

# School of Psychology

## Structured Doctoral Pathway 2019-20

### Overview

This document details the Structured PhD Programme for the School of Psychology which is tailored to the needs of the School and its postgraduate students. It is a student-centred, flexible, research-focused programme, augmented by activities that support the acquisition of a range of relevant specialist and generic skills. In consultation with their supervisor(s), students can undertake a bespoke suite of modules across a number of areas, developing scientific, discipline specific, generic and transferable skills which will be tailored to their needs and ensure successful completion of their PhD and maximise their career flexibility.

### Pathway Structure

The core component of the PhD programme is the completion of original research presented in thesis format. In addition, PhD students will also normally have accumulated a minimum of 30 taught credits. MSc students will normally have accumulated at least 20 credits. It should be noted that a maximum of 90 credits may be taken by any student across their registration period. Normally students will take at least 10 credits each year for years 1-3, with year 4, if appropriate, focused exclusively on their research.

Modules will be taken from the current GTE (Graduate Training Element) offering within the Faculty of Science and Health (FSH). Subject to the availability of GTEs, this document provides examples of discipline-specific skills, transferable skills and elective modules and training.

It is policy in the School of Psychology that all research students who are assigned any teaching-related responsibilities must complete GS602 Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice.

The individually-tailored structured pathway for each student should be discussed and agreed in the first instance with their supervisor and progress recorded on the annual PGR2 form. Once approval has been granted, students should register for their chosen modules via their portal page through the Faculty of Science and Health GTE programme at: <https://sites.google.com/dcu.ie/gtefsh-information-page>

### Induction and Training

Research students are also strongly encouraged to take advantage of centrally offered non-accredited workshops, seminars and training on academic, software or transferable skills which align with their developmental needs as appropriate throughout their period of study.

In year one, all students are required to attend the orientation sessions, the Graduate Studies Office (GSO) and library-run programme and other relevant induction sessions. GSO communicates details of the training schedule to each student at the beginning of each semester. Research students are also required to take the Online Research Integrity Module in year one of their studies.

# School of Nursing & Human Sciences

## Structured Doctoral Pathway 2019-20

### Discipline Specific Skills

Year 1-3

#### Year 1-3

- Advanced Research Skills (Psychology) (**PSYC521**) (10 ECTS)
- Advanced Psychological Research Methods (**PSYC516**) (10 ECTS)
- Specialist Topic in Psychology & Well-being (**PSYC515**) (15 ECTS)
- Environmental influences on well-being (**PSYC517**) (10 ECTS)
- Critical Psychology & Wellbeing in the Community (**PSYC518**) (10 ECTS)
- Evidence-based psychological practice (**PSYC519**) (10 ECTS)
- Qualitative Research Summer School (**NS5055**) (5 ECTS)

#### Year 2-3

- Strategies for Getting Published (**GS609NS**) (5 ECTS)
- Professional Communication for Graduate Researchers (**GS611NS**) (5 ECTS)
- Science Communication for Graduate Researchers (**PSYC523**) (5 ECTS)

### Transferable Skills

Year 1

- DCU Postgraduate Induction Programme (non-credit)
- Online Research Integrity Module - Biomedical Stream or Social and Behavioural Science Stream (non-credit)
- Strategies for Academic Writing (**GS608BS**) (5 ECTS)

#### Year 1-3

- Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice (**GS602**) (5 ECTS)
- Qualitative Research Methods (**MT610**) (5 ECTS)
- Quantitative Research Methods (**MT611**) (5 ECTS)
- Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (**MT612**) (5 ECTS)
- Research Ethics (**GS604**) (5 ECTS)
- Strategies for Grant Writing (**GS608CS**) (5 ECTS)
- Intellectual Property & Commercialisation (**GS601**) (5 ECTS)

### Elective Module & Training

Year 1-3

- Personal, Professional Planning and Development (**HR610**) (5 ECTS)
- English for Academic Purposes (**LC600**) (5 ECTS)
- Advanced Writing Support for International Students (**LC602**) (5 ECTS)



Students are also encouraged to engage with School and centrally offered training workshops and seminars as appropriate throughout their PhD. Students are also expected to attend/present at relevant national and international conferences throughout their PhD.