



Trinity College Dublin

School of English

Postgraduate Student Handbook 2018-19

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Introduction

Welcome to the School of English at Trinity College Dublin. The School has a very large and active postgraduate community, currently hosting over 50 research students and offering 3 MPhil programmes in the 2018-19 academic year. We are proud of our very high international reputation for research and scholarship among our staff and our graduate students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished academic careers worldwide. We are fortunate to have the use of a copyright library with world-class holdings, in a campus right at the heart of a capital city, with major cultural and artistic resources on our doorstep. Many of you will already be familiar with the School and with the College, but we hope that those of you newly arrived in Dublin will take advantage of its opportunities, will enjoy your time here, and will come to feel at home in the intellectual community of the School.

For those of you pursuing one of the School's taught MPhil programmes, your main point of contact will be your Programme Director, and you will find detailed information in the relevant course handbook. As a postgraduate research student, your primary relationship is with the member(s) of staff who supervise(s) your thesis research. Your supervisor(s) will advise and help you define your topic, set a schedule of work/meetings and provide feedback on your work. They will also serve as your first port of call for queries and problems along the way. However, the School also provides a broader framework of academic support for research students. Throughout the academic year, you will have access to workshops, seminars and other events to help you acquire and strengthen skills, gain a broader academic perspective, exchange research findings with staff members, fellow students and other members of the broader scholarly community in College. While you alone are responsible for the success of your thesis project, doing a research degree should not be a solitary endeavour but should also prepare you for future employment, in or outside academia. The members of the School of English are committed to helping you get the most out of your time in Trinity College Dublin.

This handbook is designed to give you some basic introductory information to the School, its ethos, and practices. More detailed information on regulations is available in the Trinity College *Calendar* Part 3. In the event the handbook and the *Calendar* differ, the *Calendar* is to be considered authoritative. You can find a copy here:

<http://www.tcd.ie/calendar/>

Dr Philip Coleman
Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate)
August 2018

School of English MPhil Programmes (2018-19)

MPhil in Irish Writing

Director: Prof Eve Patten

Teaching Staff, 2018-19: Dr Julie Bates; Professor Terence Brown; Dr Paul Delaney; Dr Aileen Douglas; Dr Jarlath Killeen; Dr Rosie Lavan; Professor Nicholas Grene; Dr Amy Prendergast; Dr Sam Slote; Dr Tom Walker.

MPhil in Creative Writing

Director: Ms Deirdre Madden

Teaching Staff: Ms Deirdre Madden; Prof Harry Clifton; Dr Carlo Gébler

MPhil in Children's Literature

Directors: Dr Jane Carroll

Teaching Staff 2018-19: Dr Jane Carroll; Valerie Coghlan; Dr Lydia Ferguson; Dr Vanessa Joosen; Dr Jarlath Killeen; Dr Rosie Lavan; Dr Margaret Robson; Dr Pádraic Whyte; Dr Sheena Wilkinson.

Please consult the handbooks of individual MPhil programmes for more detailed information.

Regulations and requirements

The weighting for the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) for each of these year-long MPhil programmes, with classes taught over two twelve-week terms, is 90.

Although the MPhil degree is awarded on a Distinction/Pass/Fail basis, individual assignments within the MPhil courses are marked according to the following standards:

1st	80–100	A paper of outstanding merit; publishable quality.
1st	70–79	A very strong and original paper: work displaying analytical and argumentative power with good command of the facts and/or arguments relevant to the questions and evidence of ability to organise them with clarity, insight and efficiency.
Upper 2nd	60–69	Work displaying analytical power and argumentation of the quality associated with a First, but with less comprehensive and thorough command of evidence. Or work showing considerable thoroughness but less analytical skill or less clarity in organisation.
Lower 2nd	50–59	Competent work with no major defects, but giving an incomplete account of the question, or marred by inaccuracies. Or work which demonstrates lapses in (but does not lack) analytical and argumentative skills.
3rd	40–49	Work that is generally weak with muddled argumentation, but containing some evidence of knowledge of facts and analytical skill. These marks are also used for work that, while competent and knowledgeable in itself, does not address the question asked.
Fail	0–39	Very poor quality work, not meeting the standards of information, understanding and analysis required for graduate level.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a matter taken very seriously by the College and all students are responsible for ensuring that they understand what constitutes plagiarism. **Please note that all postgraduate students – whether they are on taught programmes or reading for research degrees – must complete an online tutorial on plagiarism before they submit work.** This tutorial can be found here:

<http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/ready-steady-write>.

More information and guidance relating to plagiarism can be found here: <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/about> while the College *Calendar's* specific regulations follow.

1. General

It is clearly understood that all members of the academic community use and build on the work and ideas of others. It is commonly accepted also, however, that we build on the work and ideas of others in an open and explicit manner, and with due acknowledgement.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting the work or ideas of others as one's own, without due acknowledgement.

Plagiarism can arise from deliberate actions and also through careless thinking and/or methodology. The offence lies not in the attitude or intention of the perpetrator, but in the action and in its consequences.

It is the responsibility of the author of any work to ensure that he/she does not commit plagiarism.

Plagiarism is considered to be academically fraudulent, and an offence against academic integrity that is subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University.

2. Examples of Plagiarism

Plagiarism can arise from actions such as:

- (a) copying another student's work;
- (b) enlisting another person or persons to complete an assignment on the student's behalf;
- (c) procuring, whether with payment or otherwise, the work or ideas of another;
- (d) quoting directly, without acknowledgement, from books, articles or other sources, either in printed, recorded or electronic format, including websites and social media;
- (e) paraphrasing, without acknowledgement, the writings of other authors.

Examples (d) and (e) in particular can arise through careless thinking and/or methodology where students:

- (i) fail to distinguish between their own ideas and those of others;
- (ii) fail to take proper notes during preliminary research and therefore lose track of the sources from which the notes were drawn;
- (iii) fail to distinguish between information which needs no acknowledgement because it is firmly in the public domain, and information which might be widely known, but which nevertheless requires some sort of acknowledgement;

(iv) come across a distinctive methodology or idea and fail to record its source.

All the above serve only as examples and are not exhaustive.

3. Plagiarism in the context of group work

Students should normally submit work done in co-operation with other students only when it is done with the full knowledge and permission of the lecturer concerned. Without this, submitting work which is the product of collusion with other students may be considered to be plagiarism.

When work is submitted as the result of a Group Project, it is the responsibility of all students in the Group to ensure, so far as is possible, that no work submitted by the group is plagiarised.

4. Self-Plagiarism

No work can normally be submitted for more than one assessment for credit. Resubmitting the same work for more than one assessment for credit is normally considered self-plagiarism.

5. Avoiding Plagiarism

Students should ensure the integrity of their work by seeking advice from their lecturers, tutor or supervisor on avoiding plagiarism. All schools and departments must include, in their handbooks or other literature given to students, guidelines on the appropriate methodology for the kind of work that students will be expected to undertake. In addition, a general set of guidelines for students on avoiding plagiarism is available at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>.

6. If plagiarism as referred to in paragraph (1) above is suspected, the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) will arrange an informal meeting with the student, the student's Supervisor and/or the academic staff member concerned, to put their suspicions to the student and give the student the opportunity to respond. Students may nominate a Graduate Students' Union representative or PG advisor to accompany them to the meeting.

7. If the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) forms the view that plagiarism has taken place, he/she must decide if the offence can be dealt with under the summary procedure set out below. In order for this summary procedure to be followed, all parties noted above must be in agreement. If the facts of the case are in dispute, or if the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) feels that the penalties provided for under the summary procedure below are inappropriate given the circumstances of the case, he/she will refer the case directly to the Junior Dean, who will interview the student and may implement the procedures set out in Section 5 (Other General Regulations).

8. If the offence can be dealt with under the summary procedure, the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) will recommend one of the following penalties:

(a) Level 1: Student receives an informal verbal warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. The student is required to rephrase and correctly reference all plagiarised elements. Other content should not be altered. The resubmitted work will be assessed and marked without penalty;

(b) Level 2: Student receives a formal written warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. The student is required to rephrase and correctly reference all plagiarised elements. Other content should not be altered. The resubmitted work will receive a reduced or capped mark depending on the seriousness/extent of plagiarism;

(c) Level 3: Student receives a formal written warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. There is no opportunity for resubmission.

9. Provided that the appropriate procedure has been followed and all parties in (6) above are in agreement with the proposed penalty, the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) should in the case of a Level 1 offence, inform the Course Director and, where appropriate, the Course Office. In the case of a Level 2 or Level 3 offence, the Dean of Graduate Studies must be notified and requested to approve the recommended penalty. The Dean of Graduate Studies will inform the Junior Dean accordingly. The Junior Dean may nevertheless implement the procedures as set out in Section 5 (Other General Regulations).

10. If the case cannot normally be dealt with under summary procedures, it is deemed to be a Level 4 offence and will be referred directly to the Junior Dean. Nothing provided for under the summary procedure diminishes or prejudices the disciplinary powers of the Junior Dean under the 2010 Consolidated Statutes.

The MPhil dissertation

Formal teaching on MPhil programmes ends at the close of Hilary Term. Around this time, in consultation with course directors, each student will be allocated a supervisor for their dissertation. It is the responsibility of individual students to contact their supervisors, and to work out a programme of supervision with them so that they meet the submission deadline. Individual MPhils have their own regulations as to word length. The College *Calendar* and the relevant MPhil programme handbook should be consulted for full information.

The School of English does not stipulate a house style for presentation of work, but we ask that you be consistent. You should consult major style manuals such as *The Chicago Manual of Style* (available online), the MLA, or MHRA style manuals. The Purdue Owl website is also a useful resource: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>.

In **exceptional circumstances**, an extension of up to one month, known as 'Dean's Grace', may be requested from the MPhil programme director.

An MPhil with Distinction may be awarded to students who achieve a mark of 70% or higher on their dissertation and at least 68% in the taught course work where modules amounting to at least 30 credits have a mark of at least 70%.

MLitt and PhD Students

The MLitt/PhD Thesis

The degree of MLitt is awarded for a piece of original research of approximately 60,000 words in length, normally taking 2-3 years to complete. A PhD thesis is usually around 100,000 words long, and will take 3-4 years of work. While the award of an MLitt is a substantial achievement in itself, most students would expect to continue through to the PhD register. MLitt students may choose to transfer into the PhD register in their second year upon completion of the confirmation in the second year.

Although each research project will follow its own path and encounter its own challenges, you would normally be expected to complete your PhD in 3-4 years:

Year 1: Preliminary research; clear formulation of research topic; familiarity with scholarship in your area; drafting of first chapter(s).

Year 2: Preparation and submission of materials for confirmation (see below); work on subsequent chapters following successful confirmation.

Years 3-4: Completion and submission of PhD; *viva voce* examination; corrections/revisions if necessary.

As the pressure on PhD candidates who plan on pursuing an academic career continues to increase, they are also expected to deliver conference papers and produce publications to be credible postdoctoral and job candidates: nevertheless, **the importance of the thesis is paramount and no other activities, however virtuous, should distract from its completion to the highest standard possible.**

In **exceptional** cases, usually on medical grounds, extensions of registration beyond 4 years can be granted by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The PhD supervisor must write to the Dean to request this extension.

Progress reports

The progress of all postgraduate research students in College is reviewed on an annual basis. After the completion of Years 1 and 3 students and supervisors are asked to complete a progress report and submit it to the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate). In Year 1 the student should complete two substantial pieces of written work (agreed with the supervisor) in advance of the progress report. The template for progress reports is available here:

https://www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies/currentstudents/admin/progressreports/index.php

In Year 2, the progress report takes the form of the confirmation process (see below).

Confirmation

A stringent process of academic assessment for all PhD students to confirm their continuation on the PhD register shall normally be arranged within the first eighteen months of registration extended by a further year for PhD students on the part-time register from year 1. The process is to be approached positively and constructively by all parties as an essential part in the student's learning experience.

The PhD confirmation process requires the student to prepare a PhD *confirmation report*; the confirmation report should be written according to the guidelines issued by the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) (DTLPG). The student must ensure that a draft of the confirmation report is made available to the Supervisor with sufficient time for the Supervisor to read it and provide comments. The use of paid professional copy-editing services for the preparation of the confirmation report is not permitted and will be considered a breach of the confirmation regulations. In certain exceptional cases, students registered with the College disability service may, following consultation with the Dean, be permitted to avail of paid professional copy-editing services.

The following materials comprise the confirmation report for the School of English and should be submitted by email to the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) at the appropriate time:

- i. a detailed outline of the proposed PhD thesis, including a breakdown of the contents of all chapters (2,000 words);
- ii. a completed thesis chapter (10-15,000 words);
- iii. a brief statement outlining the original contribution to knowledge made in the thesis (500-1,000 words);
- iv. a complete bibliography of primary and secondary material (no word limit).

The student shall be invited to attend a PhD *confirmation interview*. The PhD *confirmation panel* for each student is appointed by the DTLPG and shall consist of at least two members as follows: the DTLPG or his or her nominee, and a second member who should have acknowledged expertise in the subject area of the student's research (or in a cognate field). Members of the PhD confirmation panel may be drawn only from academic staff eligible to supervise. Although the DTLPG makes the final decision about membership of the PhD confirmation panel, he or she will consult with the Supervisor. The Supervisor shall not be a member of the PhD confirmation panel, but it is expected that the Supervisor (and Co-Supervisors) should be present at the interview. When necessary, an external discipline expert may be appointed. The Supervisor's attendance at the interview ensures that he or she is aware of the panel's critique of the student's work.

Written feedback shall be given to the student as soon as possible after the PhD confirmation interview. The recommendation of the panel shall be one of the following:

- (a) continuation on the PhD register;
- (b) continuation on the PhD register after some minor changes have been made to the PhD confirmation report;
- (c) continuation on the PhD register not recommended at this time: a new report to be written and confirmation interview to be held again as soon as possible thereafter;
- (d) a recommendation to change to the general Masters register to submit a Masters thesis; or,
- (e) not to continue as a postgraduate research student.

A student may appeal the result of a PhD confirmation interview according to the School's appeals board. The appeal procedure will be made available on request. **(Supervisors should consult the *Staff Handbook of Research Student Procedures* for this.)**

N.B. Any sample chapter in excess of 15,000 words **must** have the approval of the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) in advance and a very strong justification must be offered.

After a successful confirmation hearing, the panel will write a report for the student's consideration, with suggested revisions to the chapter, thesis outline, and/or methodology.

Thesis supervision

Each research student will be assigned a supervisor. The College *Calendar* states:

The Principal Supervisor shall provide advice and assistance to students that shall include, in particular, the college regulations and matters relating to academic progression and examination. Any reasonable written requests shall be responded to without undue delay. The Principal Supervisor shall also give the students all possible assistance regarding access to the material, equipment and other resources essential to their research. Principal Supervisors shall be accessible to the student for a personal consultation session at least once a month during the statutory term, unless a prior arrangement has been agreed between the two parties.

It is most important that you establish from the beginning the basis of your working relationship with your supervisor. Students are entitled to ongoing contact with their supervisor on a regular basis though the nature of the help you will want and how frequently you need to meet to discuss your work will vary greatly depending on the particular research project and the stage it is at – for example, it is likely that you will meet very frequently with your supervisor at the beginning and end of your project, though perhaps less frequently in the middle stages. As a general principle in literary studies, it is desirable that you should begin writing early. The pattern of completing research before 'writing up', which is appropriate in scientific disciplines, in most cases will not be suitable for a project in English Studies where the ability to organise material and structure an argument in writing is essential. Therefore, you should be prepared to write early and write often, with much of your supervision coming from commentary on submitted work.

If your work is being co-supervised, it is important to establish clearly from the outset just what will be the involvement of each supervisor and to whom you submit written work. When your supervisor is on leave, they will usually continue to supervise your work.

Students' Expectations of Supervisors

The supervisor's role is to give advice, encouragement and constructive criticism to research students. The supervisor should normally:

- Be familiar, and ensure that the student is familiar with College and School regulations, in particular those pertaining to the annual progress review process, the timeframe for completion and examination, any ethical issues arising from their research and academic honesty (plagiarism).
- Offer guidance in clarifying the student's research topic and research schedule.
- Maintain regular contact with the student. College regulations recommend that supervisors and students should normally meet at least once a month during statutory term. This will not always be possible, particularly when students are abroad for archival research or fieldwork, but in such cases students and supervisors should maintain regular contact by e-mail or other means.
- Respond promptly and professionally to the submission of written work. Supervisors and students should work together to devise a reasonable timetable for the regular submission of written work and supervisors should normally aim to return comments and suggestions to students within a fortnight of receiving chapter length submissions. At certain times of the year, particularly during the examination period and outside of statutory term, returning comments within this timeframe will not always be possible and students should schedule the submission of their work accordingly.
- Discuss the student's research in person and offer clear, constructive written comments on the student's written work.
- Monitor the student's progress according to an agreed plan of work and milestones and complete required progress reports required by the School or funding bodies.
- Advise on specific research, language or IT skills that the student may require for their research and ensure that the student is aware of available training programmes.
- Ensure that the student is familiar with the appropriate scholarly conventions within their discipline.
- Ensure that the student is aware of the range of departmental and other seminars where relevant research issues are discussed.
- As the student moves towards completion, supervisors should discuss options for the presentation and publication of his or her research and other appropriate steps in engaging in academic discourse and in career development.
- Make arrangements for replacement in consultation with DTLPG in the event of unavailability for a period exceeding 4 weeks during term-time (for example, illness).
- Provide guidance on preparation of the thesis for submission and on the *viva voce* examination.

Supervisors' Expectations of Students

For a successful student-supervisor relationship, the student must play an active role in the relationship. Students are expected to:

- Be familiar with the content of this *Handbook*, in particularly the regulations pertaining to the annual progress review process, the timeframe for completion and examination, any ethical issues arising from their research and academic honesty (plagiarism).
- Maintain regular contact with their supervisor(s) and be pro-active in scheduling supervision meetings. New students should contact their supervisor during Orientation to schedule at the start of term. In this first meeting, student and supervisor should agree a schedule for future meetings, and discuss preferred modes of communication; how and when feedback will be provided on written work; when documents such as a project outline, will be produced and discussed; and what written record of supervision meetings and arrangements will be kept for future reference.
- Be punctual in attending supervision meetings and seminars and observe set or agreed deadlines for submission of draft chapters, funding applications, progress review materials and other written work to the supervisor(s) and School.
- Complete their annual registration and pay their academic fees by the deadline set by Academic Registry and inform College of changes of address, etc, in a timely fashion.
- Check their TCD email account regularly or ensure that messages sent to their TCD account are forwarded to an account they check regularly.
- Present written work in an appropriate manner well in advance of a supervision meeting. Students and supervisors should agree a schedule for submitting materials that allows the supervisor adequate time to read and reflect on submitted work. A supervisor cannot offer meaningful comment on work that he or she has just received.
- Consult their supervisor(s) on the dissemination of research findings (presentations and publications), career development and teaching commitments.
- Promptly report problems which may affect the progress of their research, whether these are academic (e.g. missing sources or literature, problems with focus or organisation of chapters, training needs) or personal (e.g. illness, depression, family circumstances, financial difficulties).
- Be aware that the guidance provided by the supervisor(s) is of an advisory nature and that, ultimately, the responsibility for the form and content of their thesis and for meeting the degree requirements lies with them.

Although generally graduate student/supervisor relationships develop perfectly satisfactorily, problems do sometimes arise. The College Calendar states:

Complaints about the adequacy of supervision should normally be made first to the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate). If the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) is unable to resolve the problem, or where the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) is the Supervisor, the student should contact the Dean of Graduate Studies. Where the Dean of Graduate Studies is also the Supervisor, the student should consult the Dean of his/her Faculty. The Faculty Dean should then follow the procedure outlined above. The Dean of Graduate Studies, or if appropriate the Faculty Dean, should first attempt to resolve the issue by consultation with the persons immediately involved. If this fails, the student may make a formal complaint in writing to

the Dean of Graduate Studies. Complaints about the adequacy of supervision will not be entertained once a thesis has been presented for examination.

The DTLPG is always available to discuss the progress of your academic work in confidence, but s/he should not be expected to read your work-in-progress except as part of the Confirmation process.

Structured PhD

The Higher Education Authority stipulates that all PhD students in Irish universities must complete a structured PhD programme. This means that PhD students need to acquire a number of ECTS credits for coursework as well as completing a thesis. For more information on ECTS credits, see:

<https://www.tcd.ie/undergraduate-studies/general-regulations/ects.php>.

From 2018, Trinity College Dublin requires all postgraduate research students to complete a module in Research Ethics as part of their structured PhD programme. Details about this should be provided when you register. As a School of English student, additionally, **you must earn a minimum of 10 ECTS credits over the first 18 months of your registration**. At the other end of the spectrum, you may earn a maximum of 30 ECTS credits in the first 18 months and 60 over the course of your PhD; however, it is likely that most students will prefer to concentrate on their thesis.

ECTS credits may be earned through the completion of modules co-ordinated by the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate). The School has endeavoured to offer modules that will be as useful as possible for both those interested in pursuing an academic career and those who seek employment outside the academy. **Modules must be selected in consultation with your supervisor who should inform the DTLPG of your choices**. It is your responsibility to ensure that the DTLPG is informed of those modules you have completed so that your record can be updated. Please see details of the various options below.

Planning & Managing your Research & your Career (5 ECTS)

A variety of workshops from the **Planning and Managing Your Research and Your Career** module for **research PhD students** in all disciplines will be delivered by Student Learning Development and the Careers Advisory Service over the course of the academic year. The module is structured as follows:

Part I: Student Learning Development and Careers Advisory Service Sessions

This part of the module includes attendance at experiential workshops, self-study, and practical assessments directly related to planning and managing the individual student's research and career.

Workshops generally take place in 7-9 South Leinster Street and include:

- Planning & Time Management
- Career Planning
- Effective Teamwork
- Developing Critical Writing
- Stress Management
- Effective Presentation Skills
- Thesis Writing
- Process Planning
- Thesis Production
- CV Preparation
- Interview Skills
- Networking
- Viva & Oral Defence Preparation

Part II: Information Systems Services Computer Training

This part of the module consists of attending IS Services training courses on:

- Planning Thesis Production
- Effective Presentations Using Powerpoint
- Photoshop for Conference Posters

More information on the workshop schedule can be found here:

<http://www.tcd.ie/Careers/students/postgraduate/research/#PMRC>

INNOVATION ACADEMY MODULES (5-10 ECTS; 3-week programme)

The Innovation Academy is an exciting intellectual space that promotes creativity and innovative thinking in postgraduate students. Our cohort is drawn from a community of PhD researchers, engaged in scholarship within and across disciplines, in areas of societal, cultural and economic relevance for Ireland and globally.

The core module here is Creative Thinking and Innovation (10 ECTS). It is a pre-requisite for all other modules and it can lead toward a Postgraduate Certificate in Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

More information is available here:

<https://www.tcd.ie/innovation/education/innovation-academy/>

MPhil MODULES (10-15 ECTS; 1 semester)

A number of MPhil programmes in the Schools of English, Histories and Humanities, and Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies have limited spaces for PhD candidates. Modules should be related to your doctoral thesis and **must be approved by your supervisor**. Modules may also be available from the Schools of History and Humanities and

Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies. As spaces for PhD students on each module are limited, you will have priority for those modules within the School:

MPhil in Children's Literature (Dr Jane Carroll)

EN7117: Material Culture in Children's Literature (HT) 15 ECTS

EN7027: The Victorian Child (MT) 15 ECTS

EN7119: Agency and Empowerment in Literature for Young Adults (HT) 15 ECTS

MPhil in Irish Writing (Prof Eve Patten)

EN7057: Single Author (Swift, Yeats, Joyce, Beckett) (MT/HT) 5 ECTS¹

EN7089: Writing the Troubles (MT) 10 ECTS

EN7090: Big House Literature (MT) 10 ECTS

EN7098: Irish Poetry after Yeats (HT) 10 ECTS

EN7003: Ireland on Stage (HT) 10 ECTS

If you wish to take any of the modules listed above, please contact the relevant MPhil Director (after consultation with your supervisor).

In 2018-19, 2 places on the following modules offered by the School of Creative Arts will be available to research students from the School of English:

DR7025 Strategies of Performance Analysis 1 (M.Phil. in Theatre and Performance) (MT)

FS7026 Strategies of Performance Analysis 2 (M.Phil. in Theatre and Performance) (HT)

FS7022 Cinema and Ireland (M.Phil. in Film Studies: Theory, History, Practice) (HT)

FS7037 Digital Media and Culture (M.Phil. in Film Studies: Theory, History, Practice) (HT)

If you are interested in taking any of these modules, contact Dr Paula Quigley:

pquigley@tcd.ie.

For modules in the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, please contact Prof Justin Doherty: jdoherly@tcd.ie. A list of available modules can be seen here:

https://www.tcd.ie/langs-lits-cultures/postgraduate/postgraduate_modules.php

For modules in the School of Histories and Humanities, please contact Dr Ashley Clements: clementa@tcd.ie. You can also email histhum@tcd.ie

A number of modules on the MPhil in Gender and Women's Studies programme may also be available to students through the Centre for Gender and Women's Studies. Contact Dr Catherine Lawless (lawlessc@tcd.ie) for more information.

EN8010

EDITORIAL PRACTICE (5 ECTS)

Editing has long been a core strength of the School of English and it is an essential skill for any graduate student in English, whether in relation to preparing their own work for publication or in teaching other students. It is however not widely taught as such and is

¹ Doctoral students will be able to take this module on a partial basis, that is, complete the seminar series and required course work related to just one of the four authors.

best learned in practice. This module is conceived as an opportunity for research students to practise editing on a major publication under the individual supervision of senior academics. Students undertaking this module will have the opportunity to contribute to significant editing projects then ongoing in the School. For example, they may be asked to copyedit submissions to a collection of essays in conformity with the house-style of a major academic publisher and to negotiate with contributors on the copyedited texts. They may also be given the responsibility for securing publishable versions of any illustrations required, securing the necessary permissions. They may be asked to prepare manuscript material for publication, work which might involve transcription and the development of appropriate editorial principles for that edition. The module will involve 4 hours per week through the four months of the module. Module availability is conditional on suitable projects being undertaken in the School, the scheduling of which may vary from year to year; for this reason, the module may not be available every year. *In 2018-19, it is planned that descriptions of suitable projects will be circulated in December 2018.*

Extensions and going ‘Off Books’

Graduate students on the research register must inform their Supervisor as soon as possible if they are incapacitated by illness or other grave cause and unable to undertake their agreed research programme. If, following consultation with the Supervisor, the illness is deemed to be of significant duration or severity to impede the graduate student’s progress, medical certificates should be provided by the Supervisor to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

In special circumstances, a graduate student may be allowed “off-books” (off the register). Application should be made by the student’s Supervisor to the Dean of Graduate Studies and must have a strong recommendation from the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate). In exceptional circumstances this period may be extended for a second year with the agreement of the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Grounds for an off books request can be academic (e.g., internship), medical (serious illness) or *ad misericordiam* (compassionate). This last category is purposely broad but in practice its coverage is quite clearly defined by College policy. Family-related problems often qualify but financial difficulties normally do not. Please consult with the Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) before submitting an *ad misericordiam* request.

Going off books has practical consequences. The visas of non-EU students are usually dependent on being registered as a full-time student. Grants and awards are usually frozen or withdrawn when a student goes off books. Students who are off-books will not have a student card during this period and will not have access to College facilities, including the library (bare access can be arranged but borrowing is impossible).

Students can be taken off books from 1 March and 1 September, and no other dates, for 6 or 12 months, depending on circumstances and evidence; in some cases this period may be extended for a 2nd year. If a student is unable to return after 2 years, s/he is normally made withdrawn (with the possibility of re-admission in the future).

The maximum period before submission of a thesis for students on the full-time MLitt and the full-time PhD register are two and four years respectively. An extension of the period within which the thesis can be presented may be obtained by application to the Dean of Graduate Studies by the student's Supervisor and must have a strong recommendation from the DTLPG.

Requests for extensions must be submitted before the period on the higher degrees register has expired. In cases where a request for an extension is not made before expiry of the normal time on the higher degree register, a replacement fee will be charged, in addition to the continuation fee, if an extension is granted.

Thesis Submission guidelines

In planning for completion, please familiarise yourself with the thesis submission regulations at www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies/currentstudents/admin/thesisregs, which should be followed strictly. Note that there are two versions of this document, one for students who started their degree before September 2009 and one for students who started in September 2009 or later. Both summarise the more detailed provisions regarding the submission of theses in the *Calendar*, Part 3, covering matters such as language, length, formatting, referencing, illustrations, title, declaration, acknowledgements, summary, abstract, access, etc.

- Bear in mind that the physical production of a thesis almost invariably takes longer and is far more stressful than expected. Helpers disappear, files get corrupted, pagination goes awry, tables are misplaced or incorrectly labelled, and references mysteriously disappear. When these substantive problems are addressed, the work still has to be printed out and bound. So give yourself time, because a badly presented thesis – whether the problem be inconsistent referencing, or poor editing, or missing pages, or fuzzy images, or whatever – creates a bad impression which may influence the judgement of examiners about the substantive merits of the work.
- The submission of a thesis is at the discretion of the student, who is **strongly advised**, but not required, to seek the agreement of his/her supervisor(s). Students must be registered in order to submit.
- The submission deadline for all research theses is **31 August/30 March**.
- If a student is unable to submit by the (extended) deadline, the supervisor must contact the Director of Teaching and Learning *before* the deadline to discuss the student's progress and prospects.

PhD examination

In the last stages of the PhD, and in consultation with the student, the supervisor will suggest a PhD examiner – a specialist in the field of study from outside the College – who will then be approached formally by the Graduate Studies Office. The *viva voce* examination will be conducted by the external examiner, an internal examiner from the School of English, and will be chaired by the DTLPG or their proxy. *Viva* examinations will normally take place within 8 weeks of the examiners receiving the thesis.

- The examination of a PhD comprises the writing of a thesis *and* satisfactory performance in a *viva voce* examination. All students should be prepared to defend their thesis robustly in the *viva*.
- The examination of an MLitt thesis does not include a *viva* unless examiners propose either failure or referral of the thesis for major revision; in this case a *viva* is obligatory.
- Examiners of a PhD thesis can propose that (i) the degree be awarded for the thesis as it stands, (ii) the degree be awarded for the thesis subject to minor corrections; (iii) the thesis be referred for major revision and subsequent re-examination; (iv) a lower degree be awarded, if necessary following minor corrections; or (v) the thesis be failed. Examiners of an MLitt thesis can propose (i)-(iii) and (v) but not (iv).
- The supervisor should not be involved in the examination procedure, but he or she may, if the student requests, attend the *viva* as an observer, without taking part in discussions or deliberations. Such requests should be carefully considered and submitted to the Director of Teaching and Learning well in advance of the *viva* in order to allow communication with the examiners.
- Nearly always *some* revisions or corrections to the thesis are requested by the examiners. You will receive written notice of these in due course but may expect to be given their general gist at the end of the *viva*. Any revisions required by examiners are not for negotiation but must be carried out as stipulated and without exception.
- If your thesis has been passed subject to 'minor corrections' (typically with 2 months to make them) your point of contact is the internal examiner. The internal examiner will answer queries about the changes the examiners require and offer guidance on how to approach these changes, but you should not expect her/him to provide detailed feedback on revisions and redrafts. If upon resubmission of the complete revised thesis to the internal examiner, s/he is satisfied that all required corrections have been made, s/he will send a notification to Graduate Studies to recommend award of the degree. When this notice has been sent, you may produce and submit the final, hardbound copies of your thesis.
- If your thesis is referred for major revision, re-examination is required (without a second *viva*) and you must re-register and pay a fee for a revision period of, normally, 6 months. A thesis can only be referred once. If your thesis has been referred, the internal examiner (who will in due course be asked to re-examine your thesis) cannot play a role in the revision process beyond clarifying the examiners' requirements. You may expect limited guidance from your supervisor while revising. This guidance would include advice on how to approach the task and feedback on completed revisions but not detailed engagement with rough, partial or repeated redrafts.

Teaching in the School of English

Many research students also work as Teaching Assistants for Fresher tutorials in the School of English. This is an important opportunity for graduate students to gain teaching experience, and the TAs play a very significant part in the intellectual life of the School. Teaching Assistantships are organized by the Head of Discipline, who will write to all eligible graduate students for expressions of interest. At the beginning of each academic year, the School will run an induction session to address the intellectual, pedagogical, and practical issues which present themselves to all TAs. There will also be a subsequent session on marking. Senior graduate students often have the opportunity to teach beyond

Fresher tutorials, and can give lectures, Sophister seminars, and occasionally MPhil seminars.

Students in their first year of graduate research are not permitted to work as TAs in the School. Eligibility for TA status is dependent on: 1) a satisfactory Year 1 progress report; 2) an email of support from the supervisor to the Head of Discipline; 3) attendance of **all** sessions relating to teaching organised by the Head of Discipline.

Though it is sporadic, TA work can often be an important source of income for graduate students. As a capital city with a number of third-level institutions, Dublin offers much opportunity for graduate teaching experience. UCD, NUI Maynooth, Dublin City University, St Patrick's College, IADT Dun Laoghaire, Dublin Business School, and other third-level institutions are often on the lookout for TAs. **It is important, however, that you balance the time taken up by TA work with the time you have to give to your own research.**

School graduate workshops

A number of academic skills workshops will normally be organised in the course of the academic year within the School. Research students should attend these workshops as relevant to their needs and progression. Topics may include: Introduction to Digital Humanities; Publishing; Applying for Postdocs; Careers and the Academic Job Market.

Staff-Postgraduate Seminar 2018-19

The Staff-Postgraduate Seminar Series has been integral to the School of English research community since the 1990s. The aim of the seminar series is to provide a relaxed and convivial atmosphere for staff and students to present their research to their peers. The series also welcomes distinguished guest lecturers from the academic community outside Trinity College to present on their work. It is a fantastic opportunity to share ideas and engage with the diverse research taking place within the School. Students may present 20-minute papers on any aspect of their research, while staff members and guest speakers are invited to contribute 40-minute papers. A Call for Papers is published before each term inviting interested participants to submit a 200-word abstract outlining their proposed paper. The series conveners for the academic year 2018-19 are current PhD students Dearbhaile Houston, Moonyoung Hong, and Joseph Torres.

The seminars will take place every second Thursday at 5pm throughout the teaching term. The Michaelmas Term 2018 programme will commence on Thursday 20th September 2018. For any queries regarding the series please contact: staffpostgradss2018@gmail.com.

Further information about the series, CFP deadlines, and programmes can be found at the following links:

Blog: <https://staffpostgraduate18.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TCD-Staff-Postgraduate-Seminars-158156061745/>

Twitter: [@SeminarsTCD2018](https://twitter.com/SeminarsTCD2018)

Further information is also available here: <https://www.tcd.ie/English/research/post-grad-seminar.php>

What comes next?

It is likely that most of you will want third-level academic careers. This is by no means a certain outcome to postgraduate study, though the School of English has an excellent track-record of appointments for its PhD graduates at universities and colleges throughout the world. Job prospects for recent PhDs can sometimes seem grim but this can often be countered by a combination of persistence and flexibility and by a knowledge of what is required for academic jobs. Keep your CV updated, write the best letter of application that you can (but make sure to adapt it to the needs of each specific post for which you are applying – CAPSL can help with CVs and letters), and grow a very thick skin, as you are likely to get a large number of rejections. You should check www.publicjobs.ie, the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, the *Guardian*, and www.jobs.ac.uk regularly for job adverts. Employers will be looking for a combination of teaching experience, publication, conference presentation, the potential to generate external funding, and administrative skills **although a track record or promise of high quality research publication is the most important criterion.**

It is almost certain that any academic job you get will be a temporary contract in the first instance, often as little as 6 or 9 months. People can sometimes move through a number of these before securing permanent employment. Being tied to one place, or even one country, can be a great impediment to finding academic work as the job-market is a global one. Remember that jobs aren't life-sentences, and that it is easier to plan a career from a position of financial and institutional security. Permanent jobs in Ireland and the UK will almost invariably require a book, or at least a book contract. You should certainly be looking to turn your dissertation into a book within a couple of years of graduating. In the US the book is not a pre-requisite (and indeed can be a hindrance) to gaining a tenure-track position. Advice on the differences between these job markets will be given by the School.

Increasingly, postdoctoral fellowships are providing a point of entry into academic careers, allowing researchers the time, and the institutional and financial resources, to develop their PhD research into publishable form, or to pursue new projects stemming from this research. Postdoctoral fellowships can be obtained from funding sources such as the Irish Research Council, and can also be sponsored by specific institutions, in which case they will be advertised in the media.

In conjunction with the Careers Office, the School organizes a session on academic and non-academic careers every year. Advice on presenting your PhD qualification in the best light to non-academic employers as well as on applying for academic positions in Europe and further afield will be offered. Another useful resource is the recently formed Irish Humanities Alliance which runs events and lectures to promote the importance of humanities teaching and research: <http://irishhumanities.com/>.

In addition to the above resources, in 2017 the Careers Advisory Service launched a new online career management system called **MyCareer**. Further information can be found here: <http://www.tcd.ie/Careers/academics/MyCareer-Trinity.php>

MyCareer is provided by the Careers Advisory Service for Trinity staff and community to:

- View vacancies, competitions and employers
- Search postgraduate courses and funding
- View employer and Careers Advisory Service events
- Submit your queries to the CAS team

It also facilitates:

- Students to book an appointment with a Careers Consultant, search vacancies and employers, postgraduate courses and funding and book onto events with employers and the Careers Advisory Service
- Graduates to connect with the Trinity Careers Advisory Service to search vacancies and employers, postgraduate courses and funding and view events with employers and the Careers Advisory Service
- Employers to advertise vacancies, view and book on to events and raise their visibility with the Trinity community.
- Postgraduate providers to advertise courses and funding opportunities.

Queries about MyCareer can be addressed to Orlaith Tunney in the Careers Advisory Service: orlaith.tunney@tcd.ie

See also: www.tcd.ie/careers/events

Staff of the School of English 2018-19

Dr Julie Bates	Assistant Professor; Coordinator Evening Lecture Series MT 2018	batesju@tcd.ie	C.6.009 Arts building
Dr Jane Carroll	Assistant Professor; Co-Director M.Phil in Children's Literature	jane.carroll@tcd.ie	Room 4002
Dr Clare Clarke	Assistant Professor	clare.clarke@tcd.ie	Room 4004
Harry Clifton	Adjunct Assistant Professor	cliftonh@tcd.ie	Oscar Wilde Centre
Dr Philip Coleman	Associate Professor; Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate)	philip.coleman@tcd.ie	Room 4020
Dr Paul Delaney	Associate Professor; Head of Discipline	delanep@tcd.ie	Room 4025
Prof Aileen Douglas	Professor; Head of School	adouglas@tcd.ie	Room 4016
Dr Mark Faulkner	Assistant Professor; Erasmus Students (incoming)	faulknem@tcd.ie	Room 4026
Carlo Gébler	Adjunct Assistant Professor		Oscar Wilde Centre
Dr Alice Jorgensen	Assistant Professor; Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate)	jorgena@tcd.ie	Room 4006
Professor Darryl Jones	Dean of Faculty; on sabbatical from School duties 2018-19	drjones@tcd.ie	Room 4014
Dr Jarlath Killeen	Associate Professor; Academic Liaison Officer	killeej@tcd.ie	Room 4005
Dr Rosie Lavan	Assistant Professor; Literary Arts Officer	lavanro@tcd.ie	Room 4079
Deirdre Madden	Assistant Professor; Director, MPhil in Creative Writing	dmadden@tcd.ie	Room 3160
Professor Stephen Matterson	Professor; Director of TSM	smtrson@tcd.ie	Room 4008
Professor Chris Morash	Seamus Heaney Professor; on sabbatical from School duties 2018-19	morashc@tcd.ie	

School of English Postgraduate Student Handbook 2018-19

Prof Andy Murphy	1867 Professor of English	andrew.murphy@tcd.ie	Room 4007
Dr Bernice Murphy	Assistant Professor; Head of Sophisters	murphb12@tcd.ie	Room 4010
Dr Brendan O'Connell	Assistant Professor; Director of MPhil Medieval Language, Literature and Culture; MPhil. Co-ordinator	conneb2@tcd.ie	Room 4039
Dr David O'Shaughnessy	Associate Professor; On Research Leave	doshaug@tcd.ie	Room 5090
Dr Melanie Otto	Assistant Professor; Erasmus Students (outgoing)	ottom@tcd.ie	Room 4009
Prof Eve Patten	Professor; Director MPhil in Irish Writing; Director, Oscar Wilde Centre; Director of Research MT 2018	epatten@tcd.ie	Room 4023
Dr Kevin Power	Assistant Professor of Literary Practice	powerk9@tcd.ie	Oscar Wilde Centre
Dr Amy Prendergast	Teaching Fellow	amprende@tcd.ie	Room 5009
Dr Björn Quiring	Assistant Professor; Acting Head of Freshers (HT 2019)	quiringb@tcd.ie	Room 4021
Dr Sam Slote	Associate Professor; Director of Research; On leave MT 2018	slotes@tcd.ie	Room 4022
Dr Mark Sweetnam	Assistant Professor; Head of Freshers (On Leave HT 2019)	sweetnms@tcd.ie	Room 4110
Dr Ema Vyroubalová	Assistant Professor; Co-ordinator Evening Lectures HT	vyroubae@tcd.ie	Room 4002
Dr Tom Walker	Assistant Professor; Director of Professional Development	walkerto@tcd.ie	Room 4016
Dr Pádraic Whyte	Associate Professor; Broad Curriculum Coordinator	whytepa@tcd.ie	Room 4083

Staff research and supervision interests

Dr Julie Bates: Twentieth and twenty-first century European literature, culture and visual art; Samuel Beckett; Irish writing; experimental forms; intermediality.

Dr Jane Carroll: Children's literature, landscape, visual texts, fantasy literature, material culture in children's literature, archives and children's literature collections.

Dr Clare Clarke: Victorian popular literature; crime and detective fiction and film; late-Victorian literature and culture; nineteenth-century newspaper and periodical culture.

Dr Philip Coleman: Chiefly interested in US American literature, especially poetry and short fiction, with recent and current projects on John Berryman and George Saunders. Also interested in contemporary poetry, modernism, and the relationship between literature and philosophy. Interested in supervising in these and related areas.

Dr Paul Delaney: 20th century Irish literature, especially contemporary fiction and the short story; Daniel Corkery and the Irish Ireland movement; postcolonial theory and Irish Studies; issues of marginality and the minor in Irish writing.

Dr Aileen Douglas: Print culture, especially the history of writing; eighteenth-century writing; contemporary Scottish fiction and working-class fiction.

Dr Mark Faulkner: Old and Middle English language and literature, especially late Old English and early Middle English; manuscript studies; translation; history of the English Language.

Professor Darryl Jones: Popular Literature; Horror fiction and film; Jane Austen; mass death and catastrophe fiction. *Other interests:* Victorian and Edwardian adventure fiction; ideas of Britishness in popular culture.

Dr Alice Jorgensen: Old English poetry and prose, especially Ælfric and late poetry; history of emotions, especially shame; the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle; women and gender; representations of violence; Vikings.

Dr Jarlath Killeen: *Primary Interests:* Victorian Literature; Oscar Wilde; the Gothic (particularly Irish Gothic); Children's Literature; the relationship between religion and literature. *Other Interests:* eighteenth-century Irish literature; the popular romance and chick-lit.

Dr Rosie Lavan: Twentieth-century Irish and British literature and culture; Seamus Heaney and his contexts; literature and the media; life-writing; poetic form.

Professor Stephen Matterson: 19th and 20th century American literature generally. I'm especially interested in poetry, literature and race, literary nationalism, and the writings of Herman Melville. Interested in supervising in most areas of American Literature, and in modern and contemporary poetry.

Prof Andy Murphy My areas of specialism are primarily in the fields of Shakespeare Studies and Irish Studies. I have a particular interest in Shakespeare publishing, editing and reception and in book history more generally. In terms of Irish studies, I am interested in the history and politics of culture and, more specifically, in the relationship between culture and national identity.

Dr Bernice Murphy: *Primary research interests:* representations of American Suburbia in horror and the gothic; the work of Shirley Jackson; American horror in film and fiction, Twentieth Century

Gothic Fiction and Popular Fiction generally. *Secondary interests include:* Science Fiction, Graphic Novels and Comic Books, Asian and European Horror Films, the cultural contexts of 1950s America, and gothic and horror themed television shows.

Dr Brendan O'Connell: Fourteenth- and fifteenth-century poetry, particularly the works of Chaucer, Gower and the 'Gawain'-poet.

Dr Melanie Otto: Any area of postcolonial writing, in particular Caribbean literature, literatures of the Americas, and New Zealand writing; interdisciplinary projects, particularly those involving the visual arts.

Dr David O'Shaughnessy: Eighteenth-century theatre; eighteenth-century Irish diaspora; William Godwin and his circle; radical culture of the 1790s; censorship; the Enlightenment.

Prof Eve Patten: Research interests in nineteenth-century Irish cultural history and twentieth-century British and Irish fiction.

Dr Amy Prendergast: Eighteenth-century and Romantic Irish writing, especially by women; Irish and British literary networks and associational life; Franco-Irish connections; life writing in Ireland.

Dr Kevin Power: Creative writing (practice and pedagogy), with an emphasis on prose fiction; politics in 20th and 21st century American literature and film; contemporary Irish fiction; science fiction.

Dr Björn Quiring: *Primary interests:* poetics of law and literature; early modern English literature, especially William Shakespeare and John Milton; literary theory in its relation to philosophy, particularly Walter Benjamin, Hans Blumenberg, Gilles Deleuze and William Empson. *Secondary interests:* William Wordsworth; James Joyce; literature of horror and the fantastic.

Dr Sam Slote: *Primary Interests:* Joyce, Beckett, theory, genetic criticism, Modernism/Post Modernism. *Other interests:* the interface between literature and philosophy; literature and science, Pynchon, Nabokov.

Dr Mark Sweetnam: Digital Humanities, digital textual editing, seventeenth century literature, with a focus on the literature of the Reformation and early-modern science, millennialism and the cultures of evangelicalism.

Dr Ema Vyroubalová: Early modern literature, especially drama; early modern women writers; Shakespeare on film; travel narrative; translation studies.

Dr Tom Walker: Twentieth-century Irish writing and cultural history (especially poetry); art writing; literature on the radio; allusion.

Dr Pádraic Whyte: Children's Literature; Childhood and Literature; Queer Literatures; Myth; Masculinities; and Children's Literature Collections

Funding

There are a number of funding opportunities available to incoming research students, but it must be acknowledged that these are scarce and highly competitive. In recent years, however, students in the School of English have found the following sources useful:

Ussher Awards

These Awards are granted to exceptionally well-qualified candidates of outstanding promise intending and permitted to register on year one for a higher degree of PhD in the University of Dublin. They are open to competition by graduates of any nationality, for research in any branch of learning in the College (subject to availability of resources and competent supervision in the chosen area). The Awards are for a three-year period of research on the PhD register. They cover annual fees and provide a maintenance grant of approx. €16,000 per annum. New entrants to the research register are not required to complete a separate Award application form. A section on the research application form must be completed in order to be considered for an Award. For further information see: <https://www.tcd.ie/study/international/scholarships/Postgraduate/ussheer.php>.

Irish Research Council

The IRC runs an annual competition for doctoral students. These awards are the most substantial funding available to PhD candidates. **Students should note that awards are regularly made to applicants who have previously been unsuccessful.** The competition is advertised usually in the autumn of every year. Students should keep an eye on the IRC website: <http://www.research.ie/>. The Trinity Long Room Hub runs information session related to this competition.

Local Authority (Higher Education) Grants

Grant holders who complete a primary degree course may have the grant renewed in order to undertake a full-time postgraduate course. The grant, which covers fees and possibly a contribution to subsistence, may be renewed in subsequent years but is limited to one postgraduate degree or diploma course for each student.

A mature candidate (23 years of age on 1 January of year of entry to postgraduate study) may be eligible for a Local Authority grant on the basis of parents' income if ordinarily resident with parents or on the basis of own income if resident away from home. Details of income limits for eligibility are available from Local Authorities (Higher Education Service).

More information may be found here:

http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fees_and_supports_for_third_level_education/

Provost's Postgraduate Scholarship Awards

These awards are made to individual members of academic staff who serve as Principle Investigators (PIs) on projects for which funding is provided to hire full-time postgraduate researchers. Students interested in discussing specific research projects, for which members of the School of English might serve as suitable PIs, should contact individual staff members where appropriate. A full listing of the School's staff members and their research interests is given here: <https://www.tcd.ie/English/staff/>.

Further advice:

The Higher Education Authority offers advice on funding on its website:

<http://www.studentfinance.ie/>

Research trips and conference attendance

Limited funding from the School and from the College is available for research trips outside Dublin and conference attendance. *These are normally only available to students who have gone through the confirmation process.* Applicants will only be supported by the College should there be some matching funding from the School. The School will only support conference trips where the student is presenting a paper. Applicants should apply to the School two weeks in advance of the Graduate Studies Office deadlines listed below:

Travel in the Quarter: Deadline:

15 September – 14 December Deadline for applications is 1 September

15 December – 14 March Deadline for applications is 1 December

15 March – 14 June Deadline for applications is 1 March

15 June – 14 September Deadline for applications is 2 June

Dates subject to change. Please check the GSO website for latest dates:

https://www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies/students/funding/travel-grants/

Applicants should submit the following material to the Head of School: 1) rationale for attendance (500 words); 2) abstract of paper; 3) estimated costs. They should ask their supervisor to send an email of support to the Head of School. Funds are limited so preference will be given to first-time applicants. Applicants will be supported to the value of 20% of the estimated costs in the first instance; if the matching funding from the Graduate Studies Office is not forthcoming, it may be possible that further funding will be offered.

JOHN SCATTERGOOD TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP

This annual award was established by John Scattergood, Professor of Medieval and Renaissance Literature 1980- 2006. It is designed to enable postgraduate students of English specialising in the period before 1550 to travel to libraries and archives in Europe to advance their research. Preference will be given to those needing to access primary materials – manuscripts and early printed books. Applicants will be expected to give a detailed written statement of the object of their research and successful candidates will be required to submit, on their return, a brief account of the outcome of their visits. No Student may avail of this scholarship more than once. Value 1000 euro, but the scholarship may be divided. Applications should be made before 1 February for use of the scholarship within the calendar year. This will be assessed by the Head of the School of English and two people teaching in the period before 1550.

In addition to a detailed written statement of the object of their researches, applicants will be asked to provide an estimated breakdown of costs. Applications and queries should be directed to Dr Brendan O’Connell (conneb2@tcd.ie).

THE CHAUCER SCHOLARSHIP

This annual award was established by John Scattergood, Professor of Medieval and Renaissance Literature in the School of English 1980-2006. It is designed primarily for postgraduate students of English, but is open to students from other schools also. Its aim is to facilitate research on Geoffrey Chaucer or his contemporaries and may be used for the acquisition of materials, visits to libraries and archives and attendance at relevant conferences. Applicants will be expected to give a detailed written statement of the object of their researches and successful candidates will be required to submit, on the completion of their researches, a brief account of their use of the scholarship. No student may avail of this scholarship more than once. Value 500 euro. Applications should be made before 1 February for use of the scholarship within the calendar year. They will be assessed by the Head of the School of English and two people teaching in the period before 1450.

In addition to a detailed written statement of the object of their researches, applicants will be asked to provide an estimated breakdown of costs. Applications and queries should be directed to Dr Brendan O’Connell (conneb2@tcd.ie).

Publication and conferences

In order to get a job you will be expected to publish your research. For early career scholars, one of the best ways of doing this is through the volumes of essays which arise out of conferences. However, these opportunities need to be weighed against the more valuable (in terms of your employability) option of submitting more mature research to well regarded peer-reviewed journals. You should be prepared to begin presenting your work at conferences from a fairly early stage. Your supervisor will advise you on conference presentation. Details of forthcoming conferences can often be found on the School of English noticeboard. The most comprehensive international list of upcoming conferences is offered by the University of Pennsylvania where you can sign up for an RSS feed for topics in your field of interest:

<http://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu>

Graduate Students in the School are encouraged to organize conferences themselves, and the School can advise on financial and other assistance for conference organization: contact the Head of School for this. It is often the case that organizing conferences will lead to editing volumes of essays. In the past, the Trinity Foundation and the Provost's Office have given assistance to defray editorial and publishing costs for such volumes, or to cover the costs of inviting international plenary speakers to conferences:

<http://www.tcd.ie/trinityfoundation/index.php>

<http://www.tcd.ie/provost/>

For details of forthcoming conferences in the School, see:

<http://www.tcd.ie/English/events/>

Postdoctoral Opportunities

For Irish postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, the major domestic source of funding is the Irish Research Council: <http://www.research.ie>.

For work in the UK, the British Academy funds postdoctoral fellowships:

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/pdfells.html>.

Also in the UK, the AHRC offers postdoctoral research grants, though these are tied to specific research projects: <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/>.

If you have a degree from a UK institution, you are eligible for the Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships:

<http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/ECF/eligibility.cfm>

You might also want to check the following which may have suitable funding opportunities:

The Fulbright Commission: www.fulbright.co.uk

The Andrew W Mellon Foundation: www.mellon.org

The Carnegie Foundation: <http://www.carnegiefoundation.org>

Once again, persistence is important here. A number of students apply unsuccessfully for funding, but then get funding on subsequent applications.

Useful Information

School of English

<http://www.tcd.ie/English>

Head of School: Professor Aileen Douglas

Room 4016, Arts Building | adouglas@tcd.ie | Ext. 2322 (01-8964023)

Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate): Dr Philip Coleman
Room 4020, Arts Building | philip.coleman@tcd.ie | Ext. 1907 (01-8961907)

Administrator Teaching Assistants: Diane Sadler
Room 4015, Arts Building | sadlerd@tcd.ie | Ext. 1111 (01-8961111)

Administrator M Phil (Irish Writing/Creative Writing)/Oscar Wilde Centre:
Administrator's Office, Oscar Wilde Centre | oscar@tcd.ie | Ext.2885 (01-8962885)

Global and Study Abroad Officer: Julia Maher
julia.maher@tcd.ie

Email

On registration, all graduate students will be issued with a College email address. **The School of English will not correspond with registered students at any other email address.** Important information from the School, for example, about forthcoming events, will be communicated via the College email address. You are expected to check your email regularly.

Noticeboard

Information regarding timetabling will be posted on the noticeboards, which are to be found in the main School of English area (4th floor Arts Building). There will also be items of interest posted on the School's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/tcdenglish>

Telephone numbers

If you are calling from outside College, all extension numbers carry the prefix 896. Thus extension 1878 becomes 8961878, or 01-8961878 from outside Dublin, or 00-353-1-8961878 from outside Ireland.

The Library

The Library has a number of carrels – private desks and lockers – available to postgraduate students only. Priority is given to research students, though MPhil students are also eligible for carrels:

<http://www.tcd.ie/Library/services/carrels.php>

Postgraduates have access to the 24-hour Reading Room in the Ussher Library and have 24-hour access to the 1937 Reading Room. These reading rooms provide you with online access to the library's resources and study facilities.

Graduate Studies Office

http://www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies

The Graduate Studies Office is part of the Academic Registry which is located in the Watts Building.

The Dean of Graduate Studies is Professor Neville Cox. In cases of illness or other unusual circumstances, permission to go Off Books, or to extend periods of registration beyond the normal times, should be sought from the Dean. The request should be made via your research supervisor, or MPhil course director.

Initial queries may be sent to taught.admissions@tcd.ie Ext. 2182 (MPhil students only); and research.admissions@tcd.ie Ext. 2968 (MLitt/PhD students).

Postgraduate Advisory Service

The Postgraduate Advisory Service is a unique and confidential service available to all registered postgraduate students in Trinity College. It offers a comprehensive range of academic, pastoral and professional supports dedicated to enhancing your student experience.

Who?

The Postgraduate Advisory Service is led by the Postgraduate Support Officer who provides frontline support for all Postgraduate students in Trinity. The Postgrad Support Officer will act as your first point of contact and a source of support and guidance regardless of what stage of your Postgrad you're at. In addition each Faculty has three members of Academic staff appointed as Postgraduate Advisors who you can be referred to by the Postgrad Support Officer for extra assistance if needed.

Contact details of the Postgrad Support Officer and the Advisory Panel are available on our website: http://www.tcd.ie/Senior_Tutor/postgraduate/

Where?

The PAS is located on the second floor of House 27. We're open from 8.30 – 4.30, Monday to Friday. Appointments are available from 9am to 4pm.

Phone: 8961417

Email: pgsupp@tcd.ie

What?

The PAS exists to ensure that all Postgrad students have a contact point who they can turn to for support and information on College services and academic issues arising. Representation assistance to Postgrad students is offered in the area of discipline and/ or academic appeals arising out of examinations or thesis submissions, supervisory issues, general information on Postgrad student life and many others. If in doubt, get in touch! All queries will be treated with confidentiality. For more information on what we offer see our website.

College Services

Accommodation Office

<http://www.tcd.ie/accommodation>

West Chapel, Front Square.

Ext. 1177

Email: residences@tcd.ie

College accommodation is extremely limited, and cannot be guaranteed to any student. The Accommodation Office does, however, offer advice on renting, and from August until Freshers' Week offers a service to assist students in finding rented accommodation. A number of property websites in Dublin are worth checking, notably www.daft.ie and www.myhome.ie.

Health Centre

http://www.tcd.ie/College_Health/

The Health Centre is in House 47, behind the Samuel Beckett theatre and adjacent to the rugby pitch.

Ext. 1556, 1591

Student Counselling Service

http://www.tcd.ie/Student_Counselling/

199-200, Pearse St.

Ext. 1407

Email: student-counselling@tcd.ie

Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSL)

<http://www.tcd.ie/CAPSL/>

Ext. 3071

Email: capsl@tcd.ie

CAPSL provides advice to staff and graduate students on academic best practice and career development, and runs a number of programmes and services to assist postgraduate students and Teaching Assistants. These include regular workshops and seminars, and an annual postgraduate conference. CAPSL also helps to set up research and study groups.

Thesis binding

You can get your thesis bound for submission at The Thesis Centre, 65 Lower Camden St, Dublin 2, tel. 01-4753616, email: thesis@indigo.ie.

<http://www.thesiscentre.ie/>

Literary Dublin

Dublin is a city with an extraordinary literary heritage and the School hopes you take full advantage of Trinity's geographical proximity and spiritual links to the literary metropolis. Here are some useful links to web resources that will help you begin to explore some of Dublin's literary avenues.

<http://www.writersmuseum.com/>

News and information from Dublin's Writers Museum.

<http://www.nli.ie/yeats/>

The online version of the National Library of Ireland's Yeats exhibition.

<http://www.marshlibrary.ie/>

Unchanged for three centuries, this perfectly preserved library of the early Enlightenment, with its original oak bookcases, houses more than 25,000 rare and fascinating books.

<http://www.cbl.ie>

Chester Beatty's library has been described as the finest collection of manuscripts and books made by a private collector in the 20th century. It includes representative samples of the world's heritage (artistic, religious and secular) from about 2700 BC to the present century.

<http://www.poetryireland.ie/>

An organization dedicated to developing, supporting and promoting poetry through Ireland.

<http://www.cyphers.ie>

Cyphers was founded in 1975 to publish Irish and international poetry, criticism and, later, fiction.

<http://newdublinpress.org/>

New Dublin Press is an independent publisher, media production house, and performance organiser committed to innovative work across disciplines.

<http://www.stingingfly.org/>

A magazine dedicated to new and emerging writers an opportunity to get their work out into the world.

<http://drb.ie>

The *Dublin Review of Books* publishes essays chiefly in the fields of literature, history, arts, culture and the human sciences on a regular basis.

<http://www.literatureireland.com/>

Literature Ireland, formerly known as Ireland Literature Exchange, promotes Irish writers and writing internationally.

Map of Trinity College Dublin

