



## Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

### Department of Psychology Senior Postdoctoral Researcher (Specified Purpose)

#### 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 to recruit a postdoctoral researcher to join a project funded by the [National Open Research Forum \(NORF\)](#) to help with extending and delivering the TROPIC training programme for open research, and to help develop and coordinate a national network of open researchers in Ireland. The work is being led by Dr. Dermot Lynott (PI), with project affiliates coming from across the Irish Higher Education sector.

The appointed researcher on the TROPIC2: Network Development project will take a leading role in rolling out a training programme for open research, building a network of open research trainers, and organising and running events to support an Irish network of open researchers. The researcher will work closely with the PI and project affiliates to meet the goals of the project.

Initial phases of the project will focus on the launch and development of the open research network, working with the team to develop Accreditation and Professional Development pathways for open research, ongoing development of the TROPIC Training and Open Research Resources, and taking a lead in Communication, Engagement, and Dissemination of the project's work and outputs. Each of these elements is linked to a specific project work package, and the researcher will liaise regularly with work package leads to ensure work package goals are being met.

The successful candidate will be required to have a keen interest in open research practices, have experience in the development and delivery of training materials (e.g., for in-person workshops or for hybrid online delivery), to be familiar with handling survey data, comfortable working with a range of project partners (including researchers, librarians, research support staff), as well as having excellent technical and communication skills. The researcher should be able to contribute to the creation and maintenance of training materials, the dissemination of project outputs through presentations, and writing papers for publication, as well as contributing to the design and maintenance of the project's online presence.

Applicants should have a PhD and significant experience working in a relevant area of open research (in any discipline). Excellent academic writing and presentation skills are essential to this post (e.g., an ability to clearly convey complex topics to a non-expert audience), as is the ability to work both independently and within a team. Experience in developing and delivering open research training is essential, as is research experience involving data collection and analysis. The successful applicant will also be familiar with open source platforms such as Github, Open Science Framework and others.

The researcher will be based in the Department of Psychology at Maynooth, and located with other postgraduate researchers and staff working on externally funded research projects.

## Principal Duties

### Research and other duties:

- To develop and carry out data collection to evaluate participant views on open research training
- To perform data analysis (with a mixture of quantitative and qualitative survey responses) and contribute intellectually to the critical interpretation of data.
- To extract relevant open research information from interview data and interview summaries
- To prepare materials for open research training for both trainees (e.g., presentations, workbooks) and trainers (e.g., lesson plans)
- To record, analyse, and write up the results of the work, maintaining a permanent record of the methodologies, and outcomes, and to prepare data for archiving in alignment with FAIR principals.
- To prepare and disseminate findings to the research community, including travel to workshops, conferences, and project partners, where appropriate.
- To contribute to the writing, submission and revision of papers to appropriate journals and conferences, or as white papers/technical reports, and collaborating with others as required.
- To undergo personal and professional development as appropriate to enhance performance.
- To contribute to the overall activities of the TROPIC2 project, the wider research team in Ireland, and Maynooth University Department of Psychology as appropriate.
- To carry out other duties related to the TROPIC2 project, commensurate with the grading of the post, as assigned by the project lead, Dr. Dermot Lynott or his nominees.

### The ideal candidate will have:

#### Essential:

- A PhD in any discipline, or significant relevant experience of open research
- A track record of open research practices in their research (e.g., preregistration, open data, preprints etc.)
- To be appointed at the grade of Senior Post Doctoral researcher, candidates will need at least two years post-doctoral relevant relative research experience
- Significant experience in developing AND delivering open research training
- Publications record appropriate to stage of career, including lead-author research publications in peer-reviewed journals, full-paper conference proceedings, policy reports, or similar outputs.
- Research experience, including study design (e.g., survey development)
- A good working understanding of quantitative statistical analysis sufficient to interpret and write up survey data
- Excellent written communication skills, including the ability to communicate research to non-specialists.
- Effective interpersonal skills including evidence of working collaboratively within a team.

#### Desirable:

- Knowledge of the literature on open research practices, and best practice for their discipline.
- Excellent technical skills

- Design experience, e.g., for publications for a wide audience, web pages etc.

## Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Science and Engineering comprises the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, Experimental Physics, Theoretical Physics, Mathematics and Statistics, and Psychology. The role of the Faculty is to coordinate 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 Psychology currently has twenty-six academic staff members, and has been growing significantly in recent years. The department offers a number of taught undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Psychology, as well as structured PhD and MSc research degrees. The Department of Psychology is a unique and dynamic environment for research; and we are leading globally in several key areas. Our research is published in the world's premier psychology and interdisciplinary journals, and by the world's best book publishers. We publish over one hundred scholarly articles a year, as well as project reports and policy briefs. We collaborate locally and globally. Our research partners with, and impacts on, individuals and communities, service users and providers, industry, governments, civil society and United Nations agencies. We have a strong ethos of engaged research, and strongly value basic research and theory building. With award winning psychologists, we are strong both in core areas of psychology and new hybrid interdisciplinary areas. Our cohort of post- doctoral researchers and PhD scholars reflects a breadth of interests, experiences, methodologies and a welcoming atmosphere.

Maynooth psychology makes an internationally distinctive and vibrant contribution to research and practice with a focus on four themes: (1) Neuroscience, Behaviour & Cognition; (2) Rehabilitation, Disability & Health Psychology; (3) Mental Health, Community & Positive Psychology; and (4) Organisations, Systems and Policy. Importantly, and unusually, most of our staff are active across more than one of these areas. This is something we deliberately cultivate, allowing for insights and initiatives to flourish beyond narrow research or disciplinary boundaries. As a university, Maynooth embraces an ethos of Engaged Research; nowhere is this more apparent than in the Department of Psychology. Our staff members lead the Centre for Community and Mental Health (<https://cmhcr.eu/>), and the Assisting Living & Learning Institute (<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/all-institute>). Our staff are also affiliated to other lively interdisciplinary research institutes; Maynooth University Social Science Institute (<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/social-sciences-institute>) and Maynooth University Lonsdale Institute for Human Health (<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/research/human-health>).

Our research is supported by research infrastructure that include facilities for transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) and neuronavigation, transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS), high density EEG, eye tracking, virtual reality and various facilities for behavioural neuroscience including telemetric recordings for EEG in freely behaving rodents. Our research is published in the world's premier psychology and interdisciplinary journals, and by the world's best book publishers. We publish over one hundred scholarly articles a year, as well as project reports and policy briefs. We collaborate locally and globally. Our research partners with, and impacts on, individuals and communities, service users and providers, industry, governments, civil society and United Nations agencies. We have a strong ethos of engaged research, and strongly value basic research and theory building. With award



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winning psychologists, we are strong both in core areas of psychology and new hybrid interdisciplinary areas. Our cohort of post-doctoral researchers and PhD scholars reflects a breadth of interests, experiences, methodologies and a welcoming atmosphere. Our undergraduates engage in research, including research placements outside the university, and can attend our regular seminar series of visiting speakers. Individual research interests and expertise of our academic and research staff can be found here: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/psychology/our-people>.

## 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 worldclass 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



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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>

Our Strategic Plan sets out an ambition to be an excellent place to learn and work, and an inclusive community where students and staff can flourish and make a distinctive contribution to the national system of higher education and the public good. Achieving this requires staff to have a strong sense of connection to the University and support from colleagues. We recognise that our people are our greatest resource and actively seeks to attract, develop, and retain a talented workforce by creating a positive and welcoming University environment.

As well as offering a competitive salary, access to a public sector pension scheme, and annual leave allowance, the University also provides other facilities and benefits including, but not limited to:

- Family-friendly leave schemes
- Tax Saver travel scheme and Cycle to Work scheme
- On-campus crèche
- On-campus restaurants and coffee shops
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Health and Well-Being programmes
- Education support opportunities
- Continuous Professional Development opportunities, including leadership programmes, mentoring, Aurora programme
- Sports facilities and gym

To learn more about being part of the Maynooth University team, please visit our website at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/come-work-with-us>

## Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview.
- Interviews will be conducted online
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held in October 2025.
- The appointment is expected to be effective 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](#) / [Polasáí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta](#), our



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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

<b>Tenure</b>	<p>This is a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 10 months duration.</p> <p>Project end date is anticipated to be 31/08/2026.</p>
<b>Location</b>	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
<b>Salary</b>	<p>Senior Post-doctoral Researcher: €53,770 p.a (point 1)  Post-doctoral Researcher: €46,305 - €52,862 p.a. (6 points)</p> <p>Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.</p>
<b>Hours of work</b>	<p>A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (pro-rated for part-time positions).</p> <p>This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.</p>
<b>Annual Leave</b>	<p>Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy</a></p> <p>Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.</p>
<b>University policies and schemes</b>	<p>Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies</a></p>
<b>Pension</b>	<p>This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, details of the schemes are available at: <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</a></p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Applications from <b>non-EEA citizens</b> are welcomed, applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: <a href="https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/">https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</a></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</b></p>



	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants</li> <li>• Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)</li> <li>• Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)</li> <li>• Department of Environment, Community &amp; Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013)</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>
<b>Garda vetting</b>	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
<b>Medical</b>	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, the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 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**