



Teaching Assistant in Physical Education (PE)
School of Arts Education and Movement
DCU Institute of Education
10 Month Fixed-Term Contract

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.

Overview of the department

The **DCU Institute of Education** is the newest faculty of Dublin City University. It is based in a €70 million purpose built facility on the DCU St Patrick’s Campus in Drumcondra in Dublin. Established in

2016 as Ireland's first University faculty of Education, it has a staff of more than 130 full-time academics and a student body in excess of 4,000.

The Institute brings together students of education across all sectors from early childhood, to primary and post-primary and further and higher education. As well as providing a range of undergraduate programmes in education, the Institute offers a rich menu of taught and research-based post-graduate programmes, at doctoral, masters, diploma and certificate levels.

As a centre of expertise and excellence in teacher education and education more generally, the Institute hosts a range of research centres in key areas of priority and has an ambitious and growing programme of research. With internationally-recognised experts in education policy, inclusive and special education, curriculum and pedagogy, assessment, sustainability, literacy, evaluation, digital learning and teacher education, the Institute provides a dynamic learning and working environment. Staff can expect to encounter opportunities for multi-disciplinary work, not just in the Institute, but across the University. As one of the world's leading young Universities, DCU has established its fifth and newest faculty out of a conviction that studies and research in education and the preparation and support of teachers are central to the transformation of lives and communities.

Committed to academic excellence and innovation, the DCU Institute of Education is confident its students and staff, and its graduates can flourish and lead in the challenging and complex contexts of education in the 21st century.

The **School of Arts Education and Movement** is one of the six schools within the DCU Institute of Education. The School is made up of a dynamic and unique group of scholars, researchers and teacher educators working together in collaboration and growing the national and international reputation of the School through the award of prestigious fellowships, securing large-scale research grants, and the publication of research in the leading journals in the field. Academic interests span Teacher Education, Visual Arts Education, Physical Education, Music Education, Art Education and Arts Education generally, as well as a range of other interdisciplinary dimensions including creativity, inclusion, wellbeing and technology.

Role Profile

Teaching Assistants (TAs) are essential members of the University's academic community. The successful individual will be assigned to the School of Arts Education and Movement, DCU Institute of Education, and will assist with the delivery of its taught undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. This post offers an attractive opportunity for personal development while working within an innovative and supportive environment.

The Teaching Assistant will work under the direction of the faculty members who have overall responsibility for the programmes and will report to the Head of School. The purpose of the role is to provide assistant in the preparation, assessment and delivery of teaching and learning within the programmes. The post offers an attractive opportunity for personal development while working within an innovative and supportive environment.

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Head of School or other designated staff member, the post will comprise a range of duties, including but not limited to, the following:

- Contributing to teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels under the supervision of a faculty member
- Preparing materials and equipment for the delivery of lectures, tutorials, seminars etc.
- Assisting with the monitoring and implementation of sanitising protocols, under the supervision of a faculty member, as necessary
- Assisting in the organisation and marking of assessments (assignments / presentations etc.) under the supervision of a faculty member who has first and final remit for marking
- Assisting the module coordinator with the provision of feedback on assignments to students
- Dealing with student queries concerning module material – via appropriate communication channels under the supervision of a faculty member
- Assisting with the undertaking of research activities
- Assisting with student recruitment and School promotional activities, such as Open Day and other similar events
- Any additional administrative activities associated with teaching and supervision, as required by the School/Programme
- Carrying out administrative and assessment duties linked with the post and other such duties as assigned from time to time by the Head of School/nominee.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential

- Applicants for the position must hold a Level 8 qualification in Physical Education or Teaching, and ideally, a relevant postgraduate qualification. The successful individual will be competent in using tools to assist with online learning.

The ideal individual will have the following qualifications and experience

- Knowledge of specialist as well generalist areas of Physical Education teaching in early childhood settings, schools or teacher education contexts
- Postgraduate qualification in Physical Education or related area
- Strong social, team-work, technical and organisational skills
- Dedicated to student learning