



## DEPARTMENT OF ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### STRUCTURED PHD PROGRAMME (LEVEL 10)

**DURATION: 4 YEARS (FULL TIME), 6 YEARS (P/T)**

**PAC CODE: MHA02 (FT), MHA03 (PT)**

The overall aim of the Structured PhD Programme is to facilitate the students in making an original contribution to the knowledge base in the field of adult and community education through research. It meets the needs of practitioners in the field of Adult and Community Education.

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 the leading centre for research on adult education in Ireland and have built an excellent international reputation for our work on further education, higher education, adult guidance, community development and transformative learning. Our research interests and projects concern critical pedagogy, access and equality in adult and higher education, adult guidance and counselling, community education, critical policy studies, transformative learning and active citizenship. We actively support innovative and creative methodological approaches to research with a strong focus on participatory approaches.

The staff research interests at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education/our-people>

The Structured PhD is part of a University-wide programme, which provides modules that students can undertake in the course of their studies, including modules developing graduate competences, transferable skills and research capacities. This programme is designed to support students to conduct research at the highest level in a reflexive and critical way. The Structured PhD takes four years full-time or six years part-time to complete.

**Closing Date:** Research applications are accepted at any time

**Commences:** September or January

**Interviews** with candidates are typically held in the spring so it is recommended that you contact the coordinators well in advance of this during the autumn/winter term with your initial proposal.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Primary degree (or equivalent) and a Master's degree in Adult and Community Education or a relevant discipline,
- Experience in higher or adult education,
- Proven ability in academic writing.

**Minimum English language requirements:** IELTS: 6.5 minimum overall score / TOEFL (Paper based test): 585 / TOEFL (Internet based test): 95 PTE (Pearson): 62 / Maynooth University's TOEFL code is 8850

## COURSE STRUCTURE

This is a 4 year full time or 6 years part time programme. Students complete 30 credits of modules over the course of the programme, including compulsory and elective modules. Students complete an individual planning review at the outset and annual reviews which include selection of relevant modules. Students attend monthly half day group supervision sessions as well as individual supervision and the broader support of the department's research centre.

**Duration: 4 years full time/ 6 years part time**

## 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

In the first instance, please contact the academic co-ordinators Fergal Finnegan and Bernie Grummell (details below) to discuss your application. Once the academic co-ordinators and the Structured PhD Team have approved your proposal then apply through PAC.

**PAC Online application only** <http://www.pac.ie/maynoothuniversity> please use code MHA02 PhD F/T or MHA03 (P/T)

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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