



Entry Criteria

Entrants, who must be graduates, will be expected to have an upper second class honours degree in a social science. If applicants do not have a degree of that kind, they must have demonstrated high ability by some other means (e.g. through publications or achievement in a higher degree). However, all applicants must have a primary degree at the upper second class honours level. Applications are welcome from individuals with strong policy and practice experience in relation to children.

Application Process

Depending on preference, potential candidates should apply to either or both institutions. Applicants must include the following:

- A personal statement (300 words)
- A CV
- Two letters of reference from academic referees
- A research proposal (800 words)

The research proposal (800 words) should outline:

- A title/topic
- The relevant literature
- The research question/rationale
- Proposed method

Before preparing your proposal you are advised to consult the document available at www.childand youthresearch.ie/application.html which outlines research topics or themes in which supervision may be available. You are encouraged to develop a proposal in one of these areas. Your choice of topic will depend on your interests, the institution you are applying to and your disciplinary background.

If you wish to obtain further information on these topics / themes, please contact Dr. Lorraine Swords (TCD) or Nuala Donohue (NUI Galway). Contact details are provided below. The proposal plays an important role in the assessment process, as it provides the panel with information on the candidate's research knowledge and suitability. However, depending on the number of applicants and supervision capacity, the proposal may not necessarily be the topic of your thesis.

Candidates can develop a proposal in an area not listed in this document. However, we may not have supervisors available for some research topics.

Applications for the programme will be reviewed by a Joint Programme Committee comprising representatives of both institutions. Selected students will then have to follow the usual administrative application processes of the institution that has accepted their application. Applications by hard copy only should be sent to the contacts below by **29th April 2011**. Shortlisted candidates will be informed in early June and will be called for interview.

Dr. Lorraine Swords
Children's Research Centre
30 Anglesea Street
Trinity College, Dublin 2
swordsl@tcd.ie

Or: Ms Nuala Donohue
School of Psychology and School of
Political Science & Sociology
NUI Galway
nuala.donohue@nuigalway.ie

Further Information

For further information on the programme and how to apply
Please visit our web site at: www.childand youthresearch.ie.

Or contact us:

TCD: Dr. Lorraine Swords: swordsl@tcd.ie

NUI Galway: nuala.donohue@nuigalway.ie



Structured PhD in Child & Youth Research



Applicants are invited for the next intake of the Structured PhD in Child and Youth Research for September 2011.

This is a full-time, four year programme, combining thesis and taught modules.

Closing Date for receipt of completed applications is Friday, 29th April 2011

For further information on the programme and how to apply
Please visit our web site at: www.childand youthresearch.ie.

Or contact us:

TCD: Dr. Lorraine Swords: swordsl@tcd.ie

NUI Galway: Ms Nuala Donohue: nuala.donohue@nuigalway.ie



Introduction

Trinity College Dublin and National University of Ireland, Galway are delighted to offer the full-time Structured Ph.D. programme in Child and Youth Research, as part of an emerging Irish Life-Course Studies research agenda. The programme responds to an identified need for researchers with the requisite, high-level and wide-ranging experience and skills to undertake the kind of work that is needed in an evidence-based policy environment. By pooling the expertise of both institutions and their international affiliates, the programme offers the opportunity for high quality training and education experience leading to what will be a very valuable final qualification. Unlike traditional, thesis-only Ph.D.s, this programme incorporates a suite of taught modules in key areas of child and youth research. Participating in these modules will provide doctoral students the opportunity to widen their knowledge and skill base as well as feeding into the development of their core thesis work.

Programme Aims

1. To prepare programme participants to conduct high quality policy and practice-relevant research and programme evaluation with children and young people
2. To develop programme participants' knowledge and skills in key theoretical, methodological, policy and practice areas relating to children
3. To provide graduates with the set of generic work-skills to facilitate their successful entry into the full range of employment settings

Programme Content

Dissertation: As with the traditional Ph.D. route, the major component of the Programme is the thesis. By the end of their fourth year all students will have completed a major dissertation approximately 80,000 words in length. Theses will be examined by an External Examiner.

Taught Modules: Additionally, students will undertake a total of 9 taught modules over the first two years of the programme as follows:



Year One

- Qualitative Research Methods
- Quantitative Research Methods
- Theorising childhood
- Advanced Developmental Psychology

Year Two

- Research Pragmatics
- Youth and Society
- Legal and Policy Issues
- Researching vulnerable children: 0 to 12 years
- Child and Youth Services and Interventions

*modules are subject to change

In years 1 and 2 of the programme, the taught element of the course will be assessed by participation, two essays per academic year, as well as assignments arising from the research methods modules.

Programme Award

Successful students will receive a Ph.D. from the institution in which they register. In the first instance students will be expected to register with the host Schools.



Programme Delivery

Programme modules will be delivered using the most up-to-date technologies, including video-conferencing and various web-based teaching technologies. For example, course modules will be delivered simultaneously to students in both institutions using video-conferencing.

Host Centres / Schools and Programme Personnel

At TCD, the host Centre and Schools are the Children's Research Centre (CRC), the School of Psychology and the School of Social Work and Social Policy.

At NUI Galway, the host Centre and Schools are the Child & Family Research Centre (CFRC) the School of Political Science and Sociology and the School of Psychology

Programme Directors:

Professor Sheila Greene (TCD)
Dr John Canavan & Dr Caroline Heary (Joint Directors, NUI Galway)

Module Leaders:

*Subject to change

Advanced Developmental Psychology

Dr Elizabeth Nixon (Lecturer in Developmental Psychology, School of Psychology & Senior Research Fellow, CRC, TCD)

Child and Youth Services and Interventions

Prof. Pat Dolan (UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth, and Civic Engagement, Director of CFRC and the Masters Degree in Life Course Studies, School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI Galway)

Legal and Policy Issues

Dr. Lorraine Swords (Lecturer in Child & Adult Psychology, School of Psychology TCD)

Qualitative Research Methods

Dr Caroline Heary
(Lecturer in Developmental Psychology, School of Psychology, NUI Galway)

Quantitative Research Methods

Dr Paul O'Mahony
(Senior Lecturer, School of Medicine, TCD)

Research Pragmatics

Dr Allyn Fives
(Postdoctoral Researcher, CFRC, School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI Galway)

Researching Vulnerable Children: 0 to 12 years

Prof. Robbie Gilligan
(Head of School of Social Work and Social Policy, TCD)

Theorising Childhood

Dr John Canavan (Associate Director, CFRC/Lecturer, School of Political Science & Sociology, NUI Galway).

Youth and Society

Dr Paula Mayock (Senior Research Fellow, CRC/Lecturer in Youth Research, School of Social Work and Social Policy, TCD)

