid understanding of the Irish agribusiness sector and the opportunities and challenges it faces. I had the opportunity to complete a 7 month tax internship at Grant Thornton which provided me with invaluable hands on experience in tax compliance. Overall, the experiences I have gained will carry with me into my professional career and I look forward to beginning my career in the Agribusiness sector in Ireland.



## Darragh Haugh

Hailing from a dairy farm in Co. Tipperary, my passion for agriculture and agribusiness was installed at a very young age. I am a hardworking, driven and ambitious person. Gaining priceless experience throughout the recent set up of my own small agri-software business, PWE and over the course of my 4 years in UCD has been a privilege, and I am enthusiastic to apply this knowledge to my future in the agricultural industry.



#### **Roy Haynes**

Personally I'd describe myself as a hard working, reliable , friendly person. I would describe my 4 years in UCD as an incredible experience. Not coming from an agricultural background and doing food and agriculture business, I knew that the opportunity's to learn were endless. Completing a 28 week work experience in Financial services audit in KPMG was invaluable in terms of career progression. Joining various society's and meeting new friends from my course, are friendships for life.





#### Aodhán Kent

Growing up in Kilkenny and working on dairy farms shaped my understanding of agriculture, exposing me to its challenges and opportunities while fostering a strong work ethic and passion for the industry. These experiences highlighted the importance of efficient farm management and sustainability, sparking my interest in food and agribusiness. My placement as an agronomist with Tirlán further expanded my knowledge, offering handson experience in crop management and farmer support. These combined experiences prepared me for a career in food and agribusiness management.



#### Ruairí Lane

Growing up on a beef and stud farm in Co. Clare, I developed a passion for farming, which sparked my ambitions to pursue a career in agriculture and the Agri-Business sector. Through my studies of Food and Agri-Business Management, I have gained invaluable experience and knowledge of the sector. I had the opportunity to further enhance my knowledge of the industry during my 8-month PWE with Dawn Meats, where I was able to develop and expand on my professional skills.



#### **Catherine Mangan**

Not coming from an agricultural background myself, my interest in the food sector stems from the endless possibilities for growth and innovation, which is seen every time I walk into a supermarket. During my time at UCD I was fortunate to complete a 28-week internship at Dawn Farm Foods, which gave me an insight into the aspects of successful food business, particularly introducing me to the world of product development which enabled me to see the innovation process firsthand. I'm a highly motivated person and I'm excited to join the food industry in Ireland and abroad.



#### Andrew Matthews

I am an ambitious and highly driven final year student in UCD's food and agri-business management. Having worked in the food and agri-business, with my own Dexter cattle I have become heavily involved and developed a deep interest in the intersection between farming and the food industry. I enjoy developing new connections and learning about how various stakeholders in the two sectors interact.



#### **Conor Matthews**

My interest in agriculture stems from my upbringing on a beef farm in Sligo. I am a hardworking and ambitious young man pursuing a career in the agricultural sector. I have proven my ability to work proficiently within a team during my professional work experience with KPMG. I look forward to applying my degree and broadening my knowledge of the industry further.

#### Lucy Mc Anaspie

I am a highly motivated and driven individual with a strong interest in business strategy. During my PWE in KPMG's Audit Department, I developed analytical and problem-solving skills. This experience, combined with my academic foundation, has equipped me with the skills to pursue a dynamic career in agribusiness, blending financial acumen with industry expertise to drive growth and innovation.



#### **Ross McCabe**

During my time at UCD studying Food and Agribusiness Management, I gained valuable insights into the agri-food sector and its business dynamics. My placement at EY allowed me to apply my learning in a professional environment, enhancing my analytical and teamwork skills. These experiences have provided me with a strong foundation to navigate and contribute effectively to the evolving agri-food industry.



#### Darragh McCann

I was privileged to grow up in a farming community in Co Longford and this is where I developed the drive to study Agricultural Science in UCD. My time studying Food and Agri-business management along with 30 weeks of PWE spent across several operations in Kepak has allowed me to expand my knowledge and enthusiasm for the sector. I am excited to begin my career at a time when the industry is advancing in terms of sustainability and technology.



## **Zach McCarthy**

I am very grateful for the time I have had in UCD and the opportunity to learn about the range of informative topics offered throughout the course. I would just like to thank all the teaching staff who made this experience possible.



#### Saoirse Nevin-Kenny

Growing up on a tillage farm in East Galway instilled a deep passion for agriculture and food production within me. My studies at UCD allowed me to broaden my global perspective on agribusiness through a semester abroad at the University of Illinois. Additionally, an 8-month PWE placement with an agricultural advisor sharpened my practical skills in client engagement and strategic farm planning. As a dedicated and driven individual, I am committed to continuous learning and contributing meaningfully to the growth and innovation of the agribusiness sector.





#### Billy O Sullivan

I have a passion for sustainability and innovation in the agri-food sector. My course has given me great experience in areas like business strategy and problem-solving. I've developed strong teamwork and communication skills along the way, especially during the 28-week period of professional work experience I was given the opportunity to complete. I'm excited to bring my energy and ideas to a forward-thinking organisation in this industry.



## **Kate Ormsby**

Growing up on a farm in Co. Mayo, alongside my keen interest in food business is what inspired me to study Food and Agribusiness Management. Throughout this course, I have developed many skills and have gained much experience, including completing a semester abroad in New Zealand and an internship with KerryGroup, thoroughly enjoying my experience with both. I have formed many lasting friendships and qualities which I'll carry through from college, and I'm looking forward to applying my knowledge and seeing what's to come in the future.



#### **Ava Pierce**

I am a dedicated and proactive individual with a strong work ethic and a passion for teamwork. My 34-week Professional Work Experience at Butler's Chocolate gave me valuable insights into the food industry and strengthened my understanding of business operations. My academic award for Professional Work Experience highlights my commitment to excellence and determination to succeed in the workplace. I am eager to expand my knowledge further and embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in my career.



#### Jennifer Quirke

I am a hard working, motivated student with a passion for the food industry. I have gained a deep understanding of the food industry throughout my studies in UCD. I completed my professional work experience at Dole Ireland in their quality control team. I was given the opportunity to study abroad at Iowa State University where I was able to see valuable insight into the global Agricultural and Food industry. I look forward to pursuing a career in the food industry and further building on the knowledge and skillsets I have earned over the past number of years.



#### **Conor Roche**

Growing up in Wexford with a keen interest in farming it has always been my ambition to study Agricultural science in UCD. Growing up working on a farm has helped me develop as a hard-working motivated individual. Throughout the coursework and PWE I have gained invaluable experience in both theory and practical work. My time in UCD has given me a vast knowledge across the food and agri-business sector which I look forward to using to further my future career.

#### **Benjamin Sigurvinsson**

I came into FAM with a keen interest in the food industry. I have gained valuable insights over the past four years through the learning opportunities and work experience that come with the course. Notably, my time abroad on PWE with Copa-Cogeca, the EU's largest farm lobby, was eye-opening. This experience equipped me with essential skills and a renewed appreciation for the food industry that I will not soon forget.



#### Kara Stanbridge

I am highly ambitious and hard working, capable of working effectively with a team and by myself. My experience in UCD has supplied me with the necessary tools to forge a successful career. I had the opportunity to complete a 7 month internship in KPMG where I gained fantastic insights into the world of Audit. I am very keen to work in a market facing role and I look forward to applying my degree and developing my knowledge in the food and Agribusiness industry.



#### **Tom Downey**

Growing up on a thoroughbred stud farm in Co.Tipperary, pursuing a career within the agricultural business sector has always been a great passion of mine. I have developed many new skills and attributes throughout my journey in UCD through my Erasmus exchange in Michigan State University and working in the KPMG audit department on placement. I was delighted to receive the Patrick Hogan memorial scholarship award for top results in my 3rd year of college. I would consider myself a hardworking and ambitious person, eager to learn and progress.



## **Wolfgang Von Teichman**

Final-year Agricultural Science student at UCD, on track for first-class honours. With hands-on experience at McCambridge Bread and O'Hanlon Herbs, I have developed skills in business development, project management and lean management. Passionate about driving innovation, I have contributed to strategic initiatives and sustainable growth, using my analytical skills to implement impactful business improvements.



#### **Aoife Wheeler**

During my time in UCD I have blended academic learning with practical work experience including a seven month placement in KPMG's Audit department, giving me a well-rounded background. I am driven, determined and hardworking and am eager to expand my existing experience and knowledge. I look forward to making meaningful contributions to the agri-food industry after completing my degree.



## FOOD BUSINESS WITH CHINESE STUDIES

The Food Business with Chinese Studies program equips graduates with essential skills the Irish food industry needs to thrive in an evolving market. To meet these demands, students enhance their foreign language proficiency through a blend of core food science and business management courses, alongside language, cultural, and market-focused studies. Students attend Renmin University of China in their third year, taking Chinese language courses and other relevant subjects. By their final year, they are well-prepared for professional decision-making in the global agri-food sector, with a strong focus on the Chinese market.



#### **Sarah Nestor**

Studying Food Business with Chinese at UCD's Agriculture School was transformative, blending industry insights with Mandarin skills to connect with global markets. The program deepened my understanding of the food sector's complexities while fostering personal growth, confidence, and a passion for innovation. It broadened my horizons and equipped me with a global perspective, preparing me to make a meaningful impact in the Irish food industry.



#### David Wei Quan Ooi

My passion for plants led me to begin my studies in horticulture. After my first year, I realised my growing interest in business. UCD's School of Agriculture and the Confucius Institute offered invaluable guidance, enabling me to transfer to Food Business with Chinese Studies. I am sincerely thankful for the support of all my lecturers and the staff who have helped shape my academic path.

## **ANIMAL SCIENCE**

UCD's Animal Science program focuses on the applied sciences essential for understanding animal biology and the principles of livestock production. Students study the growth, development, and behavior of domestic animals, along with the foundations of sustainable animal production systems. The curriculum includes modules in animal biology, genetics, biotechnology, nutrition, and related fields.

#### **Sinead Brady**

Although having no prior experience in the agricultural industry, I have gained valuable insight and knowledge from my studies at UCD. I was privileged to get the opportunity to study abroad at Purdue University which gave me invaluable experience and opportunities on a global scale. I received a distinction in my Professional Work Experience for my farm and industry placements. I am hardworking, dedicated and enthusiastic and look forward to pursuing my career in the agricultural industry.



#### Lizzie Breathnach

Undeterred by growing up in Dublin city without an agricultural background, I built on my ambition to make a career in Agricultural Science by pursuing practical work placements since my initial acceptance into UCD. I gained invaluable knowledge and experience in my PWE both at home and abroad and also working closely with Postgraduate students in UCD Lyon's Estate focusing on reproductive health and fertility. I aspire to make an impact on the future of agriculture and the livelihoods of farming communities.



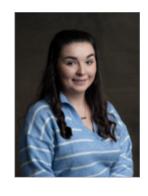
#### **Emily Carden**

I'm from County Sligo, where I grew up on a sheep farm, developing a love for animals, especially during lambing season. This passion led me to pursue a degree in Agricultural Science, majoring in Animal Science, where I'm gaining valuable knowledge and skills. Since 2021, I've successfully managed my own dog grooming business alongside my studies. As an active member of the UCD Agricultural Society and Macra na Feirme, I've developed teamwork and leadership skills. During professional work experience on sheep, dairy, beef, and pig farms, I earned a distinction.



#### **Ruth Curran**

My passion for agriculture was instilled in me from a young age coming from a sheep and suckler farm. I consider myself to be a hardworking, diligent and determined individual. A highlight of my time in UCD was my PWE in which I received a distinction. It allowed me the opportunity to work with various companies within the Irish agricultural sector and further expand on classroom learnings which I hope will be a benefit in my future career.



UCD 2025 Animal Science



#### Otilija Gerulskyte

My passion for animals has been a driving force throughout my life. Born and raised in Dublin with a Lithuanian heritage, I bring a unique and dedicated perspective to my studies in Animal Science at UCD. I have built a strong work ethic, deepened my understanding of animal biology, welfare, and husbandry, and gained invaluable handson experience through Professional Work Experience (PWE) on farms. This exposure strengthened my appreciation for hard work and fueled my ambition to improve animal welfare and advance sustainable farming practices.



#### **Aoife Gibbons**

I'm passionate about all thing's agriculture, with experience in sheep, beef, dairy and pig enterprises. My experiences stem from time on our family farm and PWE as part of my BAgrSc in Animal Science. I have worked part-time in Agri-sales for seven years and completed industry PWE with Aurivo Mill, working alongside the QA specialist. My studies in Lincoln University, New Zealand broadened my knowledge on the international agricultural sector. I am an enthusiastic learner, eager to transfer my skills and knowledge to the agricultural industry.



#### Tara Gilna

My upbringing on a suckler farm in Co. Longford sparked my passion for agriculture. I'm resilient, determined, and tackle challenges with a positive attitude. Studying at UCD has broadened my skillset and knowledge across a variety of sectors. By undertaking Professional Work Experience in Ireland, England, Scotland and at the Teagasc Grange Beef & Grassland Research Facility, I've gained valuable insights into efficient systems and farm diversification, preparing me to address the challenges of the sector with confidence and adaptability.



#### Maria Halley

A hardworking, diligent individual looking to continue to build on the knowledge I developed during my Agricultural Science degree. Growing up on a farm in Co.Waterford, I had a passion and interest for agriculture instilled in me from a young age. During my professional work experience, I developed a particular interest in sustainable farming practices and knowledge transfer strategies to promote their uptake.



#### **Orla Hamill**

Pursuing a career in agriculture has always been an ambition of mine and has grown in the past four years with my degree in UCD and on professional work experience where I spent my time in Scotland and Ireland educating myself in the beef, sheep, dairy, pig and poultry sectors. I am an enthusiastic and hardworking individual who will take pride in any work I do dedicating my prior skills and knowledge to my future career.

Animal Science UCD 2025

#### **Conor Hetherton**

Growing up on a Beef and contracting farm in County Cavan enhanced my passion for farming at a young age. This is why I choose to study Animal Science to further develop my understanding of the scientific principles that underpin the agricultural sector. I would describe myself as extremely hard working, self motivated and social person that is ready to contribute to the ever evolving industry when I finish college. Professional work experience really helped me gain valuable experience in a work-setting environment that will stand to me in the future.



#### **Brianne Horan**

My passion for agriculture was instilled in me from a young age having grown up on a small sheep farm in Co.Mayo. I have always know that my degree would be within the sector, and this drove me to pursue a degree in Animal Science. I am a dedicated, hardworking and highly motivated individual with a great passion for agriculture and in particular animal health and welfare. PWE allowed me the opportunity to develop my teamwork and interpersonal skills. Throughout my PWE placement, I have gained a vast amount of experience across all farming sectors.



#### **Kelsey Hourigan**

Although I didn't come from a farming background, my journey into agriculture began with competing in the Certified Irish Angus Competition, which my team won in 2021. I would consider myself a hard working and enthusiastic person. Over my four years at UCD, my passion for genetics and animal production has grown immensely. Studying Animal Science has equipped me with a wealth of knowledge, shaping my passion for the field.



#### Leanne Keane

My ambition to pursue a career within the agricultural sector has been instilled in me from a young age having grown up on a dairy farm in Co. Tipperary. From studying Agricultural Science in UCD and completing PWE abroad and in Ireland, I have enhanced my knowledge and passion for the industry. My involvement on the AgSoc committee with my peers this year has developed my teamwork and communication skills, and I look forward to starting my career upon graduation.



#### Niamh Lawlor

Not being from a farming background my studies in UCD over the past four years have been truly insightful and inspiring. I have always had a passion for animals and I enjoyed the hands on experience I gained while on my professional work experience. Ranging from beef, dairy, swine, sheep and veterinary practices I gained knowledge across a range of enterprises. I am a hard-working, highly motivated individual who pays attention to detail. I am excited to be part of the future of this ever-changing sector.



UCD 2025 Animal Science



#### **Emma Losty**

My passion for agriculture was cultivated during my upbringing on a sheep farm in County Meath. Pursuing a degree in Animal Science was a natural choice, allowing me to deepen my understanding of the Irish agricultural industry, particularly in the area of animal management and production. The opportunity to participate in Professional Work Experience during my third year was especially valuable, providing exposure to sectors outside my prior experience as well as hands-on learning in a mixed veterinary practice.



#### Shauna Maguire

"A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor".

My time in UCD has been far from smooth sailing, but despite these challenges I have gained vital academic knowledge which I will utilise within my career. Once graduated I hope to work for a company that will allow me to combine my love for the Agri-food sector with my passion for continuous improvement and lean management.



#### Amy McGovern

Growing up on a suckler farm in County Sligo, I've always had a keen interest in agriculture. The last four years in UCD have expanded my knowledge across all agricultural sectors, as well as my PWE where I was honoured to receive a Certificate of Excellence. I am a hardworking and trustworthy individual with excellent teamwork and interpersonal skills, having developed these skills in both professional and voluntary capacities. I look forward to an exciting career in the agricultural sector.



#### Emma McGuire

My love and passion for agriculture, especially livestock, began at a very young age on my family's suckler and horse farm. I always knew I wanted a career in agriculture and it has always been my focus and drive. This focus has made me determined, ambitious and hard working towards my goals. I knew UCD was the choice for me to expand my knowledge and my time there has been invaluable. The experience I gained during my PWE has grown my understanding of the industry and I look forward to building my career in the agriculture sector.



## **Aoife Murphy**

My passion for the Irish Agricultural sector stems from my upbringing on a beef and sheep farm in County Carlow. I have excellent communication, teamwork and leadership skills, which enable me to work with a diverse range of people. I consider myself driven and hardworking which has allowed me to achieve a distinction in my PWE. I look forward to being apart of this sector and the opportunities that lie ahead.

Animal Science UCD 2025

# Juliette Nugent

My passion for agriculture was instilled in me from a young age having grown up on a suckler and sheep farm in Co. Meath. The last four years at UCD have shaped me into a diligent, self motivated, hard working individual, with a keen eye for detail. I look forward to graduating into an industry where I can embrace the challenges that face me and where my passion for the Ag-food industry can be expressed.



### **Abbie O Connor**

I am a hardworking and dedicated student from Co. Kilkenny. Despite having no previous agricultural background, I achieved a distinction in my PWE while working within pig, sheep, beef and dairy enterprises. I have always had a passion for agriculture with a patricular interest in animal health and genetics. I have enjoyed my study of Animal Science particulary my PWE placement with PIC Hermitage. I look forward to bringing my enthusiasm with me into my career within the Agri-Sector.



### Paddy O Neill

Agriculture has played a huge role in my heritage, although not having grown up on a farm myself I seem to have developed a grá for the sector. With age came ability and ambition, so I developed a considerable dairy-calf to beef enterprise. Having started from scratch it had both its positives and negatives , however I believe this has lead me to gain leadership qualities and an ability to think outside the box attributes. I aim to continue a deep understanding in the sector and will look forward to making a meaningful impact on the agricultural industry.



# **Hugh O Toole**

Growing up on a dairy farm has profoundly shaped my understanding of hard work and the importance of a positive attitude. The daily routines of milking cows and maintaining the farm instilled in me a strong work ethic and a sense of responsibility. Each challenge, whether it was dealing with unpredictable weather or caring for the animals, taught me resilience and the value of teamwork. This experience has not only prepared me for future endeavors but also reinforced the idea that a positive mindset can lead to success.



### **Isabel Prior**

Growing up with a passion for animals and hands-on experience helping on the farm, I was inspired to study Animal Science at UCD. Over the four years, I have gained invaluable knowledge across diverse modules, providing a strong foundation for my future. A highlight was my PWE, where I expanded my expertise in sectors I had no prior experience in. I am eager to apply my skills and continue contributing to advancements in the animal health and agricultural industry.



UCD 2025 Animal Science



### Anna Purcell

Growing up immersed in agriculture in Kilkenny inspired me to pursue a career in agricultural science. I am a hard working, enthusiastic individual with a passion for animal science and research. I gained a deeper understanding of every aspect of the industry through dairy, beef, sheep and pig placement as part of my PWE. Studying at UCD gave me the opportunity to study abroad at Lincoln University in New Zealand, where I gained invaluable knowledge and experience.



### **Dionie Smith**

From a very young age, I've always had enthusiasm for agriculture, particularly animals. After an incredible 4 years in Animal Science at UCD and amazing PWE experiences, I will be continuing my studies in Veterinary Medicine, a career I am very passionate about. Having worked in different countries and languages, diverse work experiences, and a passion for animal health, I am excited to use this education and these experiences as I move forward in my career.



### **Rachel Sutton**

I am from a beef and sheep farm and growing up I enjoyed helping out on the farm. So, I knew I wanted to do this degree. My highlights of this degree were learning about sectors I didn't know about before particularly dairy, and the people I've met. Since 2nd year, I have taken up a major role in managing my home farm. I have also gotten involved in the college community as I am the student representative for animal science.



**Kayla Taitz** 

I am a hardworking and diligent student with a keen interest in the ever-growing agricultural sector and all that it has to offer. I have always had a major interest in animal health, welfare and especially nutrition and this interest only grew as I carried out my PWE which allowed me to gain hands-on experience on a farm level working with animals across a vast array of agricultural sectors. My hunger for experience within the agricultural sector only grew as I completed work experience in the environment and nutrition lab of the Irish Equine Centre.



# **Hannah Tilly**

Despite having no prior experience in the agricultural sector, I have embraced opportunities to learn with skills and knowledge from my studies in UCD, my role as Treasurer of the Agricultural Science Society and involvement in the Student Union. Completing PWE has deepened my understanding of the practicalities of the dairy, beef, sheep and pig industries.

I am excited to continue exploring this dynamic field and hope to have a positive influence on the advancement of agriculture in Ireland.

Animal Science UCD 2025

# MaryEllen Tynan

Being exposed to farming as a child, I developed an interest in animals. I grew up on a beef farm but recently have become the place local farmers send their ill lambs. I am hard-working, adaptable and innovative. I nurse the lambs back to health and sell them at 6-8 months. Studying agricultural science has taught me invaluable knowledge whilst solidifying the appreciation I have for my farming upbringing in an ever-changing world. I look forward to being apart of the future in Irish agriculture.



### Michael Walsh

My love of farming and working with animals began at a very young age, and I have worked on a variety of different farms throughout my teenage years. My four years in UCD have broadened my learning and fed my fascination and drive to learn more about agricultural sector. I am an honest and hard worker and look forward to pursuing any opportunities in the agricultural sector thats lies ahead.



# FOOD SCIENCE

The Food Science program at UCD equips students with scientific knowledge and practical skills to produce sustainable, high-quality, safe, and nutritious food for global markets. Students engage with all stages of the food chain, from production to consumption. The curriculum includes foundational sciences like biology, chemistry, and mathematics, which are then applied to specialised areas such as food physics, analysis, microbiology, and sensory science.



### Mila Andreieff

During my four years of studying Food Science at UCD, I've had the privilege of meeting incredible people and gaining valuable experiences. A highlight was my semester abroad in Italy, which enriched me both personally and professionally. My internship at The Happy Pear provided hands on industry experience and insights into the behind the scenes aspects of food science. These years have been truly memorable and impactful for both my personal growth and future career.



### **Heather Beattie**

Growing up in a family immersed in the agri-food sector ignited my passion for food production and sustainability. Studying Food Science at UCD allowed me to learn in an environment with like-minded people. The highlight of my studies was PWE, which afforded me the opportunity to gain hands on experience and build connections which will undoubtedly be invaluable in my future career in the dynamic agri-food industry.



Sara Bria

Food science is more than understanding what's on our plate—it's about innovation, sustainability, and nourishing the world. My journey has been enriched by hands-on experience as a Quality Inspector, where I applied my knowledge to ensure food safety and excellence. I'm excited to continue using this foundation to make a meaningful impact in the food industry.



**Eve Burton** 

I am a dedicated Food Science student with a strong interest in analytical and functional ingredient research. During my 22-week professional placement at Megazyme Ltd, I developed practical skills and industry insight, which have strengthened my passion for innovative problem-solving in the food industry.



### **Laoise Casey**

I have always been passionate about food and its impact on people, which inspired me to study Food Science at UCD. A highlight was studying abroad at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where I learned from leading lecturers and explored the American food sector. I have a strong interest in sustainability and the food industry's future, having recently completed my placement as a Sustainability Intern at Ornua. I am excited to begin my career and gain hands-on experience in the food industry.

Food Science UCD 2025

# **Niall Coffey**

I am a highly motivated individual with a keen passion in the Food Industry and Nutrition. During my time in UCD, I have developed a keen interest in all facets of Food Safety & Food Business. I was exposed to various Food Safety throughout my time on PWE and developed the skills to react to these situations in an appropriate manner alongside using the knowledge I have gained in applicable modules in UCD. I look forward to pursuing a career in the dynamic Food Industry as well as furthering my knowledge.



### **Shauna Conaty**

I am a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual with a strong passion for food science and nutrition. I completed my third year PWE in Tirlán in the quality department where I gained valuable insights and skills that have equipped me for a successful career in the field. I also had the opportunity to complete a semester abroad at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where I explored food science from a new perspective, broadening my knowledge and contributing to my personal and professional growth.



### Ciara Dillon

Having grown up on a family farm, I have developed a keen interest in the food and agricultural industries. Throughout my studies, I completed a semester abroad at the University of Nottingham, providing me with a new perspective on food science. I am grateful to have gained invaluable experience in the area of R&D at Kerry in the bakery department. This enhanced my teamwork and communication skills which were further developed during my final-year research project based in Teagasc.



# **Eimear Dooley**

I have really enjoyed my time at UCD. The past four years have been incredibly insightful, offering both academic challenges and practical experiences. During my PWE, I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the quality team at Tirlán, where I gained invaluable insights and skills into the food industry that I know will serve me well throughout my career.



# Katherine Doyle

As a final year Food Science student, I have gained dynamic experiences through my passion for food, nutrition, and sustainability. Studying abroad at the University of Vermont provided invaluable insights into global food systems, and sustainable approaches. At Donnelly Fresh Foods, I developed practical and creative skills in quality and NPD, strengthening my enthusiasm for innovation and nutrition. These experiences, inspire me to have a meaningful and positive impact in the food industry as I further my career.



UCD 2025 Food Science



# Sarah Doyle

I am a final-year Food Science student at UCD with a strong passion for nutrition, biology, and innovative food development. My time at UCD has deepened my interests and strengthened my expertise, as I have gained a comprehensive understanding of the work I aspire to undertake. During a five-month placement at Mark and Chappell, I contributed to quality assurance and new product development, honing my technical skills and creativity. I am eager to bring my knowledge, enthusiasm, and problem-solving abilities to my future endeavours.



### Mark Finucane

My time in UCD Bsc of Food Science will be well remembered. I've made friends and learnt skills that will help me establish a career in food science. Opportunities such as professional work experience and being a part of the Irish National Youth Food Forum have enhanced my experience of college and the food industry. Being able to connect with people with a prospective career in food science is something I'll value for years to come. Having the chance to network and socialise with like-minded people is a great advantage of studying food science in UCD.



Laura Friel

I am an ambitious and dedicated final-year Food Science student with a strong passion for food. During my time at UCD, I gained practical experience through a 22-week placement at Musgrave as a Food Safety and Technical Specialist. I enhanced my global perspective through a six-month study abroad programme at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and was honored to participate in the WeFood Academy, where I visited leading food and beverage companies in Italy and gained invaluable hands-on experience.



Alayna Garvey

I am a motivated & enthusiastic individual with strong communication skills and a deep passion for food science and nutrition. Studying Food Science at UCD helped me to develop a solid understanding of both the food industry and nutrition. I completed a 25-week PWE at Glenisk Ltd as a Lab Analyst and R&D Intern, where I had the opportunity to apply my academic knowledge to real-world challenges. I also continued working there part-time during my final year. I am excited to further my career in the dynamic and evolving field of nutrition and contribute to its growth.



# Zara Hopkins

Having grown up on a farm, I experienced food production first hand and how it gets from farm to fork. This is where my love for food started and is why I chose to study Food Science in UCD. Throughout the course, I've gained invaluable insight into all aspects of food. Having completed my PWE in the Quality Department at The Culinary Food Group, I developed practical experience in ensuring food quality. I am excited to apply my knowledge and explore new opportunities in the food industry.

Food Science UCD 2025

### **Emily Horan**

My time in UCD has allowed me to grow both personally and academically, and it has instilled in me a great passion for food science. My experience working with Valeo Foods has shown me the importance of food science in the world, and how it impacts every one of us. As a diligent and curious individual, I am eager to work in an environment that both challenges and motivates me, and I am looking forward to the opportunities that lie ahead.



### **Abbie Kelly**

As a current food science student with a strong foundation in food science and quality control, I am passionate about optimising processes and ensuring product excellence. My hands-on experience in HACCP, meat science, and innovative product development equips me to contribute effectively to the food industry.



### Alexandra Kiernan

I am an ambitious, enthusiastic and driven individual with a passion for food science and nutrition. Throughout my four years of studying Food Science in UCD, I have gained valuable knowledge about the food industry and nutrition. I completed my PWE at Teagasc Ashtown as a Food Research intern for 16 weeks where I could apply my food science knowledge in areas such as R&D and Sensory Analysis. I look forward to pursuing my career within the food industry and further expanding my knowledge.



### **Conor Thomas Lehane**

I joined Food Science as I always had an interest in how food was made, formulated and sold. Having growing up around sport I constantly thought of what I was eating and how healthy products can be made and developed. Coming out of UCD having completed the curriculum alongside completing my PWE I now feel confident in going on into the work force and being able to contribute positively to the continuing of producing healthy, sustainable and tasty products.



# **Melody Liu**

I am a final year Food Science student at UCD. Strong collaboration, time management, attention to detail and communication skills were developed throughout my degree, my internship at Kerrygold, part-time job, and volunteering experience. I have a positive, a 'can do' attitude, and a commitment to continuous learning. I have acquired analytical and lab safety skills through several laboratory practicals. My goal is to learn and apply my passion and skills to make a positive impact in the food industry.





### Mac Ma

Studying Food Science at UCD has deepened my passion for for product development and food business strategy. During my internship at Broderick's Brothers Chocolate Factory, I gained valuable experience in product reformulation and development. I am excited to apply the expertise and understanding I have developed to help me excel in the dynamic food industry.



### Tressan McCambridge

A major highlight of my time at UCD was my PWE in food safety and quality with Dunbia in Scotland, for which I was honored with a PWE Excellence Award. Additionally, my study abroad semester at the University of Maryland, USA, was an enriching academic and cultural experience. These gave me a new, global perspective on the food industry, particularly in the area of food safety. With a strong passion for this field, I am excited to pursue further studies or embark on a career in this dynamic industry next year.



### Medb McCarthy

Studying Food Science at UCD has been a fantastic experience, preparing me for a dynamic career in the food industry. Highlights include an R&D internship at Keurig Dr Pepper, a research project exploring bioactive compounds in Irish seaweed, and earning a microcredential in creativity and innovation for sustainable food systems. Passionate about food innovation and sustainability, I aim to combine creativity, leadership, and analytical skills to advance Ireland's food sector and enhance its global presence through innovation and dedication.



### Ellen McDonald

I have always been interested by food in all its aspects. My time at UCD has allowed me to explore these interests, particularly through my work experience on the Food Technical Team at Dunnes Stores, where I earned a distinction for my contributions in food quality and own label product development. Additionally, my study abroad experience at the University of Illinois further expanded my knowledge, and I was honoured to be placed on the Dean's List of Academic Scholars.

I look forward to applying my skills to contribute to advancements in the food industry.



# Robyn McNulty

My passion for the Irish food industry led me to pursue a BSc in Food Science at UCD. My studies provided a strong foundation, enhanced during my placement at AllinAll Ingredients. There, I gained hands-on experience in food safety, allergen testing, and quality control, improving my technical skills. I am currently working on my final-year research project, which explores multicomponent foods and flavour perceptions. I am excited to pursue a career in an industry I am truly passionate about, building on the knowledge and skills I developed at UCD.

### Luka Meyer

Food Science has opened a lot of doors for me and made my college experience thoroughly enjoyable. My semester long Erasmus to Iowa State was one of the best six months I have ever had while my placement over the summer of third year made me realize that I wanted to pursue a career in new product research and development while expanding my knowledge in this innovative and exciting industry.



# **Matthew Reynolds**

I have always had an interest in the business of food on a global scale and the importance of the science behind what we eat. I believe I have spent my time well in UCD studying Food Science as my ambition for the food industry has continued to grow. I am now truly excited to merge my scientific knowledge with my entrepreneurial skills and hit the ground running driving creative solutions and impactful advancements to global food business.



### **Aoibhinn Screene**

From a Dairy Farm in Galway, I've always had a passion for Ag and Food. I am a hardworking, ambitious and driven 4th year Food Sceince student. My last 4 years of college along with my time with the FSAI, has helped me develop many skills. I look forward to working and making a difference in the Ag and Food sector in the future.



# **Aisling Somers**

Growing up on a farm, I developed a strong interest in the food industry, curious about what happened once produce left the farm. Studying Food Science at UCD gave me a solid understanding of the food chain. Through academics and PWE, I've gained organisational, problem-solving, and communication skills. I'm passionate about innovation and quality control, eager to contribute to the food industry's future.



# **Vessel Yang**

Driven by a passion for food chemistry, I strive to advance the science behind food systems to address challenges in nutrition and quality. My academic journey, including first-class honours in Food Science and hands-on research experience with mass chromatography techniques, has sharpened my technical and analytical skills. I am committed to exploring innovative solutions that enhance food safety, sustainability, and functionality, bridging the gap between scientific understanding and practical applications in the food industry.



# **HUMAN NUTRITION**

The Human Nutrition program at UCD offers a thorough education in nutritional sciences, covering topics from biochemistry to molecular and public health nutrition, nutrition communication, and food regulatory affairs. Students develop an understanding of biological systems and their relevance to human nutrition, equipping them to apply their expertise across various roles in the food and health industries.



# **Ellen Battersby**

My passion for food stemmed from my parents both working with the food sector and from that I developed my own interest. This curiosity in food led me to pursuing this degree in Human Nutrition. In this degree, I have had the opportunity of working in Airfield Estate as a research intern which allowed my skills to flourish. I look forward to making a difference in the Irish food sector as my career develops.



### Megan Byrne

My interest in the impact of nutrition on health inspired me to pursue a BSc in Human Nutrition. Throughout this degree, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and had the opportunity to implement this knowledge while completing a 10-month placement within a HSE Primary Care Clinic. I have really enjoyed my study's in this degree and going forward, I am planning to apply for a Masters in Dietetics.



# **Katie Caffrey**

My interest in the role of nutrition in health and disease inspired me to pursue a BSc in Human Nutrition at UCD, where I have gained invaluable knowledge and practical experience over the past four years. My studies and PWE with the National Maternity Hospital dietetics department enhanced my research, teamwork, communication, and critical thinking skills. I look forward to pursuing my passion for nutrition and applying the skills and experience I have gained in my future career.



### Róisín Corbett

I am a motivated student passionate about the role of nutrition in health and disease prevention. My degree has given me a strong foundation in nutritional science, along with hands-on experience in research, laboratory techniques, and dietetics. I am eager to apply and expand my expertise in a future career and create positive change within the food industry.

Human Nutrition UCD 2025

### Sara Dekkar

Since studying home economics in secondary school, I have been passionate about human nutrition. During my placement at Airfield Estate, I worked on a project linking biodiversity and food production, focused on the European Sustainable Development Goals, which was proudly presented at the Nutrition Society Conference. I look forward to pursuing a master's degree in the field of nutrition.



### **Katie Dunne**

Studying Human Nutrition for four years fuelled my passion for understanding how diet influences health. I was particularly inspired by the intricate relationship between nutrition and long-term well-being. During my PWE as a research assistant for the NANS II survey, I developed essential new skills in data analysis and public health research, enhancing my interest in evidence-based approaches to nutrition. I look forward to applying this knowledge and experience in my future career.



### Stephen Fagan

Some fairytales have magic beans or apples, others have bowls of porridge and houses made of bread, cakes and sugar. In this fairytale we learned about fibre and polyphenols, challenge tests and inflammation, and it has been just as sweet. I have loved developing my knowledge and skills and look forward a career that ends happily ever after.



### Mia Grehan

The BSc in Human Nutrition at UCD has deepened my understanding of food's impact on health and refined my communication, teamwork, and practical skills, particularly during my work experience with the Dietetics Department at the National Maternity Hospital, Dublin. I look forward to pursuing my passion for nutrition and applying the knowledge learned throughout my degree to my future career.



# **Sophie Heaton**

I have always had a keen interest in nutrition and its link with health and disease which led me to pursue a BSc in Human Nutrition. I had the privilege of completing my professional work experience at the Centre of Metabolism Ageing and Physiology at the University of Nottingham. During my 10 months, I developed my nutrition, communication and research skills. I look forward to applying my knowledge and experience along with my passion for nutrition to my future career.



UCD 2025 Human Nutrition



### **Juliet Hill**

Over the past four years at UCD, I have developed a strong foundation in nutritional science, which I am excited to apply in my career. During my PWE, I spent ten months in a nutrition research setting, contributing to the delivery of dietary interventions. I also gained insights into food research and public health through a project on the Mediterranean diet, cognitive function, and behaviour change. I pride myself on a strong work ethic and enthusiasm for helping others through nutrition, aiming to make a positive impact on health.



# Molly Hogan

I've been passionate about food since childhood, fascinated by cooking, baking, and the impact of ingredients on health. My studies in biology and chemistry during the Leaving Cert deepened my love for science. Human Nutrition at UCD allowed me to combine these interests and along the way, I developed a growing interest in research. During my placement at the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, I gained practical experience applying my skills and completed a research project on nutrition and health claims. I'm eager to apply these skills in my future career.



### Catriona Innih

I am a highly motivated and driven individual with a passion to succeed in the food industry. Through out my time at UCD I've been privileged enough to gain a wealth of knowledge in the world of nutrition and its applications. I was fortunate enough to undertake my PWE as a technical associate at Nutritics, where I completed a research project that was accepted for presentation at the Nutrition Society Congress in Belfast. I look forward to applying and expanding my skills and experience in my future career which I hope to pursue in the food industry.



# Ali Maughan

Driven by a passion for nutrition and health, I am a dedicated and adaptable individual with strong communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. My experience at Peamount Healthcare developed my nutrition and research abilities while enhancing my capacity to thrive in collaborative environments. With a strong work ethic and commitment to delivering high-quality outcomes, I am eager to apply my skills and knowledge to positively impact individual well-being in my future career.



# Rachel Mc Gauley

My passion for nutrition and its effect on health stems from my interest in food from an early age. This interest led me to pursue a Bsc in Human Nutrition in UCD. I have acquired significant knowledge during my time in UCD, particularly during my PWE. I look forward to applying these skills in my future career.

Human Nutrition UCD 2025

### Dairine McCabe

Throughout my four years as a Human Nutrition student at UCD, I have acquired extensive knowledge and experience in nutrition and its diverse applications. I am a highly motivated individual committed to achieving exceptional standards in my work. My 10-month placement at Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin provided invaluable skills and practical experience, which I am eager to apply as I advance in my career.



### **Erin Pettit**

Sports have always played a significant part in my life, sparking my early awareness of the role nutrition plays in performance and overall health. This passion has driven my ambition to deepen my understanding of nutrition, shaping my career aspirations in this field. I had the privilege of completing my PWE with Daveynutrition, where I gained invaluable insights into not only sport specific nutrition, but how a small business navigates its way through this complex industry. College has provided me with many tools to succeed and contribute to the nutrition industry.



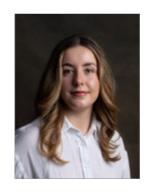
### Jenny Reid

From an early age, I have been passionate about the connection between nutrition, health, and wellbeing, leading me to pursue a degree in Human Nutrition at UCD. This degree enhanced my analytical and problem-solving skills while deepening my understanding of nutritional science. As a competitive powerlifter, I personally value the role of nutrition in performance and recovery. I am motivated, hardworking and adaptable, eager to pursue a career in dietetics to help individuals improve their health and quality of life.



# Lisa Reynolds

Studying Human Nutrition at UCD has been an incredible journey, blending my passion for health and science with a desire to understand the vital role of food in our lives. I've gained invaluable knowledge and skills through lectures, projects, labs and of course during my PWE at Danone Nutricia. The supportive environment and inspiring lecturers have shaped my academic growth. This experience has deepened my commitment to promoting wellbeing through nutrition, and I'm excited to pursue a career making a positive impact.



### Catherine Skikun

I am a motivated student passionate about nutrition and research. I view challenges as opportunities to learn. My PWE at Children's Health Ireland sparked my interest in paediatrics. After interning at the Coeliac Society of Ireland, I contributed to research at the UCD Perinatal Research Centre, which I later presented at the UCD Conway Festival. Balancing academics, internships, UCD Nutrition Society committee roles, and Gaelic football has strengthened my time management and teamwork skills, which I look forward to applying in my career.



UCD 2025 Human Nutrition



### **Una Stephens**

Growing up in a family that celebrated food seasonality and provenance ignited my interest in the relationship between health and diet. The Human Nutrition programme provided me with strong foundation in scientific research, metabolism and the relationship between nutrition and disease. During my 10-month PWE in Children's Health Ireland Temple Street, I gained valuable experience in clinical nutrition and research, while developing strong communication skills. I am eager to pursue a career in nutrition and apply my knowledge and skills.



### **Mia Stone**

My interest in health and well-being, along with my curiosity about the relationship between nutrition and health, inspired me to pursue a BSc in Human Nutrition. During my studies, I developed my research and communication skills and gained invaluable experience through my professional work placement at the UCD Perinatal Research Centre/National Maternity Hospital in Dublin. I look forward to applying my skills and knowledge in my future career.



### **Caitlin Thomas**

I have always been fascinated by the relationship between nutrition and health, driven by a deep passion for food and sports. This led me to study Human Nutrition. As an enthusiastic and motivated student, I really enjoy a challenge. I completed a 10-month placement at Tallaght University Hospital, which was an invaluable and eye-opening experience. In the future, I am committed to pursuing a career in dietetics, where I can apply my knowledge and passion to promote better health outcomes.



### Sarah Turley

I have always had a passion for nutrition and its impact on health and well-being. During my placement in the Human Physiology Laboratory at the University of Nottingham, I gained invaluable experience, which enhanced my understanding of the connections between diet and physiology. As I look toward the future, I am excited to continue exploring the relationship between health and diet.



### Aimée Voss

Playing sports growing up sparked a passion in me for sports nutrition, which led me to pursue my college degree in human nutrition. Through all of my experiences throughout this degree, with my placement in UCD in particular, I have learned an invaluable amount of information, and my experience is one which has given me a vast knowledge of my degree, and which direction I want to head in my future. I am a driven, focused person, excited for my future in sports nutrition.

# **DAIRY BUSINESS**

The Dairy Business program was created to offer students entering the dairy industry, whether in dairy farming or related supporting industries, a comprehensive set of scientific, technical, and business skills. In addition to these core competencies, the program emphasises the development of strong communication abilities, ensuring that graduates are well-prepared to navigate and succeed in the dynamic and evolving dairy sector.

### **Jack Baudains**

I grew up on a dairy farm in West Cork and have a strong interest in dairy farming and industry. My passion for dairy farming is what drove me to pursue a career in the dairy industry. I am a keen learner with an ambition to progress and broaden my knowledge in the dairy sector. I completed my PWE in New Zealand where I gained insight in managing a large scale grass based dairy farm. My time spent in Teagasc Moorepark allowed me to gain in-depth technical skills which I can now apply along with my degree to help create a sustainable future of the dairy industry.



### Sean Bohane

Hardworking, enthusiastic individual with a passion for Agriculture with a keen interest in dairy. Coming from a dairy and beef farm in West Cork I always knew Agriculture was the route for me. My time studying dairy business gave me the opportunity to travel to New Zealand and experience dairy farming at a large scale aswell as developing technical skills from my time studying in Moorepark. These experiences have equipped me with the knowledge and expertise to excel in the ever growing and advancing Agri-sector.



# **Lucy Catterson**

I come from a dairy farm in Donegal where I developed my love and passion for agriculture. Studying Agriculture Science in UCD was a goal of mine which has given me a great depth of knowledge of the agriculture sector. I travelled to New Zealand to complete my PWE which gave me an insight into large scale dairy farms. My semester spent in Teagasc Moorepark vastly increased my knowledge of the dairy industry. I am a hard working, resilient and reliable person who is excited to pursue a career in the agriculture sector.



### **Brid Cotter**

Motivated and capable 4th year BAgrSc student with a special interest in Animal Breeding and Farm Business Management. Interested in specialising in one of these areas upon graduation. Has developed diverse farm management skills in both Irish and New Zealand farming industries, having previously spent 6 months working on a 750-cow dairy farm in 2023 in Invercargill, New Zealand. Active member of the Agricultural Society 2024 and member of the 2024 UCD O'Connor Cup ladies football team.



UCD 2025 Dairy Business



### **Louise Coyne**

From a young age I've had a serious passion for agriculture. I grew up on a beef and sheep farm and now stemming to Dairy too in County Meath. This passion brought me to UCD where I built friendships and connections to last a lifetime. I Experienced large scale dairy farming in Invercargill, New Zealand and a semester in Moorepark, Cork left me with valuable knowledge. I am eager to contribute this knowledge and enthusiasm to an everevolving dairy industry.



# **Stephen Fennell**

Having grown up on a progressive dairy farm in Carlow, I am passionate about pursuing a career in agriculture. My studies in dairy business have deepened my understanding of the industry. Work experience in New Zealand and a semester at Teagasc Moorepark have enhanced my expertise. I am a hardworking and driven team player, as evidenced by the "Paddy O'Keeffe" project award I received, along with my involvement in sport. I am eager to embrace new challenges in my future career.



### **Christian Graham**

Growing up a dairy farm in County Monaghan, I aimed to study Dairy Business at UCD, where I've gained valuable insights into the industry. My practical experience, including a placement in New Zealand and at Teagasc Moorepark, has further deepened my understanding of the sector. I'm eager to continue this learning as I move into my agricultural career.



### Alannah Rose Mc Kenna

The past four years studying Dairy Business in UCD have been class! My favourite part was the PWE in New Zealand – cows, stunning views, and a bit of craic. Best of all, I've made some lifelong friends along the way!



### Jane Mooney

I am passionate about dairy farming, growing up with a split spring/winter producing Holstein pedigree herd, where I developed my interest in the industry. I had the opportunity to work on a dairy farm in New Zealand during my college placement and on a large farm in Ireland while at Moorpark. These experiences exposed me to different farming systems, broadening my understanding of input systems. I'm eager to apply this knowledge and continue learning in the evolving dairy industry.

Dairy Business UCD 2025

### **Barry O Brien**

Having grown up on a dairy farm in County Waterford, I have always had a big interest in the agricultural industry from a very early age, which has led me to where I am today, a final year Dairy Business student in UCD. My PWE allowed me to experience a large scale grass based system in South-West Missouri, while also delving into the animal feed industry with Adesco Nutricines. My passion for GAA has instilled in me a solid work ethic that enables me to balance multiple responsibilities effectively.



# Caitriona O'Byrne Casey

Throughout my dairy business degree, I have been immersed in gaining insights into the practical and the business side of the industry.

I received a distinction for PWE in Teagasc Moorepark. It was a privilege to soak up the terminologies, the research processes, and the team efforts involved in the PhD trials. I enthusiastically implement my learnings on the home dairy farm in South Tipperary. I look forward to continued involvement in an industry I feel a rich affiliation with.



### Adrian O'Driscoll

Pursuing a career in the Agricultural sector has always been a desired ambition of mine and choosing Dairy Business as my specialty has opened up great experiences for me. During my time in Missouri, I enhanced my skills and gained experience working in larger teams while staying independently driven. My experience at Moorepark expanded my knowledge and enthusiasm for the dairy industry. I would describe myself as both hardworking and ambitious, which are attributes that stem from my work and sporting interests.



### **Ross O Neill**

I've come from in county Clare and have always had an interest in dairy farming. Studying Dairy Business in UCD was the course I had the most interest in before college. Travelling to New Zealand for my PWE has been the highlight of the course for me. I've gained a lot of knowledge so far from studying at UCD and I'm looking forward to broadening my knowledge on the industry even further.



### Cathal O'Shea

Hailing from a dairy farm in the west of Clare, it was always an ambition of mine to study Dairy Business in UCD. I have gained a wealth of knowledge here in UCD, as-well as my time in Canterbury NZ for my PWE and furthermore in Moorepark. I look forward to broadening my knowledge as I peruse my career in the agricultural sector where there is always something new to learn.



UCD 2025 Dairy Business



# John Edward O Shea Murphy

My family background on a beef farm and my involvement in agri-contracting instilled in me a great love of the outdoors and a passion for agriculture. My time in UCD and Teagasc Moorepark reinforced this, broadening my knowledge of the industry, allowing me to gain experience through PWE. I am a hard working and dedicated person who relishes responsibility. I thrive in team environments, shown by my experience in my part-time job with machinery. My interests include rugby and horses.



## **Hazel Tobin O Dwyer**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in UCD and was awarded the Advantage Award (2023) underlining my commitment to education, training and leadership. My UCD Resident/ Campus Assistant roles have also provided insight and experience in team management, task setting and goal achievement. My international placement in New Zealand highlighted the complexities of large-scale dairy business in a vastly different work environment/ context. I look forward to applying my degree in the ever changing food and agricultural business industry.

# AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

This specialised applied science degree provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to make a significant contribution to agriculture and environmental management. By blending classroom learning, hands-on field experience, and professional work placements, students develop a thorough understanding of rural environmental challenges, sustainable agricultural practices, and the policies and programs designed to safeguard natural resources.

### **Robert Barton**

My passion for agriculture was inspired by my upbringing on an organic suckler farm in South Tipperary, where I developed a strong work ethic and deep appreciation for sustainable farming practices. Pursuing a degree in Agri-Environmental Science has provided me with valuable knowledge and skills, equipping me to make meaningful contributions in my future career within the agricultural industry.



### Maria Cahill

With a strong interest in sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation, I am keen to apply my academic knowledge and develop practical skills. I am excited to contribute to a team and gain valuable experience that will help me build a meaningful career in this field.



### Isobella Eivers

The experience I gained over the course of my degree and professional work placement has further increased my interest in the agricultural sector and provided me with vast opportunities to further expand my knowledge while improving my ability to see the intrinsic link between the environment and agriculture. I strive to achieve excellence in my work and handle any challenges in an efficient and appropriate manner.



# **Alison Finlay**

Studying Ag/ Environmental Science at UCD has allowed me to deepen my passion for improving the sustainability of the agricultural industry. I am driven by a desire to empower farmers with solutions that reduce strain and improve farming outcomes. PWE gave me immense confidence in both my interpersonal skills and my ability to apply the knowledge gained through college in a practical way and allowed me to gain hands-on experience in crop trials and water quality projects.



UCD 2025 Agri-Environmental Science



# **Aisling Floyd**

Studying agricultural science has always been a no brainier for me coming from a dairy farm in county Meath. I have always had a passion for cows as well as caring for the environment. The opportunities that UCD has given me including studying abroad in Michigan State University and PWE both on farm and in Teagasc advisory have been excellent and have equipped me for a career in this industry. The future of agriculture in Ireland is both exciting and challenging and the agri-environmental sciences programme was the clear pathway for my future career.



### **Eoin Hassett**

My passion for both Agriculture and the natural world developed from my time working on my grandfather's sheep farm from a young age and being encouraged to learn about native Irish flora and fauna from primary school onwards. This passion led me down the road to pick Agri-Enviormental as the course for me.



### Sarah Lavery

I am a diligent, enthusiastic, hardworking individual from Co. Mayo with a passion for agriculture and nature. My time in UCD has given me an insight on the key opportunities for the development of a sustainable agricultural sector. During my PWE, I gained experience in the sheep and dairy sectors in Ireland and the UK. I also completed the ACRES West Connacht Summer Bursary where I gained invaluable practical experience in habitat assessment, ecological monitoring and farm advisory and training.



### Alisha Lawler

I am passionate about sustainable agriculture. Growing up on a tillage farm in County Kildare, I've experienced first hand the challenges of balancing productivity with environmental responsibility. This inspired me to pursue a career integrating both agricultural and environmental practices. Through work placements at Backweston Farm DAFM's Crop Policy and Certification Division and Teagasc in Oak Park, I've gained valuable experience that I hope to carry with me into the future.



### Siobhán Maguire

Growing up on our family's farm in Co.Leitrim fuelled my desire and enthusiasm for the agricultural industry. Studying at UCD has given me the opportunity to broaden my knowledge and emphasise the connection between farming and the environment. While highlighting the importance of sustainability for the future of agriculture. Through PWE, I acquired invaluable knowledge and experience in the agriculture sector, which will be immensely beneficial for my future studies and career through my skills of diligence and adaptability.

Agri-Environmental Science UCD 2025

# **Adam McNally**

Studying Agri-Environmental science has allowed me to further enhance my interest in sustainable farming and nature. Coming from a hard-working family background I have gained experience on wind farms and sites across Ireland and the United Kingdom. My PWE at ESB put my studies into practice, using GIS mapping and gaining valuable field skills. I have a keen passion for playing and managing GAA teams both in UCD and in my home county of Fermanagh.



# **Clodagh Mitchell**

Growing up on a tillage farm in County Meath, I developed a deep passion for agriculture. In the face of unprecedented environmental challenges brought about by climate change, the need for expertise in environmental science has never been greater. This course has equipped me with invaluable knowledge and skills that will serve as a strong foundation for pursuing a meaningful career in the agricultural industry.



# **Áine Molloy**

Growing up on sheep/beef farm has created a deep appreciation for the outdoors, and agricultural industry. I am passionate about the crossover of agricultural practices and environmental sustainability. I expanded my horizons through PWE, getting the opportunity to work on a dairy farm and in DAFM's Nature and land use division. The AES course has sparked my curiosity to pursue a career in a dynamic and evolving agriculture industry.



### **Emmet Moran**

As an Agri-Environmental Science student from Leitrim, I have developed a deep understanding of sustainable land management and environmental stewardship. My active involvement in the Ag Soc Society has enhanced my teamwork and organisation skills, allowing me to connect with like-minded individuals passionate about agriculture. Growing up in rural Ireland has fuelled my commitment to improving farming practices that balance productivity with environmental conservation, driving my ambition to make a meaningful impact in the agricultural sector.



# Ciara Reilly

My passion for agriculture was shaped by my upbringing on our family beef farm in Co. Cavan. I am driven and focused with a strong work ethic, who works well in team settings. I thoroughly enjoyed my time here at UCD, where I was afforded the chance learn from some of the leading experts in the sector. One of my highlights was PWE, where I worked at a private advisory and an organic farm in Co. Cavan. Pursuing a degree in Agri-Environmental Science has provided me with the skills to support my future endeavors in the agricultural sector.



UCD 2025 Agri-Environmental Science



# **Hannah Rooney**

Driven by a strong interest in farming and environmental issues, I chose this course to deepen my expertise. I would describe myself as a hardworking and motivated individual. During my third-year Professional Work Experience, I carried out placement working with an environmental company researching pollution pathways. Additionally, I carried out placement on an organic vineyard in France ,broadening my agricultural knowledge. This course has provided me with the essential skills and knowledge to excel in these fields and tackle future challenges in agriculture.



# **Kayley Simpson**

I have a keen interest in Agri-environmental science which stemmed from growing up on a small suckler farm in East county Galway. Here I was exposed to the everyday workings of a farm and the environmental considerations which must be taken everyday. Through these considerations I understood the importance of the environment and sustainable agriculture which is the future of farming. I hope to continue with these values and take them into my future career.

# **ANIMAL SCIENCE - EQUINE**

The Animal Science – Equine program provides students with insights into the growth, development, and functioning of farm animals, including their behavior, welfare, and nutrition. It explores current and emerging technologies aimed at creating sustainable agriculture while meeting the demands of a growing global population. Students gain an in-depth understanding of Ireland's equine industry, its global significance, and entrepreneurial opportunities, with specialised modules covering equine health, reproduction, genetics, breeding, nutrition, and exercise physiology. These are delivered by leading experts, emphasizing technological advancements and future research in equine science.

### Charmane Caldwell

My studies in Equine Science have given me a strong foundation in both the equine industry and general science. Growing up around horses, I developed a passion for expanding my knowledge and skills. I am hardworking, enthusiastic, and reliable, and I enjoy working both independently and in a team. During my Professional Work Experience at Coolmore America in Kentucky, I gained valuable hands-on experience, which I am eager to apply in my future career in the equine industry.



### Niamh Carr

I've always been involved in the thoroughbred world and have been working with horses from a young age. I got my first job in a stud farm when I was 15 which is where my passion for race horses began. This degree was the best choice for me to cater to my interests and help develop my knowledge and skills. Learning about horses on a biological level has really helped me in my work and has made me appreciate the animal in a completely different way.



### Niamh Lawless

Thoroughly enjoyed my 4 years at UCD studying equine science, a lot of great opportunities arose from doing this course including spending third year placement in the States working with horses. Looking forward to a future career in this field.



### **Isabel Mac Dermott**

I am a confident, hardworking and adaptable individual. My degree has allowed me to broaden my knowledge of both the agricultural industry and the equine industry, and I look forward to how I will be able to apply this in my future career. During my fantastic time on PWE in the USA at Redfield Farms I was able to apply my knowledge to practical work while further developing my skillset. I look forward to future opportunities in this industry.



UCD 2025 Animal Science - Equine



### Ciara McAteer

I have always been passionate about working with horses and have a wide range of experience working in the equine industry. My experience includes working in showjumping yards with sport horses and in thoroughbred training yards and breeding operations. I completed my PWE at Godolphin where I gained an insight into a world class breeding facility, and Equilume, where I gained experience in international marketing and scientific innovation. I am fascinated by all areas of the equine industry and I am eager to continue my learning after graduation.



# **Aisling Moran**

Having grown up working with horses I have always been very passionate about pursuing a career within the equine industry. Studying at UCD has provided me with a wide range of knowledge and practical experience to develop my knowledge of the industry. I completed my work placement at Redfield Farm in the United States which provided me with an invaluable amount of practical experience. I am hardworking, motivated and reliable and hope to develop my career within the equine and agricultural industry.



### Killian O'Shaughnessy

Studying Equine Science in UCD has been extremely memorable, the last four years have provided me with great memories and experiences that will stand to me later in life. The highlight of my course would have to be the 6 months I spent working in Kentucky, the time I spent there was invaluable. UCD opened my eyes to many new ideas and opportunities, for that I am very grateful and excited to see what the future holds.



# **Sophie Tanner Wall**

Although I did not grow up in agriculture, my passion for horses began at 12 through polocrosse. I am hardworking, reliable, and passionate about the equine industry. Studying Equine Science provided incredible opportunities, including a study exchange at Purdue University and completing my PWE at Coolmore Ashford Stud in Kentucky. There, I gained valuable hands-on experience in the thoroughbred industry, deepening my interest in the sector and preparing me to build on these experiences in my career.

# AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

Agricultural Systems Technology students are trained to design, implement, and manage technologies for the agricultural sector. They gain expertise in leveraging technology to enhance sustainability, efficiency, and reliability in farming and food production. The curriculum covers engineering, science, mathematics, and data science, preparing graduates to work with technologies like computer systems, networks, data management tools, sensors, machinery systems, and precision agriculture.

### **Daragh Bagnall**

Agriculture has been central to my upbringing, growing up on a tillage, beef, and suckler farm. My passion for machinery led me to a leadership role in our family's contracting business, giving me valuable experience. Studying at UCD alongside my PWE in Germany has expanded my knowledge of the agricultural sector greatly. I look forward to building on these experiences in the future.



### Cillian Birney

Agriculture has been embedded in me from a young age as I come from a robotic dairy farm in county Laois. I have studied and worked hard with companies such as Quinns of Baltinglass and Herdwatch while completing my PWE. I am a driven, ambitious and diligent individual, which has allowed me to embrace and overcome any challenges over the years. I have always had a deep passion for animal production, management and also, how we can use innovative technology to contribute to the agricultural sector. I look forward to my future career in this evolving sector.



### **Peter Dunne**

Growing up around and working in agriculture has really inspired me to want to work in the sector . I have always had a huge interest in mechanical and design aspects which is the main reason I choose agricultural systems technology. After completing my PWE in the UK working for the leading manufacturer for potato equipment Grimme for 5 months it has really given me an insight into the path I want to follow in the future and I am really excited to progress my career in the agricultural sector.



# Ella Kavanagh

Studying Agriculture Systems Technology has helped me develop a strong interest in agriculture, along with my interest in engineering and technology. During my PWE at Teagasc, I gained valuable insight into the agricultural industry and worked closely with experienced professionals which allowed me to achieve a distinction. I am a focused and hardworking individual and always eager to take on new challenges and learn. Studying at UCD has allowed me to transcend my skills in precision agriculture, data management and sensors.





### **Eoin Mackay**

Student of Agricultural Systems Technology. As part of my degree I studied food systems, buildings, infrastructure and other STEM principles. I completed one semester of Erasmus Plus at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. My 'Distinction' in Professional Work Experience came from placements in UCD's Department of Architecture and the DAFM in Ballyderown (Moorepark), Co. Cork. I did my Capstone Project on 'Sustainable Urban Agriculture'. With a full, clean driving licence, I am willing to work in any location.



### Lauryn Roche

I am an Agricultural Systems Technology student with expertise in data analysis, farm management, and sustainable resource planning. As Vice-Captain of UCD Ladies Boat Club, I've developed leadership, organisation, and teamwork skills. My experience managing projects, including international logistics and financial planning, demonstrates my ability to deliver results under pressure. I'm passionate about advancing agricultural efficiency and sustainability.



### **Darragh Scully**

I am a hardworking, enthusiastic individual with extensive agricultural knowledge gained from years on my family's dairy, beef, and tillage farm. My time at UCD equipped me with a well-rounded skill set in agriculture, engineering, and research through different projects and modules. This combination of practical and theoretical expertise provides a strong foundation for my career and contributed to my receipt of a certificate of excellence for professional work experience, highlighting my dedication and ability to excel in the industry.

# **CROP SCIENCE**

The Crop Science Program offers students the opportunity to delve into the science, production, and management of crops, covering everything from genetics to field practices. With an emphasis on agronomy, students examine crop production and soil management techniques to enhance yield and quality. Guided by experienced faculty actively engaged in cutting-edge agricultural and agribusiness research, the program provides a solid grounding in basic sciences. Students also explore topics such as emerging crop pathogens, organic farming, climate and soil dynamics, and the relationship between plants and nutrition.

### Cillian Lawlor

Coming from a tillage beef and contracting business in county Meath, agricultural work is second nature to me from young age. During my PWE I got to experience first hand the research work in Teagasc Oak Park and the work carried out in DAFM. I have spent my time in UCD studying crop science as I believe it to have a large say in our future in agriculture and look forward to my journey in the agricultural sector.



# Tom Loughran

Growing up on an arable farm and being actively involved in my father's agronomy advisory business, my passion for agriculture developed from an early age. Over the past four years at UCD, I have gained a comprehensive understanding of various agricultural sectors, complemented by my Professional Work Experience in third year, which provided valuable insights into both practical and industry aspects of the field. I aim to continue broadening my expertise and pursue a successful and impactful career in the agriculture industry.



# **Andrew Strong**

I am a motivated, reliable individual with a passion for crop production and management, stemming from my upbringing on a crop farm in County Offaly which led me to pursue a BSc in Crop Science at UCD. At UCD, I gained valuable experience, including an Erasmus exchange at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. A highlight of PWE was working as part of a team with Teagasc and the Department of Agriculture on various trials. These opportunities enhanced my skills and knowledge, and I look forward to applying my expertise in the agri-food sector in the future.



# HORTICULTURE

The Horticulture programme enables students to contribute positively to sustainability and climate change mitigation. By promoting sustainable plant cultivation, plant-based diets, and a strong understanding of biodiversity and conservation, students help address many of today's environmental challenges. With an emphasis on eco-friendly practices and cutting-edge technologies, this degree provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to become effective and confident leaders in the horticulture field.



### William Lewis Kenny

I am passionate about sustainable land management and research-driven approaches to innovation in agriculture. My studies focus on integrating eco-friendly practices with innovative technologies to address challenges like food security and environmental sustainability. With experience in soil health, pest management, and biodiversity conservation, I aim to contribute to resilient agricultural systems. I look forward to advancing sustainable horticulture practices and collaborating with professionals to drive positive environmental and economic change.



### **Alex Matthews**

Coming from a landscaping background in county Meath my interest in horticulture began at a young age. The last four years in UCD has expanded my knowledge in all aspects of agriculture as well as my PWE in third year where I got to experience more practical aspects of horticulture. I am very driven in horticulture and hope to expand my knowledge even further and build a successful career.



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