

The landscape of language teaching and learning in Higher Education in Ireland

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Competences



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Languages Connects:

Ireland's strategy for foreign languages in education (2017-2026)

- Goal 1: Improve language proficiency
- Goal 2: Diversify and increase the uptake of languages
- Goal 3: Increase the awareness of languages
- Goal 4: Enhance employer engagement

Languages goals for HE

- Rollout of professional development framework for staff in higher education.
- Encourage and support the use of innovative teaching methods and ICT supports for learning languages.
- Continue to promote the enhancement of teaching and learning of languages across the higher education sector.
- The HEA will review, with the HEIs, the expansion of subjects which should include foreign language elements to meet existing skill gaps.

MEASURE	BASELINE (2016)	MID TERM TARGET (2022)	END TARGET (2026)
Percentage Of Candidates Presenting For A Foreign Language For Junior Certificate/Cycle Examination	87%	92%	100%
Percentage Of Junior Certificate/Cycle Candidates Sitting German, Spanish And Italian As A Proportion Of Total Curricular Foreign Language Sits	40%	45%	50%
Percentage Of Schools Offering Two Or More Foreign Languages As Part Of Transition Year	53%	75%	100%
Percentage Of Candidates Presenting For A Foreign Language For Leaving Certificate Examination	69%	74%	79%
Percentage Of Leaving Certificate Candidates Sitting German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Japanese And Arabic As A Proportion Of Total Curricular Foreign Language Sits	38%	41%	45%
Percentage Of Students Studying Courses With A Language Component In Higher Education	4% (2012/13)	10%	20%
Learner Attitudes Towards Foreign Language Learning	To be established	-	-

Post-primary students taking languages for the Leaving Certificate examination 2018

Language	No. candidates: Higher Level	No. candidates: Ordinary Level	Total no. candidates	Total LC candidates
IRISH	22400	21439	43839	57,149
FRENCH	15485	8225	23710	
GERMAN	6194	2309	8503	
SPANISH	4967	2060	7027	
POLISH	687	-	687	
ITALIAN	363	99	462	

Other languages: ROMANIAN JAPANESE LITHUANIAN ARABIC
 PORTUGUESE LATVIAN CROATIAN HUNGARIAN DUTCH SLOVAKIAN
 MODERN GREEK BULGARIAN CZECH



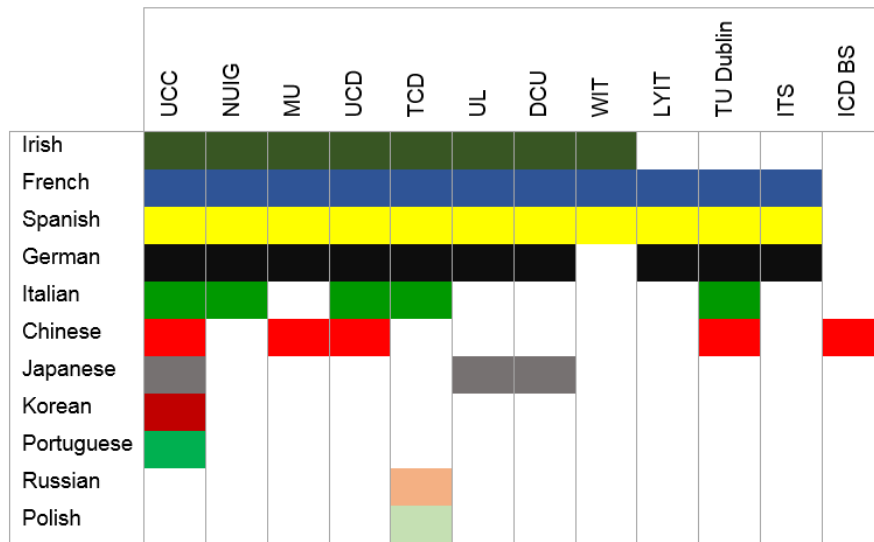
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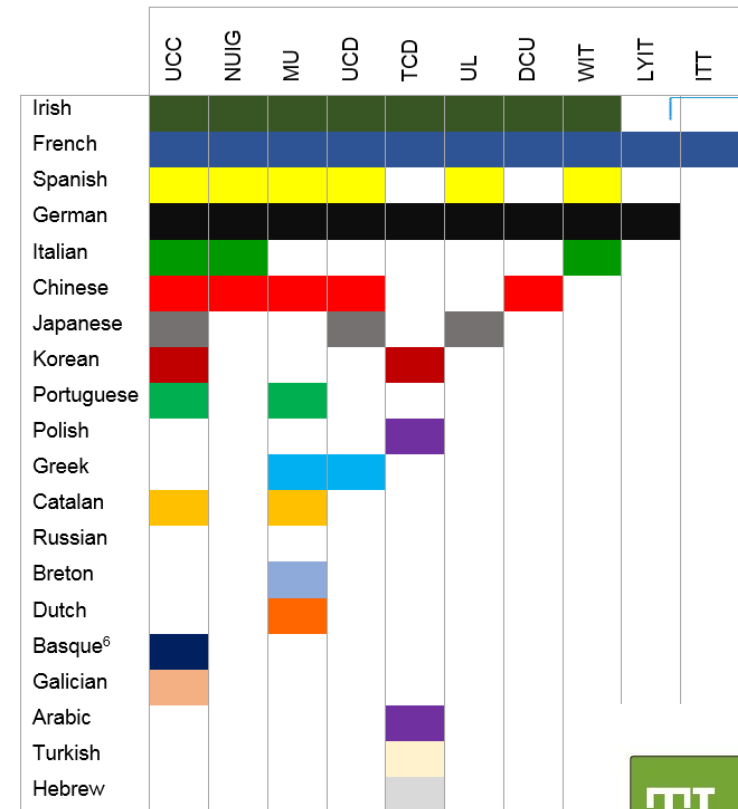
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Languages in Higher Education – Languages offered

Languages offered as a major within a degree programme



Languages offered as minor or elective as part of a degree programme



HELECs

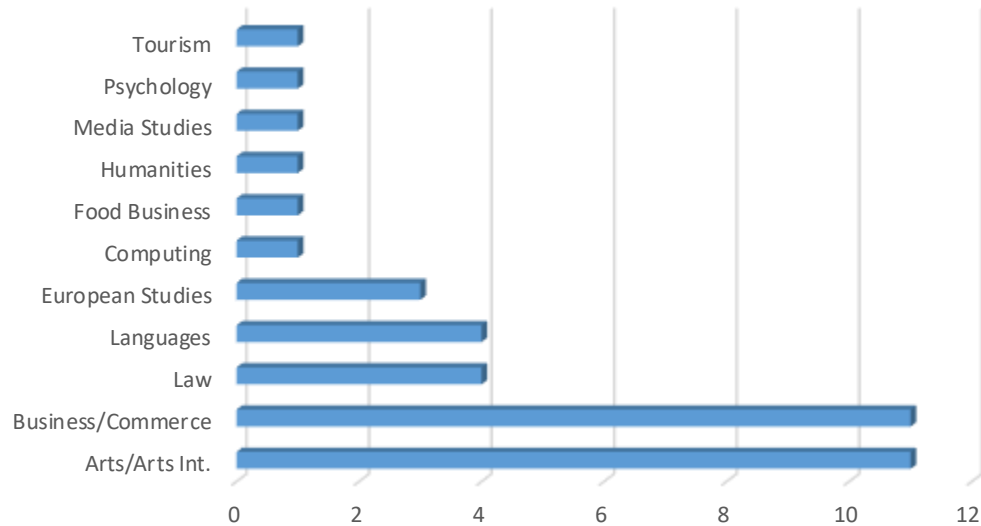
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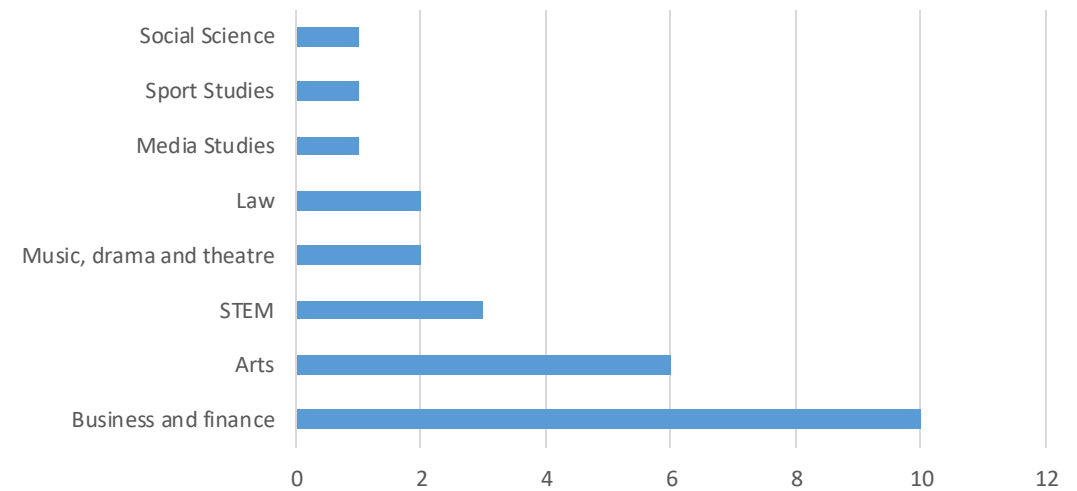
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Languages in Higher Education – degree programmes

Number of HEIS offering language as a major per field of study



Number of HEIs offering language as a minor per field of study



Language provision

Units

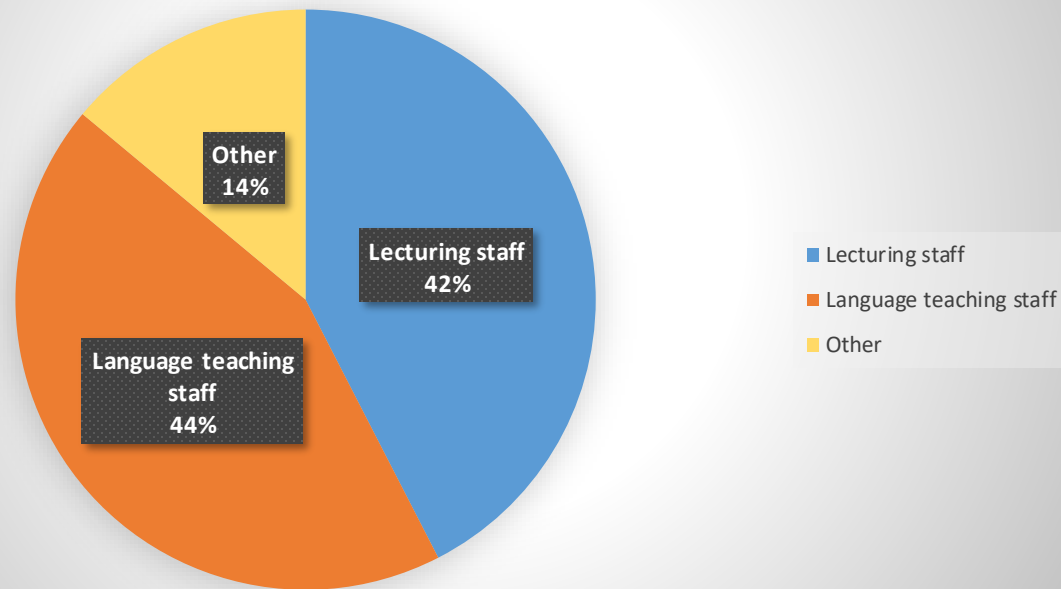
- School of Language
 - Language departments
 - Languages as disciplines
 - Languages as subjects
- School of Irish
- Ionad na Gaeilge Labhartha
- Language Centre
- Life-long Learning Centre
- Other academic departments/school
 - Law
 - Languages, tourism and hospitality
 - Business

Non-degree courses

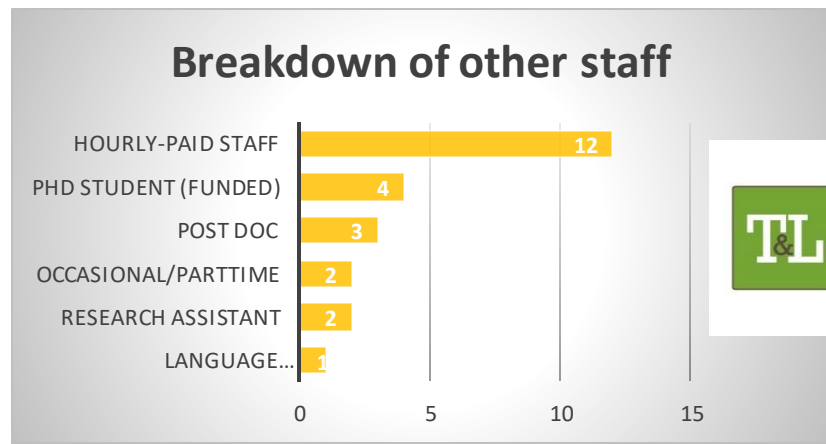
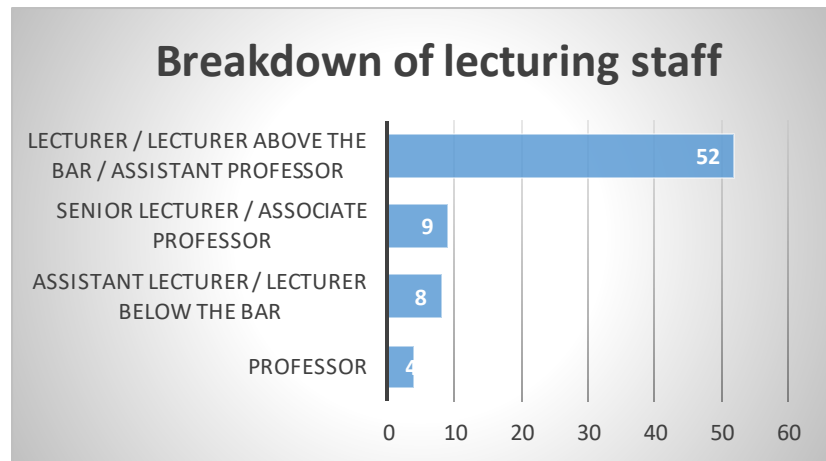
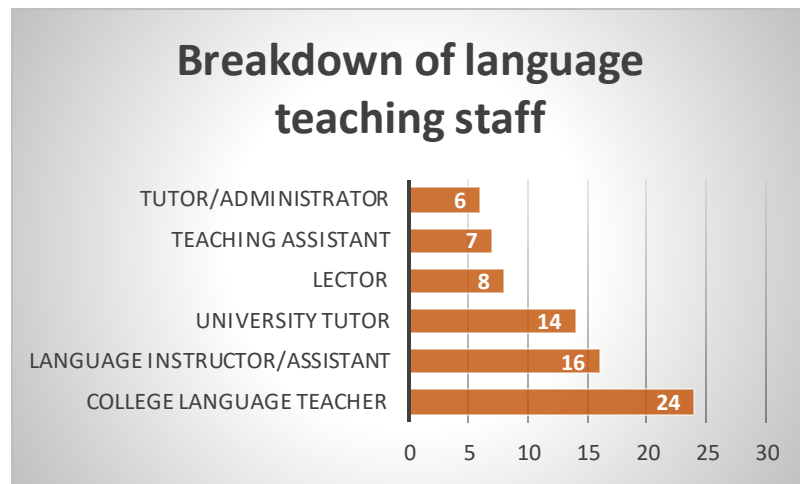
- IWLPs/Languages for All
- Extra mural courses
- Short courses
- Evening courses
- Life-long learning courses

Who teaches language?

Overview of staff who teach language at UCC, MU, DCU and WIT

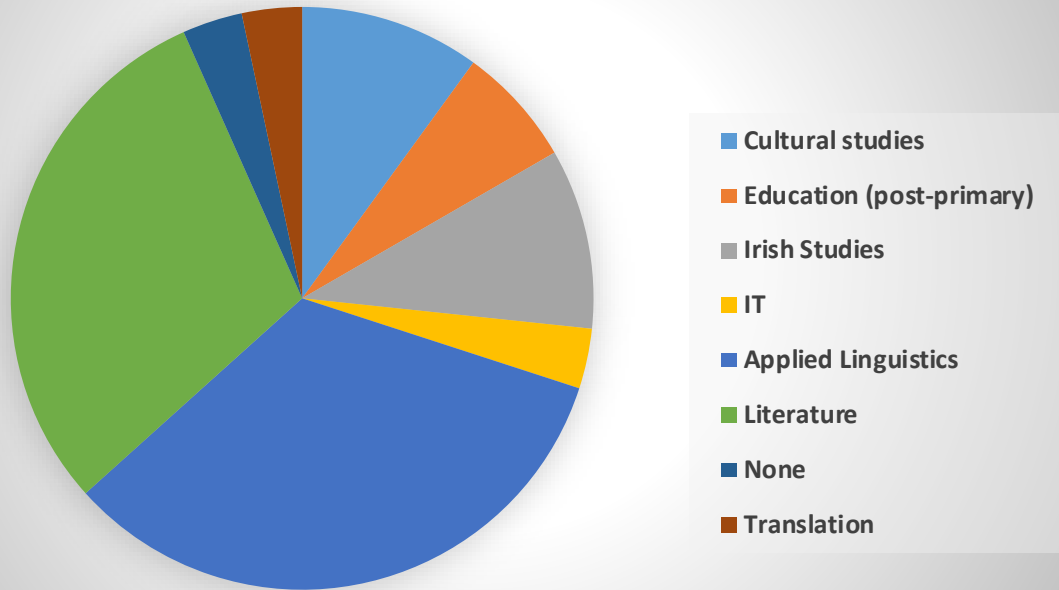


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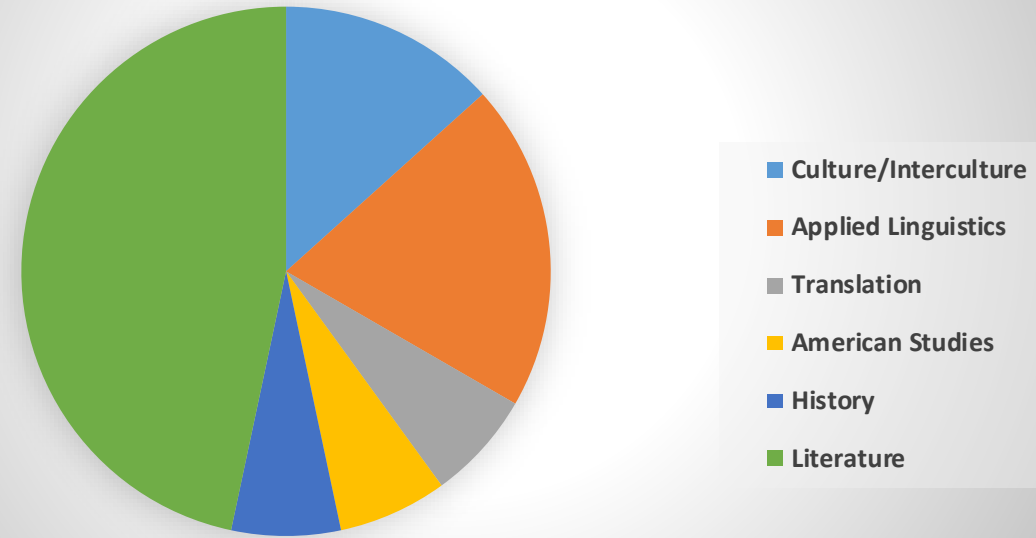


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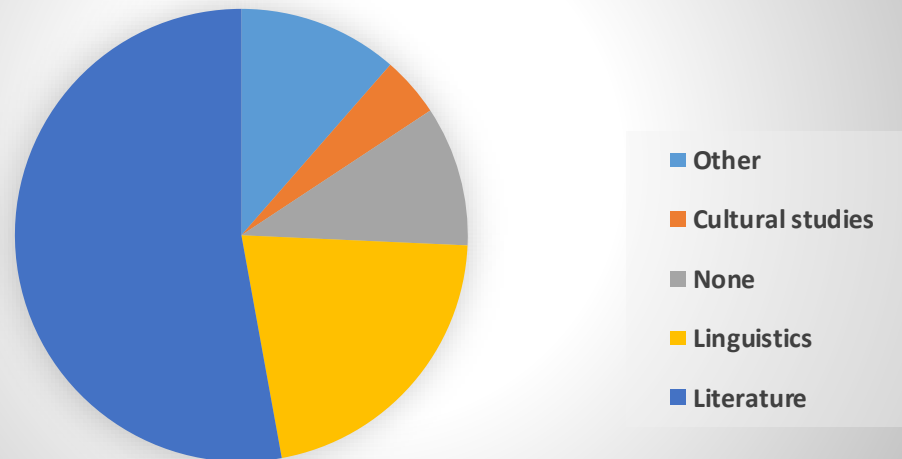
MA disciplines of language teaching staff



Disciplines of language teaching staff with or pursuing a PhD



PhD discipline of academic staff who teach language



Conclusion

- Complexity of landscape
- Goal setting for an unknown context
- Community of practice
- The HELECs project