



MAgrSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

Part-time Distance Learning



This is a two-year part time distance learning taught Masters programme for graduates working with farmers in the areas of sales, advisory and education and who wish to continue to work while studying.

This programme equips graduates with the skills and knowledge to become more effective at supporting farmers in developing their farm business, changing behaviour and incorporating innovation at farm level. The programme will be delivered through a blended format (online and classroom based) and will allow students to build their skills for working autonomously, for independent research and in-depth analysis of information.

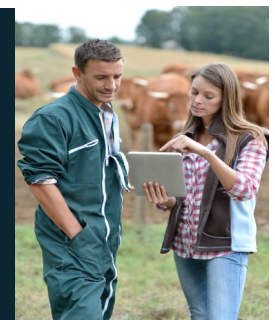
Course Content and Structure

90 Credits of Modules

4 Roundtable Seminars

Two weeks/year in UCD

Two Years



Students will complete 90 academic credits. 40 credits of on-line reflective practice modules, 45 credits of core modules and one additional 5 credit elective module. Students will undertake autonomous research and write a minor thesis on a topic that is relevant to the students current role.

Assignments will be based on real life case studies relating to their professional work environment, reflecting the norms of practice in agricultural consultancy, support, sales and education services. Assignments will be both online group work and individual based.

Reflective Practice Modules	Credits
Agricultural Extension and Innovation	10
The Reflective Agricultural Consultant	7.5
Agricultural Education	7.5
Client/Customer Relationships in Agricultural Work	7.5
Programme and Project Management	7.5
Group Approaches in Agriculture	7.5

Core Modules	Credits
Research Methods 1	5
Research Methods 2	5
Creative Thinking	5
Minor Thesis	30

Students have the option of selecting another 5 credit module which they feel would be useful to them from a number of modules offered in UCD



Entry Requirements:

- Level 8 Honours degree (2.2 minimum or relevant experience)
- Must be working directly with farmers and/or farm families
- Identify a “Mentor” within their organisation (Where self-employed a UCD mentor will be assigned to you)

Cost:

- Subsidised cost per supported student is €3,150 per year (2018/19) (payable to Macra Agricultural Skillnet)
- Fees can be paid by participants where self employed or employer in full or two instalments (Sept & Jan)



Student Profile



Jayne Smyth

Tillage Business Manager

Glanbia Ireland

After graduating from the Sustainable Agriculture programme in DKIT in 2016, I knew that I wanted to work in the agricultural industry. In order to enhance my knowledge and experience further, I decided to undertake the MAgrSc in Agricultural Extension and Innovation.

This programme enables graduates to work full time in the agricultural industry along with completing the course. The course work is very practical and focuses on the working environment. It provided me with the skills and knowledge to be better able to understand and support farmers and get a deeper understanding of their needs, which helped me to become more competent in the workplace.

By undertaking this programme I managed to gain employment with Glanbia Ireland as a Tillage Business Manager. This programme has equipped me with the skillset and the confidence that have enhanced my performance in the organisation. This programme has helped me achieve my life goals both professionally and academically. I would most definitely recommend this programme to anyone who is working or planning to work in the agricultural industry.

Applications:

- Application forms are available at www.macra.ie/skillnet or by emailing skillnet@macra.ie
- Closing date for applications: 22nd July 2018
- Shortlisting may be required and candidates will be called to interview end July-Early August

Further Information

Dr Tomás Russell, School of Agriculture & Food Science, UCD. **Email:** tomas.russell@ucd.ie 01-7167702
Brigid Quigley, Macra na Feirme. **Email:** skillnet@macra.ie 01- 4268900

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