

MEd

Master of Education



STRANMILLIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
A College of Queen's University Belfast

www.stran.ac.uk

Application

For further information on how to apply please contact:

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Overall Aims of the M-Level Programme

The overall aims of the M.Ed. programmes are to provide teachers or education-related professionals with the opportunity to:

- * engage in informed debate about major issues in education and related professions
- * reflect in depth on the relationship between theory and practice in their professional context
- * develop further their professional competences within chosen specialist areas
- * keep abreast of research and developments in education and educational policy, practice and theory
- * use information technology to develop writing and effective study skills
- * critically appraise, design and conduct research (e.g. through the dissertation element)
- * reflect on their personal and professional development.

Stranmillis University College is delighted to announce the introduction of two new specialist options to the M-Level programme, STEM Education and Pastoral Care.

STEM Education

The STEM specialist option is aimed at teachers currently involved in the delivery of STEM related subjects in schools and those aspiring to such involvement in this central and important area of the school curriculum. The modules within the specialist option will provide teachers and other education professionals with the opportunity to study the principles and practice of STEM education and the interconnection of the various elements that contribute to it. The specialist option will enable students to consider a range of STEM organisations, structures and cultures and to consider the functions and competences required for effective strategic development in this key area. Each module will enable students to develop understandings of STEM and its contributory elements from both a theoretical and a practical perspective. An in-depth analysis of the theoretical framework will allow students to evaluate practice within a number of different contexts. The specialist option makes a contribution to the re-thinking of STEM education and will be of value to all practitioners within the field at primary and post-primary level.

The Aim of the option is to provide students with the opportunity to:

- * engage in informed debate about major issues in STEM education;
- * reflect in depth on theory / practice relationships in STEM education;
- * develop competence further within the area of STEM;
- * keep abreast of research, innovation and developments in STEM education;
- * design, conduct and critically appraise research in this area.

Course Structure

The specialist option M.Ed. (STEM Education) is comprised of four 30 point taught modules and a final 60-point research module. The modules are as follows.

1. Problem Based Learning in STEM Education
2. Interconnected Learning in STEM Education
3. STEM in the Community
4. Research Methods
5. Dissertation [STEM Education]

Pastoral Care

This new M-level specialist option uniquely seeks to address a need among teachers and education professionals for high-quality professional development in the crucial, challenging and fast-evolving area of Pastoral Care in education.



The specialist option aims to equip students with the understanding and skills required to respond effectively to a range of challenging pastoral situations such as children experiencing abuse, bullying or mental health issues. The modules also aim however to develop a clear understanding of how schools can be pro-active in safeguarding children more effectively and in using the curriculum to pre-empt these issues sensitively and effectively.

Students will be introduced to local, national and international research and will be challenged to respond critically, applying their learning to their own context. This specialist option is open to teachers and professionals working with children from pre-school through to post-16 and it is hoped that much will be learnt from the sharing of knowledge and expertise between educational phases.

Course Structure

The specialist option M.Ed. (Pastoral Care) comprises four 30 point taught modules and a final 60-point research module. The modules are as follows:

1. Safeguarding Children and Young People
2. International Perspectives on Bullying
3. Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies
4. Research Methods
5. Dissertation [Pastoral Care]

General Information

The M.Ed. degree may be completed, part-time, within three years or may be spread over a maximum of six years. For each specialist option, one module may be replaced by a module from the wider MEd menu which includes, for example, Leadership in Theory Leadership in Practice Dyslexia and Literacy Difficulties Theoretical Perspectives in Post-Primary Curriculum Developments.

Accreditation

The degree recognises and supports existing professional development activities whether these are part of induction, early professional development, threshold assessments or programmes of staff development and performance management. Candidates may seek accreditation for completed school-based professional development activities and gain exemption from one of the four taught modules of the M.Ed. Programme. Application for credit transfer and exemption from module requirements will normally be made upon enrolment.

Entitlement to the Award of Master of Education (M.Ed.)

The award of Master of Education will be made to candidates who have successfully completed 180 points at level M, through completion of four taught modules and a research dissertation. The degree of Master of Education may be awarded with distinction on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners. Students who have accumulated 60 points on the M.Ed. or who have successfully completed TWO taught modules may graduate with the Advanced Certificate in Education (AdvCertEd). Students who have accumulated 120 points on the M.Ed. or who have successfully completed FOUR taught modules may graduate with the Diploma in the Advanced Study in Education (DASE).

Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission to the Master of Education programme must hold a professional teaching qualification and have an honours degree or equivalent qualification in education. It is desirable, although not necessary, that candidates have two years' teaching experience. Candidates without two years' teaching may be required to attend an interview to determine their suitability for entry.

Credit Transfer

All students who successfully complete a PGCE at Masters level will be eligible to apply for 30 M Level credit points towards a Masters qualification.

Financial Arrangements

The course fee will be £600 per module (subject to confirmation) and may be paid by credit card.

What Stranmillis Offers

- * High quality teaching led by a team which has significant experience in the provision of high quality undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- * A lively and diverse student community;
- * Consistent high ranking in National Student Survey and other university league tables.

