



COLÁISTE MUIRE GAN SMÁL | MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE
- OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH - | - UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK -

POSTGRADUATE

Opportunities



MIC Campus Development



Postgraduate Guide



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Introduction

We are delighted that you are interested in pursuing postgraduate study in Mary Immaculate College. The College's mission is to foster the intellectual, spiritual, and professional development of students within a supportive and challenging environment - through excellence in teaching, learning and research—in a range of disciplines in Arts and Education. Our postgraduate programmes are central to that mission.

The College is committed to increasing the diversity of the student population and the internationalisation of programmes, reflecting contemporary global changes in higher education. To this end, the College provides a wide range of financial, academic and administrative supports. A rich heritage in teaching coupled with real world research assures that the student is at the deep heart's core of everything we do, enabling our graduates to become leaders in their respective fields.

Students on our taught master's programmes work to develop knowledge and understanding in specialist areas in Education including Special Educational Needs, Information and Communication Technologies in Primary Education, Early Childhood Education, Adult and Continuing Education, Science and Technology at Primary Level, Religious Education, Positive Intervention in Educational Disadvantage, Music Education and Development Education. Our taught master's programmes in Arts draw on a wide variety of disciplines and foci, including Civil and Canon Law, Gaelige, Heritage and Medieval Studies, Philosophy, Literature, History, Media, Psychology, and Theology.

At Mary Immaculate College, research students pursuing the MA and PhD degree programmes work to develop a solid foundation in a particular area of study relating to Arts and Education. The programmes have been designed in line with best international practice in postgraduate training, development, research, publication and dissemination. The programmes demand hard work and a desire to master the scholarly disciplines and research methods for the successful conceptualisation, design, conduct, analysis and writing of dissertations. Doctoral education is offered in the following fields: Applied Linguistics, Education, English Literature, French, Gaelige, German, Geography, History, Irish Studies, Mathematics, Media, Music, Philosophy, Theology, and Psychology.

Alumni from our postgraduate programmes include many scholars who are working in colleges and universities at home and abroad and holding leadership positions in the private and public sectors.

Thank you for your interest in postgraduate programmes in Mary Immaculate College.



Professor James G. Deegan,
Professor and Director Postgraduate
Studies in Education



Professor Michael Breen,
Professor, Dean of Arts and Acting Director
Postgraduate Studies in Arts

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AT MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE

Mary Immaculate College offers postgraduate programmes in Liberal Arts and Education to masters and doctoral level. Students may choose from an extensive range of masters programmes (both research and taught) and many continue on to pursue doctoral research.



ARTS

Postgraduate Programmes By Research and Thesis

MA, PhD in:

- Applied Linguistics
- English Language & Literature
- French
- Gaeilge
- German Studies
- Geography
- History
- Irish Studies
- Mathematics
- Media & Communication Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Theology and Religious Studies
- Psychology

Applied Linguistics

Research areas for postgraduate students include:

- Corpus-Based Language Analysis
- Irish English
- Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language
- Pedagogical applications of language corpora

Course Leader
Tel
E-mail

Dr. Anne O'Keeffe
061 - 204957
anne.okeeffe@mic.ul.ie

Department of English Language and Literature

Research options for postgraduates include:

- Modernist Studies: Virginia Woolf, Rebecca West, Elizabeth Bowen;
- Irish Big House Fiction;
- Late-Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century Fiction in England and Ireland
- Fiction in English from Southern Africa
- Renaissance/Shakespeare
- Postcolonial Literature and Theory
- Contemporary Irish Poetry
- Literary and Culture Theory
- Contemporary Irish Novel
- Contemporary American Novel
- Contemporary Irish Culture and Cultural Texts
- Irish Popular culture

Head of Department
Tel
E-mail

Dr. Eugene O'Brien
061 - 204989
eugene.obrien@mic.ul.ie

Department of French

Research opportunities are available in the areas of:

- Eighteenth century literature
- *Histoire des idées*
- Development of the novel in France, C18 – C20
- Contemporary literary theory and narrative studies
- Epistolary writing

Head of Department

Maria Ryan

Tel

061 - 204352

E-mail

maria.ryan@mic.ul.ie

Roinn na Gaeilge

Ar na réimsí taighde do mhic léinn iarchéime tá:

- Nua-litríocht na Gaeilge, idir phrós agus fhilíocht.
- Teanga agus litríocht na Gaeilge, idir phrós agus fhilíocht san seachtú, ochtú agus naoú haois déag.
- Lámhscríbhinní na Gaeilge agus eagarthóireacht théacsúil.
- An Fhiannaíocht.
- Ré na hAthbheochana.
- Drámaíocht na Nua-Ghaeilge
- Teanga agus Pobal.
- Logainmneacha.
- Béaloideas.
- Na Meáin Ghaeilge.
- Léann an Chultúir (m.sh. an náisiúnachas cultúrtha, na healaíona dúchasacha, idir amhránaíocht agus cheol)

Head of Department

An Dr. Áinead Ní Mhuirthile

Tel

061 - 204900

E-mail

ainead.nimhuirthile@mic.ul.ie

Geography Department

Research areas for postgraduates include:

- Palaeoecological archives
- Marine micropalaeontology
- Quaternary (incl. Holocene) environmental change
- Monitoring environmental change
- Historical geography of Britain and Ireland
- Society and settlement in medieval Ireland
- Heritage management.
- Territorial development and spatial planning
- Urbanisation and the Irish urban system
- Urban socio-spatial differentiation

Head of Department

Prof. Des McCafferty

Tel

061 - 204317

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des.mccafferty@mic.ul.ie



I am a geography research masters' student at Mary Immaculate College, entering my second and final year of study. I am fortunate to have a very committed and energetic supervisor, Dr. Angela Hayes. The quality of her supervision is immeasurable.

In May 2008, I presented at an international micropalaeontological conference in Tübingen, Germany. This trip was partly-subsidised by the College. There are numerous supports in place to aid postgraduate research in Mary Immaculate College.

Various training workshops, arranged and funded by the College and other Irish third-level institutions, help postgraduate research students to manage projects, network with others, evaluate progress, plan career paths, and develop new skills.

Furthermore, Mary Immaculate College offers its geography postgraduate research students a plethora of other useful resources, such as laboratory facilities, state-of-the-art microscopes, computers with specialist software packages, printing facilities and generous library resources.

Seán Halligan, Research MA, Geography.

Department of German Studies

Research opportunities for graduates are available in the following areas:

- Contemporary German/Swiss Literature and Culture
- East German Literature/Culture and German/Eastern Europe Relations
- Women's Literature, Autobiography and Poetry
- German-language Jugendliteratur

Acting Head of Department
Tel
E-mail

Dr. Carmel Finnan
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carmel.finnan@mic.ul.ie

Department of History

Main areas of research:

- **Ireland** Politics, Religion and Society
18th, 19th & 20th Centuries
Popular Protest 1750-1850
Politicisation, Local Government and Administration in the 19th century
Urban Growth and Housing Policy 19th and early 20th centuries
Social and Economic Policy 1922 – 72
Cultural Nationalism, Labour, Local, Regional and Oral Studies
19th and 20th centuries
- **Europe** Irish Migration to France and Franco-Irish relations, particularly C17 – C18
- **America** Irish-American Issues
General US history
19th & 20th centuries

Head of Department
Tel
E-mail

Liam Irwin
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My experience as a postgrad within the History Department has been a wholly positive one. Throughout my undergraduate and postgraduate studies, the History faculty have been encouraging, supportive and generous with time and advice, and this was one of the main reasons why I chose to pursue a postgraduate programme in Mary Immaculate College.

The quality of supervision I have received has been excellent. My supervisor, Maura Cronin guides me on all aspects of my postgraduate studies, such as researching, writing and presenting. With her help and direction, I was successful in my application for an IRCHSS scholarship.

Sarah McNamara, PhD, History

Irish Studies

Research areas:

- Irish Kings and High Kings
- Irish Hagiography
- Seanghaeilge
- Early Irish Epigraphy and Sculpture
- Viking settlement in Ireland
- Church Politics in Pre-Norman Ireland

Contact person:
Tel
E-mail

Dr. Catherine Swift
061 - 204382
catherine.swift@mic.ul.ie

Department of Mathematics and Computer Studies

Supervision for postgraduate students is available in specialist areas which are related to Algebraic Geometry including applications of Computer Algebra.

Head of Department	Dr. Gerard M. Enright
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E-mail	gerard.enright@mic.ul.ie

Department of Media & Communication Studies

Research areas for postgraduate students include:

- Television Drama
- Irish film industry
- Gender and popular culture
- Television and gendered audiences
- Media effects
- Analysis of media content
- Public opinion formation
- Forces shaping media content
- Media sociology
- Communication media
- Television and radio production

Head of Department	Dr. Rosemary Day
Contact	Padraig Horgan
Tel	061 - 204396
E-mail	rosemary.day@mic.ul.ie

Department of Music

Research opportunities are available in the following areas:

Music Analysis, the Second Viennese School, Contemporary Irish art-music, the North German Baroque, Keyboard Music of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, Music Lexicography, Improvisation, Music Nationalism, Polish Music, Music Technology in Education, and Music Education.

Head of Department	Dr. Gareth Cox
Tel	061 - 204588
E-mail	gareth.cox@mic.ul.ie

Department of Philosophy

Research options available include the following:

- Classical Greek Philosophy; Mediaeval Philosophy; The Philosophy of the Enlightenment
- Phenomenology; Psychoanalysis & Philosophy; Early Analytic Philosophy
- Epistemology; Kant and German Idealism; Hegel and Hegelianism; Existentialism.
- Marxism; Postmodernism; Philosophy & Literature; Modern Aesthetic Theory
- Philosophy of Language; Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy of Religion; Hermeneutics; Philosophical Historiography; Rorty, Pragmatism and Wittgenstein
- Professional Ethics (especially Medical Ethics); Justice & Human Rights Issues

Head of Department	Dr. Stephen Thornton
Tel	061 - 204341
E-mail	stephen.thornton@mic.ul.ie

Department of Psychology

Research Areas include:

- Conceptual issues in behaviour analysis
- Applied behaviour analysis
- Psychological therapies and their applications
- Autism service provision
- Group decision making
- Motor control
- Counterfactual thinking;
- Deductive reasoning;
- Judgement and decision making;
- Dynamic, embodied and enactive approaches to cognitive science
- Cognition and emotion
- Imagination and creativity
- Mental health
- Environmental psychology
- Biological psychology
- The psychology of consciousness
- Deliberate action.

Head of Department
Tel
E-mail

Dr. Veronica Cullinan
061 - 204944
veronica.cullinan@mic.ul.ie

Department of Theology and Religious Studies

Research areas for postgraduate students include:

- Fundamental theology
- Faith and culture
- Technology and religion
- Morality and civil law, and church-state relations
- Canon law, and its relationship to sacramental theology and ecclesiology
- Johannine studies
- Medieval spirituality and theology
- Theology of the Trinity
- Soteriology
- Ecumenics and Reformation studies
- Liturgy
- Ecclesiology

Head of Department
Tel
E-mail

Prof. Eamonn Conway
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ARTS

Postgraduate Taught Programmes



These programmes normally consist of circa six taught modules and a dissertation of circa 18,000 – 20,000 words. Most taught programmes are offered in full-time (one year) or part-time (two years) mode. In order to be eligible to apply, a 2:1 degree in a relevant area is normally required. Please consult with the relevant course coordinator to confirm the duration and eligibility requirements of individual programmes.

Interdisciplinary

- MA in Civil and Canon Law (With UL)
- MA in Heritage Publication
- MA in Humanities
- MA in Medieval Studies
- MA in Philosophy and Literature

English

- MA in Modern English Literature

Gaeilge

- MA sa Ghaeilge

History

- MA in History
- MA in Local History (With UL)

Media & Communication Studies

- MA in Irish Media Studies

Psychology

- Graduate Diploma/MA in Applied Behaviour Analysis

Theology

- MA in Theology
- MA in Biblical Studies
- MA in Christian Spirituality
- MA in Liturgical Studies

Detailed Description of Programmes

MA in Civil & Canon Law (with the University of Limerick Law School)

Topics covered include Irish civil law on Church administration, marriage and Church finances in both legal systems, Church tribunals, comparative and European law, general norms and selected topics in canon law, the Church and the Churches, and legal research skills.

Contact (MIC)

Tel

E-mail:

Dr Patrick Connolly

061 - 204575

patrick.connolly@mic.ul.ie

MA in Heritage Publication

The M.A. in Heritage Publication is a taught programme which is designed to provide archaeologists, local historians and students interested in Ireland's heritage with a training in publication and presentation skills in different media. It is intended that this will facilitate the creation of material in which recent archaeological discoveries are explained and presented to the local communities in which the excavations have taken place as well as to the Irish public at large and to those with a professional interest in the field. Full-time students may take the M.A. degree course in one year. Part-time students may take the individual modules over a number of years, depending on the availability of their time and funds.

The aims and objectives of the programme are:

- The development of practical and theoretical skills which will facilitate a competence in heritage publication and presentation
- The development of audience awareness and identification of the variety of approaches required when presenting archaeological material
- To facilitate critical engagement with the problems of presentation and education on heritage issues.

Course Co-ordinator

Tel

E-mail

Dr Catherine Swift

061 - 204382

catherine.swift@mic.ul.ie

Taught MA in Humanities

This unique new MA should appeal to those wishing to develop postgraduate expertise in interdisciplinary work in the humanities. The objectives of the programme are:

- To foster critical engagement with fundamental questions concerning the nature of the humanities in the contemporary world.
- To enable work across disciplines in the humanities.
- To study a range of ideas, texts, methodologies, research techniques, appropriate to advanced study in the humanities.
- To develop a sense of critical thinking in all areas and to facilitate critical engagement with contemporary issues and problems.

Modules include:

- Research Methodology,
- European Modernism,
- The Making of the Modern World
- Questions of European Identity in the Nineteenth Century.

The electives are selected from a wide range of interdisciplinary and single-discipline subjects.

The programme can be studied fulltime over one year or part-time over two years.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr Chris Lawn
Tel	061 - 204576
E-mail	chris.lawn@mic.ul.ie



MA in Medieval Studies

This interdisciplinary programme entails an intellectual exploration of Western culture and society during the Medieval period. It draws on the expertise of staff from History, Philosophy, Theology, Art, and Irish Studies. The programme should appeal to all students who have an interest in Medieval culture, literature, thought, history, and art.

Modules include:

- History of Medieval Europe,
- Early Christian Ireland,
- Medieval Theology and Philosophy,
- Christian Art in the Middle Ages,
- Research Methodology.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Catherine Kavanagh
Tel	061 - 204904
E-mail	catherine.kavanagh@mic.ul.ie

MA in Philosophy and Literature

This programme is designed to provide an additional postgraduate academic qualification for graduates in the areas of Philosophy and English, and to give students a sense of the interdisciplinarity between the areas of Philosophy and English. It is also designed to develop a sense of critical thinking in both areas and to facilitate critical engagement with contemporary issues and problems. The programme may lead to doctoral study in the field for suitably qualified graduates.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Chris Lawn
Tel	061 - 204576
E-mail	chris.lawn@mic.ul.ie

MA in History

The taught component of this programme may include modules on the following areas:

- Irish Communities in Early Modern Europe
- Popular Protest in Pre-Famine Ireland
- The Irish Parliamentary Tradition
- The Irish Revolution 1912-1927
- Image-based Research in History
- Research Methods in History

Course Co-ordinator (MIC)	Liam Irwin
Tel	061 - 204987
E-mail	liam.irwin@mic.ul.ie

MA in Local History

This programme is offered jointly by faculty from the Departments of History and Geography, Mary Immaculate College and the Department of History, University of Limerick. The programme meets the needs of graduates in history, or in related disciplines (e.g. Irish Studies, human geography, archaeology, anthropology) who wish to carry out historical research, especially in relation to a particular locality. The course is particularly suited for those hoping to proceed to PhD programmes in history, but also facilitates those interested in historical research for their own personal development.

Course Co-ordinator (MIC)	Liam Irwin
Tel	061 - 204987
E-mail	liam.irwin@mic.ul.ie

MA in Modern English Literature

This full-time programme is intended to widen and deepen students' knowledge and appreciation of English literature. Some part-time students may be admitted but in their case, completion of the programme will take two years. Applicants should have an honours primary degree with English as a final year subject. Other suitably qualified candidates may also apply.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Eugene O'Brien
Tel	061 - 204989
E-mail	eugene.obrien@mic.ul.ie

MA sa Ghaeilge

The objective of this postgraduate taught course is to facilitate Irish Language graduates who have a high standard of Irish and who wish to do further study in Irish Language and Literature. Students on this course will substantially increase their knowledge of the principal areas of Irish Language Studies and they will also have an opportunity to improve their skills in the language itself.

- Modern Irish Literature
- Old Irish Literature
- Study of manuscripts and 17th and 18th Century Literature
- The Classical Literature and Early Modern Irish
- Aspects of the Sociolinguistics of the Irish Language
- The Folklore
- The Irish Language and the Media
- Translation Studies

Course Co-ordinator	Breandán Ó Cróinín
Tel	061 - 204330
E-mail	breandan.ocroinin@mic.ul.ie

MA in Irish Media Studies

This programme familiarises students with current issues and developments in Irish and international mass media and mass media theory, situating the analysis of Irish media within the context of post-Independence Irish society, culture and identity. It develops students' abilities to analyse structures, trends and developments in Irish media, enables students to undertake research on key aspects of media production, texts and consumption, and seeks to equip students with the knowledge and skills required to advance to doctoral degree studies.

Course Co-ordinator Dr. Rosemary Day
Contact Padraig Horgan
Tel 061-204396
E-mail padraig.horgan@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/MA in Applied Behaviour Analysis

Open to graduates of psychology, education, health sciences or other cognate area, who have access to a setting that would facilitate casework. The programme is designed to comply with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board's (BACB) two-level certification process. The grad.dip fulfils requirements for the Board Certified Associate Behaviour Analyst level and the MA fulfils requirements for the Board Certified Behaviour Analyst level.

The Grad.dip offers four taught modules in one academic, namely:

- Principles of Behaviour Analysis;
- Research Methods in Behaviour Analysis;
- Ethical Applications of Behaviour Analysis; and
- Specialist Applications of Behaviour Analysis.

The MA offers two taught modules (plus dissertation), namely:

- Advanced Specialist Applications of Behaviour Analysis; and
- Ethics and methodology for ABA.

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. Veronica Cullinan
Tel 061 - 204944
E-mail Veronica.Cullinan@mic.ul.ie

MA in Theology

This programme provides an opportunity to develop an advanced understanding of theology through a study of the history of theological thought, as well as critical engagement with contemporary issues and problems.

Course Co-ordinator Dr. Patrick Connolly
Tel 061 - 204575
E-mail patrick.connolly@mic.ul.ie



Last year, I was working full-time as a breakfast show presenter on SPIN South West and doing an MA in Irish Media Studies in the evenings. It was a tough year, getting up at 5 am and trying to get a few hours sleep before class that night. There were moments when I thought I would never get through. I am so glad that I stuck with it because it was worth the effort and after only one year of hard slog, I have an MA!

There were a lot of different types of students, which was great. Some of us were working, others had families to look after and some of us were straight out of college. It really helped that the Media Department did their best to accommodate the students who had family commitments or who were trying to balance study and full-time jobs. Plus they all went over and above the call of duty when it came to supervising our dissertations. The dissertation was tough going at times but the buzz of getting it together, seeing it bound and handing it in made all the hard work worthwhile.

If you are thinking about applying for the MA in Irish Media Studies, go for it! It will be a challenging year, but you will meet new people, learn a lot and 12 months later, you'll have some nice letters after your name! I'm hoping to go on and do a PHD in Media Studies and that might not have been possible if I hadn't done this MA.

Chloe Liddy Judge, MA in Irish Media Studies

MA in Biblical Studies (in association with the Dominican Biblical Institute)

This programme provides an overview of the literary, historical and theological aspects of Scripture, with special attention to the relation of Scripture to life.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Jessie Rogers
Tel	061 - 204340
E-mail	jessie.rogers@mic.ul.ie

MA in Christian Spirituality

This programme offers:

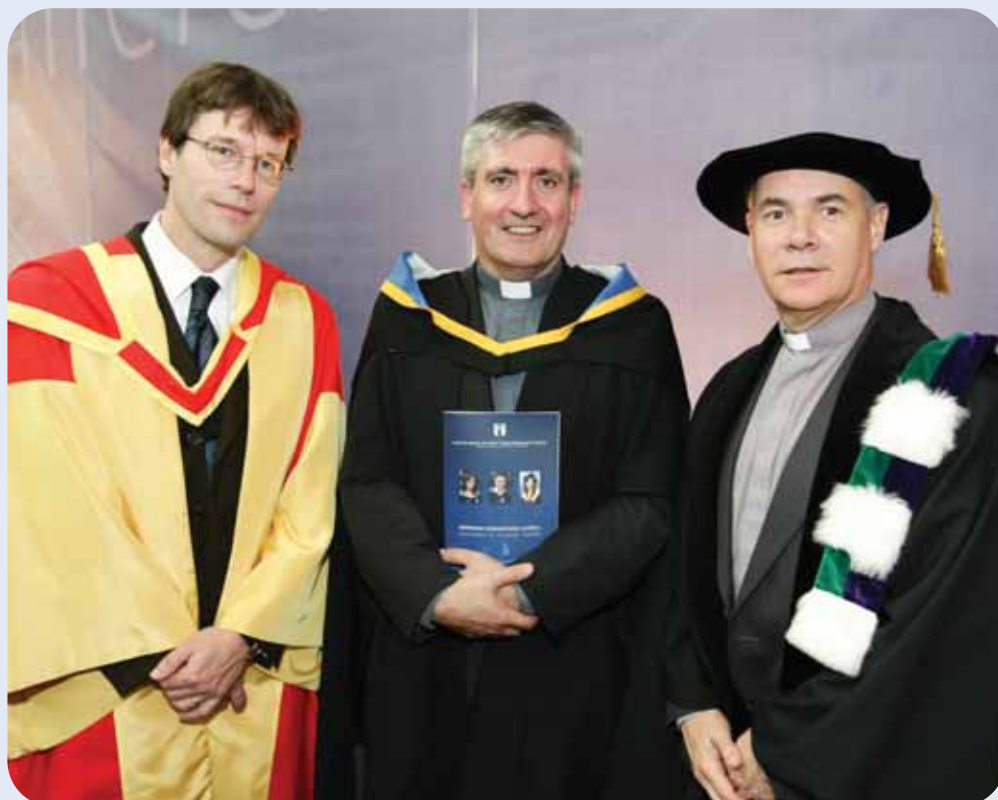
- An overview of the tradition of Christian Spirituality, its Scriptural and theological sources, and its liturgical expression, allowing students to engage critically with contemporary forms of spirituality
- Modules that include the following:
 - Principles of Christian Theology
 - Christian Spirituality
 - Biblical Spirituality
 - Systematic and critical reflections on selected topics from spirituality
 - Liturgical Theology
 - Contemporary Spirituality
 - Specialised study of one spiritual tradition
 - Marital Spirituality

Course Co-ordinator:	Dr Rik Van Nieuwenhove
Tel	061-204547
E-mail	Rik.VanNieuwenhove@mic.ul.ie

MA in Liturgical Studies (in association with Glenstal Abbey)

This programme provides participants who are involved in the area of liturgical preparation in the various religious traditions with an academic and professional qualification.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Fintan Lyons OSB
Tel	061 - 386103
E-mail	fintan@glenstal.org





Undertaking postgraduate study is both exciting and daunting. My post graduate studies at Mary Immaculate College began in 2005, when I successfully completed a graduate diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). And so I embarked on an extended educational journey during which I undertook a Masters in Education (2006 - 2007) followed by my current PhD studies in Education. In the words of Cross (1981, 54-5) "learning is addictive, the more education people have, the more they will want and the more they will get". My studies are driven by a need to know more about my particular field and ultimately to specialise in Early Childhood Education.

By its nature, postgraduate study is characterised by structural flexibility which is rewarding and challenging. It allows me to work at suitable times which, on the one hand maximises concentration and effectiveness, while on the other it helps me to achieve a work/life balance. Equally, I thoroughly enjoy the challenge of managing my time, meeting deadlines and conducting research successfully.

I am fortunate in having an interested supervisor which makes my study and research immensely rewarding and enjoyable. I have benefited enormously from Professor Deegan's vast knowledge, expertise and experience. Through his support, I have been able to build alliances, share experiences and create new paradigms within my research area. One of the great benefits of postgraduate study at Mary Immaculate College is being part of a community of like-minded people who are also interested in study and research. Through participation in colloquia I have met with other students involved in a broad range of research areas. The discussion generated through these informal meetings really helps to motivate and encourage students, leading to sharing of ideas and experiences.

There is no doubt that my studies have helped me to develop a range of knowledge and skills that are important in life and employment such as: motivation, self-direction, planning and organising, analytical thinking, communication and interpersonal skills as well as understanding and resilience. Study at post graduate level is exciting; it involves new learning and interesting ideas. Nobody really knows where it will lead, but already I have seen numerous benefits; the ability to speak with authority and conviction, opportunities to lecture within Mary Immaculate College, to supervise students and to make presentations at national and international level. The personal challenge in terms of intellectual stretching, immersing yourself in innovative research and realising your potential to become a leading player in your field are immensely satisfying.

Mary Moloney, PhD, Education

Degree of Master of Education (M.Ed):

This two-year, part-time programme is designed to enhance the professional competence of teachers and to enable them to assume greater professional responsibility.

Course Director	Prof. Jim Deegan
Tel	061 - 204937
E-mail	jim.deegan@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education:

This is an intensive one-year, part-time programme which is designed to respond to the need for affirmative, in-career development opportunities for teachers of infant children.

Contact:	Lisha O' Sullivan
Tel	061-204385
E-mail	lisha.osullivan@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Information and Communications Technologies in Primary Education

The Graduate Diploma consists of an intensive one year programme for qualified primary teachers who wish to undertake postgraduate study of a practical nature and research in the area of Information technology in the primary school. Those who achieve a specific standard can then progress to the M.Ed. programme, which comprises all the taught modules of the Graduate Diploma and the writing of a dissertation on an approved topic.

Course Co-ordinator	Brendan Barry
Tel	061 - 204941
E-mail	brendan.barry@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Science and Technology at Primary Level:

This is a one-year, part-time course designed to provide practicing teachers with a holistic approach to the teaching of primary science and technology.

Course Co-ordinator	Neil Ó Conaill
Tel	061 - 204519
E-mail	neil.oconaill@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Religious Education:

This is a part-time, evening programme leading to the award of a Graduate Diploma after two years. Prospective students include those who do not have any formal academic qualification in the areas of theology, religions studies or religious education.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Patricia Kieran
Tel	061 - 204965
E-mail	patricia.kieran@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Special Education Needs

extends over one school year on block release. The course is designed for resource teachers at primary and post primary level and for the teachers in special schools and teachers of special classes. Support teachers of first and second level students.

Course Co-ordinator	Dr. Patricia Daly
Tel	061-204309
E-mail	Patricia.Daly@mic.ul.ie



Although not always appreciated at the time, fellow B.Ed graduates regularly remark how time spent in the familial, intellectual, social and aesthetic surroundings of Mary Immaculate College helped us to derive a great sense of both personal and academic satisfaction. Some of the reasons often mentioned as a source of this affinity include the holistic and reflective approach to teaching and learning, interesting and exciting course content, experienced, professional and supportive staff, and of course a vibrant college social scene.

The same adjectives could also be used to describe the postgraduate element of college life in Mary Immaculate College. As a means of developing professional practice in the area of Education, the postgraduate courses constituted a variety of research activities offering a unique, supportive and sometimes challenging opportunity to develop at both an analytical and a practical level. While the idea of embarking on further studies may not be apt or of interest to every educational practitioner, those who feel the need to challenge their levels of critical thinking in areas of Education will find the college both accommodating and sensitive to their individual needs.

With a rapidly expanding postgraduate department, there have never been more factors to take into consideration, and everyone's situation is unique. From a personal perspective, appropriate timing and an ability to achieve a balance between work and play should be fundamental in any decision-making process. That said, the college is responsive to the ever-changing needs of those who continue to work while furthering their studies, and continually strives to find a balance between appropriate levels of course requirements while at the same time maintaining high course standards. By focusing on the individual student's strengths and concerns, coupled with a strong emphasis on 'real-life' issues, postgraduate studies in Mary Immaculate College challenges the student to engage in structured and intensive research methodology of a practical nature that will have a substantial impact on participants' ability to succeed in a wide variety of Education-related fields.

Rory McGann, M.Ed (ICT), Grad. Dip. in SEN

Graduate Diploma/M.Ed. in Adult and Continuing Education:

This is a part-time programme, presented through a combination of weekend and block release study, for graduates who wish to work in the adult and community education sectors and for education/training personnel currently working in this field.

Course co-ordinator	Cathal De Paor
Tel	061 - 204950
E-mail	cathal.depaor@mic.ul.ie

MA in Music Education

is offered on a part-time basis over two years (a one year full-time option will be available at a later date). This academic course is designed for teachers in primary, post-primary and music school settings as well as for musicians and other professionals involved in educational programming.

Course Co-ordinator	Gwen Moore
Tel	061 - 204945
Email	gwen.moore@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Diploma/MEd in Development Education

The programme begins with a Graduate Diploma in Education which can be built into a Masters in Development Education. This is a part-time distance education programme and will be accessible from all parts of the country.

Course Co-ordinator	Prof. Claire Lyons
Tel	061 - 204324
Email	claire.lyons@mic.ul.ie

Graduate Certificate in Mentor and Teacher Development

A one-year part-time programme intended for teachers who work with the National Pilot Project on Teacher Induction (NPPTI), and who want to further develop their professional practice as teachers and as mentors. The programme is based on the view that teacher professional learning and mentor education are inextricably linked and can be best supported in an integrated manner and is designed to appeal to a broad range of teachers, including those who wish to

- develop as teachers themselves through enquiry, reflection and experimentation with their own practice
- support other teachers' professional learning particularly through mentoring beginning teachers, whether as part of a national induction programme, or as part of a local school arrangement.

Course Co-ordinator	Cathal de Paor
Tel	061 - 204950
Email	cathal.depaor@mic.ul.ie



Having transferred to Mary Immaculate College this year from another institution, I can confirm that the transition was effortless. Initial contacts offer a genuine welcome and the Friday evening lectures always leave you feeling you are learning. Weekly contact with the lecturers provides a continuity that enables immersion into thesis research which undoubtedly assists with the completion of sound research.

Lectures make use of a range of methodological approaches which are firmly embedded in a cooperative foundation, with a level of interaction conducive to post-graduate study. Questions are welcome and student's previous experience is recognised and valued. Student supports include a willingness from staff to address salient issues through the group representatives.

Our large group of MEd students come with a wealth of experience from a variety of professional and academic settings. This diversity enables invaluable regular and varied discourse amongst the group. Additionally the editorial board approach to learning offers opportunities to receive feedback from a group perspective, enhancing the prevalent team approach.

My decision to transfer to has been an enriching one and has already led to thoughts of further study here upon completion of the Masters. I suspect I will not be alone judging from coffee break banter which is resolutely confined to research topics. This is surely testament to the commitment towards learning this institution has fostered within our group.

Miriam Hamilton, Year 2, MEd

POSTGRADUATE SUPPORT

The College has established a dedicated postgraduate research centre on campus in Summerville House. This centre creates a setting for study space, office facilities and computer support systems for full-time and part-time postgraduate research students. The College library provides special borrowing facilities, as well as developing its resources to support postgraduate students. Academic departments provide specialist resources tailored to the needs of their own postgraduate students. Postgraduate students are encouraged to present their research at academic conferences and the College provides financial support to assist students with travel costs.



Financial Support for Research Postgraduates at MIC

Financial support structures at Mary Immaculate College include a Doctoral Award (PhD in Arts or Education), Studentships, Assistantships, and Special Awards (e.g. the Kieran Burke Memorial Fund for Postgraduates in Education). These are available on a competitive basis and at the discretion of the College. Typically, awards provide a subsistence bursary for the normal registration period of benefiting students and, in some cases, also off-set tuition fees. The Directors of Postgraduate Studies assist postgraduate students in making application for additional / external resources.

The following is a summary of the support measures currently available for research postgraduate students at Mary Immaculate College.

The MIC Doctoral Award

One award annually, renewable for up to three years.

The Award entitles the holder to a subsistence bursary and a fee waiver. This award is allocated through internal competition. The decision to award the MIC Doctoral Award to a doctoral student shall be based on an evaluation of their academic merit and their potential for scholarship. This evaluation shall take account, inter alia, of the following evidence:

- The quality and consistency of the individual's academic record
- Any postgraduate courses or research already undertaken or in progress
- Publications
- Papers delivered to conferences, seminars or societies

It is a requirement of the award that students shall be registered for a doctoral Programme at MIC.

MIC Studentships

Two awards annually, renewable for up to three years.

A Studentship Award entitles the holder to a fee waiver and a subsistence bursary. This award is allocated through internal competition. The decision to award a studentship to a postgraduate student shall be based upon an evaluation of their academic merit and their potential for scholarship. This evaluation shall take account, inter alia, of the following evidence:

- The quality and consistency of the individual's academic record
- Any postgraduate courses or research already undertaken or in progress
- Publications
- Papers delivered to conferences, seminars or societies

It is a requirement of Studentship awards that candidates shall have a First Class Honours Undergraduate Degree, and shall be registered as full-time postgraduate research students at MIC.

Procedure for Applying for the MIC Doctoral Award / Studentships:

- Applicants shall seek support from the relevant Head of Department for their award application.
- Where appropriate, the relevant Head of Department shall nominate a student supervised within his/her Department for the Doctoral Award. A call for nominations is circulated to Heads of Departments in April. The deadline for applications is normally in May.
- A copy of the MIC award application form, the postgraduate application form and the research proposal should accompany the nomination for the award.
- Applicants shall be required to submit a transcript of their academic record, together with open-ended curriculum vitae.
- Applicants shall also be required to submit references from two competent academics acquainted with their academic background and history.

General Conditions

All awards are for one year in the first instance, but, subject to satisfactory progress being made within that period, may be renewed by the College.

In no case shall an award be extended beyond the normal period of the programme of study for which the student is registered. That period is two years in the case of an MA, and three years in the case of a PhD.

In a case where an MA student transfers to the PhD register, he/she thereby becomes eligible for award funding for a maximum period of three years from the date of initial registration for the MA.

A Masters graduate of MIC who registers for a PhD is eligible for award funding for the full three-year period of the higher programme, irrespective as to whether or not he/she received such funding to pursue the Masters degree.

It is a requirement of each award that recipients shall sign a postgraduate student contract and comply fully with its terms.

A call for nominations for the MIC Doctoral Award and for MIC Studentships is circulated by the Directors of Postgraduate Studies to Heads of Departments at the College in April / May of each year.

MIC Assistantships

Each department / subject area is entitled to award / hold up to six Assistantships over each year. These can be offered to postgraduate students of the department who are prepared to participate in departmental activities (tutorial / seminar / laboratory / field work / course work marking etc.) for a maximum of 130 hours in the academic year. The appropriate activity is determined by Department Heads / Course Leaders and Supervisors. An Assistantship entitles the student to a fee waiver and a bursary for the work done in the Department. Prospective applicants should contact the Head of the relevant Department.

For bursary amounts, please consult:

<http://www.mic.ul.ie/programmes/Postgraduate/Awardsintor.html>

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Students applying for Taught programmes should complete the Application Form for Taught Programmes and return to the Admissions Office by 31 May.

Students applying for Research Programmes (Masters or Doctoral) can theoretically apply at any time of year, but registration cannot take place until a meeting of the Postgraduate Applications Review Board has been convened and the application has been accepted. Prospective students are advised to return completed applications forms by mid-May of the calendar year in which they intend to register. This usually allows sufficient time to process applications for registration in September, with formal studies beginning at the start of Semester 1 of that year. Alternative arrangements are made for students applying at other times.

Recommendations for Research Students when Making an Application

The Proposal

The student must discuss his/her Research Proposal with a member of staff (i.e., supervisor) in the relevant Department.

The Research Proposal must include the following headings:

- Aims and objectives
- Substantive outline of the project (with proper references)
- Originality and relevance of the project (including location of the project within the current literature)
- Methodology and/or hermeneutical perspective
- Anticipated outcomes and results (if applicable)
- Ethical implications of your research (if applicable)
- Relevant bibliography

The length of the Research Proposal should be between 2,500 and 4,000 words in the case of a PhD application, and between 2,000 and 3,000 words in the case of a MA by research, including bibliography. The proposal will be evaluated on the basis of overall quality, clarity, originality, evidence of familiarity with the field and literature, relevance of the topic, focus, feasibility, referencing (in accordance with either the Harvard or Chicago Style of Referencing), and style (including syntax, grammar, and spelling).

Referees

The student must include written reports from two referees with expertise in the field. The two referees will receive a copy of the proposal for review and must comment on the Research Proposal when writing their reference. Character references will not be considered. The Postgraduate Office may contact the referees to authenticate the references. The decision of Postgraduate Applications Review Board (PARB) is final.

Application Materials

The Application Form, the Proposal, and the References must be given to the proposed supervisor who will forward the application to the relevant Head of Department. The Head of Department must sign off on the Research Application. The Head of Department will then forward the Application to the Postgraduate Office for review by PARB (Postgraduate Application Review Board). PARB may consult with external reviewers.

Application Forms are available online at: www.mic.ul.ie

Or by email Request at: postgraduateoffice@mic.ul.ie

Registration Details are available from:

Admissions Office,
Mary Immaculate College,
South Circular Road, Limerick.
Tel: 061 204929/204348 Fax: 061 204903
E-mail: admissions@mic.ul.ie

Programme Fees

The schedule of fees that applies to postgraduate students is determined by the College and reviewed from time to time as appropriate. The fee structure applicable in the case of any student depends on:

- The programme of study for which the student is registered.
- Whether the student registers for full-time or part-time studies. The minimum and maximum periods of registration for higher degrees by research is set out in the UL Handbook of Academic Administration.

In MIC, the regulations are interpreted as follows:

- The normal period of full-time registration for a Master's Degree by research is two years
- The normal period of part-time registration for a Master's Degree by research is three years
- The normal period of full-time registration for a PhD Degree is three years
- The normal period of part-time registration for a PhD Degree is four years
- Where students exceed the normal period of full-time or part-time registration, they will be obliged to pay a standard extension fee

Fees Information is available at: <http://www.mic.ul.ie/studentcharges/charges.htm>

For further information contact:

ARTS

Director of Postgraduate Studies, ARTS
Tel: 061 - 204556
Fax: 061 - 313632
E-mail: postgraduatestudies@mic.ul.ie

EDUCATION

Prof. Jim Deegan,
Director of Postgraduate Studies, EDUCATION
Tel: 061 - 204937
Fax: 061 - 313632
E-mail: jim.deegan@mic.ul.ie

The College has endeavoured to ensure that the information contained herein is accurate at the time of printing. The College reserves the right to alter its policy and practice in relation to its postgraduate programmes.



Mission Statement

Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, founded in 1898, is a third level Catholic College of Education and the Liberal Arts.

The College community promotes excellence in teaching, learning and research at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. It seeks to foster the intellectual, spiritual, personal and professional development of students within a supportive and challenging environment that guarantees the intellectual freedom of staff and students.

In particular, the College seeks to foster in its students a spirit of justice and compassion in the service of others, together with an openness to the religious tradition and values of each individual.

The College promotes a sense of identity enriched by an awareness of its Catholic tradition, the cultures, languages and traditions of Ireland, and its special commitment to the Irish language.

Mary Immaculate College respects cultural diversity. It strives to promote equity in society and to provide an environment where all have freedom and opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Ráiteas Misin

Is Coláiste Caitliceach tríú leibhéal Oideachais agus Saorealaíon é Coláiste Mhuire Gan Smál, Luimneach, a bunaíodh in 1898.

Cuireann pobal an Choláiste ardchaighdeán feabhais chun cinn ó thaobh múinteoireachta, foghlama agus taighde ag an leibhéal céime agus iarchéime. Déantar iarracht forbairt intleachtúil, spioradálta, phearsanta agus ghairmiúil na mac léinn a chothú laistigh de thimpeallacht chabhrach agus dúshlánach a chuireann saoirse intleachtúil na foirne agus na mac léinn chun tosaigh.

Tá sé mar aidhm ag an gColáiste, go háirithe, cothrom na féinne agus ómós a léiriú agus iad ag freastal ar dhaoine eile ina gcuid mac léinn, chomh maith le bheith oscailte do na traidisiúin agus do na luachanna reiligiúnacha a bhíonn ag gach duine aonair.

Cuireann an Coláiste féinaithne chun cinn a bhfuil traidisiún Caitliceach an Choláiste mar chuid shaibhir di, chomh maith le cultúr, teangacha agus traidisiúin na hÉireann agus tiomantas speisialta an Choláiste don Ghaeilge.

Tá omós ag Coláiste Mhuire gan Smál d'éagsúlacht cultúir. Oibríonn an Coláiste chun cothromaíocht a chur chun cinn sa tsochaí agus chun timpeallacht a chur ar fáil ina mbeidh an tsaoirse agus an deis ag gach duine a gcumas iomlán a bhaint amach.

Mary Immaculate College hereby gives notice that the particulars set out in this Guide are a general outline intended for the guidance of students and others and do not form part of a legal commitment or a contract. All course descriptions and details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct at the time of printing. Some changes may be made during the Academic Year. Students and others should enquire as to the up-to-date position when such information is required. While every effort will be made to give due notice of major changes, the College (in conjunction with the University of Limerick), reserves the right to suspend, alter or initiate courses, examinations and regulations at any time.

POSTGRADUATE

Opportunities



Mary Immaculate College
University of Limerick
Coláiste Mhuire gan Smál
Ollscoil Luimnigh

South Circular Road, Limerick.
Tel +353-61-204300/314588,
Fax +353-61-313632
E-mail: admissions@mic.ul.ie
Website: www.mic.ul.ie

www.mic.ul.ie