This Graduate Training pathway is for students undertaking a structured 4-year PhD programme in the School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music. Structured doctoral programmes aim to develop the advanced knowledge, skills and competencies required for successful original research, and supports the acquisition of deep discipline knowledge and research skills as well as more generic transferable skills that are relevant to a range of career pathways.

The doctoral examination continues to be based solely on the examination of a written thesis and its defence at a viva voce examination. Graduate Training Elements (GTEs) provide students with structured opportunities to develop the skills and understanding to support their original research and are credit-bearing but do not contribute to the final examination. GTE modules available to students are credit-bearing but there are a number of non-accredited training opportunities. Students who complete credit-bearing modules will receive a separate transcript of their modules.

The pathway overleaf provides a mix of modules that includes discipline specific knowledge, generic skills and wider offerings that support students’ developing autonomy in research. Modules selected by students should be relevant to and support their research. Students should discuss their needs with their principal supervisor who must approve the selected modules prior to registration. The School recognises that individual students’ needs may vary as they are undertaking individual and original research. Students may follow the pathway overleaf or use this as a template to structure an individual pathway, to include:

- Up to 20 credits of core discipline-specific modules;
- Up to 10 credits of core transferable skills;
- Up to 20 additional credits for selected elective modules.

Students will normally take 10 credits each year for years 1-3, with year 4 most likely focused exclusively on research, but discretion about the number of annual credits is permitted to suit the work programme of each student and to include valuable non-credit modules. Students may include non-credit bearing courses in their pathway that, in discussion with their principal supervisor, are deemed appropriate to their needs. The Graduate Student Office provides a number of non-accredited courses available to all students. This includes orientation and an extended induction programme. Courses are also available through DCU library.

Mandatory modules
It is the policy of the Humanities & Social Science Faculty that all students take the relevant stream of the self-directed ‘Online Research Integrity Training Module’ during their first year of registration. This is available online. All students who are assigned teaching-related responsibilities must complete module Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice (GS602).

Registration
Students should register for their approved GTEs during the online registration process. Along with level 9 modules, appropriate level 8 modules may be taken by students following discussion with their Supervisor and module coordinator. GTE modules taken should be noted in the student’s annual progress report (PGR2), which should also include confirmation that mandatory courses have been taken.
Structured Doctoral Pathway 2021-22

**Theology and Philosophy**
- Introduction to Ethics (TP510) (10 ECTS)
- Readings in Ethics (TP517) (10 ECTS)
- Ethics in World Religions (TP518) (10 ECTS)
- Contemporary Issues in Ecclesiology (TP520) (10 ECTS)
- The Holocaust and Modern Culture (TP508) (10 ECTS)
- Islamic Thought in the 19th and 20th Centuries (TP522) (10 ECTS)
- Philosophy and God: Readings (TP524) (10 ECTS)
- Karl Rahner and 20th century Theology (TP525) (10 ECTS)
- Jewish and Christian Dialogue (TP534) (10 ECTS)
- Natural Law Theory (TP528) (10 ECTS)

**Music**
- Conducting, Interpretation, and Style (MC514) (10 ECTS)
- Creative Approaches to Text (MC516) (10 ECTS)
- Composition for voices (MC519) (10 ECTS)

**Core Discipline - Specific**

**Core Transferable Skills**
- GSO Extended Induction Programme
- Online Research Integrity Training Module
- Postgraduate Tutoring Principles and Practice (GS602) (5 ECTS)
- Strategies for Academic Writing (GS608BS) (5 ECTS)

**Elective Modules & Training**
- Qualitative Research Methods Summer School (NS5055) (5 ECTS)
- Language Modules e.g. Classical Arabic (TP200), Hebrew (TP201), Kloine Greek, or Latin (TP222) (5 ECTS)
- Uaneen Non Contributing Module (UM405) (5 ECTS)
- External: Summer schools as advised by Supervisor.
- Cross-School or cross-Faculty GTE relevant to research topic and selected from Faculty lists.

Students are also encouraged to:
- engage with centrally-offered workshops and seminars through GSO and Library.
- Attend and participate in conferences in their discipline and participate in research communication events such as Tell It Straight organised by GSO and Postgraduate Association events.