

## • graduate research school — giving you the competitive edge

*"In a time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future" Eric Hoffer*

### The benefits of further study

In these tough economic times committing yourself to a graduate research degree makes sense. You will learn skills that will stand to you for the rest of your career and having a graduate degree will put you ahead of the pack when it comes to applying for your first job.

The skills you will learn while researching your PhD will be useful to any employer in any sector and will be recognised both here and abroad. Most students don't realise that a graduate degree prepares you for a range of careers because you learn transferable skills suitable for a variety of positions and industry sectors. For example, critical thinking, problem solving, locating information and learning how to synthesize material from various sources are skills that any employer will look for.

### Transferrable skills

Graduate students will also have opportunities to deliver presentations at conferences at home and abroad. Your ability to create and deliver an organised concise presentation with accompanying visuals will earn you points with any employer. Finally, being able to define and solve problems, your writing skills and your ability to work as part of a team but on your own initiative are all skills that are useful in any career.

### The structured PhD

DIT plans to introduce its new structured PhD in September 09. The new model will have 4 main elements:

- \* PhD thesis and examination
- \* Research and Professional Development Plans
- \* Discipline Specific Skills Training
- \* Generic Skills Training.

The model will be used for all PhD students at DIT and will operate within the European credit transfer scheme in a modular format.

DIT's Graduate Research School website contains all the information you will need to get started. Read about DIT's research strengths, how to make an application and where you can find more details:

[www.dit.ie/graduateresearchschool](http://www.dit.ie/graduateresearchschool)



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