

## Structured doctoral study

SPCD responds dynamically to the changes that are taking place in the forms, structures and modes of delivery of doctoral education in Ireland. Doctoral study aims to advance knowledge through original research, delivered in the form of a doctoral dissertation.

However, SPCD recognizes that doctoral training must meet needs outside the academy as well as within it. Doctoral students are required to have a broad and deep mastery of their disciplinary area, but must also plan strategically to enhance their employment prospects across a broad range of sectors.

To support students in achieving both a significant contribution to knowledge in the form of a doctoral dissertation, but also in acquiring transferable skills, SPCD aims to make available structured support for all students, incorporating training in research methodologies and generic skills development opportunities, enabling students to progress their studies and to contribute to the development of Irish society, culture, economy and the Knowledge Society.

SPCD offers flexible, innovative and creative programmes across the disciplines of Humanities and Education, and provides skills training relevant to a careers in academic fields and in wider society.

Students are encouraged to establish with their supervisors the most appropriate educational opportunities to enhance their research, whether in advanced discipline-specific/interdisciplinary elements, research methodologies or generic skills training.