Ollscoil Mhá Nuad
Maynooth University

Department of Design Innovation
Assistant Professor/Lecturer in Product Design & UX/UI
(Permanent)

The Role

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

We are seeking an excellent academic to join our staff as an Assistant Professor / Lecturer in Product Design. The person appointed will have a proven knowledge and experience in UX and UI, as well as a proven record of professional Product Design and UX/UI practice, teaching and research appropriate to career stage. They will be expected to maintain existing industry relationships and develop new links and opportunities for students and knowledge exchange, domestically and internationally. As a member of the teaching team, the appointee will be expected to contribute to an excellent student learning experience, including assessment and placements. They will contribute flexibly to development of our education programmes in response to changes in market demand, industry needs, and research informed best practices.

The appointee will be expected to build a strong research profile that supports the University's research mission, through academic publications in the field of Design and have a strong understanding of the changing commercial and academic landscape. The appointee will be expected to sustain and conduct research, engage in scholarship of quality and substance, and generate publications of international standard.

The Department of Design Innovation offer a BSc Product Design & Innovation, and a MSc Design Innovation as well as MLit and PhD Design Innovation. Our Undergraduate and Postgraduate students learn to harness their creative, artistic, and problem-solving skills by gaining an understanding of technology and materials, and a sensitive awareness of human needs and behaviour through user-centred design. Our courses are highly practical, with an emphasis on project-based learning, workshops, laboratory sessions, and group work. They learn to combine these abilities to create solutions that satisfy, even delight, users, while acquiring an understanding of Design that is uniquely interdisciplinary: Design, anthropology, engineering, and business.

Principal Duties

Teaching:

Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching duties are assigned by the Head of the Department. The duties will include:

- Teaching and assessing students at undergraduate level. This may include lecturing, tutoring, leading practical learning activities, project supervision, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Teaching, supervising and assessing postgraduate students, including lecturing, leading seminars and other learning activities, supervision of student research activities, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Enhancing and innovating in teaching and assessment practice;
- Contributing as required, to the assurance and enhancement of teaching quality;
- Outreach and promotional activities and the recruitment and selection of undergraduate and post-graduate students;
- Developing and enhancing the curriculum;
- Designing and delivering of new courses.

Research & Scholarship:

Building a research and scholarly profile is an essential part of an academic career. This will include:

- Conducting research and engaging in scholarship of quality and substance in the discipline;
- Generating external income or securing resources to support scholarly activity as necessary;
- Disseminating research and scholarly outcomes through: peer reviewed publication; presentation at national and international conferences; preparation of professional reports; commercialisation; or other appropriate means;
- Affiliating with a University Research Institute, where appropriate;
- Building research capacity;
- Fostering links with other institutions which will benefit both research and teaching at Maynooth University;
- Integrating research into the teaching curriculum;
- Supervising research students and post-doctoral fellows.

Service:

The academic staff members of the University are critical to achieving the strategic objectives of the University, and as such are required to engage in work that serves the collective strategic needs of the University. This may include:

- Administrative and service duties;
- Leading or contributing to strategic projects and initiatives;
- Contributing to the internationalisation of the university;
- Outreach and engagement activities;
- Collaborative work with external partners;
- Activities to promote the University locally, nationally and internationally;
- Carrying out any other duties within the scope, spirit and purpose of a Maynooth University academic post.

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Undertaking administrative tasks within the Department, Faculty and University as required and as assigned by the Head of Department, the Dean or the President;
- Attending and serving on Departmental, Faculty, Institute and University committees as appropriate;
- Attending courses and engaging in other activities associated with professional development as appropriate;
- Complying with all University policies.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential

- A PhD (or soon-to-be completed PhD) in a relevant discipline in the field of Product Design Innovation, UX/UI, or a cognate Design-related disclipline;
- A Postgraduate Master's Degree or equivalent in a Design-related subject;
- An ability to design, deliver and assess a broad scope of Design through practical studio work and research informed theory to both specialist and non-specialist communities. This includes the capability to teach Product Design, UX/UI, Systems Theory, Design Innovation theory and practice;
- A record of scholarly work, publication and/or service impact of international quality in their specialist area of UX/UI, Product, Design Innovation research, demonstrating potential to become a significant contributor in their field;
- Experience of, and a demonstrated commitment to, undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, programme development and academic innovation;
- Good administrative, organisational, teamwork and communication skills;
- A capacity and enthusiasm for working in an inter-disciplinary environment within the wider context of the University;

Desirable

- A Bachelor Degree in Design, UX/UI or a Design related subject;
- Experience supervising graduate research students;
- A demonstrated track record of developing successful research funding applications.

The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland's only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 15,000 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university, are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University in 2024 ranked in the top 90 global Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings, placing 86th in the world. Maynooth University's growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.

Maynooth's unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University's research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

Maynooth University's Values

Our values define who we are, what we believe in and how we act as a community. They underpin our future success and guide our expectations of ourselves and each other. Our values apply to everyone in the University community:

- Integrity
- Collegiality
- Responsibility
- Freedom of expression
- Ambition

Maynooth University Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028

The University's Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028 builds on our rich academic history and strong foundations to set out an ambitious and forward-looking path for the future of our University. This roadmap underscores our commitment to adapt to a changing world while staying true to our values.
Our vision is to be a university of excellence, opportunity and impact, having a significant stake in all three.

For more information about Maynooth University's future direction, please visit: https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/

Plean Straitéiseach Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2023 - 2028

Tógann Plean Straitéiseach na hOllscoile 2023 - 2028 ar ár stair acadúil shaibhir agus ar ár mbunchlocha láidre chun conair uaillmhianach agus cheannródaíoch a leagadh amach do thodhchaí ár nOllscoile. Soiléiríonn an treochlár seo ár dtiomantas do dhul i dtaithí ar dhomhan atá ag síorathrú agus ár ngníomhaíochtaí a chur in oiriúint dó, agus san am céanna a bheith dílis dár luachanna Ollscoile. Is í an fhís atá againn a bheith mar ollscoil feabhais, deiseanna agus tionchair, agus lámh láidir a bheith againn i ngach ceann de na trí ghné seo.

Léigh anseo le haghaidh breis eolais faoi thodhchaí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad: https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/?lang=ga

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Social Sciences comprises the Departments of Adult and Community Education; Anthropology; Applied Social Studies; Design Innovation; Economics, Finance & Accounting;

Education; Geography; International Development; Law; Sociology; the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education; and the School of Business. The role of the Faculty is to co-ordinate the academic activities of individual departments, to oversee the strategic development of departments, and to support interdepartmental programmes. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines.

Department

The Department of Design Innovation utilises interdisciplinary expertise to combine industrial, entrepreneurial and academic excellence in Design. It is focussed on developing research and user-centred, applied practitioners that create impact through design innovation in industries across Ireland and Europe. It distinguishes itself from other design courses by placing emphasis on research methods, user experience, marketing, business models and the commercial justification of new product proposals, as well as core science and engineering subjects.
It offers a four-year undergraduate degree in Product Design, and a one- to two-year MSc in Design Innovation. The Department has a number of PhD students in Design and multi-disciplinary.

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Candidates invited for interview will be required to make a brief presentation;
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the month of July 2025;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from as soon as possible thereafter.

Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University actively works to ensure equality, celebrate the diversity of our community, and promote inclusion. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University Equality and Diversity Policy / Polasaí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta, our policy on the Employment of People with Disabilities, and our Gender Equality Action Plan 2023-2026. We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals across our society.

Terms and Conditions

Tenure	This is a full-time, permanent post. The appointment will be made at Assistant Professor / Lecturer level, of which there are two grades: Assistant Professor / Lecturer and Assistant Lecturer. To be appointed at the Assistant Professor / Lecturer level, the successful candidate will hold a PhD qualification, have a strong record of research, publications, teaching and academic leadership. The University will make a permanent appointment where the preferred candidate has an established track record in research and teaching; where it is in the best interests of the university, the post may be filled on a fixed-term contract basis.
Salary	Assistant Professor / Lecturer: €64,112 – €101,524 p.a. (7 points) Assistant Lecturer)*: €41,682 – €71,285 p.a. (14 points)

	Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
University policies and schemes	Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies
Pension	This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, and as such, applicants must ensure they are eligible to become a member of a public sector pension scheme for the duration of the appointment. Details of the public sector pension schemes are available at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information
Eligibility	Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/ Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions. **Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility** Eligibility of applicants formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body, and who availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme under the Schemes below, may be affected: • Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants • Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) • Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010) • Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013) Applicants should ensure that they are eligible to be re-engaged in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Applicants should address queries with their former Irish Public Sector employer.
Garda vetting	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
Medical	The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.

Data Protection Law

Applications to the University will be treated in accordance with the University Data Protection Policies. For information on the University's Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notice, please see our website: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection

Application Procedure

Closing Date:

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on **Sunday, 22nd June 2025.**

Please note all applications must be made via our **Online Recruitment Portal** at the following link:

https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University