Courses for Teachers
Master of Arts in Education

MA Ed

This is a taught Masters degree programme designed to respond to the interests and needs of education professionals who would like to develop their strengths and interests to an advanced level.

It provides an opportunity to study a range of topics from within the broad field of education theory, policy and practice and to engage in close study to minor thesis level.

The focus is to develop critical skills of inquiry as students examine and deliberate on key issues relating to education both nationally and internationally.

COURSE FEATURES

- Excellence in supervision and teaching
- National and international recognition
- Structured system of support
- Interactive teaching and learning
- Collegial, dynamic and inclusive participation in a community of learners
- Emphasis on high-quality student experience

COURSE DETAILS

Code: W027
Duration: 12 Months
Next Intake: September annually
Schedule: Full-time

‘The MA Ed challenged me in ways I didn’t expect and I learnt so much because of this.’

‘I hope to help improve the initial teacher training programmes in Zambia using the knowledge and skills I have acquired from UCD’
COURSE STRUCTURE

• The MA Ed is a 90-credit degree programme taken over one year full time

• MA Ed students are required to take two Research methods modules and normally complete a 30-credit research project or minor thesis (15,000-20,000 words) which is due at the end of September in the year following the September of entry.

• By selecting related/complementary modules and combining this with a thesis topic, it is possible to take some areas of the MA Ed programme to specialist level (further details are available at interview).

• An alternative mode of completion allows MA Ed students to gather 70 credits from taught modules and then complete a 20-credit minor thesis of 12,000-15,000 words.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Assignment–based assessment, with a focus on developing critical inquiry, in-depth analysis and meaningful praxis in the university context.

SAMPLE MODULES

• Critical Policy Analysis
• Global Classroom
• Philosophical Perspectives on Education and Childhood
• Children’s Rights and Participation
• Educational Psychology and Positive Psychology
• Leadership for Quality Learning
• Curriculum and Pedagogy
• Digital Learning Design
• Children’s Literature
• Additional Support Needs of Learners
• Mentoring as Professional Development
• Guiding Effective Teaching and Learning

RESOURCES

• UCD on-line resources,
• International journals; Academic and practise-based.
• UCD Library and specialist library with innovative resources to support research and scholarship.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

MA Education Graduates work in a diverse range of careers in education in roles such as: teachers, policy advisors, education professionals, education leaders, education outreach officers, and education and training officers.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will normally hold an honours degree at undergraduate level (or equivalent) from a recognised higher education institution. Applicants whose first language is not English or Irish must provide a Certificate of Proficiency in English. An overall IELTS score of 6.5 with no area falling below 6 is required. All applicants are interviewed, either in person or remotely.