

# CONSIDERING POSTGRADUATE STUDY

There are so many further study options that the process of choosing the right option can be a little bewildering. This short guide gives an overview of some of the key reasons people pursue postgraduate study. If you are considering postgraduate study... read on

## Interest in the subject area



### CONSIDER THE WHY

- What subject area really interests you? Why?
- Think about the long-term implications of your choice
- Does your choice of course fit in with your career plans?
- What are the benefits to you of doing postgraduate study?

Your interest in the subject area impacts your enjoyment and level of effort

## Professional requirement



### A QUALIFICATION TO ENTER INTO A CHOSEN FIELD

Some career pathways require a professional qualification. For example:

- Law; social work; teaching; accountancy; engineering

Check the entry requirements for your chosen career pathway with the relevant professional body

## Specialisation



### DEVELOP SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN YOUR DISCIPLINE AREA

- Postgraduate study in your discipline area can allow you to develop a niche skill and knowledge set, potentially giving you an edge in the job market
- Generally, you can specialise at:  
Postgraduate Diploma/MA/MSc/MPhil or at PhD levels

Research the benefits to you of specialising

## Convert to a different career area

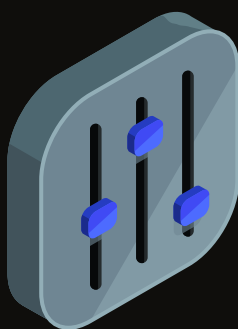


### AN OPPORTUNITY TO START AFRESH

- There are many 'conversion courses' that offer a pathway into a new career area. Perhaps one you always wanted
- These courses are generally at masters or higher diploma level 1 - 2yrs .(NB. Some pathways will take longer). Examples include:
  - Allied health professions; medicine; psychology; fashion; business; accountancy; strategic management; marketing; IT; strategic management, logistics/supply chain; to name a few

Stop - Reflect - Consider Options - Act

## Remember



### RESEARCH OPTIONS IN DEPTH

- List your reasons for your preferred option
- Be careful of just buying time - your choice should add value to you
- Find out what graduates of the course/research area have done
- Speak to the co-ordinators/graduates of the course/research area
- Examine course content; look at the module descriptors
- Attend the (virtual) open days; speak to a career coach
- Consider costs/funding; location; mode of study; department reputation; time commitment; taught/research based

Good research leads to better informed decisions

## REMEMBER

- Make your best decision, based on your research and personal circumstances
- TU Dublin offers a wide range of excellent postgraduate options (taught/research)
- Resources - [tudublin.ie/postgraduate](http://tudublin.ie/postgraduate); [gradireland.com](http://gradireland.com); [tudublin.ie/careers](http://tudublin.ie/careers)