



PhD Scholarship in Science Education

DCU Institute of Education

School of STEM Education Innovation and Global Studies / Centre for the Advancement of STEM Education Teaching and Learning (CASTeL)

Dublin City University (www.dcu.ie) is a research-intensive, globally-engaged, dynamic institution that is distinguished by both the quality and impact of its graduates and its focus on the translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefit.

The Institute of Education at Dublin City University represents the largest body of educational expertise and is the only Faculty of Education in Ireland. The Institute delivers programmes in education and training, early childhood education and teacher education, providing graduates with the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to excel in a variety of educational contexts such as preschools, schools, vocational, adult and community settings.

The School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies (SEIGS) in the Institute of Education contributes to a diverse range of taught and research programmes in STEM education. The School of SEIGS provides and encourages opportunities for students to adopt a global and social perspective on STEM issues related to their studies. SEIGS works collaboratively with schools, the further education and training sector, communities, industry and other stakeholders to affect societal change. It promotes leadership, innovation and creativity. At the heart of SEIGS' endeavours is a commitment to excellence in teaching, learning and research, creating a positive and supportive educational environment for staff and students alike.

CASTeL is Ireland's largest research centre in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education. CASTeL's mission is to support the development of STEM learners from an early age, and so enhance the scientific, mathematical and technological capacity of Irish society. For over two decades, CASTeL has made significant contributions in the field of STEM education both national and internationally. Through evidence-based research, CASTeL is leading and advising on the development of innovative and effective curricula, teaching and learning in STEM education across the continuum from early childhood to postgraduate level.

We now have an opportunity for two **fully-funded part time PhD Scholarships** in the area of Science Education. Candidates are expected to have a strong background in Science Education, STEM education or a related field such as digital learning. The successful candidates will be part of a research team that is investigating imaginative approaches in science education to enhance effective teaching and learning about Energy and Education for Sustainability in primary and post-primary classrooms in Ireland and Europe. As part of this research team, the candidates will be researching and developing educational resources to support teaching and learning in science at Primary and Junior Certificate levels, and will be part of the design team that will be developing, implementing and assessing the impact of a National and European professional learning programme for teachers.

As part of the doctoral process, the successful candidates will be expected to engage in professional development courses as required by DCU's doctoral regulations and to contribute to STEM education research through the writing of research reports/academic papers and presentations at conferences in Ireland and abroad.

Criteria

Applicants should have:

1. at least a 2.1 honours' Bachelor of Education or Bachelor of Science Education degree;
2. a Master's degree in science education, STEM education or a related field;
3. A good understanding of the Irish primary and/ or Junior Cycle science curricula and education system

4. a good understanding of science education pedagogy;
5. the ability to conceptualise and undertake research projects pertinent to science education;
6. high level competence in written and oral communication in English;
7. the interpersonal skills necessary for productive collaborations;
8. the ability to take the initiative and to work independently to meet demanding research goals.

It should be noted that the award is contingent on the applicant meeting all of the requirements for admission to doctoral studies at DCU (<https://www.dcu.ie/instituteofeducation/phdmasters-research-application>) and, following the initial selection process, developing a detailed research proposal in consultation with Dr. Murphy and Dr Leahy, and having this approved at Faculty level.

The successful candidates will be engaged part-time in their research.

To Apply:

Please email the following documents as a single pdf to ioe.seigs@dcu.ie

- Cover letter
- Full Curriculum Vitae (including the names of two academic references)
- Statement indicating how you meet each of the criteria 1-8 above (write about 200 words in respect of **each**)
- A certified colour-copy of your degree certificate or transcript relevant to each qualification

Closing date for receipt of application documentation is 5pm (Irish time) on Friday 14th of October 2022.

All shortlisted applicants will be interviewed.

Informal enquiries should be directed to:

Dr. Cliona Murphy, director CASTeL: Cliona.murphy@dcu.ie

Dr. Margaret Leahy, Head of SEIGS: Margaret.Leahy@dcu.ie

Qualifications/eligibility may not be verified by Dublin City University until the final stage of the process. Therefore, those candidates who do not possess the eligibility requirements, and proceed with their application, are putting themselves to unnecessary effort/expense and will not be offered a position from this campaign. An invitation to interview or any element of the selection process is not acceptance of eligibility.