

SUMS

Support for Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics

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What is SUMS?

- ▶ SUMS (Support for Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics) is the friendly free maths drop-in support centre.
- ▶ Support on a drop-in basis for any mathematical subject or for mathematical topics that arise in other subjects.
- ▶ Tutors are postgraduate students in the School of Maths, who have completed degrees in Mathematics or related subjects, via Science, Arts, Engineering etc. They have a very broad range of experience and knowledge.

Where: Ground Floor, Áras de Brún



When

- ▶ SUMS reopens on Monday 24th September for 12 weeks with reduced opening times in Week 1 and 2.
- ▶ In the remaining weeks SUMS is open
 - ▶ Monday to Friday from 2:00 until 5:00 pm and
 - ▶ Wednesday from 7:00 until 9:00 pm.
- ▶ Fridays are prioritized for Access/Foundation and Mature Students, but everyone is still welcome.
- ▶ Keep an eye on the timetable of our website:
<http://www.nuigalway.ie/public-sites/s-u-m-s>

How the SUMS service works

When a tutor comes to help you, tell her/him the module you are asking about. Bring your lecture notes and explain what you need help with. For example

- ▶ *“Our lecturer was talking about functions and I haven’t a clue what she was on about”*
- ▶ *“I missed a lecture and now I am a bit lost”*
- ▶ *“I am using a textbook to practise this method, but I am not getting the right answers.”*
- ▶ *“This problem is on our homework sheet but I am not seeing how it connects to the lecture notes.”*

How the SUMS service works

- ▶ If you don't understand something that a tutor says, tell her/him.
- ▶ Different tutors have different teaching styles, if you find a tutor whose style suits you, try to come to SUMS when s/he is there. Visit <http://www.nuigalway.ie/public-sites/s-u-m-s> and click on [timetable](#).
- ▶ The tutor will work with you for a few minutes, then leave you to work on your own, then check back on your progress a few minutes later.

How the SUMS service works

- ▶ You are welcome to come to SUMS to work on maths with your classmates, even if you don't have a specific question.
- ▶ A small difficulty might be resolved in a few minutes, a major question might take longer. Visit as often as you like and to stay as long as you like.
- ▶ SUMS will not do your homework for you or provide solutions to exam questions.

Looking forward to seeing you in SUMS

- ▶ Come on your own, come in groups, it's no problem!
- ▶ Up until 2.00 each day, the room is available for independent study in maths.
- ▶ If you have any questions about SUMS at any stage, contact me by email: kirsten.pfeiffer@nuigalway.ie
- ▶ If you come to SUMS and you have any suggestions about how the service can be improved, let me know.

A few comments from students

- ▶ *"Was of great use to me and I used it a lot! I definitely would not have achieved the good results I got in Maths if it were not for having SUMS."*
- ▶ *"I found this centre to be very important to me and my integration into university life. Maths for me now is not a subject that I fear. I can't wait for next year and soon I would love to be a tutor helping in it."*
- ▶ *"I really loved how much SUMS helped me understand Maths so much more. I felt I could ask any question, no matter how small it was."*
- ▶ *"I loved my time in SUMS, the staff were amazing and the fellow students that were above my knowledge of Maths (I was a beginner) also helped me out and were very courteous."*