

CORE MODULES: BA (Hons) Education Top-up

You must take modules worth 120 credits at each level of the course. Each module is worth a specified number of credits.

Year 1 compulsory for full-time students (Level 6)

Raising Achievement through Improving Teaching and Learning (30 credits)

- *This module provides you the opportunity to evaluate a school initiative in terms of learners' achievement. Contemporary pedagogical issues are covered and critiqued within the critically reflective teacher and practitioner-based inquiry. For example, issues relating to individuality in learning, matching teaching and learning, thinking skills, assessment, 'models of learning - tools for teaching' will be examined. In-service professionals will also be encouraged to identify professionally relevant themes which can be integrated into the modular programme. Particular emphasis will be placed on the relationship between learning, teaching and research. Case studies, presentations, tutorials and video-stimulated reflections will be used to facilitate the learning and teaching process. The assessment activity focuses on a Case Study approach to investigating pedagogical issues.*

Investigating Education through Research (30 credits)

- *The module provides a good grounding in basic educational research issues, methods and strategies and knowledge of how to match intended outcomes with specific educational purposes and methods of investigation. The module takes a practice-based approach that incorporates peer group and tutor-facilitated discussions plus tutor inputs and small group and whole group study. Students will be required to work in small groups to analyse documentary evidence, develop instruments for interviews and observations and analyse the suitability of different research designs and methodologies which fit educational purposes. Assessment takes the form of an assignment comprised of two parts. In the first part, students are required to design and use a research instrument and analyse the process, the instrument and the outcomes in relation to a stated fitness for purpose. In the second part, students are required to find an article which uses a qualitative methodology and evaluate its content, data gathering methods and findings in relation to research practices identified.*

Work-Based Learning: An Extended Experience (30 credits)

- *This module provides you the opportunity to put into practice a project in your own setting and evaluate your own learning against chosen epistemological hierarchies. There is much anecdotal evidence showing that potential employers value applications from those who can show a marked degree of self-reliance and a diversity of experience, attributes that successful completion of this module will demonstrate. There are three elements to the assessment of this module. Prior to the placement experience, students will be required to propose an Intended Learning Contract that will show that they have made informed decisions about their intended learning. At the approximate mid-point of the placement, students will submit an Interim Evaluative Report which will serve to appraise the quality of the student's learning experiences to date and, hence, propose any modifications to the Learning Contract that might be required or desirable. Having completed the placement, students will be required to write an evidence-based analytical and constructive synopsis of their learning achievements that will show, inter alia that they have evaluated the level of justifiable confidence attached to the various aspects of their experiential learning.*

Undergraduate Major Project (30 credits)

- *The Undergraduate Major Project enables you to demonstrate the ability to raise and address significant question(s) in relation to your topic/issue, which may involve auditing or evaluating existing practice or commenting on significant theoretical or conceptual developments at the local or national level. You will be expected to demonstrate the ability to select and apply appropriate investigative techniques which are relevant to their chosen topic/issue and the question(s) they are looking to address. You are expected to negotiate, through the proposal, the nature and form of the final assessed work, which may take the form of a written dissertation and an artefact or the development of software.*