



Higher Diploma
in
Religious Education
2008 – 2010
(Sligo)

Higher Diploma in Religious Education

The specific aims of this programme are:


- To provide appropriate in-service support to secondary teachers of Religious Education who are teaching or preparing to teach the new Religious Education Syllabuses at Junior and Leaving Certificate Level.
- To support teachers of Religious Education at primary school level in developing participative and creative methodologies in harmony with the new 'Alive-O' programme.
- To support adults involved in Religious Education with children, young people and adults in non-formal contexts.
- To provide input on Theology and Religious Studies relevant to the personal and professional needs of the participants and which facilitates them in integrating these needs.
- To contribute to the spiritual and moral development of all participants on the course.
- To develop within the religious educator the skills, understanding and attitudes of the 'reflective practitioner'.

Academic Director

Dr. Michael Duignan B.Ph., S.T.B., S.T.L., S. Th. D

Course Administration

Education Department,
St. Angela's College,
Lough Gill,
Sligo

 (071) 9143580 ext 216/288/207

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Entrance Requirements

Participants must satisfy the course committee that they have both the potential to achieve the academic and educational standards of the course, the motivation to achieve the aims of the course and access to formal and informal contexts of Religious Education. Participants must satisfy one of the following entrance requirements;

- a) Graduates who are recognised primary or post-primary teachers.
- b) Other persons with third level qualifications or equivalent.
- c) Candidates with sufficient motivation, interest in and experience of Religious Education who can demonstrate at interview that they have the potential to attain the standard required by NUIG and to achieve the specific aims of the course.

Mode of Delivery

This is a two-year, part-time programme run during school holidays with occasional weekend sessions.

Venue

The next student intake for the Higher Diploma in Religious Education will take place in September 2007 in Galway City.

Course Structure

Year 1

- 1.1 An Introduction to Theology and Religious Education.
- 1.2 Biblical Studies
- 1.3 Jesus as Jew and Jesus as Christ
- 1.4 Perspectives on Religious Education

Year 2

- 2.1 The Christian Church, Sacraments and Society
- 2.2 Religious Education through Interfaith Dialogue
- 2.3 Personal, Interpersonal and Social Ethics
- 2.4 Methodology in Religious Education

Assessment

Given the underlying philosophy and methodology of the Higher Diploma, the forms of assessment will be both formative and summative. Coursework, which facilitates the aims of the Higher Diploma, will be undertaken throughout the two years of the course. As it is a Higher Diploma in Religious Education, the teaching element of the course will be assessed on an A-E scale. Students will need to achieve A, B or C in

Teaching Practice to be eligible for an Honours Award. Given the practical nature of the Higher Diploma, a minimum of 80% attendance on the course is required.

Course fee

- Application Fee: €60 (Non-refundable)
- Course Fee Year One: €1,850, payable in two instalments (*subject to review*).
- Course Fee Year Two: €1,850, payable in two instalments (*subject to review*).

Cheques should be made payable to: St Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo.

Qualification

Higher Diploma in Religious Education

Opportunities for Further Study




Students who successfully complete this Diploma to a satisfactory level, can progress to Year 1 of the Postgraduate Diploma/MA Programme in Religious Education, validated by NUI Galway and delivered at St Angela's College, Sligo.

Opportunities for Employment

This course is approved by the Department of Education and Science to allow qualified and recognised teachers to teach up to 15 hours per week of Religious Education in post-primary schools at all levels. It also provides the knowledge and skills to deliver Religious Education programmes in primary schools and in a range of non-mainstream educational contexts.

For Further Information Contact

Education Department
St. Angela's College
Lough Gill
Co. Sligo.

 071-9143580 ext 216/207/288
 071-9144585
 www.stacs.edu.ie

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