



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University



## MAgrSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation

(Two Years Full Time)

Funded by the Teagasc Walsh Fellowships Programme

This is a two year taught Masters programme with students on professional placement for the full duration and completing modules for 90 credits (ECTs). Programme modules are designed to support traineeship learning with assignments and projects focused on student's professional placement and real life challenges.

On completion of this programme, graduates will be competent agricultural advisors, committed to on-going reflective practice and

seeking out more effective ways to support farmer decision making. Students will be able to develop and deliver appropriate agricultural advisory and educational programmes that serve the needs of farmers and farm families who are their clients. Students will adopt the skills to reflect critically on their practice as agricultural advisors and educators and be able to identify and exploit needs and opportunities for improved practice.

### Key Fact

Students of this programme will complete a placement in Teagasc and will have the support of a mentor to guide the development of skills and support modules on reflective practice that will allow the student to develop a professional portfolio.

## Why study at UCD?



### Tradition

Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence



### Global profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



### Global community

Over 6,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD



### Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 1 year stay-back visa



### Safety

Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

## Course Content and Structure

90 credits  
taught masters

30 credits  
taught modules

30 credits  
dissertation

30 credits  
reflective practice modules

Modules will be delivered through a blended format and will require students to build the skills for working autonomously, for independent research, in depth analysis, and abstraction. Assignments will be based on real life case studies relating to their professional work environment that will be complex and unpredictable, reflecting the norms of practice in advisory and education services.

**Proposed taught modules for students enrolling on the Agricultural Extension and Innovation include:**

- Agricultural Extension and innovation
- Research Methods Parts 1 and 2
- Creative Thinking and Innovation
- Dissertation
- Reflective practice modules





## The Walsh Fellowships Programme

Through the provision of high quality research training, the Walsh Fellowships programme aims to contribute to the Teagasc objective of generating and applying new knowledge for the sustainable development of the agriculture and food processing industry, enable it to respond profitably to consumer demands and contribute to a vibrant rural economy and society.

This programme offers a unique opportunity to young graduates to undertake postgraduate research in Food, Animal (including pigs) and Grassland Production, Crops, Environment and Land Use, Rural Economics and Development, and other related disciplines.



## Graduate Profile

**Donal Kelly**  
Education Officer,  
Teagasc

After graduating from the Animal and Crop Production programme in UCD in 2013, I knew I wanted to work in agricultural advisory services, therefore I felt that the MAgSc in Agricultural Extension and Innovation was the best option to help me along that career path.

This programme enables students to work full-time in agricultural advisory and education, while maintaining an aspect of college life. The projects focus on the working environment, which encourages the student to become more competent in their work practice.

The classes are diverse and interesting, with an interactive and open atmosphere. I am certain that this masters in association with UCD and Teagasc has helped to develop and diversify my working skillset required to work in a professional advisory service.

The programme was a definite factor which enabled me to gain employment as an Agricultural Education Officer with Teagasc. I would highly recommend the MAgSc Extension and Innovation as a great stepping stone towards a career in agricultural advisory and education.

## Apply Now

Applications to this programme open in early April. Application forms can be downloaded from [www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie) or [www.ucd.ie/agfood](http://www.ucd.ie/agfood) or by emailing [agribus.ruraldev@ucd.ie](mailto:agribus.ruraldev@ucd.ie).

This programme is fully funded by the Walsh Fellowships Programme and there is expected to be 10 places available on the programme. Shortlisted candidates will be called to interview early-mid July.

## Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a second class honours degree in agricultural science or equivalent discipline. Applicants with a pass degree coupled with significant and appropriate work experience may also be considered.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

## Careers

This Programme is designed to build the competencies required for careers in agricultural advisory and education services whether in the public or private sector. This programme will suit students interested in supporting farmers in agricultural innovation and development.

## Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MAgSc Agricultural Innovation Support

## Contact Us

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