



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

ADULT LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

Open Learning Centre

The Open Learning Centre at the National University of Ireland, Galway develops and delivers accredited programmes in adult training, education, learning and development. Our innovative approach helps to promote an accessible learning environment, allowing programme participants to develop independent learning skills while undertaking recognised university courses.

Programmes are offered from Foundation Diploma (Level 7) to Master of Arts (Level 9) through distance learning.

NUI Galway programmes benefit from partnerships developed with other organisations to design programmes for trainers, consultants, human resource practitioners and those practicing or planning a career as trainers in the educational, industrial, commercial, voluntary and community sectors.

Further Information:

MA Programme Administrator

Open Learning Centre

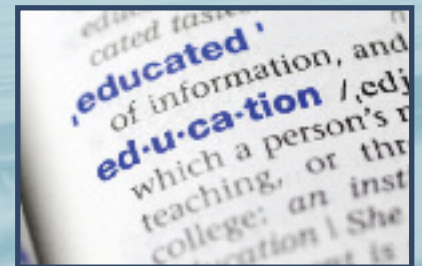
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Postgraduate Diploma
MASTER OF ARTS

Master of Arts in Adult Learning and Development

The Master of Arts Degree in Adult Learning and Development is intended to give training, education and human resource practitioners the opportunity to:

- Extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding of theories underlying adult learning, training, education and development
- Apply critical analysis and problem solving skills in the development of new knowledge and practice to the field of adult learning, training, education and development.
- Contribute to the debate on the role of lifelong learning in the context of international experience, government priorities and in the framework of personal and professional development.

Programme Entry Requirements

1. **Academic:** Candidates must have achieved a minimum of a 2.2 honours degree.
2. **Technological:** Candidates must have computer proficiency and access to the internet.
3. **Experiential:** Candidates must possess a minimum of three years' experience in training and education or other relevant experience.

Candidates for entry may be required to attend for interview prior to being offered a place on the programme. The number of places will be restricted.

Awards and Credits

The Master of Arts in Adult Learning and Development attracts 90 ECTS and is awarded at Level 9 of the National Framework of Qualification (NFQ).

Participants have an exit option on successful completion of 60 ECTS. In such cases participants will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Adult Learning and Development (Level 9 NFQ).

Course Fees

Year 1 – €4,200

Year 2 – €3,700

Application Process

Applications for the MA in Adult Learning and Development may be made online at: www.nuigalway.ie/openlearningcentre

Programme Delivery

This MA in Adult Learning and Development is delivered online over two academic years. Attendance at workshops and tutorials forms an integral part of the programme.

Assessment

Participants are assessed through written assignments, online discussion contributions and learning journal reflections.

MODULES:

Human Resource Development and Training for Work (Credits: 5 ECTS)

Human Resources Development and Training for Work explores human potential in the context of job settings and the scope for diversity in human potential development in the working environment.

Psychology of Learning I (Credits: 10 ECTS)

Psychology of Learning I explores cognitive and behavioural aspects of learning with particular emphasis on adult educational development.

Lifelong Learning: Context and Issues (Credits: 10 ECTS)

Lifelong Learning examines lifelong learning concepts. It explores lifelong learning within the structure of European education and within new themes of learning with particular emphasis on social and community change. It examines the challenges to Irish education in a globalised environment and within a lifelong learning agenda that seeks to expand the possibilities offered by education and learning.

Social Science Research (Credits: 10 ECTS)

Social Science Research explores the principles and skills relating to planning and designing research, reviewing literature and preparing survey strategies. It examines in detail qualitative and quantitative methods of research based on philosophical assumptions and applied to different research questions.

Management of Training and Education (Credits: 5 ECTS)

Management of Training and Education analyses culture and change with particular emphasis on education and training in a variety of organisations.

Educational and Training Technology (Credits: 10 ECTS)

Education and Training Technology focuses on the added value that technologies can bring to education and training. It looks at new technologies and how they can be incorporated into the learning process.

Psychology of Learning II (Credits: 10 ECTS)

Psychology of Learning II explores issues of personality, intelligence and motivation and their impact on learning in an adult context.

Dissertation (Credits: 30 ECTS)

Participants completing the MA in Adult Learning and Development must complete a research based dissertation. The research dissertation must be submitted during the second year of the programme.

NOTE: Modules are subject to change. Modules of equivalent status will be offered when changes are made.