

DCU Institute of Education

PhD/Master's by Research Pathway 2019-20

Overview and Criteria

This document presents the research pathway for postgraduate research students undertaking PhD/Master's by Research studies within 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/Master's by Research. However, during their period of registration, students may also avail of a mix of accredited 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/Master's by Research supervision approach, while at the same time developing students' research capacity through the completion of a bespoke series of taught elements.

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 Online Research Integrity Training Module. It is envisaged that students will have the opportunity to engage with a mix of formal 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 Online Research Integrity Training Module 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

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
- Online Research Integrity Training Programme

Discipline-Specific Skills

Choose from these modules (all 5 ECTS):

- **IE601:** Applying Mixed Methods Approaches to Educational Research
- **IE602:** Applying Qualitative Approaches to Educational Research
- **IE603:** Applying Quantitative Approaches to Educational Research

Transferable Skills

Required:

Online Research Integrity Training Module (non-accredited)

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