DCU Institute of Education

PhD/Masters by Research Pathway 2017-18

Overview and Criteria
This document presents the research pathway for the Institute of Education. The pathway consists of a suite of modules and other development opportunities, to ensure that postgraduate research students registered in the Institute will be supported in conducting their research.

In line with DCU regulations, the student’s original research will continue to be the sole basis for the award of the PhD/masters by research. However, during their period of registration, students may also avail of a mix of credited modules (Graduate Training Elements – GTEs) and/or non-accredited educational opportunities to provide education-specific and generic knowledge and skills to augment and support their postgraduate research. The pathway in Education builds on the traditional PhD/masters by research supervision approach, while at the same time endeavouring to develop students’ research capacity through the completion of a bespoke series of taught elements. Please note that students engaging in a Masters by Research can take up to 20 credits.

The pathway for each student should be discussed and agreed in the first instance with the Supervisor. All research students in their first year of registration must complete the self-directed Research Integrity Online Training Module (RI-SB01) via Loop. It is envisaged that students will have the opportunity to engage with a mix of formalised taught modules on advanced specialist, professional and transferable skills. In recognition of students’ prior educational and life experiences, the precise nature of this mix will be agreed with their supervisory panel and module coordinator.

It is the responsibility of the student to get the Supervisor’s approval and to register for GTEs correctly. Students must register for GTE modules via their portal page through the Faculty’s GTE programme.

Progress, including confirmation of completion of the Research Integrity Online Training Module (RI-SB01), and other modules, is noted within the annual PGR2 process.

Induction and Non-Accredited Training
Research students are advised to take advantage of additional training opportunities offered by the Graduate Studies Office or Institute, as appropriate, throughout their period of study. In year one, at the time of initial registration, new students are encouraged to attend orientation sessions, the GSO- and library-run programme and other relevant induction sessions. These non-accredited workshops and seminars are communicated to students via GSO at the beginning of each semester.
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Induction

Discipline-Specific Skills

Transferable Skills

Extended Induction Programme:
Coordinated by GSO over semester 1, including sessions on:
- Writing in the 1st year
- Citing, referencing and library skills
- Navigating and planning your PhD
- Research integrity training programme

Choose from these modules (all 5 ECTS):
- Applying Mixed Methods Approaches to Educational Research (IE601)
- Applying Qualitative Approaches to Educational Research (IE602)
- Applying Quantitative Approaches to Educational Research (IE603)
- Research Design 1 (IE604)

Required:
RI-SB01: Research Integrity Online Training Module (non-credit)

Choose from these modules:
NS5055: Qualitative Methods Summer School (5 credits)
(Limited places. Students must also register for summer school sessions separately.)
LC600: English for Academic Purposes (5 ECTS)
LC602: Advanced Writing Support for Intl Students (subject to availability) (5 ECTS)

Choose from these learning opportunities:
- Tell It Straight communications competition
- NVivo Training Level 1
- SPSS Training Level 1
- Other relevant workshops and seminars organised by GSO, School and Institute

Students are also encouraged to participate in suitable centrally-offered workshops/seminars and to attend conferences.