



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University



MSc (Agr) Agricultural Extension and Innovation (One Year Full Time or 2 Years Part-time)

The Masters in Agricultural Extension and Innovation will equip graduates with the skills and knowledge to be effective in building the capacity of farmers / food producers to adopt new practices and technologies. Students will develop competencies in: analysis of the context of agricultural change; design and development of appropriate advisory strategies to support agricultural development; how to support adult learning and behavior change; and research and analytical skills to identify and support worthwhile innovations.

Expertise from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science will be used in delivering the programme while optional modules will be available from other Schools across the University. This programme draws on thirty years' experience of UCD's past MSc programmes in Rural Development and Agricultural Extension.

Why study at UCD?



Tradition

Established 1854, with 165 years of teaching & research excellence



Global profile

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



Global community

Over 7,000 international students from over 139 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

Key Fact

Graduates from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science respond to many of the major global challenges such as population growth, global warming, biodiversity, food security and food and health. Consequently, the opportunities for graduates globally in this discipline are excellent.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

60 credits
taught modules

30 credits
dissertation

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

Core Modules:

- Agricultural Extension and Innovation
- Research Methods Parts 1 and 2
- Design Thinking for Agricultural Innovation
- Project Management for Agricultural Extension
- Group Approaches in Agricultural Extension
- Understand the Family Farm Business
- Minor thesis

Optional Modules:

- Theory and Practice of Rural Enterprises
- Sustainable Development
- Planning for Development
- Policies and Strategies for Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development
- Agri-Environmental Economics and Policy
- How to change Behavior
- Economics and Sociology in Rural Development

Placement Opportunity

Students have the opportunity to take an industry placement as part of their minor thesis. Students have taken their placements in AHDB in the UK, Microsoft and many companies and institutions supporting farmer advice and behaviour change.

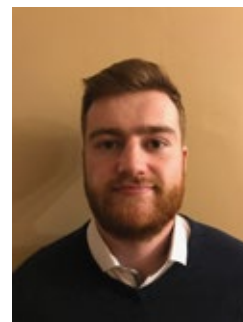




Career Opportunities

The programme aims to prepare graduates for future roles in advisory services, technical consultancy and education delivery as well as providing opportunities for Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for agricultural science and other graduates who are already working in areas of knowledge transfer with farmers.

Graduates of this programme typically find employment in government, agricultural and rural development agencies, local development agencies, NGOs involved in rural development as well as donor agencies and international development organisations.



Student Profile

Danny Fanning

While completing the Bachelors of Agricultural Science Degree at UCD I gained invaluable insight into the Agri-food industry value chain. This inspired me to complete further study in relation to knowledge transfer which plays a vital role in supporting agricultural development.

When looking for a Master's programme that would further develop my skills and knowledge to help support food producers uptake new practices and technologies the MSc in Agricultural Extension and Innovation programme ticked all the right boxes. The School of Agriculture in UCD has a high reputation of teaching quality and the MSc programme provides an opportunity to learn from experts in the field of research and extension.

The MSc programme industry linkages with the Agricultural and Horticultural Development Board (AHDB) in the United Kingdom provided a unique opportunity to complete work placement in the UK. This allowed me the opportunity to conduct my research thesis in conjunction with AHDB, apply the theoretical knowledge learned in the lectures on a practical level and develop a network of contacts that will stand to me

Apply Now

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at www.ucd.ie/apply

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a second class degree or higher in a range of academic qualifications including life sciences, humanities, arts and business
- 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.

International Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/international/scholarships for further information.

Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MSc (Agr) Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development
- MSc (Agr) Environmental Resource Management
- MSc Food Business Strategy

Contact Us

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