School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music

Structured Doctoral Pathway 2018-19

This Graduate Training pathway is for students undertaking a structured 4-year PhD programme in the School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music. Structured doctoral programmes aim to develop the advanced knowledge, skills and competencies required for successful original research, and supports the acquisition of deep discipline knowledge and research skills as well as more generic transferable skills that are relevant to a range of career pathways.

The doctoral examination continues to be based solely on the examination of a written thesis and its defence at a viva voce examination. Graduate Training Elements (GTEs) provide students with structured opportunities to develop the skills and understanding to support their original research and are credit-bearing but do not contribute to the final examination. GTE modules available to students are credit-bearing but there are a number of non-accredited training opportunities. Students who complete credit-bearing modules will receive a separate transcript of their modules.

The pathway overleaf provides a mix of modules that includes discipline specific knowledge, generic skills and wider offerings that support students' developing autonomy in research. Modules selected by students should be relevant to and support their research. Students should discuss their needs with their principal supervisor who must approve the selected modules prior to registration. The School recognises that individual students' needs may vary as they are undertaking individual and original research. Students may follow the pathway overleaf or use this as a template to structure an individual pathway, to include:

Core-Discipline Specific Modules
(Up to 20 credits)

Core Transferable Skills
(Up to 10 credits)

Elective Modules
(Up to 20 credits)

Students will normally take 10 credits each year for years 1-3, with year 4 most likely focused exclusively on research, but discretion about the number of annual credits is permitted to suit the work programme of each student and to include valuable non-credit modules. Students may include non-credit bearing courses in their pathway that, in discussion with their principal supervisor, are deemed appropriate to their needs. The Graduate Student Office provides a number of non-accredited courses available to all students. This includes orientation and an extended induction programme. Courses are also available through DCU library.

Mandatory modules
It is the policy of the Humanities & Social Science Faculty that all students take the relevant stream of the self-directed 'Online Research Integrity Training Module' during their first year of registration. This is available online. All students who are assigned teaching-related responsibilities must complete module Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice (GS602).

Registration
Students complete a pre-registration form with their Supervisor to agree their work plan and submit this to the Faculty Research Administrator. Once approved, students register for modules on their portal page and through the Faculty's GTE programmes.
Along with level 9 modules, appropriate level 8 modules may be taken by students following discussion with their Supervisor and module coordinator. GTE modules taken should be noted in the student's annual progress report (PGR2), which should also include confirmation that mandatory courses have been taken.

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Core Discipline-Specific Skills

Year 1-3

Theology and Philosophy

TP505: Theology and Literature: Intersections, Bridges and Gaps

TP510: Introduction to Ethics

TP512: Human Rights & Social Justice

TP517: Readings in Ethics

TP520 Contemporary Issues in Ecclesiology

TP521: History of Biblical Interpretation

TP522: Islam and Modernity: Key Muslim Thinkers of the 19th and 20th Centuries

TP523: Modern Protestant Theology

TP524: Philosophy and God: Selected Readings

TP525: Karl Rahner and 20th Century Theology

Music

Musicology

MC501: Introduction to Musicology, Aesthetics and Criticism

MC507: Music Research Seminar

Depending on area of study select from:

• *MC502*: Music and Modernity

• *MC511*: Choral Music Gesture, Sound and Style

• *MC504*: Music and National Identity

• *MC505*: Music in Performance

• *MC512*: Music and the Moving Image

Composition

MC501: Introduction to Musicology, Aesthetics and Criticism

MC502: Music and Modernity

MC507: Music Research Seminar

External: Composition Workshop

External: The Business of Being a Composer (with CMC)

Core Transferable Skills

Year 1-2

GSO Extended Induction Programme

Online Research Integrity Training Module

GS602: Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice

GS608: Strategies for Academic Writing

Year 2-3

TP600: Advanced Academic Writing in the Humanities

TP601: Conference / Academic Event Organisation

Philosophy Reading Group (non-accredited)

Elective Modules & Training

Year 1-3

NS5055: Qualitative Research Methods Summer School

Language Modules, e.g., *TP200* Classical Arabic, *TP201* Biblical Hebrew *TP221* Koine Greek, or Latin.

UM405: Uaneen Non-Contributing Module

External: Summer schools as advised by Supervisor

Cross-School or cross-Faculty GTE relevant to research topic and selected from Faculty lists

Students are also encouraged to:

• engage with centrally-offered workshops and seminars through GSO and Library

• attend and participate in conferences in their discipline

• participate in research communication events such as Tell It Straight organised by GSO and Postgraduate Association events