



POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME (NFQ LEVEL 9)

MA in Religion and Education: Post Primary

Religion and Education at MDI

- Are you interested in religious education in post-primary schools?
- Would you like time to consider the issues facing religion and education in contemporary Ireland?
- Do you want to develop new resources and approaches to your teaching of religion?
- Have you wondered how to best approach religious education in a multi-cultural and multi-faith classroom?

As a graduate programme, participants will develop research skills in specific topics in religion and education. Upon successful completion of this programme the graduate will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current issues in Religion and Education.
- Demonstrate a capacity for in-depth research in specific topics of RE.
- Develop complex analytical and interpretative skills in the spheres of Religion and Education.
- Assume responsibility for work within professional and pastoral contexts, with individuals and groups.
- Investigate and reflect on educational, religious and theological values and thereby contribute effectively to change in society.



GRADUATE VOICE

'I enjoyed my studies for the MA and grew in confidence as a religion teacher. The course was dynamic and challenging and introduced me to a variety of ways of thinking about what I was doing as a teacher of RE. It combined theory with practical approaches that I was able to use in the classroom.'

CLAIRE DELANEY, GRADUATE 2010



Who is this programme for?

This programme of studies is primarily aimed at those interested in the teaching of religious education in second-level schools. It should be noted that the programme does not lead to a teaching qualification. It is of particular relevance to those interested in:

- Contemporary theory and practice of religious education
- Using digital technology in the RE classroom
- Developing new resources and approaches to the teaching of religion
- Faith development in the school
- Developing professional expertise in the area of religion and education

The programme also allows time for participants to reflect on their own understanding of faith development both in their own lives and in the lives of their students. As a graduate programme, participants will develop research skills in specific topics in religion and education.

The Student Experience

This course offers an opportunity for the ongoing professional development of teachers. Small class size and an interactive approach to teaching and learning allow participants to reflect on their own practice and to engage with their peers to develop their own critical thinking on the issues of religion and education. The practical nature of many of the modules offered will give those interested in religion and education the confidence and know-how to further develop their own classroom practice.

Flexible Scheduling

The programme is offered

- Full-time (one year)
- Part-time (two years)

Classes take place in the evenings to facilitate teachers. There is some flexibility in terms of module choice allowing participants to follow themes of personal and professional interest. Blended learning module includes face-to-face seminars, online forums and web conferencing.

Course Content

Students are required to take six taught modules. The programme offers the opportunity to explore some of the following topics below.

In addition, participants will complete a Research Module (30 ECTS credits) which will include a series of seminars on research methodologies and a minor thesis on a topic of professional relevance.

Topics include:				
The Diverse Classroom	Contemporary leadership in an Evolving School Culture	International Trends in Religious Education - Research, Practice	Resourcing RE in a Digital Age	Ethics and the Teaching Profession
Designing and Resourcing Junior and Senior Cycle RE	Contemporary Issues in Education and Religious Education	Spirituality, Adolescence and Faith Development	Virtual Learning Environments	Religion and Belief in a Secular Age
Faith and Culture	Christology in Dialogue with Other Religions	Gospel and Gospels	Sacramental Theology	The Holocaust and Modern Culture

Awards Available

The MA in Religion and Education Post Primary is awarded by Dublin City University (Level 9 of the National Framework of Qualifications).

Participants who do not wish to complete an entire MA may exit the programme with a **Graduate Diploma** (after successfully completing 60 credits of taught modules) or with a **Graduate Certificate** (after successfully completing 30 credits of taught modules).

Entry Requirements

The general criteria for entry to this taught postgraduate programme is a good honours primary degree or equivalent.

Theology or Religious Education or Religious Studies must be a major element of the primary degree.

Applicants must hold a professional teaching qualification or have equivalent teaching experience.

Students who do not meet the normal criteria may be considered for a place on the programme on the basis of their work experience and other relevant educational achievements.

Applicants seeking Accreditation of Prior (Certified) Learning (APL) for the purposes of entry, module exemptions, or advanced entry, or applicants seeking Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) for the purposes of entry or module exemptions will also be considered.

Cost

For 2011 entry fees please visit www.materdei.ie

How do I apply?

Application forms are available at www.materdei.ie

Alternatively, applications forms are available by contacting:

Admissions Office

Mater Dei Institute of Education
Clonliffe Road
Dublin 3

Telephone: (01) 808 6518

Email: admissions@materdei.dcu.ie

Apply early to secure a place on the programme.
The closing date for applications is 31st May 2011.

Want to find out more?

If you want to find out more about the programme please contact our Admissions Office.

Alternatively, contact the Programme Coordinator:

Ms Sandra Cullen

Telephone: (01) 808 6528

Email: sandra.cullen@materdei.dcu.ie

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE

"A postgraduate degree in MDI provides an opportunity for advanced study in a particular field of research in the context of a vibrant and growing research community. Staff of the Institute work closely with graduate students and offer assistance in matters pertaining to research, funding and careers.

For information on the research specializations of academics, please go directly to individual staff profiles. I look forward to welcoming you to the College."

DR GABRIEL FLYNN, HEAD OF GRADUATE STUDIES

OTHER TAUGHT MA PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE (NFQ LEVEL 9)

- MA in Chaplaincy Studies and Pastoral Work
- MA in Ethics (Joint Programme with DCU)
- MA in Poetry Studies
- Masters in Religious Education Primary (Joint Programme with SPD)
- MA in Theology

MASTERS BY RESEARCH / PHD (NFQ LEVEL 9 & 10)

Research degree programmes in the areas of:
Education, English, Ethics, History, Irish Studies, Music, Philosophy, Religious Education, Theology

Brochures are available online and from the Admissions Office.