



Applications are invited from suitably qualified staff for the following position:

Research Centre	School of Psychology
Post title	Postdoctoral Researcher (Online Child Protection)
Level on Framework	Level 1
Post duration	Fixed term Contract 21 Months

Dublin City University

Dublin City University www.DCU.ie is a young, ambitious and vibrant University, with a mission 'to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation and engagement'. Known as Ireland's 'University of Enterprise and Transformation', it is committed to the development of talent, and the discovery and translation of knowledge that advances society and the economy. DCU is the Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

The University is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. It currently has more than 18,000 students enrolled across five faculties – Science and Health, DCU Business School, Computing and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences and DCU Institute of Education. DCU is committed to excellence across all its activities. This is demonstrated by its world-class research initiatives, its cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, its focus on creating a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. This exceptional commitment on the part of its staff and students has led to DCU's ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It also consistently features in the world's Top 100 Young Universities (currently in QS Top 70 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100).

DCU is placed 84th in the world, in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings – measuring higher education institutions' contributions towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Over the past decade, DCU has also been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As part of this role the researcher will be required to participate in the DCU Research Career Framework. This framework is designed to provide significant professional development opportunities to Researchers and offer the best opportunities in terms of a wider career path.

The School of Psychology

The School of Psychology is an ambitious and research intensive School in the Faculty of Science and Health. Established in 2019, DCU's School of Psychology is composed of experienced and dedicated staff with expertise in a broad range of areas within the field of psychology.

The School brings together our flagship BSc in Psychology, which has been running since 2010, our new BSc programmes in Psychology of Disruptive Technologies and Psychology and Mathematics and our suite of postgraduate courses. It continues to build on our longstanding research activity and collaborations, and its community engagement. The School is student-centred, research-intensive, globally engaged, collaborative and inclusive. It offers an innovative and exciting environment in which to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies in psychology and to undertake cutting-edge research.

Role Profile

Applications are invited from a suitably qualified candidate for a full-time, fixed-term position as a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Psychology, Dublin City University. This position is funded by The Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund and is available from April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

The post offers a novel opportunity to join an interdisciplinary research collaboration to build understanding of Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA) offences in the Philippines, and to develop new strategies for the prevention, detection, disruption of OCSEA – both in the region and in enabling online environments. This research aims to: 1. Develop a robust empirical knowledge base on how and why facilitators of OCSEA offences in the region commit their crimes to inform prevention strategies (technological and financial sectors), investigation (law enforcement) and other types of interventions; and 2. Develop actionable, evidence-based recommendations and strategies, in consultation with the online industry, for practical prevention, detection and disruption of OCSEA in facilitating environments. Please note that Garda vetting will be required as a condition of appointment to the role.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Please refer to the job description for a list of duties and responsibilities associated with this role.

Minimum Criteria

Applicants should have a PhD in a relevant area such as psychology, social science, criminal justice or related disciplines relevant to the research topic.

In addition, the successful applicant will:

- Have experience in behavioural, technological (e.g. Human-Computer Interaction; socio-technical), crime-related or other relevant research;
- Have experience in negotiating online industry, NGO, criminal justice or other relevant stakeholder contexts for research purposes;
- Have the ability to be flexible and adaptable in responding to stakeholder needs;
- Have strong research project management skills;
- Have excellent social and organisational skills, being able to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines, and the ability to work effectively as part of a highly collaborative, interdisciplinary, multi-centre team;
- Have demonstrated qualitative and quantitative research skills with a track record of high-quality publications;
- Have experience of participation in successful inter-disciplinary research programmes;
- Be able to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines;

- Have excellent written and oral proficiency in English (essential), excellent communication and interpersonal skills, both written and verbal.
- Have proven ability to work competently and securely with sensitive data sources.

Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:

Discipline knowledge and Research skills – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline

Understanding the Research Environment – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications

Communicating Research – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students

Managing & Leadership skills - Demonstrates the potential to manage a research project including the supervision of undergraduate students.

Essential Training

The post holder will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training: Orientation, Health and Safety and Intellectual Property and Data Protection training. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

Salary: POST DOC RESEARCHER IUA LEVEL 2 – €39, 132 – €46, 442

**Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be made on the appropriate point of the IUA Researcher salary scale, in line with current Government pay policy.*

Closing date: Friday 21 January, 2022.

For more information on DCU and benefits, please visit [Why work at DCU?](#)

Informal Enquiries in relation to this role should be directed to:

Dr. Maggie Brennan, Assistant Professor in Psychology, Dublin City University.

Email: Maggie.brennan@dcu.ie

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

Application procedure:

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies website at <http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/current.shtml>

Applications and a cover letter should be submitted by e-mail with your completed application form to hr.applications@dcu.ie

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line:
Job Reference #RF1611 Postdoctoral Researcher (Online Child Protection)

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer. In line with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 – 2015, the University is committed to equality of treatment for all those who engage with its recruitment, selection and appointment processes. The University's Athena SWAN Bronze Award signifies the University's commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing any gender pay gaps. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available in the DCU Policy Starter Packs