

Funded Practice-Based PhD at NCAD/CONNECT

Query Responses

Is it possible to discuss my proposal with the college before application?

Unfortunately, due to the number of applications, there will not be an opportunity to discuss an individual's proposal in advance of the application process.

There will be further opportunity to develop the proposal through discussion in the interview and initial stages of the project should an application be successful.

Do applicants need to contact potential supervisors?

No, a supervisory team will be selected based on the selected candidate's profile.

Is the opportunity open to international applicants?

Yes

Does the applicant's art practice have to include a technological element/is my practice/education background applicable to the area of study?

As stated in the application, "The research project will examine the types of knowledge that are active throughout technology research, development and adoption as a necessary precursor to the possibility of a self-reflexive, aware and engaged transdisciplinary research environment." - this does not require a specific mode of response. However, as this is an art practice-based research position, the applicant's "equivalent professional achievement and experience" will be assessed in this context.

Is the opportunity available to part-time applicants?

The PhD programme is offered as a full-time programme and there is a strong preference for the programme to operate in this way.

However, if an applicant proposes a part-time project that is exceptionally strong this will be considered.

What is the research topic of the programme - can an applicant propose an alternative proposal?

The project is as broadly described in the "Description" section on the advertisement webpage. In particular these sections help to define the project-

"The PhD project builds on existing fields such as STS (Science and Technology Studies), Institutional Critique, artist-ethnographic research and epistemology to propose that engineering research is not purely a technical process but also one which is embodied,

situated and contextual. It is envisaged that the candidate could approach the project from a wide variety of art practice backgrounds.

The research project will examine the types of knowledge that are active throughout technology research, development and adoption as a necessary precursor to the possibility of a self-reflexive, aware and engaged transdisciplinary research environment.

The project will consider the transdisciplinary research environment of CONNECT as a site of study and take an auto-ethnographic position of researcher/observer within CONNECT, taking CONNECT as research subject whilst also engaging as an active member of the Network Ecologies research teams."

As a PhD project that requires self-directed study, applicants are required to propose how they would approach this project with specific reference to their own artistic practice.

Is the project open to practitioners from any discipline?

Yes. However, as this is an art practice-based research position, applicant's "equivalent professional achievement and experience" in art will be assessed in this context.

What is the time commitment for the study?

The study is a full-time course of study. The first year would require completing a number of structured elements such as research methods course and other relevant subjects depending on the applicant's specific project. Whilst a PhD programme is largely self-directed in terms of the research component the candidate is expected to maintain regular contact with their supervisor and a timetable for this would be developed based on the applicant's projects and progress with their research. Additionally, the candidate is expected to take part in monthly Network Ecologies meetings as part of CONNECT (typically a 2 hour conversation that is scheduled in the evening).

What is the breakdown between practice and theory for the project?

This is a practice-based research project and so the practice component is significant - the breakdown of the relationship between practice and written theory will depend on the applicant's individual project but typically a practice based research project could expect a written component of approx 40,000 words and some significant practice/exhibition outputs.

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