



COLÁISTE MHUIRE GAN SMÁL
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

Recent policy developments in Irish education highlight the importance of high-quality teacher preparation for the adult and further education sectors. The principles underpinning the programme emphasise teacher knowledge, relationships and core values.

The Graduate Diploma is taught full-time over one academic year using a blend of learning situations (onsite, online and teaching practice).

Onsite classes are held at weekends from **14:00 to 21:00** on **Friday** and on **Saturday** morning **9:30 -12:30**. This enables students to undertake teaching practice during week days.

Onsite classes are held in the new campus building (TARA) in Mary Immaculate College. Class time includes lectures, opportunities for microteaching, lesson study, group work and other problem-based learning activities, as well as more practical classes in computer labs. Moodle is used as a VLE for the online component.



Programme modules include learning outcomes in the following integrated areas:

- Theoretical foundations of education and lifelong learning (psychological, philosophical, historical, sociological and political perspectives)
- Professional studies in curriculum planning, teaching, assessment, learning technology and online instructional design; teaching approaches and methodologies; teaching as reflective practice and enquiry
- Teaching practice of at least 100 hours on accredited programmes (FETAC or equivalent) in at least two different settings, in addition to observation and other setting-based activities.

Module titles

Semester 1	Semester 2
1. Reflective and professional practice	5. Psychology and sociology of adult education
2. Teaching and curriculum studies 1	6. Teaching and curriculum studies 2
3. Learning and technology	7. History and philosophy of adult education
4. Practicum 1	8. Practicum 2

The teaching placement is divided into Practicum 1 and 2. It can be organised in different ways, for example, a combination of teaching blocks or on a more regular basis throughout the year. Applicants are asked to indicate at application stage where they plan to undertake teaching practice. Where necessary, the college will assist applicants in this process.



Candidates will normally have a primary degree or equivalent at Level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). The website of the Teaching Council provides further information on the requirements for teacher registration in the FE sector.

Application forms are available from Admissions at **061-204348** or **admissions@mic.ul.ie**. The closing date is the **end of May** for commencement in **September**.

Enquiries regarding programme content can be addressed to the programme director, **Dr. Cathal de Paor** at **061-204950** or **cathal.depaor@mic.ul.ie**



[**www.mic.ul.ie/further**](http://www.mic.ul.ie/further)

Graduate Diploma in Adult and Further Education



- ✓ Provides the professional knowledge, skills and competencies for teaching in the **Further Education (FE)** sector
- ✓ Recognised by the Teaching Council as a professional qualification for the purposes of FE teacher registration
- ✓ Should also be of interest to teachers in the broader adult education and lifelong learning sector
- ✓ Offers a progression option to a Master's degree in Year 2, subject to certain achievement criteria
- ✓ Suitable for both initial teacher education and continuing professional development (CPD)



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