



School of Geography & Archaeology  
*Scoil na Tíreolaíochta agus na Seandálaíochta*

**MSc in**  
**COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTS**  
*Physical Processes, Policy and Practice*

**Guidelines for Personal Statement**  
(as part of PAC application process)

Submission of a 'Personal Statement' is an essential element of an application to the MSc programme. This is your opportunity to highlight your personal goals and strengths and provide evidence of your level of preparedness for entry to the Masters programme. Your statement should be a maximum of 1000 words in length and address the following:

1. **Relevant aspects of your academic and work experience:** Details over and above the information which is contained in the application form.
2. **Motivation and expectations:** why you wish to pursue a Masters in Coastal and Marine Environments.
3. **Theme for your proposed research:** this is a provisional expression of intent. Here you should include the key issues/concerns/questions which inform your research interest.
4. **The reason of your interest in this research area:** here you could indicate your academic and personal experience to date which inform your research interest in this field.
5. **(Optional) Key literature, scholarship and research in the area:** please identify key theoretical and thematic readings upon which you would expect to draw when undertaking your research.
6. **What you hope to achieve:** what do you anticipate as potential outcomes to your research?

You may wish to make contact with an academic member of staff in Geography whose area of expertise most closely relates to your own proposed area of research. Personal webpages for all staff members, outlining research interests and contact details can be found on the Geography website: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/geography>.

**For further information, please contact:**

Dr Liam M Carr	MSc Programme Coordinator	<a href="mailto:liam.m.carr@nuigalway.ie">liam.m.carr@nuigalway.ie</a>	(+353) 91 49 2314
Dr Kevin Lynch	MSc Programme Director	<a href="mailto:kevin.lynch@nuigalway.ie">kevin.lynch@nuigalway.ie</a>	(+353) 91 49 3557