

Master of Education in School Leadership

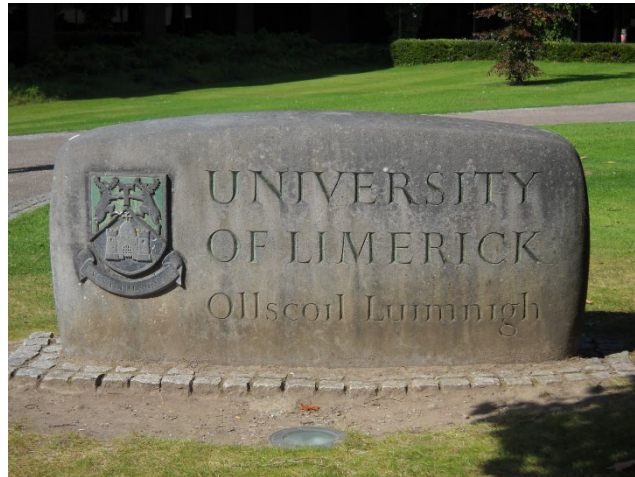


School of Education
Faculty of Education and Health Sciences,
University of Limerick

Masters in School Leadership

The University of Limerick School of Education has developed the Master of Education in School Leadership (MESL) to empower educational leaders in their career and across their lifespan. Students will learn the importance of evidence-based decision making and the role of effective educational leadership research in that process. Students will conduct their own research on a topic relevant to educational leadership. On completion of the programme, students will be awarded their Master of Education in School Leadership. This programme is delivered through blended learning, predominantly involving online/distance learning and occasional in-person meetings.





Key features of the programme include:

- Predominantly online and flexible delivery to cater for work-life balance.
- Students will conduct their own educational leadership research projects under expert supervision.
- Regular feedback and supervisor interaction.

Programme Structure

Spring Semester

January – May

- Advanced Research Methods Module
- Student Research
- Thesis Writing

Summer Semester

May-August

- Student Research
- Thesis Writing

Autumn Semester

May – Mid-November

- Student Research
- Thesis Writing
- Thesis Submission mid-November

Course Learning Outcomes

On completing this course, students will have:

- Engaged critically and analytically with an area of research relevant to school leadership.
 - Designed and conducted scientific inquiry into an aspect of educational leadership.
 - Appraised the practical and academic debates which pertain to educational leadership.
 - Developed an advanced and integrated practical and theoretical understanding of educational leadership.
 - Developed cognitive and technical research skills and be able to research and apply established theories to research in educational leadership.
 - Developed an ability to analyse critically, to reflect upon and to synthesise complex information, problems, concepts, and theories.
 - Demonstrated a clear understanding of the complexity of educational leadership.
 - Utilised research databases and accessed policy documentation to have comprehensive understanding of policy in educational leadership at both national and international levels.
 - Demonstrated intellectual autonomy in the development and dissemination of research.
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- A hand holding a magnifying glass over a green background. The magnifying glass is positioned over the text, highlighting the learning outcomes. The background is a solid light green color.

Student Testimonials



Nicola Snow

*"After graduating from the Post Graduate Diploma in School Leadership (PDSL) I found myself wanting to continue my studies and **UL's Master of Education in School Leadership was the natural choice. The support, guidance and encouragement** of my supervisors coupled with their expert knowledge allowed me to successfully examine aspects of school leadership and **ultimately lead to the publication** of my research in the Societies Journal. The Master of Education in School Leadership was inspiring and transformative and has opened the door to further educational and research possibilities."*

Publication from MESL Research: Snow, N., Hickey, N. Blom, N. O'Mahony, L. and Mannix-McNamara, P. (2021). "An Exploration of Leadership in Post-Primary Schools: The Emergence of Toxic Leadership" Societies 11, no. 2: 54. <https://doi.org/10.3390/soc11020054>



Jemma Lynch

*"Having completed the MESL last year I can honestly say it **was one of the most professionally rewarding endeavours of my career.** Having the opportunity to complete in depth research into the area of Authentic Leadership, under such **supportive guidance and supervision was an incredible experience.** I never aspired to take my research any further, however as a follow on from completing the course an opportunity presented through the University of Limerick to have **my research published. I would highly recommend the MESL** for anyone who wants to conduct Masters level research in the area of school leadership that is personally selected and professionally supported."*

Publication from MESL Research: Lynch J, Daly D, Lafferty N, Mannix McNamara P. The Real Deal: A Qualitative Investigation of Authentic Leadership in Irish Primary School Leaders. Societies. 2022; 12(4):106. <https://doi.org/10.3390/soc12040106>

How you will be taught

Students will be paired with an expert in educational leadership to guide them in their research journeys from the outset and throughout. In the Spring semester, student will complete an Advanced Research Methods module which will be delivered online and consist of both asynchronous and live sessions. This pass/fail module will equip students with the knowledge and capabilities necessary for the completion of their research projects.

Students will be expected to identify a research question, design and develop a research strategy, and lead their research project from start to finish. Students can expect a minimum of five meetings with their supervisor throughout the duration of their research projects to assist them in their research, however, the responsibility for completion of the research project and thesis lies with the student.

Entry Requirements

- Students are required to have a minimum 2.2 in the Postgraduate Diploma in School Leadership (or equivalent).
- Students are expected to have a minimum of 2 years teaching experience.
- The applicant must meet the University's Minimum English Language Requirements for Taught Post Graduate Programmes

Additionally, prospective students should provide an overview of the Educational Leadership Topic/Area (max. 500 words) that they would like to research.

*The University reserves the right to interview an applicant to determine their suitability to undertake the programme of study.

Where to apply?

Apply online at

<https://www.ul.ie/gps/course/school-leadership-masters>

Applications close: 12th of December

Fees

EU - €3,650. Non-EU - €3,650

Postgraduate Admissions Office
Graduate & Professional Education,
ER1-030, Engineering Research Building,
University of Limerick,
Limerick, Ireland
Tel: +353-61-202530
Email: gps@ul.ie
www.ul.ie/gps/

Educational Leadership,
School of Education,
University of Limerick,
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Note: The contents of this brochure are for information purposes only and should not be viewed as the basis of a contract between a student and the University.

No guarantee is given that the programme, syllabus, fees, or regulations may not be altered, cancelled or otherwise amended at any time.

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