Overview
With 40 years of expertise, state-of-the-art laboratories, and a diverse team supervised by globally recognised faculty members, the DCU School of Electronic Engineering is firmly embedded in the national and international research network. Much of our research involves collaboration with academic institutions, private companies and public bodies. We’re also having an impact far beyond the traditional avenue of the academic journal, through patents, spinouts and successful commercial ventures. Our structured PhD programmes enable postgraduate students to complement their research with critical skills like communication, commercialisation and entrepreneurship.

This document details a suggested structural doctoral pathway for graduate researchers in the School of Electronic Engineering. While the main focus for each research candidate is to complete a piece of original research presented in thesis format, students are also supported in developing a range of skills and competencies through taught modules and other learning opportunities.

During their registration, all research students may take a mix of credit-bearing modules (Graduate Training Elements or GTEs), and other non-accredited education opportunities such as workshops, seminars and short courses. These opportunities provide both discipline-specific and transferable skills and knowledge to support students in their research and enhance their research qualification. Engagement in these activities is an important aspect of the graduate researcher experience.

Typical modules taken by Electronic Engineering PhD students are shown in the listing overleaf. Students may also choose modules from the complete list of Electronic Engineering modules available to PhD students which can be viewed at: https://www.dcu.ie/electronics/post/modules/index.shtml.

Induction and non-accredited training
Students are encouraged to take advantage of the additional training opportunities offered by the Graduate Studies Office (GSO) and by the School as appropriate. All students are required to attend the orientation and induction sessions organised by GSO during year one. GSO communicates details of their training schedule to each student at the beginning of each semester. Students are also strongly encouraged to take the online (via Loop) research integrity module during semester one of their studies.
School of Electronic Engineering

Structured Doctoral Pathway

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Elective Discipline Specific Skills

- EE402: OOP & Embedded Systems - 7.5 ECTS
- EE500: Performance of Data Networks - 7.5 ECTS
- EE502: Signal Modelling & Compression - 7.5 ECTS
- EE506: Fundamentals of Photonic Devices - 7.5 ECTS
- EE535: Renewable Energy; Technology & Economics - 7.5 ECTS
- EE540: HDL and High-Level Logic Synthesis - 7.5 ECTS
- EE544: Computer Vision - 7.5 ECTS

Elective Transferable Skills

- EE507: Entrepreneurship for Engineers - 7.5 ECTS
- GS601: Intellectual Property & Commercialisation - 5 ECTS
- GS602/a: Postgraduate Tutoring Principles & Practice - 5 ECTS
- GS604: Research Ethics - 5 ECTS
- GS606: Enterprise Experience for Graduate Research Students - 10 ECTS
- LC600: English for Academic Purposes - 5 ECTS
- CA636: Computing and Engineering Seminar Series - 5 ECTS

Students are also encouraged to engage with centrally and locally offered workshops as seminars which align with their development needs.