



Assistant Lecturer/Lecturer in Education with expertise in Educational Policy and Research Methodology (Fulltime, Permanent Post)

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION Duties and Terms & Conditions of Employment

1. PREAMBLE

Mary Immaculate College (MIC) is an autonomous, university-level, Catholic College of Education and the Liberal Arts. Founded in 1898, and linked academically with the University of Limerick, MIC is the oldest higher education institution in Limerick. Significant expansion in recent decades has seen the College's offerings proliferate across two impressive campuses, one based in the heart of Limerick City and one in Thurles, Co. Tipperary. The diverse student community is made up of more than 5,000 learners, participating in nine undergraduate degree programmes and a multiplicity of postgraduate opportunities extending to doctoral level. Academic staff are engaged in a wide range of research interests which underpins all teaching and learning at the College.

MIC seeks to prepare its students for professional excellence and to nurture their capacity to lead flourishing lives.

2. CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION

Mary Immaculate College wishes to appoint an Assistant Lecturer/Lecturer in Education with expertise in Educational Policy and Research Methodology on a permanent, fulltime basis, commencing in **Autumn 2018**.

The Faculty of Education is seeking an innovative and involved member to teach on Education programmes within the Faculty of Education. The person appointed will teach Educational Policy and Research Methodology across undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, He/She will be expected to lead in the review and management of research ethics applications and will be expected to supervise undergraduate and postgraduate research to doctoral level. He/she will also have general duties in the area of education, e.g., supervision of early childhood/school placement, the development of e-portfolios, and contribute to the teaching-related and administrative work of the Faculty.

Commitment to high-quality teaching and learning in a student-centred environment is important. Enthusiasm for a multi-disciplinary environment is essential as the appointee will be required to liaise with staff across the Faculty. The person appointed must exhibit evidence of strong commitment to excellence in teaching, research and continued scholarly activity.

Essential Qualifications & Skills (i.e. those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. Applications that have not clearly demonstrated that candidates possess the essential requirements will not be shortlisted):

- a) A relevant postgraduate qualification at doctoral level or be able to demonstrate evidence of progress towards completion of a PhD in this field. Applicants who do not yet hold a relevant doctoral qualification must have a relevant qualification at master's level.
- b) A minimum of two years' relevant teaching experience, with demonstrated capacity to deliver high quality courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- c) Specialist expertise in Research Methodology, including qualitative and quantitative research methods and research analysis software e.g. SPSS, NVivo etc.
- d) Significant research experience and a demonstrated ability to publish research in internationally recognised journals.
- e) Knowledge of contemporary developments in the field of education policy and new approaches and developments in educational research methodology.
- f) Competence in on-line education, blended, distance and flexible learning routes.
- g) Specialist expertise in Education Policy and Research methodology.
- h) Excellent communication, networking and interpersonal skills.
- i) Excellent organisational, prioritisation and time management skills.

In additional it is desirable that applicants will have:

- j) A Teaching Qualification recognised by the Teaching Council

Inniúlacht sa Ghaeilge inmhianaithe – competence in Irish is desirable.

Candidates must clearly indicate in their applications how they meet each of the above criteria.

Please note that current government policy may have implications for the re-employment of applicants who are currently in receipt of a public sector pension.

3. JOB DESCRIPTION

The appointee is required to carry out the duties attached to the post, under the general direction of the Head of Department, to whom she/he reports, and to whom he/she is responsible to for the performance of these duties in the first instance. The discipline in which the appointee is grounded will determine the department to which the lecturer will be appointed. The appointee will report through the Head of Department to the Dean of Education and to the College President and/or such other College Officers as the President may designate from time to time.

He/she will liaise with the Heads of Departments and those in leadership/management positions within the Faculty of Education, the Dean of Education, and other College personnel and with relevant College bodies in carrying out the duties attaching to the post. In the case of there being a crossover in terms of the duties and responsibilities of other post holders within the College, the College President will adjudicate on same.

The reporting relationship may be subject to review from time-to-time, in line with service needs and developments in the College.

Duties and Responsibilities

The duties, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, include the following:

- Programme/module design, lecturing, tutorial work, and examining in Educational Policy and Research Methodology for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes;
- Facilitating cross curricular and interdisciplinary modules across the faculty/campuses;
- Development of innovative teaching and learning strategies;
- Demonstrating a commitment to pursuing and publishing research in Education Policy and Research Methodology;
- Working in a multidisciplinary environment and leading in the review and support of ethical clearance for undergraduate and postgraduate research;

- Supervising research projects at undergraduate, masters and doctoral level;
- Supervision of early childhood/school placement, undergraduate and postgraduate research;
- Engaging in all the administrative duties/processes of the department including participation in meetings of the department, Faculty of Education, and other groupings;
- Attendance and participation in all meetings of Examination Boards;
- Consultation with students and the broader learning community.
- Development of e-portfolios with students across the continuum of teacher education
- Co-ordinating postgraduate programmes within the Faculty of Education

The duties will also include lecturing on the undergraduate (B.Ed., B. Ed in Education and Psychology, the BA in ECCE and the BA Education), postgraduate programmes in Education (including the PME, diploma, MEd and Structured PhD programmes), participating in the delivery of part-time and out-of-semester programmes, as well as other programmes to which the Faculty of Education may provide a service (BA Liberal Arts). The person appointed will contribute to course design and policy formation at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The appointee's primary place of work will be Mary Immaculate College, Limerick while there may be an occasional requirement to deliver programmes on our Thurles campus.

It should be noted that in each work area/department within the College, the appointee must work as part of a team. While duties pertaining to the post are broadly defined, the list of the entire range of duties is not exhaustive. It should be noted that the performance of the entire list of duties is not necessarily confined to any one individual and the appointee will be required to function within a flexible and collegial manner. The College retains the right to assign new duties and/or to re-assign staff to other areas of the College, in response to service needs.

4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

General

All persons employed will sign an appropriate contract, which will contain terms and conditions of the employment. A job description is given to all applicants for employment and this will form part of the contract documentation.

Place of Work

The appointee's place of work will be Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. The College reserves the right to require the appointee to work from any other location.

It is a requirement of the College that the appointee must reside within a commutable distance of the College.

Exclusivity of Service and Outside Work

The person appointed will be required to devote his/her full-time attention and abilities to his/her duties during his/her working hours in the College and to act in the best interest of the College at all times. Therefore, for as long as the successful applicant is working in the College, he/she may not, without the prior written consent of the College, be actively engaged or concerned in any way, either directly or indirectly, in any other business or undertaking where this is or is likely to be in conflict with the College's interests or the performance of the duties for which the person has been employed.

Apart from the duties mentioned above, the occasional giving of lectures elsewhere, the writing of books and occasional literary materials, the appointee will not, during his/her tenure of office, undertake paid outside work unless he/she has received the permission of MIC senior management to undertake such work on the terms and conditions as agreed for the particular undertaking in question. In every case, it is the duty of the appointee to seek in writing the prior permission of MIC senior management. It is also the duty, in

every case, of the appointee to inform the person or body for whom the work is being undertaken, that the work is being conducted in a private capacity and that the College cannot in any circumstances be responsible for such work.

Probationary Period

All appointments are subject to satisfactory completion of a 9 month probationary period. The probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the College but will not in any case exceed 11 months. For appointments which are less than 9 months, probation will apply to the full period of employment. Absences during the period of probation will extend the probationary period. Performance and conduct during the probationary period will be monitored through a process of assessment meetings. Termination of employment during the probationary period will be at the discretion of the College. An abridged version of the disciplinary procedure will apply to employees on probation.

Hours of Attendance

The appointee is expected to be habitually present and available to staff and students alike during normal College hours, Monday to Friday. The appointee may be required to work occasional evenings and weekends.

Academic staff members are required to supply students with an MIC e-mail address at which they can be contacted. They must also provide the College Authorities with a telephone number at which he/she may be contacted during non-semester times. However, under no circumstances will contact telephone numbers be given to students by College Authorities.

Salary

The salary scales for this position have been approved by the Department of Education & Skills in line with Government Policy on Public Sector remuneration. The annual salary for the post may be increased or decreased in line with Government Policy on Public Sector remuneration. In keeping with all other branches of the Civil and Public Service, individual bargaining for salary increases is not allowed. The appointment will be made on the salary scale at a point in line with current Government Pay Policy. New entrants to the Civil or Public Sector, as defined in Circular 18/2010, will commence on the first point of the salary scale.

With effect from 1st January, 2018, the annual salary scale for Assistant Lecturer is:

€43,255 to €77,621 (11 points)

With effect from 1st January, 2018, the annual salary scale for Lecturer is:

€51,670 to €82,217 (9 points)

Increments are awarded in line with national pay agreements.

Salary will be paid on a monthly basis on the 2nd last bank working day of each month, using the Paypath facility. This means that salary can only be paid directly into a nominated bank account. Payment of salaries and wages are subject to statutory deductions, i.e. Income Tax (PAYE), Superannuation Contributions and Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI).

Superannuation

New entrants appointed will be required to participate in the Single Public Service Pension Scheme and pay Superannuation contributions at the appropriate rates in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act, 2012.

All other eligible appointees are automatically included in the Colleges' of Education Pension Scheme on

taking up appointment. In compliance with the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme, deductions amounting to 6.5% are made from salary. Details of the regulations concerning the Colleges' of Education Pension Scheme may be obtained from the College's Human Resources Office.

The mandatory retirement age for new entrant staff in employment in the public service after 1st January 2013 is 70 years. All other Members of the College's staff may retire at the age of 65.

Annual Leave

In addition to Public Holidays, a minimum of 20 working days will be allowed per annum. Annual leave should be taken when students are off campus and the taking of leave must have the prior approval of the relevant Line Manager.

Public Holidays are granted in accordance with the provisions of the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997.

Sick Leave

Employees who have a minimum 3 months continuous employment with the College may be granted sick pay subject to the terms of the Public Service Sick Leave Scheme. Sick pay is contingent on full cooperation and compliance with the Colleges absence management procedures.

Termination of Employment

At least three calendar months written notice is required to resign this post.

On the termination of employment but before departing from the College, staff members are required to return to the College all books, reports, memoranda, correspondence, papers, records, reports, files including data held on electronic files, computer disks, electronically recorded discs, and any other documentation, and all other property, including office keys, belonging to the College or relating to its business or affairs which are in the possession of a staff member or under his/her control when the employment is terminated.

Confidentiality

In the course of working in Mary Immaculate College, the person appointed may have access to or hear information concerning staff and/or students and/or the functioning and the business of the College. Such information acquired in the course of employment with the College, including any aspect of the College's responsibilities or operations, is considered to be confidential information. On no account must information concerning students, staff or other College business be divulged or discussed except in the performance of normal duties and, unless authorised to do so, this information shall not be communicated to a third party. In addition records must never be left in a manner that unauthorised persons can obtain access to them and must be kept in safe custody when no longer required.

Health & Safety

Mary Immaculate College will ensure as far as reasonably practicable, a safe and healthy work environment. Therefore, it is the duty of each employee to take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of themselves and of other people in the workplace. Each employee must comply with all health and safety policies and procedures in operation in Mary Immaculate College and familiarise him/herself with the Safety Statement.

Employees are obliged to wear the PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) they have been provided with and no person shall intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse any appliance, protective clothing or other equipment provided in the workplace for health and safety purposes. Employees are statutorily/legally obliged to ensure that any accidents/incidents which may occur are reported promptly to the Health and Safety Officer on the MIC Accident/Incident Report Form.

The person appointed to this post must fully participate in and attend all relevant work related health and

safety training as may be required by the College.

College Policies, Rules and Regulations

The College is a Public Sector employer and is bound by National Agreements. It is also bound by regulations, circulars and directives issued on behalf of Government by the Department of Finance, the Department of Education & Skills and the Higher Education Authority.

Employees are at all times subject to the provisions of the College policies, rules and regulations. These policies include but are not confined to Discipline & Grievance Policies, Dignity at Work, Examination Rules & Regulations, Policy on Responsible Computing and Use of Information Technology Facilities. These policies are outlined in the Staff Handbook for College employees. All employees are required to familiarise themselves with the contents of the Handbook, which is available via the Human Resources webpage on the College website.

5. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Method of Selection for Recommendation

Shortlisting

An expert group will convene to conduct shortlisting of all applicants, measured against the pre-determined criteria required of the position.

Normally the number of applications received for a position exceeds that required to fill the position. While a candidate may meet the eligibility requirements of the competition, if the numbers applying for the position are such that it would not be practical to interview everyone, the College may decide that a limited number will be called to interview. This is not to suggest that other candidates are necessarily unsuitable to undertake the job, rather that there are some candidates, based on their application, appear to be better qualified and/or have more relevant experience. It is incumbent, therefore upon the applicant, to ensure that all relevant information is included in their application and that they clearly identify how they meet the specified candidate criteria.

Interview

A recommendation for appointment will be made by an Interview Board. The appointment will be based on this recommendation, except where considerations of health or an unsuitable record in previous employment warrants a departure. A panel will be formed from which all appointments for the position of Assistant Lecturer/Lecturer in Education with expertise in Educational Policy and Research Methodology will be filled during the life of the panel (12 months).

Candidates must produce satisfactory documentary evidence of all training and experience claimed by them, if required.

Medical Examination

For the purpose of satisfying requirements as to health, successful candidates, before being appointed, will be required to undergo pre-employment health screening.

Garda Vetting

All successful applicants will be required to participate in Garda vetting. Specific instruction on this process will be given at the appropriate time. Applicants who do not comply with the College's requirements in this regard will be excluded from consideration for appointment.

Making of Applications

Application forms for this post may be downloaded from the Mary Immaculate College website. **Five** copies of the completed application form must be submitted along with a covering letter. Email applications **cannot** be accepted.

Applications must be submitted in typed format along with a covering letter. Handwritten applications **cannot** be accepted. Incomplete applications, including those submitted with fewer than the required number of copies, **cannot** be accepted.

Applications must reach the Human Resources Office, Mary Immaculate College, South Circular Road, Limerick not later than

2pm on Friday, May 4th, 2018

Late applications **cannot** be accepted.

The College will not be responsible for any expenses, including travelling expenses, which candidates may incur in connection with their candidature.

Any attempt by a candidate either personally or through any other person, on their behalf, to canvass or otherwise influence the outcome of the selection/interview process in his/her favour will lead to disqualification from the competition. Any representations made on behalf of a candidate, without his/her knowledge will be ignored.

Mary Immaculate College is an equal opportunities employer.

April 2018