



Professional Doctorate in Educational Psychology

(Three-Year Full-time)



Introduction

The Doctorate in Educational Psychology (DEdPsych) is a three-year, full-time research and professional training programme in educational psychology which is fully accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland.

We have a long-standing reputation for innovation and excellence in professional training in Educational Psychology.

Programme Highlight

Integrating the three key elements of academic knowledge, research ability and professional practice, the programme provides trainees with the theoretical framework and the practical experience necessary to work as professional psychologists within a variety of contexts, including educational and multidisciplinary healthcare settings, to critique relevant research and to conduct research at doctoral level.

Professional Accreditation and Programme Structure

Professional Accreditation

The three-year full-time programme is at Level 10 within the National Framework for Qualifications (NFQ). There is a variety of innovative assessment modes employed on the programme including: essay-based assignments, research assignments, completion of professional placement portfolios, individual and group presentations, observed administration of test instruments, supervised professional practice in schools and in psychological services, and the completion of a doctoral thesis. For the award of Doctorate, the research must make an original contribution to knowledge and contain material of a standard appropriate for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

Modules:

Sample modules include:

- Child and Adolescent Development: Theory Applied to Practise
- Professional Practice 1-5
- Psychological Theories and Interventions
- Research Methods (Levels 1 and 2)
- Advanced Research Methods
- Research Thesis Supervision

Why study at UCD?



Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Global Careers



Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



Global Community

8,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports



Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Professional Doctorate in Educational Psychology will be qualified to work as a staff grade psychologist within a wide range of educational and healthcare care settings, to work with and support children and young adults, independently or as part of interagency and multidisciplinary teams. The qualification is also recognized internationally.

Applicant Profile

The Professional Doctorate in Educational Psychology programme is open to graduates who, prior to application, hold a first- or second-class honours degree in Psychology or a qualification in Psychology that is deemed to be equivalent, and who meet the requirements for Graduate Basis for Registration with the Psychological Society of Ireland or equivalent. An applicant cannot be considered for entry to the course unless the results of their Psychology degree/ diploma are confirmed and available. Applicants must also have at least two years of professional experience, excluding placement experience gained as part of acquiring professional qualifications. All applicants will be required to submit a research proposal as part of the application process.

About the School

We invite you to consider educational psychology as a rewarding and fulfilling career, in which you get the opportunity to enhance the lives of young people and their families. We invite you to prepare for that career at UCD, where you will be instructed by national and international experts in the field, where you will gain supervised experience in a broad range of psychological services, where you will be well supported in your studies, and where you will enjoy world-class campus facilities. UCD graduates from this programme are in high demand from employers across education and healthcare sectors, as they consistently contribute to better understanding and outcomes for children and young people with diverse needs.

For Qualified Educational Psychologists

There is a limited facility for advanced entry directly into Stage 2 for applicants who have already completed a master's degree in educational psychology that constitutes a professional qualification to practise as an educational psychologist. Such applicants may complete the Professional Doctorate in Educational Psychology over two years full-time. This will involve Research Methods training and the completion of a 30,000-word thesis. Please note that places on the direct entry to Stage 2 pathway are extremely limited and there may not be an intake every year.

Academic Profile



Dr Joyce Senior, Educational Psychologist Assistant Professor of Education.

Her main research and clinical area of expertise is in relation to psychosocial functioning and behavioural and learning phenotypes associated with genetic, neurological and rare conditions. She is involved in a number of projects in areas including intellectual disability and mental health, infant and parental mental health, exploring children's experiences of special education (Children's School Lives www.cslstudy.ie) as well as the impact of Covid-19 on children with additional needs. She has published nationally and internationally in peer reviewed journals in the areas including epilepsy, ADHD, autism, Williams Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, 22q11.2 deletion syndrome.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that sponsorship may be available through prospective employers but is subject to change and to a competitive application process.

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APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply