



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Learning Technologist Grade P5**

#### **Teaching Enhancement Unit/Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs Permanent (Full- time)**

### **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.

### **Overview of the department**

The role of the Teaching Enhancement Unit (TEU) is to support innovation and excellence in teaching across DCU. TEU is a centralised service unit in the Academic Affairs portfolio which reports to the Dean of Teaching and Learning. It provides research-informed leadership in teaching and learning guided by DCU's Strategic Plan and the University's Teaching and Learning Plan. The TEU has two core functions.

Firstly, the TEU team is focused on strengthening staff capabilities to develop innovation, teaching excellence, and flexibility in delivering on the University's commitment to a transformative student

learning experience. It works closely with DCU's Faculties to identify teaching development needs and design professional development opportunities for both individual staff and programme teams. Some of this work involves supporting programme-wide curriculum design in strategic areas of development, such as the DCU Futures and ECIU University initiative. These initiatives strongly emphasise new models of Challenge-based Learning (CBL) and the transformative potential of new digital technologies in the teaching and learning experience. The TEU also manages teaching awards and DCU's commitment to the AdvanceHE Teaching Fellowship Programme. In supporting academic development, the TEU aims to foster strong disciplinary and interdisciplinary communities of practice that help to share best practices in teaching, learning and assessment.

Secondly, the TEU manages and supports DCU's virtual learning environment (VLE) known as Loop. Other integrations include the learning portfolio platform Mahara, the videoconferencing platform Zoom and a text-matching solution. DCU is known internationally for its leadership in learning technologies and digital education. As a user of the Moodle platform for 20 years, DCU has amassed a large amount of experience and insight into how best to utilise the technology to enhance teaching/learning/assessment and contributes this insight to the national and international Moodle community.

The TEU team is also actively involved in national professional development initiatives supported by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and related professional bodies.

### **Role Profile**

The TEU is recruiting for the role of a Learning Technologist. This is an exciting role for a Learning Technologist who will work with the established team in assisting and developing the University's online teaching environment, including the VLE as aligned with key priority initiatives identified in the TEU Annual Plan and DCU's Teaching and Learning Plan.

The primary objectives of the post holder will revolve around providing assistance and enhancing the digital learning environment at the University. Additionally, they will focus on enhancing the TEL capabilities of staff members across various teaching and learning scenarios. The ideal candidate will possess experience in providing Continuous Professional Development (CPD), investigating and resolving technology issues and promoting good practice in the use of virtual learning environments and learning technologies.

The position will report to the Head of the Teaching Enhancement Unit (TEU), via the Senior Learning Technologist and will work closely with colleagues and staff, fostering partnerships to accomplish objectives. The post holder will be primarily located on the Glasnevin campus with the need to attend/work from other campuses regularly.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

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

- Promote evidence-based digital education practices with DCU staff, and assist staff to adopt and evaluate them in a collaborative and encouraging manner.
- Design, facilitate and evaluate a range of effective professional development opportunities for DCU staff around learning technologies, digital education, and teaching and assessment.

- As part of the Loop Support Team, provide front-line technical and pedagogical assistance to DCU staff and students around learning technologies, including but not limited to, resolving customer tickets on a support desk, hosting clinics and consultations, and developing multimodal, self-paced support resources.
- In liaison with team members, contribute to the identification, scoping, testing, deployment and evaluation of learning technologies, and in particular, features and plugins for Moodle.
- In liaison with team members, contribute to the development of documentation, procedures, policy and strategy as it relates to learning technologies and digital education.
- Assist in both the day-to-day service delivery of the university's learning technology ecosystem and contribute to its medium/long-term strategic development.
- Liaise, and deepen relationships, with key internal and external stakeholders, in conjunction with team members and TEU leadership.
- Participate in relevant internal and external professional learning networks.
- Assist with the operation of video recording facilities, including assisting staff to create, edit and publish educational video content.
- Keep abreast of leading-edge developments in pedagogy, learning technology and digital education with a view to incorporating relevant findings into practice.
- Partner with TEU team members on cross-functional initiatives and activities.
- Participate in relevant university and/or external working groups and committees as the need arises.

The post holder will have key relationships with, but not limited to:

- Senior Learning Technologist
- Learning Technology Analyst
- Members of the TEU
- Academic Integrity Officer
- Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning
- Programme Chairs

## **Qualifications and Experience**

### **Essential**

- Applicants must hold a relevant undergraduate or postgraduate qualification; ideally in education/e-learning/digital learning with experience in a related field.
- Excellent pedagogical and technological knowledge and skills, with the capacity to grow and develop further.
- Successful track record of encouraging educators to incorporate learning technologies into their teaching/learning/assessment practice.
- Successful track record of designing and facilitating professional development for educators, including providing workshops and creating support resources.
- Efficient and agile problem-solver, with the proven ability to prioritise and systematically investigate and resolve learning technology issues.
- Experience of supporting projects relating to learning technologies, digital education or teaching/learning/assessment more broadly
- Successful track record of working closely with diverse stakeholders.
- Ability to multitask, deliver on multiple commitments and prioritise tasks to achieve aims and meet deadlines.

- Ability to work effectively independently and as a team member.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with an excellent command of the English language

**Desirable**

- Experience of using Moodle in a manager or site administrator role
- Experience with learning analytics and/or MySQL
- Experience with mixed reality in teaching/learning/assessment
- Experience of incorporating generative artificial intelligence into teaching/learning/assessment