



Exciting New PhD Opportunity Clinical Speech & Language Studies

Trinity College Dublin has launched 40 fully funded PhD positions across a wide variety of disciplines. The 40 Provost's PhD Project Awards are **open to EU and Non-EU candidates and include full fee payment for four years and an annual stipend of €16,000**. These doctoral awards are generously funded through alumni donations and Trinity's Commercial Revenue Unit.

My day, my life and me

Supervisor: Dr. Martine Smith

This project is focused on personal stories of individuals whose stories are largely untold: those with significant communication disabilities. Constructing and expressing personal stories is uniquely difficult for this group because the very tools usually used to construct those stories – speech, language and communication – are their key areas of challenge.

The PhD student recruited into this project will contribute to:

1. Establishing a multimodal conceptual framework for personal stories.
2. Field-testing the framework with individuals with severe communication impairments.

Students are free to focus on personal stories of individuals with specific types of communication impairments, and to choose a specific perspective on the role of personal stories and how they can be understood. Possible research questions might focus on how people choose to represent their stories, on the content of stories, the role of personal stories or any other aspect of particular interest. The PhD student will design a programme of research to fit within the larger project, ensuring s/he has full ownership of the thesis topic. A professional qualification in speech and language therapy will be a strong advantage. Candidates are expected to be resident in Dublin for the duration of the PhD.

Informal enquiries should be directed to Dr **Martine Smith** (mmsmith@tcd.ie)
Further information can be found at <https://www.tcd.ie/slscs/news-events/event-articles/phd-scholarships.php>

To apply for a PhD, use
<https://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/research/schools/ling-speech-comm.php>

Closing date for applications: June 5th, 2018.

All applications must be made in the first instance to Dr Smith, by the above closing date (**June 5th, 2018, 12 noon GMT**). The successful candidate selected from these applications must then apply to register as a PhD student through the central portal above. Candidates must meet all requirements for postgraduate students in order to be eligible to register. These requirements include (but are not limited to) evidence of achievement in scholarly activity at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, English language requirements (i.e., minimum of 6.5 IELTS score across all domains), and visa requirements where relevant. Candidates must also successfully complete Garda clearance. Candidates are advised to review the postgraduate prospectus (<https://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/research/az.php>) for more detailed information on applying as a research student.

The application process:

Candidates must submit their application to Dr Martine Smith (mmsmith@tcd.ie). The application must include an in-depth research proposal. This proposal should outline the candidate's main area of interest, setting out the theoretical framework and/or the research question to be explored. Candidates should also demonstrate how this proposal fits with the overall purpose and focus of the project. There is no specified length requirement for the research proposal, but it is anticipated that it would be at least 2,500 words. Candidate should also submit a CV, detailing their experience to date and how this experience has prepared them for PhD study and for the specific focus of this project.

A review committee comprising the project lead, the Director of Postgraduate Teaching and Learning within the School and another senior academic will make the final selection, which may also involve an interview process.

The successful candidate must complete the registration process for the PhD by **June 30th**. There is a **non-refundable charge of €55** for an application to register as a postgraduate student.