

About the Master of Education Programme – An Overview

This 90 credit Master of Education course is offered on a modular basis. This means students can choose how many modules they take each semester and design their own programme to suit their lifestyle. Each timetabled module counts for 10 credits.

Students have the option of completing either a Thesis or a Capstone Project. The Thesis counts for 30 credits and the Capstone Project counts for 20 credits of the Master of Education.

With this flexibility, students can choose to complete modules at their own pace and can take one or more modules per year, up to 8 years. Students can opt for a M.Ed. with Specialism or M.Ed. General.

It is also possible to study modules of particular interest without completing a Masters degree. Students, for example, might also exit with a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Studies after completing 60 credits.

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership (PGDEL), Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Management (PGDEM) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management (PGDELM) are eligible for a 20 credit module exemption (see below).

To facilitate students' who have work commitments, all modules will be delivered on various weekday evenings or as intensive courses over weekends or during the summer (see the timetable below).

Master of Education (90 credits)
<i>comprising</i>
3 x Obligatory Modules (30 credits)
3 x Specialism/Complementary Modules (30 credits)
ED 607 Thesis (30 credits)
OR
Capstone Project (20 credits) +
1 x module (10 credits)

Pathways through the Modular M.Ed programme

Part-Time or Full-Time / General or Specialism Options

Fulltime Option:

The M.Ed fulltime is completed in one academic year. Fulltime students must select:

- All 3 obligatory modules (ED617*, ED604, ED618).
- Either capstone (ED674 – worth 20 credits) OR thesis (ED607 – worth 30 credits).
 - If thesis, then select 3 additional modules of your choice;
 - If capstone, then select 4 additional modules of your choice (to bring to 90 credits in total)

Please note: All full-time students will graduate with a General M.Ed. It is not possible to pursue a specialism if completing on a full-time basis.

Part-time Option:

The M.Ed part-time can be completed over between 2 and 8 years

Part-time students have the option of:

- General M.Ed, OR
- M.Ed with specialism. There are 4 specialist tracks (see table below):

Specialism Option	General Option
<p>Four M.Ed. Specialisms are on offer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educational Leadership 2. Teacher Education 3. Social Justice Education 4. Early Childhood Teaching and Learning – in partnership with Froebel Department and Early Childhood Ireland) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students take 3 modules within their specialism • Students will write a Thesis or Capstone project within their Specialism, with guidance from a supervisor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is greater choice with the General M.Ed. Students can choose from any of the specialism or complementary modules on offer • Students can write their Thesis or Capstone Project on a topic of interest, chosen in conjunction with a supervisor.

Students pursuing an M.Ed specialism must complete 3 modules (30 credits) within their chosen specialism over the course of the part-time M.Ed. Student pursuing the General M.Ed can choose from the range of modules on offer.

Over the course of the M.Ed all students must complete:

- All 3 obligatory modules (ED617*, ED604 and ED618; each worth 10 credits).
- Either capstone (ED674, worth 20 credits) OR thesis (ED607, worth 30 credits).

Note: ED618 must be completed in the same year as the Thesis (ED607) or Capstone (ED674). Part-time students may NOT complete Thesis or Capstone or ED618 in their first year of study.

*Note on exemptions: Students who have completed the PGDEL/PGDEM/PGDELM qualify for exemptions from ED617 and one additional Educational Leadership module (20 credit exemption in total). For more details, see section on Exemptions below.

Capstone or Thesis Option:

Both full-time and part-time students have the option of completing either a Thesis or a Capstone Project at the end of the programme. The thesis or capstone project allows participants to tailor the programme according to their needs through the pursuit of an in-depth study of a key educational issue or aspect of professional life (see module descriptors below for descriptions of the Thesis and Capstone options).

A range of educational research methodologies are taught as key components of the course to support students in developing the necessary research skills to conduct their own research, and to interpret and interrogate research around key educational issues.

Exemptions:

Students who have completed the PGDEL/PGDEM/PGDELM qualify for an exemption from ED617 and one additional Educational Leadership module (20 credit exemption in total)

These students will complete the relevant module exemption form. This form will be circulated in September, it should be completed and submitted to Georgina Sherlock for internal processing. The form is also available at this link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/records/qualification-subject-or-module-amendments>]

Applications for exemptions will be processed year-on-year. For students taking the part-time option, you may wish to apply for one module exemption in your first year, and wait until your 2nd or subsequent year of study to take an exemption from the other module. In this case students should apply for exemptions at the start of each relevant academic year.