Applications can now be made for the Master in Education Science Education programme organised by the School of Education Trinity College Dublin.

Aims of the programme
The M.Ed. (Science Education) programme is designed to extend participants’ knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of second level science education in Ireland and internationally.

Who is the programme for?
This course is primarily intended for teachers of science subjects in second level schools. However, others with a professional interest in science education are welcome to apply.

Structure
The taught component contains four modules, with each module containing approximately 25 hours of contact time.

Course Modules

• **Module One: The context of science education**
  This module will focus on the following themes as applied to science education:
  - Characteristics of science education at 1st, 2nd and 3rd levels.
  - Examinations and assessment, including the nature of the Junior and Leaving Certificate courses.
  - Influences from the history and philosophy of science on science teaching and curricula.
  - Relation of school science to the economy.
  - Roles of the DES Inspectorate, the Examinations Commission and the NCCA.

• **Module Two: Learning theories in science education**
  This module will focus on the following themes as applied to science education:
  - Behaviourist, and constructivist theories.
  - The influence of Piaget.
  - Curriculum innovations, such as IScip, CASE and PEEL.
  - Language and learning.
  - Information and communication technologies applied to teaching and learning in science.

• **Module Three: The student and science education**
  This module will focus on the following themes as applied to science education:
  - Skills and processes in science education.
  - Formative and summative assessment.
  - Purposes of practical work, its assessment, and its relation to learning.
  - Science, technology and society in science curricula.
  - The attitudes and opinions that young people have about the science they study in school and about science and technology in wider society.
  - Ways in which boys’ and girls’ responses to science vary.
  - How students’ responses vary within European and other countries.

• **Module Four: Research methods in science education**
  This module will focus on the following themes as applied to science education:
  - Research methods, including questionnaire design, statistical methods for analysing data, ethical issues.
  - Examples of large scale international studies, such as ROSE, PISA and TIMSS, and their relevance to Irish science education.
  - Critical evaluation of recent research literature.
Teaching and learning strategies
A variety of teaching and learning strategies that may be used include: lecture presentations, group discussion, individual presentations, individual reading and research. Assessment of the taught component is by four written assignments. Throughout there is an emphasis on the critical analysis of issues in science education and the ways in which theory relates to practice.

Further information
For enquiries about course content please contact Dr Philip Matthews (pmtthews@tcd.ie / 01 896 1579). For all other enquiries, including information on how to apply, please contact Keara Eades/Daniel Wearen (00-353-1-896-3568/1290).

Note: prospective students should realise that this brochure is as accurate as it can be at the time of production but will not reflect changes to the programme which might have been made at a later stage.