



JOB DESCRIPTION

Assistant Professor in Religious Education

School of Human Development

DCU Institute of Education

3 Year Fixed Term Contract

Introduction

The DCU Institute of Education is the newest faculty of Dublin City University. It is based in a €70 million purpose built facility on the DCU St Patrick's Campus in Drumcondra in Dublin. Established in 2016 as Ireland's first University faculty of Education, it has a staff of more than 130 full-time academics and a student body in excess of 4,000.

The Institute brings together students of education across all sectors from early childhood, to primary and post-primary and further and higher education. As well as providing a range of undergraduate programmes in education, the Institute offers a rich menu of taught and research-based post-graduate programmes, at doctoral, masters, diploma and certificate levels.

As a centre of expertise and excellence in teacher education and education more generally, the Institute hosts a range of research centres in key areas of priority and has an ambitious and growing programme of research. With internationally-recognised experts in education policy, inclusive and special education, curriculum and pedagogy, assessment, literacy, evaluation and teacher education, the Institute provides a dynamic learning and working environment. Staff can expect to encounter opportunities for multi-disciplinary work, not just in the Institute, but across the University. As one of the world's leading young Universities, DCU has established its fifth and newest faculty out of a conviction that studies and research in education and the preparation and support of teachers are central to the transformation of lives and communities.

Committed to academic excellence and innovation, the DCU Institute of Education is confident its students and staff, and its graduates can flourish and lead in the challenging and complex contexts of 21st century education.

School of Human Development

The School of Human Development is one of the six schools within the DCU Institute of Education. The School is made up of a dynamic and unique group of scholars, researchers and teachers working together in collaboration and whose academic interests span teacher education, the humanities, the social sciences, and the broad field of Human Development including religious education.

Assistant Professor in Religious Education

The School of Human Development is seeking to recruit an assistant professor to work collaboratively as a member of the team supporting teaching and research in the field of Catholic Religious Education.

Teaching and Learning

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute significantly to the development, teaching, assessment and administration of existing undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in teacher education, with a particular emphasis on moral and systematic theology. The position involves teaching both large and small groups including the assessment and marking associated with that activity across a wide range of modules and the supervision of students on placement. They will make a substantial contribution to the design, development, and management of future programmes and other developments in the field of Catholic Religious Education. As part of the Catholic Religious Education Team, the person will also work closely with colleagues in the School of Human Development teaching across a variety of modules in religious, spiritual, theological and ethical education.

The person appointed to this position will be expected to contribute to the teaching of other areas of Education (as requested by the Head of School) in addition to the specialist areas, and to contribute to the wider work of the DCU Institute of Education. The person will also be expected to contribute to the Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education, working with the Centre's Director and Team in the development of Catholic education across the spectrum. This will involve working collaboratively with students and stakeholders from within the Catholic educational community and with those of other traditions and beliefs.

Research and Scholarship

The successful candidate will be dedicated to high-quality research and publication in the field of Catholic religious education. They will be expected to contribute to the scholarship and profile of the Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education, in order to enhance the Centre's dedication to support research in Catholic education.

Service and Contribution to University and Society

The candidate will undertake administrative functions related to the activities of the School of Human Development. These activities defined by the Head of School may include participating in School meetings, engaging in meetings related to programmes, representing the School in marketing and recruitment of students, developing relationships with stakeholders, participating in open days, organisation of conferences and seminars etc.

Experience and Qualifications

The candidate should have a strong background in Catholic Religious Education, particularly in primary education. Teaching experience in the primary sector, or familiarity with the primary education system in Ireland will be important.

Applicants for the post must hold a post-graduate qualification in Religious Education or closely associated field, preferably at Doctoral level. Teaching and research in the areas of moral and systematic theology will be considered an advantage. Experience in teacher education is highly desirable. A background in developing resources – including for online and blended learning environments – will be important.