



Job Description

Assistant Professor in Religious Education School of Human Development DCU Institute of Education Permanent Contract

Dublin City University www.dcu.ie 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 and Transformation', it is committed to the development of talent, and the discovery and translation of knowledge that advances society and the economy. DCU is the Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

The University is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. It currently has more than 18,000 students 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 creating a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. This exceptional commitment on the part of its staff and students has led to DCU's ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It also consistently features in the world's Top 100 Young Universities (currently in QS Top 70 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100).

DCU is placed 84th in the world, in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings – measuring higher education institutions' contributions towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Over the past decade, DCU has also been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

DCU Institute of Education

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, literacy, evaluation, digital learning, early childhood, further 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.

School of Human Development

The School of Human Development 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 teachers working in partnership, and whose academic interests span teacher education, the humanities, the social sciences, and the broad field of Human Development including religious education. The School's religious education lecturers play leading roles in the development of national policy in religious education in both primary and post-primary education, are active members of international networks, and constitute a cluster of expertise and scholarship in a field of increasing public interest.

We are now seeking to recruit an Assistant Professor with expertise in the field of religious education, and a particular interest in post-primary religious education in a variety of school types. The successful candidate will join an established team supporting initial teacher education, professional learning and research in the fields of religious education, Catholic religious education, chaplaincy studies and pastoral work, and teacher education more broadly.

Duties and Responsibilities

Teaching and Learning

- The successful candidate will be required to contribute significantly to the development, teaching, assessment and administration of existing undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, particularly in the area of post-primary religious education.
- This teaching will include module design and delivery and placement practice including its attendant duties of supporting and evaluating students on placement visits and writing reports.
- In addition, the successful candidate will be expected to supervise undergraduate and postgraduate theses, contribute to tutorials and to the wider teaching of the Institute as required by the Head of School.

Research and Scholarship

- The DCU Institute of Education is a centre of excellence in educational research and as such the candidate will be expected to be research active in their field and to contribute to, develop and support research initiatives within the School of Human Development and the wider faculty.
- The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the scholarship and research profiles of the School of Human Development and the Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education through high-quality research and publication in their area of expertise. This will be undertaken in association with colleagues in DCU and research networks in religious education and Catholic education more broadly.

Service and Contribution to University and Society

- The candidate will undertake administrative functions related to the activities of the School of Human Development. These activities, defined by the Head of School, may include participation in School meetings, engagement in meetings related to programmes, representing the School in marketing and recruitment of students, developing relationships with stakeholders, participating in Open Days, organisation of conferences, seminars, etc.

Candidate Requirements

This position is open to candidates who meet the following criteria:

- A postgraduate qualification, preferably at doctoral level, in religious education or closely related field
- An emerging research/publication profile in religious education or closely related fields
- Familiarity with the Irish education system, particularly current developments in post-primary education and in teacher education policy will be particularly important
- Familiarity with developments in post-primary religious education in Ireland will be expected
- A minimum of three years' experience teaching at graduate and undergraduate levels
- Experience in teacher education is highly desirable
- Familiarity with online course delivery systems
- The successful candidate should be capable of working in a team and contributing to developing the teaching and research agenda within the School

The position is subject to the candidate being Garda Vetted.

Mandatory Training

The post holder will be required to undertake the following mandatory compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety, and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.