JOB DESCRIPTION

Digital Learning Designer
Professional 4
Office of Vice-president Academic Affairs (Registrar)
Fixed-Term Contract up to 31st March 2025 (Two Roles)

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world’s leading Young Universities and is among the world’s top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland’s University of Impact, with a mission to ‘transform lives and societies’ and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a ‘transformative student experience’ that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a ‘People First’ institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world’s Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

Project Overview

Over its relatively short history, DCU has developed a strong reputation nationally and internationally for pioneering innovations in higher education. The university is embarking on a period of significant investment in learning innovation across all of its Faculties. The DCU Futures initiative will help us transform the learning experience of undergraduate students at DCU, reconceptualizing learning opportunities, creating authentic connections between the classroom and enterprise, and embedding digital literacies, disciplinary competencies and transversal skills required to truly future-proof our graduates for the rapidly changing workplace. DCU is joined in this project by a strong consortium of enterprise partners, representing key employment sectors in the Irish
economy and with a strong presence in DCU’s primary catchment area. This programme of innovation is funded under the Irish government's Human Capital Initiative (HCI) supported by the National Training Fund. It will deliver on the ambitions we have to reimagine undergraduate curricula and to embed innovative pedagogies, enhanced use of technology and deep industry engagement.

Further to this DCU as a partner of the Irish University Association led HCI project to develop a Multi-Campus Micro-Credentials (MicroCreds) will develop innovative micro-credential offerings. Through the MicroCreds project, the IUA universities will lead the establishment of a national framework for European Credit Transfer System bearing, quality-assured micro-credentials, the first in Europe. This will facilitate the development of a programme of micro-credentials, each flexibly delivered and accredited by a university and included within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). The project furthers the universities’ commitment to work in partnership with government and enterprise to drive lifelong learning in Ireland.

Role Profile

The Digital Learning Designers will work with and assist academic staff in the design, re-design, development, and deployment of programmes, micro-credentials and modules that will be delivered for online, hybrid and highly blended formats delivering upon DCU’s transformation goals under the HCI initiative. Successful candidates will provide pedagogical and technical support and assistance, empowering academic teams to deliver an exciting and inclusive learner experience. These posts offer an exciting opportunity for the successful candidates to make a significant contribution to the enhancement of teaching and learning in DCU. They will develop, provide expertise and contribute to learning design and delivery in online environments and enhance flexible and blended approaches to course design and delivery, thereby contributing to DCU’s Teaching and Learning Strategy. The role will report to the Head of DCU Studio (or her nominee).

Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Liaise with and advise faculties, schools, and programme teams in the development of synchronous and asynchronous learning activities whilst adhering to quality and accessibility standards, engage in copy-editing, scripting and storyboarding of learning activities across multiple online and blended offerings.
- Construct, develop and design innovative digital learning solutions and resources using a range of multimedia applications and using a variety of tools and skills including video editing, animation, and screen casting.
- Advise on technologies to support the engagement of learners online and investigate trends in digital learning and technology and implement appropriate solutions.
- Engage in quality reviews, UX and usability testing.
- Maintain relationships with a range of stakeholders including academics and professional services.
- Assist in the design and delivery of demand-led workshops in response to requirements.
- Produce, disseminate and deliver outputs to deadlines and to the highest of standards.
- Complete administrative duties including reporting and document management.
- Assist in marketing and research activities.
- Liaise with other Units and Central Services where appropriate.
- Carry out other such duties as determined and directed by the Head of Unit.
Qualifications and Experience

Candidates must have a Primary Degree or equivalent (NFQ Level 7) qualification with a digital, multimedia or information technology component, plus 1 years recent and relevant experience in a higher education environment.

In addition, the ideal candidate will have:

- Knowledge and experience of designing and developing programmes, modules and/or micro-credentials in either the Moodle or the FutureLearn platforms for fully online or blended delivery in higher education.
- Professional experience using multimedia applications and a good knowledge of the field of digital learning.
- Demonstrated relevant experience of relevant technologies required to support technology-enhanced learning in a higher education setting.
- Experience with working with multimedia packages for learning including video and audio production and editing.
- Demonstrated knowledge and application of learning design approaches, quality frameworks UX and accessibility in an online context using either the Moodle or FutureLearn platforms.
- A digital, multimedia or information technology component in a master’s degree would be an advantage.
- A high degree of technical and communication skills, with advanced written and spoken English.
- The ability to work as an integral part of a team in contributing to a programme or module design plan
- The ability to establish clear priorities and be able to manage their own workload and provide regular progress reports.

Competencies

Applicants will be assessed under the following competencies:

Building & Maintaining Relationships

Ability to develop and maintain good working relationships with colleagues and others in a supportive manner, within and outside the organisation. Ability to show respect for the contribution of others. Experience of working successfully in a team environment.

Knowledge of the Process & IT Skills

Shows evidence of proficiency in the willingness to learn and use of a wide variety of computerised systems. Experience of working with large complex databases and collation of data from various sources into report format. Proven ability to learn new systems.

Communication

Actively listens and communicates in a clear manner. Uses a variety of communication methods in a professional way and appropriate to the audience. Can communicate the demands of the task at hand to relevant stakeholders in an engaging and convincing manner, in order to progress a project effectively.
Teamwork

Works alongside others in a supportive manner to complete routine tasks. Willingly shares tasks and information with others (e.g. offers suggestions and ideas to the team). Respects and acknowledges the different views and efforts of others. Shows an openness to new ideas and different ways of working. Values the diversity within the team (e.g. values the contribution of different people and different skills in a team). Knows how individual work objectives fit into team goals (e.g. knows how they contribute to the team). Is responsive to changing team goals (e.g. is open to taking on new tasks if required).

Additional Information

A panel may be formed from this competition. Successful candidates who are placed on this panel may be offered a fixed term contract role which arises in the future. This panel will expire six months following the date of interview for this competition.