

DEPARTMENT OF ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION
DOCTORATE IN HIGHER AND ADULT EDUCATION (DHAЕ)

DURATION: 4 YEARS

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE (LEVEL 10)

CODE: MHA07

The Doctorate in Higher and Adult Education (DHAЕ) brings together practitioners with substantial experience in the design, implementation and delivery across a wide range of higher and adult education contexts.

The programme supports educational practitioners to develop research capacities to the highest level. It fosters research on professional practice in support of transformative learning, critical thinking and democratic education. Successful applicants will have an interest in exploring innovative and critical education research that can inform practice across a range of disciplines.

The course is structured and supervised in a way that allows practitioners to position their research in education research and academic fields, and to develop their doctoral research project incrementally. Department staff have extensive experience in supporting doctoral research through individual and group supervision, where peer learning and support is also a central element. By working together, exchanging ideas and supporting each other, students form learning communities which are collaborative and creative.

The Department of Adult and Community Education is firmly committed to equality and social justice. We believe that education is a fundamental human right and collaborative, critical adult education has the power to transform individuals and change society for the better. We have an outstanding track record in supporting postgraduate research programmes and have established the leading centre for research on adult education in Ireland, building an excellent international reputation for our work on higher and adult education.

RESEARCH INTEREST

The programme supports research on key educational issues and challenges in higher, further, adult, and community in Ireland and globally. To date there has been a strong focus on reflection on practitioner knowledge and experience, research which seeks to enhance pedagogy, supporting access and widening participation, leadership, continuous professional development and critical analysis of policy.

This work has been grounded in a range of research methodologies, including qualitative research methods, narrative inquiry, biographical and arts-based research methodologies, critical quantitative research, case studies, action research and documentary analysis. A list of previous research projects by doctoral students in the Department of Adult and Community Education is available at: <http://eprints.maynoothuniversity.ie/view/ethesisdivisions/dept=5Fadu.html>

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should have:

- Successfully completed a Masters programme in adult, community or higher education or an equivalent programme at level 9.
- Current and significant experience in teaching in higher or adult education.
- Proven ability in academic writing.

Commences: September 2023

Minimum English language requirements: please visit [Maynooth University International Office website](#) for information about English language tests accepted and required scores. The requirements specified are applicable for both EU and non-EU applicants. Maynooth University's TOEFL code is 8850

COURSE STRUCTURE

This is a 4 year programme, comprising of required modules. Typically, modules are offered one day per week on 12 dates annually during years 1 and 2. Students attend 6-7 workshops in year during the remainder of the programme and are supported in the research through individual and group supervision and the department's researchcentre.

Duration: 4 years

Please visit our webpage for full course details:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education/our-courses/doctorate-higher-and-adult-education>

CAREER OPTIONS

While the participants on Structured Phd programme will be skilled professionals on entry to the programme, experience over the four years will prepare them to further advance in their professional and academic careers in the areas of research, policy development, teaching and engagement.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are open via PAC on a bi-annual basis.

Application process will open in Autumn 2022 for the next intake - commencing Sept 2023

PAC Online application only <http://www.pac.ie/maynoothuniversity> please use code **MHA07**

If you wish to have an informal discussion about the course before applying, please contact the directors, Dr. Bernie Grummell, Dr Fergal Finnegan (details below).

The following information should be uploaded to your online application form:

Certified copies of all official transcripts of results for all non-Maynooth University qualifications listed **MUST** accompany the application. Failure to do so will delay your application being processed. Non-Maynooth University students are asked to provide two academic references and a copy of birth certificate or valid passport.

CONTACT:

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