

Induction 2025 Arrival Guide

BSc/BSc Hons in Health and Social Studies



Department of Early Education & Social Studies Programmes:

- Higher Cert in Early Childhood Care, Health and Education
- BSc in Applied Approaches to Childhood Autism
- BSc in Inclusive Practice for Special Needs Assistance
- BSc in Health and Social Studies (Monaghan Institute)
- BSc Hons in Health and Social Studies (Monaghan Institute)
- BSc Hons in Early Childhood Care, Health and Education
- BSc Hons in Health and Social Care
- BSc Hons Inclusive Practice
- HDip in Leadership and Wellbeing in the Workplace
- HDip in Counselling Studies
- Certificate in Community Development Practice (Level 6)
- Certificate in Building SAFER Communities (Level 7)

Department of Early Education & Social Studies:

- Head of Department of Early Education and Social Studies:
Dr Nigel McKelvey
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Faculty Management Suite Room 2461
- Dept of Early Education and Social Studies
Practice Placement Co-Ordinator: Ms Sarah Bonar
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Faculty Administration Office Room 2469
- Lecturer:
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Welcome!

We are delighted you have chosen to study in the Department of Early Education and Social Studies. Our Induction Programme aims to introduce you to ATU Donegal, academic and support staff and your fellow students. It is essential you attend all the activities timetabled here to ensure you don't miss out on any important information that will make life and learning easier at ATU Donegal. Welcome to Atlantic Technological University Donegal – the future is here!

Department of Early Education & Social Studies

Congratulations on accepting a place on your chosen programme in the Department of Early Education & Social Studies at ATU Donegal. The Department is a vibrant and dynamic Department and currently has approximately 600 undergraduate and postgraduate students studying at Level 6, Level 7, Level 8 and Level 9.

Dr Nigel McKelvey, Head of Department of Early Education & Social Studies, together with all Department Staff welcome you to the Department of Early Education and Social Studies and wish you every success in your studies. Welcome to Atlantic Technological University Donegal – the future is here!

Induction - September 2025

Induction for your courses in the Department of Early Education and Social Studies will take place on campus in Monaghan Institute in September 2025. Students can expect to receive an email regarding induction in due course. You can begin the Registration process with Online Registration before you visit the campus.

Garda Vetting is required for your programme and you must engage with the Garda Vetting Liaison Officer regarding additional requirements as your registration may not be complete until you have submitted all relevant documentation.

Online Pre-Induction

Information regarding your on-campus induction can be found here:

[Donegal Induction - Atlantic Technological University](#)

You are advised to take our online Pre-Induction now via the following link:

<https://www.atu.ie/student-life/induction/online-and-flexible-induction/atu-donegal-flexible-induction/atu-donegal-flexible-pre-induction>

You will find information on programme registration, fees and payments, student supports and learn more about the technologies used in online learning and the virtual learning environment (VLE). You will also learn about the supports and resources available to online learners at ATU and how to prepare for taking up or returning to study.

Information on how to register for your programme can be found here: [Registration - Atlantic Technological University](#)

Once you have registered for your programme of study you will be able to access the ATU Student Hub, where you will find information that you need for student supports and services available at ATU:

[ATU Student Hub](#)

All communication with students from the Department will be via your **ATU Student Email only**, please set up your student email account as soon as possible.

Department Induction

Our programme co-ordinators and programme teams will meet you at Induction to share essential information about your course syllabus, assessment types, professional practice placement and regulatory information, off-campus educational trips, class groups and your timetable to help you prepare for the first day of class. You will receive information about The Curve, Learning Support Centre, Computer Services and the Library. See below table for induction information session times and locations.

Department Administration Support in ATU (please note further support will be offered by Monaghan Institute)

Room 2469. Monday-Friday 10.30am-12.00pm and 2pm-3.30pm.

The Department of Early Education & Social Studies office is located at room 2469, on the first floor. To access the office from the main reception desk; proceed up the main staircase and turn right, follow the corridor passing the stairs and take the next right, room 2469 is on the right-hand side.

Support services available to students include:

- Communicating to students regularly via ATU Student email regarding timetables, class groups, class activities, attendance requirements etc.
- Scheduling appointments for students to meet with the Head of Department if required.
- Provision of guidance with regards to timetables/student groups etc.
- Providing the College stamp/logo on required documents such as medical card applications, social welfare applications etc.

You must present your ATU student ID card if you require any of our services. Please note that there is a 5-day timeframe for documents to be issued and this may increase at peak times. You are advised to request any necessary documentation in a timely manner to allow us to support your request.

Administrative support can only be provided directly to registered students and cannot be provided to third parties (parents/guardians). Should you require support or guidance with any issue or query, you are welcome to contact the office in person at Room 2469 or by email to EESS.Donegal@atu.ie and we will direct you to the relevant supports.

BSc and BSc Hons Health & Social Studies (Please note these programmes are NOT CORU approved)

Congratulations on being offered a place of study in the Department of Early Education and Social Studies at ATU Donegal. The Department Early Education and Social Studies is a vibrant, dynamic department with approx. 600 students in the Faculty of Science and Health at ATU Donegal. It is equipped with up-to-date equipment and state-of-the-art laboratories.

As part of your programme of study you will take both theory and practical/tutorial classes. Tutorial/practical classes are an essential part of your programme as they put into practice much of the theory you have been taught in class. Employers expect and require graduates to have up-to-date practical skills. The Department places great emphasis on this aspect of our programmes and students are required to attend and participate in all scheduled lectures and practical classes. In addition to scheduled classes students are also required to undertake independent learning.

- Applicants are required to undergo Garda Vetting. For any programme where Garda Vetting is required, non-EU applicants will not be considered unless/until the pool of qualified EU applicants has been exhausted. For those admitted to any course requiring Garda Vetting, registration is temporary until such time as the vetting process is successfully completed.
- Applicants wishing to join this programme must complete a Health Declaration. Applicants must be deemed fit to practice in order to continue on the programme.
- A fundamental aspect of this program is the integration of professional placement learning, providing students with invaluable practice experience.
- Students are required to complete practice placement in Year 2, 3 and 4. Placement allocations may be anywhere within the Republic of Ireland. Travel and accommodation are the responsibility of the learner.
- Students will be required to undertake mandatory training as outlined by course schedules. This is required prior to students going on placement.

In addition to scheduled classes students are also required to undertake independent learning.

Health and Social Studies students are required to be Garda Vetted and must have completed mandatory training. Garda Vetting is mandatory, and you are required to provide all necessary documents, including proof of ID and proof of address to the Garda Vetting Liaison Officer. Further information regarding Garda Vetting will be provided to you in due course.

Once again congratulations on securing your place in the Department of Early Education and Social Studies.

You will receive information about your Timetable at Induction.

I look forward to meeting you then.



Dr Nigel Mc Kelvey
Head of Department of Early Education and Social Studies



Quick Guide Information for BSc Hons Health and Social Studies

Online Registration

- Information on how to register for your programme can be found here: [Registration - Atlantic Technological University](#)

Once you have registered for your programme of study you will be able to access the ATU Student Hub, where you will find information that you need for student supports and services available at ATU: [ATU Student Hub](#)

Virtual Learning Environment/ Blackboard

- Student Guidance and support for using Blackboard, our VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) is available on the Student Guidance and Support module, in Blackboard. Once you have completed your student registration you will be able to access this module here: https://lyitbb.blackboard.com/ultra/courses/_46489_1/cl/outline

Professional Practice Placement Information

- Students must complete placement as follows:

Year of Programme	Weeks
Year 2	12
Year 3	12
Year 4	12
Totals	36

- Further information will be provided in due course.

Special Purpose Awards

- Information regarding Special Purpose Awards for Peer Mentoring, Social and Civic Engagement and Student Led Initiatives will be provided to you at Induction.



Department of Early Education and Social Studies Contacts

Early Education and Social Studies	Role	Email	Location
Dr Nigel Mc Kelvey	Head of Department	Nigel.McKelvey@atu.ie	Room 2461
Ms Sarah Bonar	Practice Placement Co-Ordinator	Sarah.Bonar@atu.ie Extn 6309	Room 2469
	Department Correspondence	EESS.Donegal@atu.ie 0749186309	Room 2469
Ms Orla McHugh	Technician	Orla.McHugh@atu.ie 0749186231	Room 2469
Ms Karen Doherty	Faculty Administrator	Karen.Doherty@atu.ie 0749186310	Room 2458
Ms Aisling Erskine	Garda Vetting Liaison Officer	Aisling.Erksine@atu.ie Extn 6305/6637	Room 3401 Main Building



Health and Social Studies Programme Team

Lecturer	Email
Mr Sean Mc Entee	Sean.McEntee@atu.ie
Mr John Mc Carthy	John.McCarthy@atu.ie
Dr Gail Cummins	Gail.Cummins@atu.ie
Dr Helen McMonagle	Helen.McMonagle@atu.ie
Dr Trish Mc Laughlin	Trish.mclaughlin@atu.ie
Trina Marron	TrinaMarron@monaghaninstitute.ie

Useful Contact Numbers

Department	Extension	Email	Location
Admissions	0749186125/ 6129/6127	Admissions.Donegal@atu.ie	Reception, Main Building
Exams Office	0749186124/ 6126/6128	Exams.Donegal@atu.ie	Reception, Main Building
Computer Services	0749186050	Ithelpdesk.Donegal@atu.ie	Main Building
Student Health Centre	0749186855	Health.Donegal@atu.ie	An Dánlann
Sports Centre	0749186800	sportscentre.donegal@atu.ie	An Dánlann
The Curve, Learning Support Centre	0749186175	thecurve.donegal@atu.ie	Third Floor, Main Building
Library	0749186150	librarymail.donegal@atu.ie	Main Building
Careers Service	0749186812	Careers.Donegal@atu.ie	An Dánlann
Reprographics (Printing)	0749186599	Reprographics.Donegal@atu.ie	Room 1148, Main Building
Students Union	0749186820	atusudonegal.ie	An Dánlann
Flexible and Online Learning Unit		Flexibleonline.donegal@atu.ie	Co-Lab
Department of Early Education & Social Studies	0749186309	eess.Donegal@atu.ie	Room 2469 Main Building
Garda Vetting Liaison	074986637	Aisling.Erskine@atu.ie	Room 3401 Main Building

1st Year Student Registration Checklist

Registration Process	Students	Complete	Follow -Up Required
Online Registration	All Students		
Review All Policies	All Students		
Computer Services Induction	All Students		
ATU Donegal Student Card	All Students		
ATU Student Number	All Students		
ATU Student Email	All Students		
Access ATU Blackboard (Virtual Learning Environment)	All Students		
Admissions/Fees – Fee Payment plan	All Students		
Garda Vetting Information will be provided during the academic year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographic ID • Proof of address • Contact Garda Vetting Liaison Officer 	All Students		
Induction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Programme Team • Timetable/Class Group • Day 1 (find out what you need for the first day of class) 	All Students		
Mandatory Training Further information at Induction	All Students		
Materials Fees extra costs for your course check ATU Student Banner	All Students		
Work Placement	Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4		