

Lysaght, Brid, 2007, *The Leaving Certificate Applied: An Evaluation of Teachers' Perceptions in three Second-Level Schools*

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

This dissertation sets out to investigate teachers' perceptions of the Leaving Certificate Applied (L.C.A.) programme in three second level schools in the south of Ireland. The research instruments used were the interview and the questionnaire.

Chapter one gives an overview of the schools and examines the process involved in the introduction of the L.C.A. programme in each of the schools. The structure of the course is also outlined.

Chapter two examines the background to the introduction of the programme, based on available literature. As it is a relatively new programme, there is not a substantial amount written on it.

Chapter three is devoted to a discussion on research methodology, pertaining in particular, to the research instruments used in this study — the interview and the questionnaire. Reliability, validity and triangulation are also reviewed. Chapter four presents analyses and discusses the findings from the research carried it in this study.

Chapter five presents the conclusions, issues recommendations and highlights areas of possible future research.