

Applying to do research in English at NUI Galway



We welcome prospective researchers in English at NUI Galway. We have outstanding research facilities and a great record of securing funding. We would be delighted to hear more about your research ideas. Most of all we urge prospective applicants to discuss their plans with a member of staff with appropriate areas of interest before submitting their application.

Your formal application must be made online at www.pac.ie. Applicants should normally apply for a Structured PhD (PAC code GYGO8) rather than a Full-time PhD or MLitt, unless permission is sought from the department: Structured PhDs allow you to take further courses to help your study. Your application includes the following: **the title of your proposal, curriculum vitae details** (including your qualifications and personal information), **copies of degree certificates** (if not currently held by the university), and **two independent academic references**, which are submitted directly in confidence by the referees concerned.

You must also submit **a sample of academic writing**. This might be a recent MA course essay or chapter from an MA thesis; it might be a published piece of work. Our practice-based PhDs are divided equally between academic and practice-based work, so for these courses **in addition** you should submit **a sample of creative writing**, whether a group of poems, short story, piece of creative non-fiction, or other representative work.

All applicants must submit a 1500 word research proposal. The proposal should be structured under the following headings.

1. Title
2. Description of proposed research (800 words)
3. Critical context (350 words)
4. Methodology (250 words)
5. Sources and archives (100 words)

Admission is at the discretion of the **Postgraduate Research Committee** in the discipline, which assesses all applications. The success of your application depends on a number of factors: the quality and viability of your proposal, the standard of writing displayed, your qualifications and achievements to date, referees' reports, and the availability of appropriate supervision.

English has a fine record of securing funding for postgraduate research. However this only applies when full discussions are had with prospective candidates. When applying to funding bodies you must contact the Director of Graduate Research and your potential supervisor in the discipline to discuss the application. Available sources of funding include:

Hardiman Scholarships <http://www.nuigalway.ie/hardiman-scholarships/>

Galway Doctoral Research Scholarships <http://www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/phd-research-degrees/scholarships/>

Irish Research Council <http://www.research.ie>

National University of Ireland <http://www.nui.ie/awards/>

For collections and archives at the James Hardiman Library see <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie>

For more information on research in English see <http://www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/humanities/disciplines-centres/english/>

For more contact the **Director of Graduate Research**

Professor Lionel Pilkington

Discipline of English

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