



MDI

Masters in Religious Education Primary

Joint Programme (NFQ Level 9)



Mater Dei Institute of Education and St Patrick's College Drumcondra are Colleges of Dublin City University

Joint Masters in Religious Education Primary

The Masters in Religious Education (MREd) is jointly hosted by the Mater Dei Institute of Education and St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, both colleges of Dublin City University, the awarding body.

The Programme focuses on Religious Education and Catechetics in respect of the child of primary school age. This is reflected in the rich range of modules on offer that cover such areas as education, religious education, theology, sacraments, scripture, ecclesiology and major World Religions.

Graduates will demonstrate the ability to take on significant responsibility in the area of Religious Education at the primary level. Upon successful completion of the programme the graduate will be able to demonstrate:

- a systematic and comprehensive understanding of the theology and pedagogic theory involved in the Religious Education of primary school children
- an enhanced critical sensitivity to the psychological, sociological, religious, ethical and political issues raised by the teaching of religion at primary level
- a command of tools of research, including writing skills, in the areas of theology and pedagogic inquiry, especially as these bear on the teaching of religion at primary level
- the particular skills necessary to address the issues that arise in the creation, management and implementation of programmes of Religious Education in the primary sector

Career Prospects

Many who have received this qualification have continued teaching but a significant number of graduates now occupy positions as Diocesan Advisors in primary school religious education, college lecturers, DES inspectors, principals in schools and other leadership positions. In addition, graduates of the programme have contributed to publications in the area of primary religious education, given lectures to various parish groups and they have organised and delivered religious education courses for teachers.

1 Year full-time
2 Years part-time

Who is this Master's programme for?

The programme contributes to on-going professional development. In the main, MREd students are primary teachers who wish to:

- enhance the way they teach religious education to primary school children
- create and promote inclusive classroom practice
- promote a better understanding of faith development in the classroom environment
- engage in the teaching of Education about Religions and Beliefs (ERB)
- improve their own understanding of the relationship between Religious Education, Catechetics and Education
- develop their skills in contemporary methods of Religious Education
- employ methods of Digital Pedagogy in teaching and learning
- enhance their career opportunities in the Education Sector
- enrich themselves intellectually and spiritually

Resources

MREd students enrol in alternate years in one of the Colleges but are entitled to use the library and IT facilities in both.

Flexible Scheduling

The programme is offered:

Part-time (two years, normally)

Full-time (one year)

Typically, the programme is taught two evenings per week to facilitate teachers. Students will also attend two Saturdays during the academic year to assist with practical research skills.



Modules

Participants complete 6 modules (10 credits each) and a Thesis Research module (30 credits).

Mandatory Modules:

- Contemporary Methodologies in Primary Religious Education
- Spirituality, Prayer and the Educator

Elective Modules

- Early Childhood Spirituality/Creative Liturgies (Year 2 Only)
- Digital Pedagogy
- Virtual Learning Environments and Religious Education
- Christology in Dialogue with Culture Today
- The Bible and the World
- Contemporary Issues in Ecumenism and Inter-Religious Dialogue
- Contemporary Issues in Ecclesiology
- Eschatology: The Denial of Death and the Eclipse of Hope
- Religion and Science
- Creative Writing
- The Holocaust and Modern Culture

Fees

For 2014 entry fees please visit either www.materdei.ie/religious-education-primary or www.spd.dcu.ie/pg

Awards Available

Dublin City University Awards

- Masters in Religious - Primary (90 credits)
- Graduate Diploma (Exit Programme 60 credits)
- Graduate Certificate (Exit Programme 30 credits)

It is also possible to audit individual modules without obtaining an award.

Programme Video



Hazel O'Connor
M.Rel.Ed Primary Graduate 2012



View video about the programme by Graduate Hazel O'Connor. Scan this QR code to view programme video or visit: www.materdei.ie/religious-education-primary



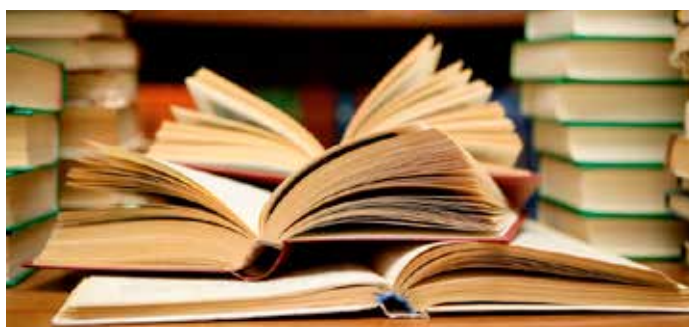
Graduate Voice

Sinéad Ní Ghríofa

Masters Rel. Ed. Primary Graduate 2013

"This programme has helped me to develop my skills in all aspects of my teaching, not only as a religious educator. It has brought

me to a deeper understanding of myself, and into a closer relationship with the children whom I teach. The programme is intellectually stimulating, and also very practical. My teaching and use of methodologies in sacramental preparation are more confident and effective as a direct result of this programme. I would highly recommend the MREd."



MDI

Mater Dei Institute of Education (MDI) is a College of Dublin City University. MDI specializes in teacher education, theology, religious studies, Irish studies, humanities, philosophy and ethics. MDI seeks to develop in graduates a capacity for creative thought, critical openness and rigorous intellectual inquiry.

SPD

St. Patrick's College Drumcondra (SPD) is a College of Dublin City University. The College's academic departments are currently divided into two faculties – the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Humanities. There are over 2,000 students taking courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Graduate Voice

Louise Traynor

Masters Rel. Ed. Primary Graduate 2010

"Although I work full time as a primary teacher, I found the programme challenging and rewarding with plenty of opportunity to take new ideas and methodologies straight into the classroom. The lecturers both in MDI and St Pat's were experts in their areas. The coursework was carefully planned, very interactive and in keeping with the school year. I feel that I have gained from the course not only professionally but also personally."

Want to find out more?

If you want to find out more about the programme please contact:

Margaret Brierty

Admissions Office (SPD)

T: (01) 884 2096

E: admissions@spd.dcu.ie

Academic Enquiries to:

Dr Caroline Renehan

Programme Co-chair (SPD)

T: (01) 884 2084

E: caroline.renehan@spd.dcu.ie

Dr Sandra Cullen

Programme Co-chair (MDI)

T: (01) 8086528

E: sandra.cullen@dcu.ie

How do I apply?

Application forms are available on:
www.materdei.ie or www.spd.dcu.ie

Alternatively, please contact:

Admissions Office

St. Patrick's College

Drumcondra,

Dublin 9

T: (01) 884 2096

E: admissions.office@spd.dcu.ie

Apply by 10th June 2014 to secure a place on the programme.

Neither St Patrick's College nor Mater Dei Institute is bound by any error in, or omission from, this brochure.



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