

Máistir Gairmiúil san Oideachas (MGO)

National University of Ireland Galway



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



Today

The Máistir Gairmiúil san Oideachas (MGO) is an Irish language, immersion Initial Teacher Education Programme, at Master level. We are a 1:1 iPad programme since 2013. Our graduates are recognised as ambassadors for technology enhanced learning in schools throughout the country. Many of our graduates are **Apple Distinguished Educators** and **all** are **Apple Teachers** for both iPad and Mac. They are highly sought-after in the sector and we have the highest employment rate of any teacher education programme in Ireland, a recognition of their expertise in using technology to embed best practice in innovative learning and teaching. We were the first ADS outside of the United States in 2016 and have maintained that status to the present day.

Vision

Skills developed on the MGO will in turn shape our graduates' practice, as they employ innovative and transformative mobile and digital pedagogies, strategies and teaching methods which will empower all learners in their future classrooms.



Learning

All our ITE students are content creators.

They have all been assessed creating Education Posters, Videos, Podcasts & Digital Books

100%



Demographics

60 students

5 faculty

Public University

Master level Programme

Apple products and services

1:1 iPad Deployment
(Students)

All staff have personal iPad

All students have access to our Mac Lab

Apple TV in every teaching space for Screen Mirroring

All student teachers receive weekly APL workshops

What's next?

Our student teachers and NQTs are ambassadors of the MGO!

67%

gave staff inservice during their first year of teaching!



Success

The MGO has the highest employment rate of any ITE programme in Ireland

100%



Vision

The MGO's shared vision is to prepare knowledgeable, passionate, innovative and caring teachers who embrace diversity, change and uncertainty, and who ask critical questions about education and schooling.

Our vision is shaped by our values of Respect, Openness, Sustainability and Excellence. A research-led and research-informed practice underpins our approach on the programme. This is fundamental to our belief in the possibilities of technology enhanced learning.

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Learning

Connected - Remote supervision of our students, using video conference streaming with iPad and camera, allows faculty to remain connected to the real world of our students' experience while on school placement (field experience). We have become world leaders in the field of remote supervision and have published academic papers documenting our success in this area. An absolute necessity during COVID times, this is a practice that began years before the pandemic.

Collaborative - A major focus of the programme is to develop our students' capacity to work with

others as part of a team and many of our assessments reflect this belief. One such example is a group assignment to produce multimedia textbooks using Pages. An example of one of these student designed textbooks is available through the BookStore.

Personal - All our student teachers create a digital learning School Placement portfolio, demonstrating their personal journey of learning and achievement. To empower our students and to give them agency, we encourage multimodal evidences of growth and development. These are produced in the form of written reflections, voice memos, video reflections, and visual sketchnotes.

Creative - Our innovative approach to assessment encourages our students to become creators. They share resources they have developed such as podcasts, (created in GarageBand), posters, notes and assessments (created in Pages), numeracy tasks (created in Numbers) as well as audiovisual artefacts (created in iMovie). Many of our graduates have become published authors and share their teaching and learning resources extensively.

Success

The MGO is evaluated yearly, internally by our students and by NUI Galway, and is reaccredited externally by the Teaching Council of Ireland. Evaluations have consistently been 'excellent'.

All of our graduates since 2016 are Apple teachers. Many of our graduates are Apple

Distinguished Educators. In 2015 we established MiTE Conference, (Mobile Technology in Teacher Education), the seminal conference for this area of research, which has been held in Ireland, California and Sydney. We have multiple publications in peer-reviewed international journals, documenting our iPad deployment since 2013. The majority of our graduates are leading technology enhanced learning in their schools and are ambassadors for creativity and innovation in digital learning and teaching, and also ambassadors for the MGO programme.

What's next?

Our priority is to ensure that our deployment is sustainable. Professional development of MGO faculty is key. To that end, all staff have been supported to attain their Apple Teacher Badges. Our Professional Learning Programme supports all faculty and will sustain future capacity. We currently have two Apple Distinguished Educators on our core staff, and hope to have more ADEs in the future. Our next area of innovation is to rekindle our connections with past graduates to develop a community of practice by providing Professional Learning in our Apple Regional Training Centre (Apple RTC na Gaillimhe). This will guarantee that our graduates are up-to-date with the most recent innovations and affordances of Apple Educational Technology.

Supporting documentation

