



Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

Department of Applied Social Studies Assistant Professor / Lecturer in Social Work (Specified Purpose Contract)

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 Social Work. The person appointed will have a proven record of teaching, research and publication, appropriate to career stage. The successful candidate will be expected to make a strong contribution to the teaching programme of the Department and undertake teaching duties on the Department's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes as well as the supervision of Master's and PhD students.

The appointee will be expected to build a strong research profile, that supports the University's research strategy including affiliating to the Research Institutes, where appropriate and working with colleagues on national and international research. The appointee will be expected to sustain and conduct research, engage in scholarship of quality and substance and generate publications of international standard.

Principal Duties

Teaching:

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



- 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;
- Teaching and assessing students at undergraduate level. This may include lecturing, tutoring, leading practical learning activities, project supervision, 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;
- Contributing to practice placement education;
- 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 in Social Work or a directly related field; Ideally PhDs should be completed, however, PhDs close to completion will be considered, although appointment without a PhD will be appointed at the Assistant Lecturer scale;
- CORU Registration and a professional qualification in Social Work which is recognised by CORU or eligible to be so. **Evidence of commencement of the registration process will be required prior to appointment;**
- Extensive, relevant professional practice experience;
- A strong academic record in teaching and research;
- Ability to teach across Social Work is required;
- A record of scholarly work and publication of international quality appropriate to the career stage, demonstrating potential to become a significant contributor in their field;
- Experience of and a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, module development and academic innovation;
- Experience supervising post graduate students;
- Experience of, and commitment to, working in an interdisciplinary setting;
- Good administrative, organisational, teamwork and communication skills.



Desirable

- Experience of engagement with student practice placements
- Evidence of sectoral engagement and strong network connections in the wider social work sector in Ireland
- Knowledge and understanding of third-level social work education in Ireland

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Social Science comprises a range of academic Departments including the Department of Applied Social Studies. 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.

The Department of Applied Social Studies

The Department of Applied Social Studies has 14 academic staff and offers undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, based on its teaching and research strengths in Social Policy, Social Work and Community and Youth Work in a vibrant learning environment.

The Department of Applied Social Studies has an established record for innovative, transformative professional and academic work reflecting its mission which is

'To promote human rights, social justice and equality, nationally and internationally through excellence and innovation in education, research and public engagement that contribute to the development of the social professions and applied social sciences.'

Forty years ago, in the early 1980's, Maynooth was the first university in Ireland to offer professional programmes in Community and Youth Work. Since then, the Department of Applied Social Studies has earned an unrivalled reputation for teaching, research, and development in these areas. Professional programmes are offered at both Bachelor and Masters levels. The Department also offers professional a Doctor of Social Science programme. More recently the Department has introduced a professional approved postgraduate Masters programme in Social Work.

In 2002 the Department established Social Policy as the core subject in a Bachelor of Social Science Degree programme, which has grown in popularity since. A Master of Social Science (Rights and Social Policy) programme was introduced in 2011. Staff in the Department supervise a growing number of PhD students in Social Policy and Applied Social Studies. Particular areas of interest currently include inequality, and poverty; inequality and identities; state-civil society relations and public policy; policy



analysis; social policy as it relates to community, youth, children and families, gender, age, sexuality, disability, race and ethnicity; criminal justice, drugs, housing, education, mental health, care, domestic violence, human trafficking, hate crime; comparative and European social policy; environment, sustainability and social justice.

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 17,000 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

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. We offer a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education, along with a range of international programmes and partnerships.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, 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 ranked in the top 90 global Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings in 2024. 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'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 uailmhianach agus cheannródaíoch a leagadh amach do thodhchaí ár nOllscoile. Soiléiríonn an treochlár seo ár dtiomantas do dhul i dtaithe 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.
- Study and Exam leave
- 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;
- Candidates invited for interview will be required to make a brief presentation;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the week of the 11th of May 2026.
- The appointment is expected to be effective from as soon as possible thereafter.

Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University values the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seeks to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#) / [Polasaí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta](#). Additionally, as an [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) Institute, we are committed to advancing gender equality across the University.

We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals, in particular from people underrepresented in our workforce.

Terms and Conditions

Tenure	<p>This is a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose (temporary replacement cover), which is anticipated to be 3 years duration</p> <p>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.</p>
Salary	<p>Assistant Professor / Lecturer: €65,401 – €103,564 p.a. (7 points)</p> <p>Assistant Lecturer: €42,599 – €72,718 p.a. (14 points)</p> <p>Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.</p>
Location	<p>The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.</p>



University policies and schemes	<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>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies</p>
Pension	<p>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:</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</p>
Eligibility	<p>Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed. Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at:</p> <p>https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</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>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</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"> • 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) <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>
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 **Thursday, the 23rd of April 2026.**

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

