



HIBERNIA
COLLEGE

Master of Arts in **Education**

Lead Change in Education with Our Next-Generation MA

Programme overview

The Master of Arts in Education is a two-year, part-time, fully online programme designed to meet the growing demand for flexible postgraduate training in education. It is relevant to teachers and allied professionals working in a range of settings and sectors, including early childhood, primary and post-primary education, further education, health and social care, policy development, and the community and voluntary sectors.

This Master of Arts in Education programme offers a unique opportunity for educators and allied professionals to enhance their expertise, advance their careers and contribute positively to the field of education.

By providing a flexible and accessible online platform, the programme promotes lifelong learning and capacity-building within the education system. Through its focus on research-informed practice and international perspectives, it empowers participants to become effective leaders and advocates for quality education for all learners – both locally and globally.

The launch of Hibernia College's first fully online Master of Arts in Education marks a pivotal moment in our commitment to accessible, high-quality postgraduate education.

We are breaking down barriers to lifelong learning and fostering a community of research-informed practitioners who can champion quality education for all learners, both locally and globally.

Dr Mary Kelly

Academic Dean, Hibernia College

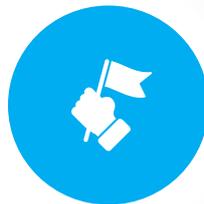


A future-ready course designed to prepare you for tomorrow's educational challenges, the Master of Arts in Education embraces transformative areas, such as:



Generative AI in Education

Explore how generative AI is reshaping education by enabling personalised learning, automated support and creative lesson design. The programme balances innovation with responsibility, teaching you to implement AI ethically and effectively. As the only Irish Master of Arts in Education that features a dedicated generative AI module, you'll be equipped to confidently lead AI integration in your classroom.



Leadership for Career Progression

Designed to develop modern educational leaders, it aligns with Department of Education and Youth Assistant Principal I (AP I) and AP II standards and introduces contemporary leadership models focused on collaboration, equity and community impact. Whether you're a teacher, policy-maker or youth worker, you'll gain the skills to drive positive change, cultivate learning communities and influence policy across diverse educational settings.



Wellbeing and UDL

These components offer practical, research-informed strategies to enhance inclusion and wellbeing in education. The Wellbeing in Education module equips educators with tools to support both learner and staff wellbeing across diverse contexts, emphasising community engagement, self-care and evidence-based evaluation. The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) module empowers participants to design inclusive learning environments by addressing learner variability through flexible teaching methods. These modules provide a strong foundation in fostering supportive, accessible education for all learners.

Who is the programme for?

The Master of Arts in Education programme is designed to cater to individuals from diverse backgrounds and interests within the field of education. Geared towards learners aspiring to advance their careers in education nationally, it focuses on enhancing competencies, skills and creative capacities essential for leadership roles.

Tailored for motivated graduates seeking to augment their academic credentials and bolster employment opportunities, the programme's modular format and online delivery method offer a convenient option for those requiring flexibility due to personal commitments or professional obligations.

In particular, this programme will appeal to:

- Primary, post-primary, early childhood and further education teachers
- Hibernia College alumni
- Education sector staff (civil servants, policy-makers, youth workers)
- Aspiring school leaders (AP I/AP II)
- Working professionals seeking flexible postgraduate study



Why should you choose this programme?



Future-ready content

- Learn how to ethically apply and lead the use of generative AI in your practice
- Develop skills in wellbeing, UDL and inclusive leadership – critical for modern learning environments



Fully online and flexible

- 100% online delivery with 13-week semesters – perfect for busy professionals
- A virtual learning environment (VLE) with 24/7 access



Extensive support network

- Round-the-clock access to our digital library with peer-reviewed resources
- Academic advice and technical support
- Expert educators
- Legacy of excellence backed by 25 years of experience in delivering innovative and flexible third-level programmes
- Developed by educators for educators



Designed for career growth

- Aligns with Department of Education and Youth standards (AP I and AP II)
- Ideal for teachers, education professionals and aspiring leaders
- Tailored pathways for Hibernia College alumni, further education, civil servants, youth workers and consultants



Recognised and accredited

- QQI Level 9 accreditation
- Officially launched in Autumn 2025 – your springboard to progression

Why is this programme the best in the market?

Generative AI module

Only Irish Master of Arts in Education with a generative AI ethics module

Wellbeing and UDL

Human-centred, inclusive, holistic education

100% online, fully supported

Virtual learning environment (VLE) and excellent student support

25 years in Irish teacher education

Legacy of excellence

Aligned for promotion (AP I/AP II)

Meets the Department of Education and Youth standards

Exclusive alumni pathway

Tailored for Professional Master of Education and pre-2014 graduates

Future careers

It is anticipated that learners on this programme will already be in part-time or full-time employment. Following completion of the programme, it is envisaged that they will obtain roles where they build school capacity and/or act as leaders at management level. Those seeking to change careers may find that the programme provides them with the expertise and skills required to pursue a career in consultancy, education journalism, management, youth/social work and employment with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as developing their personal skills and academic knowledge.



Enhance your expertise



Advance your career



Contribute positively to the field of education

Course structure

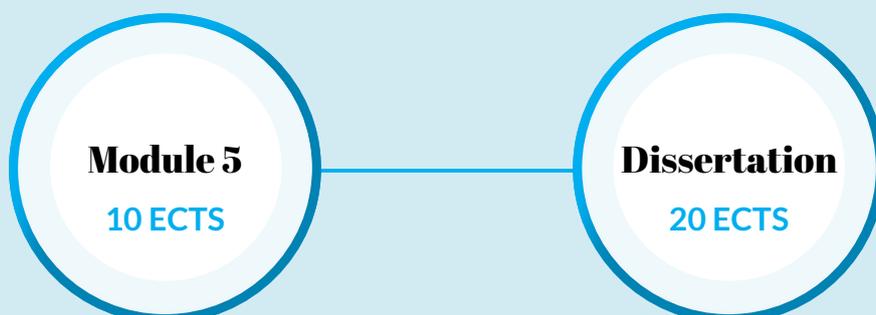
The Master of Arts in Education programme is delivered fully online, providing a flexible route to specialist training for educators. It is modular in structure and comprises three compulsory modules (15 ECTS each) and one elective module (15 ECTS) in Year 1. Year 2 encompasses an Educational Research Methods module and research project component (30 ECTS total), delivered over two semesters. Each semester is intended to last 13 weeks. The notion of research-informed practice is at the core of this programme. The research modules aim to prepare you to engage with confidence in ethical research on topics and issues of value and concern to the educational community by developing your research knowledge, skills, competencies and attitudes.



Year 1



Year 2



Programme modules

The Master of Arts in Education is delivered on a part-time basis over two years. It is designed to provide you with the specialist knowledge and critical skills to work in the increasingly complex education field.

Core modules

Educational Leadership, Management and Administration in a Changing World

You will develop the skills of critical analysis required to identify and personalise your own leadership identity within competing and conflicting models of leadership. Throughout the module, you will develop personal and professional capacities of educational leadership through reflection, discussion and academic writing on the module's topics.

Education and Social Policy

This module provides an international and critical perspective on the role of social and educational policy and reform in education in a range of contexts and settings. You will develop a critical understanding of how educational policy tackles social and education challenges as well as how programmes and interventions are designed, implemented and evaluated.

Education in the Era of Generative Artificial Intelligence

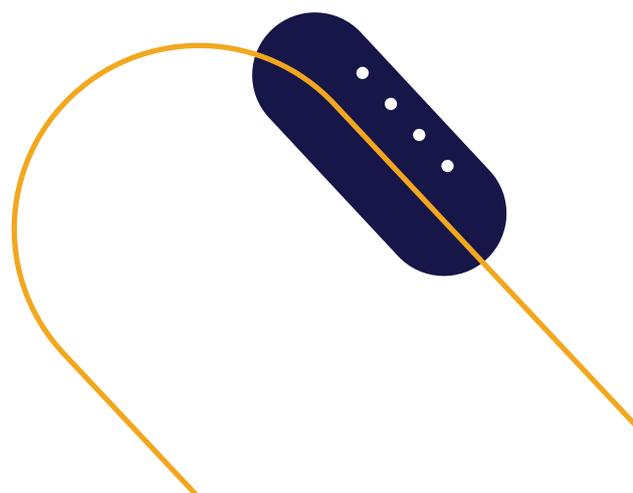
This module will provide you with the skills, competencies and criticality necessary to determine how and when to integrate generative AI effectively into educational practice and to prepare for the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing educational space.

Educational Research Methods

This module aims to prepare you to engage with confidence in ethical research on topics and issues of value and concern to the educational community by developing your research knowledge, skills, competencies and attitudes.

Educational Research Project

The research project should advance knowledge and understanding and address a pertinent issue of concern or a practical problem in local/community-based education, care and leadership. You will have a choice of conducting an integrated literature review study or a small-scale practice-based investigation.



Elective modules

Universal Design for Learning

This elective module introduces the principles of curriculum design in education and examines how curriculum theory is implemented at both the programme and module levels.

Early Childhood Education

The aim of this module is to provide you with the opportunity to integrate concepts from different academic disciplines and to gain new and critical perspectives on early childhood education.

Wellbeing in Education

This module will enable you to synthesise, analyse and examine your personal wellbeing and its connection with positive education, professional relationships, identity and sustainability in teaching and learning.

Digital Education

This module investigates international digital education policy relevant to the professional setting and role of the learner.



Tuition and support

The teaching and learning resources and approaches employed on this programme include a 'flipped classroom' approach comprising custom online content, interactive learning assignments, videos, readings, online discussions, collaborative tasks, formative feedback from tutors and peers, and reflective exercises. Central to the flipped classroom approach for the delivery of material is the use of asynchronous sessions that you can undertake at your own pace but within a stipulated time period (typically one week).

Having worked through the online sessions, you will explore the issues further and consolidate your learning during live, interactive sessions using audio and video. These online tutorials are conducted at scheduled times each week. While attendance and engagement are expected, they will be recorded and made available – you can then revisit them as often as needed. You will also be required to read around the subject and will often be directed to undertake specific readings.

Entry requirements

The programme has a minimum entry requirement of a Pass, or equivalent, in a bachelor's degree at NFQ Level 8. Learners on this programme will originate from cognate disciplines, including but not limited to primary education, post-primary education and further education. Learners from disciplines with a partial alignment, such as social care, may be accepted at the discretion of the programme director, or nominee, following evaluation of individual applications.

Application process

The application process is carried out entirely online. You will be required to complete a personal statement and upload your official undergraduate transcripts to your application. Note that you must upload all documents in PDF format (under 4 MB) to your application. To apply for our next intake, visit our [website](#). The College operates a Recognition of Prior Learning Policy for entry into the programme, and applicants with previous learning in a relevant area may be able to have it formally recognised by the College as part of this programme. Those who wish to be considered under this policy should email rpl@hiberniacollege.net.

Fees

The indicative programme tuition fee is €9,000 (+ €50 Garda Vetting charge).

- On acceptance of your place: €1,550 deposit (includes €50 in respect of the Garda vetting processing fee)
- First instalment (before course begins): €3,000
- Second instalment (approx. 10 months later): €4,500



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hiberniacollege.com/course/ma-in-education



advisor@hiberniacollege.net



(01) 661 0168 (Option 2)



hiberniacollege.com/events (Webinars)

