

# Student view

Name: Sharlene Mannix

Programme: Bachelor of Business - Accounting

“I expected the course to be tough and it can be at times, but I enjoy it.”



I was just 16 when I did my Leaving Cert and wasn't sure what I wanted. I worked and travelled and even got a diploma in beauty therapy. But I didn't enjoy that or want to be stuck with a qualification I knew I would never use. As maths and business were my best subjects at school I decided to take a business degree in accounting. My cousin did the same course and she advised me to do it. I work in Clondalkin and live in Lucan so the Institute is easy to get to.

There are 6 lectures a week, two each on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Although it sounds a lot, it's actually quite manageable. I work full time as an accounts payable clerk/accounts assistant with Neopost Ireland and go to lectures in the evening. If I can do it, anyone can!

I expected the course to be tough and it can be at times, but I enjoy it. The lecturers are great. They are on hand to help anytime. The subjects cover a lot of ground which really fills out your knowledge - knowledge to put into practice in the future.

Knowing that I'm doing a recognised course and will get a great qualification that is good for my career is very motivational. I want to work as a financial controller one day.

I plan to finish this course by doing the honours degree next year and then register with ACCA - the worldwide accounting body - to do my professional exams. Once I'm qualified I would like to travel knowing I have the degree under my belt.

I would definitely recommend this course to others. It has opened up so many opportunities for me and there will only be more in the future. I have also made friends for life that have helped me through the years. Knowing I only have a year left makes me sad but I'll have so many happy memories.

# Student view

Name: Jelilat A. Sanusi

Programme: Honours Bachelor of Business Accounting

**‘ITT Dublin has an excellent reputation among employers and it is also recognised by all the professional accountancy bodies, eg. ACCA, CIMA, CPA’**



I hold a National Diploma in Accounting from Nigeria and worked there as an accounts assistant for three years. When I came to Ireland I decided to continue with my professional studies.

I was attracted to ITT Dublin mainly because of its location - I live in Lucan so it's not far to travel. The cost was also reasonable compared to another college I had looked at.

There were other factors as well. I knew a lot of different nationalities went there and it had a good reputation for providing the necessary supports to students and for listening to them whenever they need help. I experienced this myself in my third year when I was pregnant and the lecturers were very flexible and understanding, allowing me to sit my exams at a different time to the rest of the class.

I go to classes three evenings a week - from 6pm to 10pm. There is continuous assessment, as well as exams right through the course. I like the idea of continuous assessment - it's good to know you've already got a certain number of marks already in the bank before the exams. It's also good for study preparation because you will be going over material you've already done in depth before.

In my third year I worked for a marketing company called Genesis for six months and got valuable work experience.

ITT Dublin has an excellent reputation among employers and it is also recognised by all the professional accountancy bodies such as the ACCA, CIMA and CPA. Accounting graduates from the Institute can gain significant exemptions from the ACCA's professional exams. This is what I plan to do after I graduate: go on to do my professional exams with the ACCA - I would like to be a chartered certified accountant either in practice or in industry.

Would I recommend the Institute to others? Yes, I would. In fact I have. I've told my friends that if they were thinking of going to any college, ITT Dublin would be well worth considering - it's one of the best.

# Student view

Name: Andrew Doyle

Programme: Diploma in Financial Management (DipFM)

Certificate of Merit for achieving first place worldwide in June 2008 exams



**“My goal in doing the course was to benefit from the knowledge gained.”**

I decided to study the DipFM to better understand the financial reporting requirements for projects I was currently working on. I had recently completed a diploma in project management and although I found this interesting and useful, it only really touched on elements of cost control and financial performance measures. Completing a dedicated and thorough financial course (and particularly one with such a recognised accreditation) would, I felt, enable me to better plan and structure the estimates and construction contracts I am responsible for preparing in my daily work as an engineer with Bord Gais.

From a personal point of view the location for the lectures suited me (I live in Rathfarnham) but I also felt an academic institution like ITT would be better equipped than an independent business school to deliver a course such as this.

I enjoyed the variety of the course content, as it covered a broad spectrum of accounting and finance areas but did so quite thoroughly. Attending the course with people from various backgrounds and industries reassured me about the validity of the course and how these subjects affected all areas of business. I also enjoyed it on a personal level and feel that it would be beneficial to anyone, not just those involved in financial decision making.

Lectures ran once a week on a Tuesday night and as such it was relatively straightforward to balance with work. However, the overall study commitment was significant. When you receive the textbooks and begin to go through them you realise the extent of this commitment, particularly with two course projects to be completed as well. Certainly anyone thinking of taking this programme should realise that although the lectures are held at ITT Dublin, they are only supplemental to your own studies, and all exams and accreditation are controlled by the ACCA.

My goal in completing the course was to benefit from the knowledge gained and to get a recognised ACCA accredited Diploma. However, coming first worldwide in the June 2008 exams was a real bonus. I suppose it goes to show that if you put the extra effort in and don't take anything for granted - and I didn't, having not come from a finance background - it really pays off in the end!

# Student view

Name: Mo Cooling

Programme: IATI Accounting Technician

“I chose ITT Dublin because I’d heard the part-time lecturers were really good.”



I started the IATI programme in September 2007 and am due to finish this May. I had no previous third-level qualifications, so what most appealed to me about the course was getting the qualification and the letters after my name. It will also allow me to further my education relatively quickly, as I can go on to do the ordinary degree, which is only one further year, and the honours degree, which is a year on top of that. It can't hurt to have another notch or two on the belt.

I chose ITT Dublin because I'd heard the part-time lecturers were really good. It was also close to work and home.

The course consists of four classes a week - two on Monday and two on Wednesday evening, each lasting two hours. Closer to exams the lecturers put on extra classes, which I find really helpful.

The course is quite tough - harder than I expected in fact. It's definitely not for the faint-hearted but if you're willing to put in the work, you'll reap the benefits. It's hard to juggle work and college, but if it was easy then it wouldn't be worth doing!

I've really enjoyed getting to know my class and have made a lot of really good friends. You can even get to know the lecturers. It's so different to anything I've experienced.

I work as a credit controller with Kelkin Ltd. I'm getting great experience in this role already, so with this qualification behind me it can only be good for my career. I hope in time to move up the ladder and expand my role in the accounts section.

Although I don't really have time to get involved in the college clubs and societies, I have made a lot of good friends and do socialise with them outside college, which is great.

I would definitely recommend this course if you want to climb the ladder fast. It means you can go to college even if you haven't had any previous third-level qualification. All in all, I have found it a great learning and social experience.