

Dissertation

The aim of the dissertation is to develop students' research and writing abilities via a substantial piece of independent work. Further, it aims for learners to demonstrate proficiency in the design of a research paper, application of appropriate research methods or approaches, collection and analysis of data and/or relevant literature, and application of area-specific theories and concepts. Students are expected to formulate their own research question (with the guidance of their supervisors and module leader), to gather and select material to answer their question, and set out their findings in an appropriate academic style in a manuscript of 15,000 to 20,000 words.

These are some of the specific topics our students have explored in their dissertations:

Accessibility

- Multimedia as a method of enhanced learning for individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- Accommodations for witnesses with communication difficulties in criminal proceedings

Ageing and intellectual disability

- Life events affecting mental health of older adults with intellectual disabilities in Ireland (results from the [IDS-TILDA study](#)).

Community living

- Evaluation of individualised support of people with intellectual disability and people with mental health problems living in the community (secondary analysis of the [Evaluation of Individualised Support to people with disabilities transitioning to personalized living arrangements in the community](#) study).
- Exploration of social inclusion and employment of people with intellectual disability and mental health problems.

Education

- Experiences of teachers on the provision of additional support to SLD students in a mainstream secondary schools
- Issues and challenges facing programmes available to adults with intellectual disabilities aimed at supporting the transition beyond secondary education
- Inclusion policy implementation for pupils special educational needs in post-primary regular schools in Zambia

Legislation

- Perspectives of people with intellectual disabilities and staff on mental capacity legislation in Ireland

Literature

- Christy Brown's Depiction of Disability in *My Left Foot and Down All The Days*. A Critical Discourse Analysis

Quality of life

- Quality of life in Irish adults with physical disabilities

Services

- Perceptions of persons with intellectual disability of the person-centred planning process and its outcomes
- Relationship between co-workers and service users in Camphill community