



**UCD School of Education**  
Scoil an Oideachais UCD



**RISING  
TO THE  
FUTURE**  
UCD Strategy 2020-2024

**Education does not  
change the world.  
Education changes people.  
People change the world.**

**Paulo Freire**

**Preparing to  
TEACH**



# Welcome

We invite you to consider teaching as a career, a most rewarding and self-fulfilling career, in which you get the opportunity to enhance the lives of young people.

We invite you to prepare for that career at UCD, where you will be instructed by national and international experts in the field of education, where you will gain supervised experience of teaching in schools, where you will be very well supported in your studies, and where you will enjoy world-class campus facilities.

We offer a range of options for entering the teaching profession. We offer an undergraduate programme in Education, Gaeilge and/or Modern Languages, which include periods of study in the Gaeltacht and internationally, as appropriate to the languages you are studying. You will graduate as a qualified teacher after four years of study. If your preference is for Maths and Science, we offer a five-year Master's programme in Maths and Science, from which you will emerge as an expert teacher in these areas.

If you have already completed a Degree, there is the option to undertake a two-year Master's programme and qualify as a teacher of the subjects you have studied.

UCD has an outstanding reputation in teacher education, UCD graduates are in high demand in schools, as they are very well prepared to teach in the classrooms of today and they consistently make a great contribution to schools and to the broader education system.

*William Kinsella*

**William Kinsella**  
Associate Professor, Head of School  
School of Education







# BEd Education with Gaeilge &/or Modern Languages

CAO code

**DN760**

## Why is this subject for me?

Are you interested in studying to be a teacher of modern languages and/or an Ghaeilge at post-primary level? Are you passionate about teaching young people and making a positive impact on their lives? This innovative teacher education programme prepares high quality language teachers to teach, inspire and lead across the Irish education system.

Delivered by UCD School of Education in collaboration with UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore and UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, this four-year programme blends language learning and initial teacher education to prepare you to work as a language teacher in post-primary schools in the Irish education system. You can choose to study either two languages from the following list (French, Spanish, German or Italian) or one from this list along with an Ghaeilge. Alternatively, you can choose to major in an Ghaeilge alone. The following combinations are possible in this programme:

- **BEd Education, Gaeilge and Modern Language** (French, Spanish, German or Italian)
- **BEd Education and Modern Languages** (French, Spanish, German or Italian)
- **BEd Education and Gaeilge**

With each of the combination of subjects indicated above, students will engage in a series of modules which will develop their language proficiency skills, build linguistic competencies while also learning about the respective culture and literature of the language(s) being studied.

You will develop your pedagogical skills as a teacher as you progress through the programme, undertaking modules in foundation disciplines (history/sociology/psychology/philosophy of education, curriculum studies) and professional studies (communication skills, digital learning, research) while also engaging in school placement (in both primary and post-primary schools).

A key aspect of the programme is to prepare you for working with a diverse range of students and personnel across the education system, with particular emphasis on the school as a learning community.

## Professional Accreditation

This four-year concurrent initial teacher education (ITE) degree has been recognised and accredited by the Teaching Council of Ireland. Students fulfilling all elements and requirements of the programme will be eligible to apply for registration as a post-primary school teacher.

## Leaving Certificate Recommendations:

### BEd Education, Gaeilge and Modern Languages

- at least a Grade H5 in Gaeilge and a Grade H4 in the Modern Language studied to Leaving Certificate (or equivalent).

### BEd Education and Modern Languages

- at least a Grade H4 in one or more Modern Language(s) studied to Leaving Certificate (or equivalent). Two languages will be studied as part of this degree option. Both can be taken at non-beginners level or one of German, Italian or Spanish can be taken at beginners level.

### BEd Education and Gaeilge

- at least a Grade H5 in Gaeilge in Leaving Certificate (or equivalent).

## What will I study?

### Year

1

You can study two languages (French, Spanish, German, Italian, an Ghaeilge) or an Ghaeilge solely. Language modules will focus on developing your language proficiency while also introducing you to the associated culture and literature. Education modules include:

- Irish Childhoods
- Socio-Historic Perspectives on Education
- Education for a Sustainable Future
- Creative Pedagogy & Wellbeing
- Communication Skills & Language Pedagogy.

Placement in this year will be undertaken in a primary school.

### Year

2

You will continue to build your language proficiency engaging in modules focused on developing your skills and confidence in the language(s) you are studying as well as continuing with your cultural studies. Education modules include:

- Education for Democracy
- Inclusive Education for Learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)
- Curriculum, Assessment & Language Pedagogy.

Placement will be undertaken in a post-primary school.

### Year

3

The immersive study abroad and/or in the Gaeltacht forms an integral part of this year to apply your language learning in a language placement. If studying two modern languages, placement will be undertaken in trimester two and three (Summer trimester) of the third year. If studying an Ghaeilge and a modern language, language placement will be undertaken in trimester one (the Gaeltacht) and two (Erasmus) of the course. If studying an Ghaeilge alone, language placement will be undertaken in trimester one of the courses. Education modules will be taken online to include research methods in preparation for the research project in year four of the course and digital technologies & language pedagogy.

### Year

4

The final year of the course will prepare students for the intensive block placement experience to be undertaken in post-primary schools over two trimesters. Students will also engage in a research project, working with your Treoraí (co-operating teacher) to identify a relevant topic and to undertake the research study over the course of your placement. Education modules include:

- Professional Placement
- Portfolio & Methods (Trimester 1 & 2)
- Research Project.

Students will also engage in the final language modules required to ensure you meet the required standards for language proficiency.



This new and innovative teacher education course affords students the opportunity to study languages (French, Spanish, German, Italian, an Ghaeilge) while also engaging in foundational education modules to prepare for teaching in post-primary schools. Students will study language proficiency skills to a high standard, explore the culture of their chosen languages and undertake school placements (in both primary and post-primary schools). This course places particular emphasis on preparing teachers who can respond to the educational needs of students in an increasingly diverse and dynamic education system using creative and innovative approaches.

**Deirdre McGillicuddy**

Assistant Professor,  
UCD School of Education



A photograph showing a group of students in a classroom, wearing red sweaters, looking down at their work. The image is partially obscured by a dark blue banner at the bottom.

# Professional Masters of Education (PME)

The Professional Masters of Education (PME) at the School of Education, University College Dublin is a two-year, full-time Level 9 programme which is creative, innovative and a leading model in teacher education internationally.

The PME will qualify its graduates to teach relevant subjects at post-primary level (junior and senior cycles) once students also meet the requirements of the Teaching Council. During the PME, you will study the foundation disciplines of education; methodologies related to your subject specialism; hear from speakers, practitioners and researchers from a wide range of organisations who will inform, support and develop your practice as a teacher. You will complete a professional dissertation inquiring into an aspect of your practice as a teacher, which may relate specifically to a phenomenon you observe during your school placement.

The course is wide-ranging, informative both theoretically and practically, and features cutting-edge, stimulating and interesting contributors who have considerable experience and expertise about Irish schooling and education.

Applicants must register with the Postgraduate Applications Centre, [www.pac.ie](http://www.pac.ie), and apply online via their website.



## What Our Students Say

My name is Jake Weldon. I am currently completing the Professional Master of Education course in UCD. I also completed a Bachelor of Arts Humanities Degree in DCU, with a view of entering the field of education.

Tying to sum up in only a few lines what I enjoy most about the PME in UCD is particularly difficult. There were several places I could have chosen to do this course; however, I chose UCD due the programme structure. Placement starts in Trimester 1 of First Year and runs right through to final year. This to me is of utmost importance, as it allows you to build a rapport with students and colleagues in your school. Building a rapport with various stake holders is essential, as it improves numerous classroom areas, such as motivation, feedback, student learning, communication, and wellbeing.

One thing I love about the School of Education in UCD, are the wide range of supports that are available to students. Members of the faculty, and part time staff such as tutors, supervisors and practicing teachers have an incredible relationship with each of us and know us by name. They are phenomenal. I can say with a high degree of confidence that no one person is left behind. UCD really is a special place to do your PME.

**Jake Weldon** | Former PME student



# MSc in Science, Mathematics & Education

CAO code

**DN200**

## 4 Year BSc | 1 Year MSc

The Common Entry DN200 Science programmes provides students with the option to become Science and Maths teachers at postprimary level via one of 4 Teaching Council approved pathways. Students who opt for one of the 4 pathways complete a 4-year BSc which leads directly a one-year MSc in Mathematics and Science Education. On completion of both degrees, you are fully qualified to teach your chosen Science subject and Mathematics to Higher Level Leaving Certificate Level as well as Science to Junior Certificate Level.

The five options available are as follows:

- Biology, Mathematics & Education
- Chemistry, Mathematics & Education
- Physics, Mathematics & Education
- Applied Mathematics, Mathematics & Education
- Computer Science, Mathematics & Education

Your first core Education module will be in the Spring of First Year, where you will learn about theories in formal and informal STEM education.

You choose one of the Science, Mathematics & Education degree subjects at the end of Second Year.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Are there any teaching placements?

**A:** In First and Second Year you will get a taste of what it might be like to be a teacher, with short placements. In Third Year you will participate in Peer-Assisted Tutoring, tutoring First Year undergraduate students. In Third Year you will also participate in a post-primary school placement over one term. In both Fourth and Fifth Year you will participate in a year-long school placement. All placements are organised by the UCD School of Mathematics and Statistics.

**Q:** What if I finish my four year BSc and then decide I don't want to teach?

**A:** For all the Science and Mathematics Education degrees, you study Mathematics and another Science subject, providing you with a qualification as a Science graduate and potential future Educator. You can pursue other options after your BSc. For example, some of our students have progressed to PhD research or to the working environment.



# UCD School of Education Outreach Projects



## Power2Progress

UCD, in collaboration with Zurich and with support from the Z Zurich Foundation has commenced a ground breaking new two-year programme called Power 2 Progress. This two-year intervention led programme will aim to address education inequality in Ireland, by supporting over 600 senior cycle students from 21 DEIS schools in reaching their full academic potential and ultimately achieve greater success. The programme will also fund PhD research to inform on future educational policy in Ireland.



## Cyberwise.ie

Funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), a team of teacher educators and researchers from the School of Education and School of Computer Science in UCD are working in collaboration with a steering group comprising members of the National Centre for Cyber Security (NCSC), the Computers in Education Society of Ireland (CESI), the NCCA and Cyber Ireland to design and implement a Junior Cycle short course on cyber security. The first phase of this project is to road test elements of the draft specification with a purposive sample of post-primary schools in Ireland.



## Peigi's Adventures

Peigi's Adventures in Science represents an innovative collaboration between two UCD staff members, Dr Shane Bergin, a physicist and Dr Declan Fahie a teacher educator and former primary school teacher. The four stories offer an age-appropriate introduction to social justice and science themes. Designed specifically for junior classes, issues of fairness and equity, in tandem with science topics like space, travel, environmental awareness and growing things, are explored gently through the medium of story. Funding for Peigi's Adventures in Science is from the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Discover Programme.



## PDST Young Economist of the Year

YEOTY, as it has become affectionately known, is now in its seventh year and is developing into a significant national awards event for the enjoyment and promotion of economics. Commencing in 2013, the initiative has grown from strength to strength with an increasing number of participants and an improved level of quality each year. The national awards event rotates amongst the major third level institutions in Ireland.



## Girls in STEM

Despite the advancements made by women in the employment sector and the academic success enjoyed by girls, women continue to be persistently underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM). In Ireland, women represented fewer than 25% of people working in jobs that use STEM skills. This project aims to develop and strengthen the interest and attitudes of young girls in post-primary schools designated as disadvantaged (DEIS) in STEM.

## Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH)

Dr Declan Fahie (PI) and Dr Shane Bergin lead the PATH project in UCD School of Education in collaboration with NCAD and alongside ITE providers nationally. The aim of this initiative is to conduct research and increase diversity in the teaching profession by increasing diversity in our students accessing Teacher Education programmes in UCD School of Education. The project focuses on increasing access for those under-represented within the teaching profession, including minority and/or marginalised groups, students from DEIS schools and anyone accessing teaching from alternative pathways such as FE.

For more information, please contact:



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