



**Maynooth
University**

National University
of Ireland Maynooth

MA in Irish Traditional Music

Programme Director: Dr Adrian Scahill adrian.scahill@mu.ie |

Overview

The MA in Irish Traditional Music at Maynooth University enables students to engage with the rich area of Irish traditional music, including the broader areas of history, language, and the traditional arts, and equips them with the skills to further their interests in performance, creativity, or research. The MA centres around a core research project (choosing from the options of dissertation, recording project, or performance) and provides specialist training in students' chosen areas. Modules in research methods and digitisation, critical and historical approaches to Irish traditional music, and musicology and ethnomusicology are also available.

Traditional Music at Maynooth University

The study, performance, composition, and analysis of Irish traditional music have long been strengths of the Department of Music at Maynooth University. Our lecturers are leading practitioners and researchers in this field with active national and international profiles. Students will benefit from the Department's lively and committed research community. The Department holds weekly lunchtime concerts and research seminars, as well as other performances and research events. Students focusing on research present their work at internal seminars, and are encouraged to participate in and present at ICTM and SMI conferences. Students focusing on performance and recording projects contribute to the bustling performance activities in the Department, including lunchtime concerts, performance platform workshops, ensemble rehearsals, and masterclasses.

Entry Requirements

Undergraduate degree in traditional music; undergraduate degree in music and prior experience and expertise in Irish traditional music (or other related traditional and folk musics); undergraduate degree in a related subject (e.g. Irish, History) and significant experience in traditional music in an area such as performance, research, education, broadcasting, production, or administration; or professional involvement in some area of traditional music.

International applicants

International applicants must have a recognised primary degree considered equivalent to Irish university primary degree level.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate by audition a sufficient standard on their proposed instrument/voice. The audition should consist of c10 minutes of contrasting music. International applicants should contact music.department@mu.ie for full details of the audition process.

International applicants whose first language is not English may be requested to submit additional samples of written material.

What you can expect

- Subsidised one-to-one lessons with experienced traditional music professionals
- Workshops and seminars with visiting performers as available.
- Opportunities to experience digitisation and research work at a range of partner institutions (including the Irish Traditional Music Archive & Na Píobairí Uilleann).
- Inclusion in the Department's public lunchtime concert series for performers.
- Opportunities to contribute to wider research and fieldwork projects for ITMA.
- Individual tutorial time with a designated academic/creative advisor.
- Opportunities to present your research and receive feedback on your progress.
- Expert advice on interpretative issues from ethnomusicologists, performers, composers and music technologists at the cutting edge of their fields.

Content

- One year full-time (90 credits in total), with an option for part-time study.
- Three main strands of study (performance, portfolio (recording), thesis) allowing the student to explore practice, creativity and research according to their own specialisms, culminating in a 30-credit supervised project.
- 60 credits of taught modules with the option of electives drawn from other programmes across the university, including Nua-Ghaeilge, History, Anthropology, and Media Studies (dependent on availability and eligibility of students).
- Students will be mentored by the programme director(s), who will help in the module choices and coordinate the supervision of the MA Capstone Project.

Performance



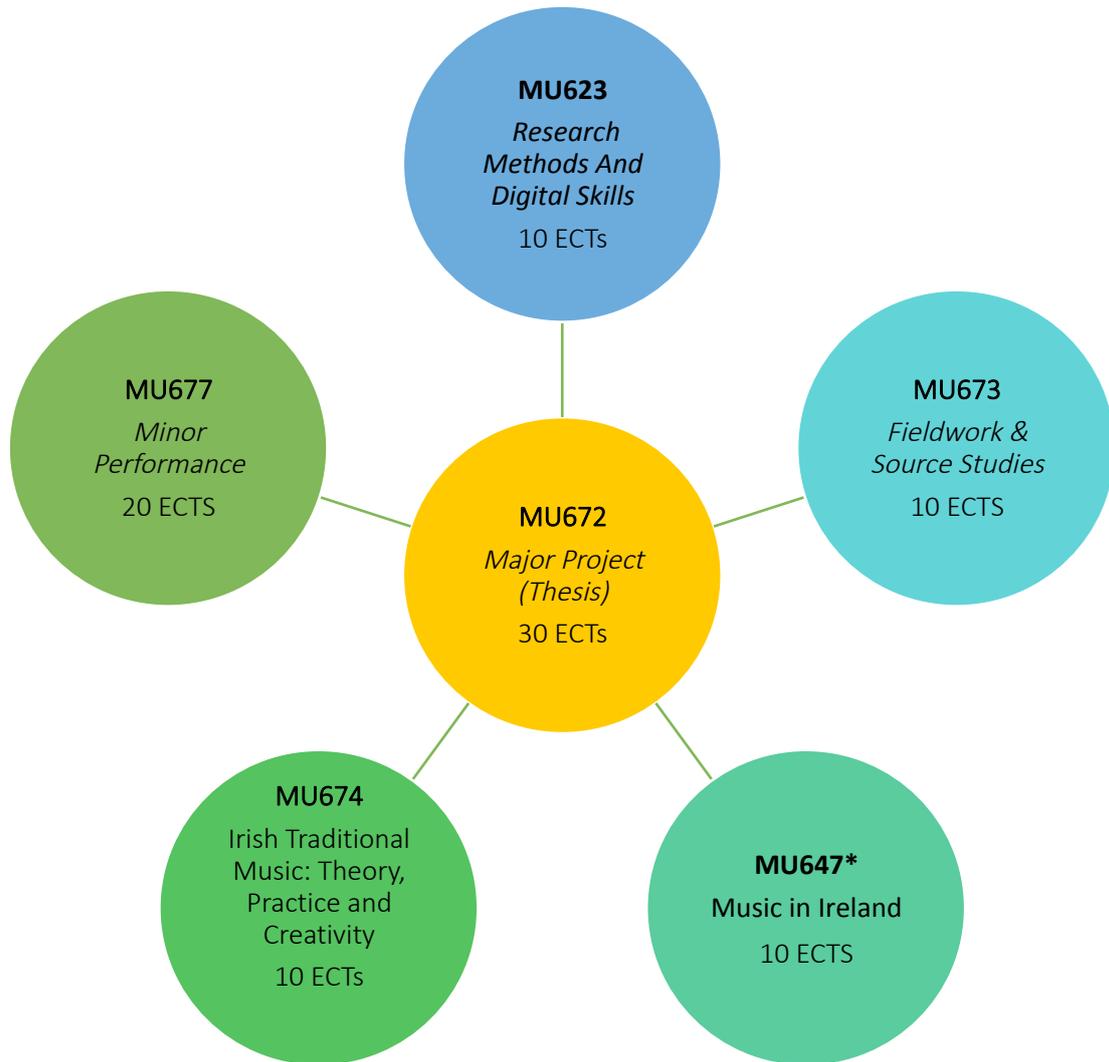
Modules marked with * can be replaced by electives or other Music MA Modules (depending on availability and timetabling).

Recording



Modules marked with * can be replaced by electives or other Music MA Modules (depending on availability and timetabling).

Thesis



Modules marked with * can be replaced by electives or other Music MA Modules (depending on availability and timetabling).

Other modules and electives

Other music modules include:

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| MU624 | Individual Project (Semester 1 and Semester 2; 10 ECTSs) |
| MU635 | Aesthetics of 20th/21st-Century Music (Semester 2; 10 ECTS) |
| MU649 | Music and Gender (Semester 2; 10 ECTS) |

Possible elective modules include:

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| HY696 | Cultural Heritage |
| HY605 | Doing Local History |
| AN862 | Ethnography Winter School |
| AFF601 | Digital Humanities: Theory and Practice |
| AFF622 | Digital Heritage: Theories, Methods and Challenges |
| NG604 | Béaloideas |
| MD629 | Screen Production: Formats and Genres |
| MD626 | Media Archives |

Contact

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Department Website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/music>

Application Process

All applications are made through the centralised PAC system.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/postgraduate-studies/how-apply>