



Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences

Proposals for Attracting Non-EU Students

University of Limerick

1. Title of PhD Project

Teaching and promoting innovative assessment in physical education teacher education

2. Supervisor(s) Details

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3. Aims of the Research

The aim is to explore the extent to which physical education teacher education is committed to producing teachers capable of meeting the assessment challenges of physical education in schools.

4. Short Justification/Rationale/Background to the Project

This project will complement the international focus on assessment that emphasizes that effective ongoing assessment is about establishing where students are in their learning, where they are going and how best to get there (i.e., assessment FOR learning). The project aims to provide teacher educators with the opportunity to listen to other teacher educator colleagues on their current assessment practices and support teacher educators to 'workshop' ideas on a teacher education assessment for learning framework.

5. Study Design

The initial sample of post-primary physical education teacher educators will be interviewed. Informed by the responses from this sample of teacher educators a series of workshops, cognizant of current strengths of assessment promotion and weaknesses shared by the teacher educators, will be compiled and delivered to determine how best to compile and enact a teacher education framework for the teaching of 'assessment for learning'. Teacher educators will be interviewed throughout the series of workshops to capture the nuances of considering such a framework across post-primary physical education programmes. A sample of teacher educators will be interviewed at regular intervals as they pursue the enactment of the 'assessment for learning' framework.

6. Participants & Procedures/Methods

A sample of teacher educators attached to the portfolio of teacher education programmes across Ireland will be selected to take part in the study. They will be interviewed at regular intervals as they pursue the enactment of the 'assessment for learning' framework.

7. Data Collection and Analysis

Semi-structured individual interviews and focus groups will be used throughout the project as the method of data collection. Interviews and focus groups will be transcribed and read and re-read until themes are identified. Themes will be organized into coherent categories with thick descriptive inductive and deductive quotations, grouped under the theme headings to help bring meaning to the data. The project team will verify the consistency of the analysis and data organization throughout the analysis process.