



Job Description

Research Centre	School of Law and Government
Post title	Postdoctoral Researcher DCU North-South: Analysing the potential economic impacts of a united Ireland
Level on Framework	Level 1
Post duration	Up to 3 Fixed term Contract (Full-Time)

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) 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', DCU is a values-based institution, committed to the delivery of impact for the public good. DCU was named Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

DCU is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. More than 18,000 students are 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 delivering a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. The university continues to develop innovative programmes in collaboration with industry, such as the DCU Futures suite of degrees, which are designed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge required in a rapidly evolving economy.

DCU's pursuit of excellence has led to its current ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It is also one of the world's Top Young Universities (QS Top 100 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100). In the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021, DCU ranked 23rd in the world for its approach to widening participation in higher education and its ongoing commitment to eradicating poverty, while it ranks 38th globally for its work in reducing inequality and 89th globally for gender equality.

The university is ranked 23rd in the world and first in Ireland for its graduate employment rate, according to the 2020 QS Graduate Employability Rankings. Over the past decade, DCU has 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.

Background & Role

DCU North South Project: the Future of the island of Ireland

Dublin City University in conjunction with Ulster University Economic Policy Centre in establishing this new programme of research will provide rigorous, non-partisan research and analysis on some of the key economic and public policy questions, which are likely to be at the heart of a public debate around constitutional change. The research programme will in particular publish a range of peer-reviewed publications, each with associated shorter articles aimed at policy makers and the general public. The key areas of research will be:

- The relative economic performance of the two parts of the island, including a project seeking to provide a greater range of comparable economic and labour market data.
- The key factors behind the relatively weaker performance in attracting Foreign Direct Investment to Northern Ireland compared to the Republic of Ireland, and the absence of a significant increase in such investment in the period following the Good Friday Agreement.
- The key factors inhibiting the growth of tourism revenues in Northern Ireland, and the potential for an integrated tourism industry.
- The economic geography of a united Ireland – exploring the capacity of the Belfast region to complement a congested Dublin region and the potential impacts for the North West and West.

DCU are now seeking applications for a post-doctoral researcher to contribute to the general work of the research programme. The successful candidate will conduct original research as outlined in the project description, in conjunction with the Principal Researchers, leading to publication in peer-reviewed journals. They will also play a role in the dissemination of the research outputs, in short form articles and via the organisation of outreach events. The appointee will work as part of a team, with the potential to be a co-author on most of the project outputs.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to their Principal Investigator the Postdoctoral Researcher will:

- Conduct a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator,
- Engage in the dissemination of the results of the research in which he/she is engaged with the assistance of and under the supervision of the Principal Investigator,
- Assist and potentially supervise postgraduate students working in this area with their research,
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School or Research Centre, or the University,
- Liaise with both internal and external stakeholders including industry and academic partners/collaborators,
- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary.

Minimum Criteria

- Applicants for the position must have an honours degree and have completed a PhD in a relevant discipline, such as politics, economics, public policy or a cognate area.
- The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to academic research with an evidenced track-record of peer-reviewed publications.
- The candidate will be capable of working in a team and contributing to the ongoing development of the overall project.
- Demonstrated prior experience or expertise relevant to the broad scope of the project is desirable.

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.