

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Masters In DevOps

### 1. What is DevOps?

The advantages of Development Teams and Operations Teams collaborating to improve the delivery of technology solutions has meant a rapid adoption of DevOps approaches to the Software Development Lifecycle. Closely associated with Lean and Agile concepts in enhancing the delivery of technology solutions, the DevOps approach has impacted very rapidly on the Technology industry.

Most existing DevOps 'specialists' grow or develop into their role with no formal standards or certification, and a modicum of training in the actual practice of cross functional DevOps practices. They may already be experienced, highly skilled, competent, and high performers in their own field of Software Development, Computing, IT Management, or Quality Assurance but they may lack the knowledge and understanding of the other cross functional disciplines they now find themselves working with daily.

This Masters programme provides participants the opportunity to understand not only the technical, but also the business and human factors at play during the high pressure demands of modern software delivery processes, which is essential in the modern discipline of DevOps.

### 2. When are lectures held?

Lectures are held on two evenings per week. In first year, the lecturers are normally Tuesday and Thursday from 6.30 - 9.00 pm.

### 3. Are videos of Lectures available to students?

Videos of the lecture are available following the lecture. **IMPORTANT: Students are advised to attend the lectures.**

### 4. What is the structure of the programme?

You study 2 modules per semester for 3 semesters, and then you do a dissertation on a Research subject. Typically, there is a mandatory 2 day full day sessions onsite in Tallaght at start of semester (students find this very useful as it reduces the online weekly load during the semester) During this 2-day camp you will cover most of the material for one of the 2 modules in semester 1, leaving approx. 3 nights to be covered online.

The second module will be covered 100% online. Online lectures are held Tuesday and Thursdays. There are also typically 2 mandatory days you must attend onsite in Tallaght during the semester for presentations, typically mid semester, and end semester.

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### 5. What is the duration of the Programme?

The duration is as follows:

Semester 1 - Jan - May 2024

Semester 2 - Sep - Dec 2024

Semester 3 - Jan - May 2025

Dissertation - May 2024 - Sep/Dec/ 2025. [dependent on the student]

### 6. What is the percentage of continuous assessment for each module?

**Semester 1** ( 2 subjects)

One is 100% continuous assessment-based, no exam

One is a 50/50 exam and continuous assessment

**Semester 2** ( 2 subjects)

Both are 100% continuous assessment

**Semester 3** ( 2 subjects)

One is 100% continuous assessment-based, with no exam

One is a 50/50 exam and continuous assessment

Lastly, then follows a dissertation

### 7. Will it state in the diploma that this course is online?

The Diploma will state that the programme is a Masters in DevOps. It will not state that it is online on the diploma.

### 8. How technical is this course?

The course is a mix of technical and non-technical material. If an applicant has an honours degree in a computing (or similar) area then they should be able for the material. Candidates do not need to know about DevOps to do the Masters. The masters will teach you all about DevOps.

### 9. When are the written exams be scheduled?

Exams are held in May and January

### 10. Are there breaks during the duration of the programme?

If the semester schedule allows there is sometimes a reading week off in the middle of the semester.

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### 11. Are there group projects? Or is it all individual-based assessments?

There's a mixture of group projects and individual projects. Some group projects and some technical projects. All the technical subjects are individual.

### 12. What is the fee?

Those working in a private or commercial semi-state organisation can avail of the part-funded fee (subject to approval). Fees are due in full prior to the course commencing each year. Fees can be found on the course page.

### 13. Can you pay in instalments?

It is possible to pay in instalments up until 5 days before the course is due to commence. All outstanding fees must be paid before the course starts.

### 14. Is there tax relief if so, can you claim back any tax?

You may apply for a tax relief however it is the responsibility of each applicant to contact the tax office regarding this. We can provide a receipt for fees paid if needed.

### 15. For applicants, whose first language is not English are they required to provide evidence of English language proficiency?

Yes, follow the link for further information.

<https://www.tudublin.ie/study/international-students/entry-requirements/english-language-requirements/>

### 16. How many on-campus days are there per semester?

Online programme with 2 days per semester in TU Dublin - Tallaght campus

### 17. What are the career opportunities?

With most technology organisations moving their delivery platforms to a DevOps approach the shortage of people with cross sectional skills in DevOps is now acute. Developed by industry as a direct response to this need this first-ever Master's degree in DevOps aims to fill these important talent gaps and give credit, recognition and credibility to technologists working in this field.

The programme will help to develop the DevOps professional who can balance the trade-offs between requirements and costs, understands the business needs and the importance of effective communication to stakeholders. In addition, the DevOps professional will have an advanced understanding of:

- Security and how it must be pervasive
- 'Ileitis' and how Systems Design choices across all thinking about systems can impact on quality, deliverability and maintainability of systems

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- The particular requirements of different verticals such as Banking, Trading, Security, Healthcare and so on.
- Best Practice in the Area
- New and Emerging technologies in the area

**18. If I want to opt out at Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma (60 credits), how much does it cost and how do I do this?**

We are subsidising the entire Year 2 for you, If you decide to leave after the third semester that would be a matter for you and the college. We will have paid your fees in full for year 2 to the college at that point. Furthermore, leaving after semester 3 requires you to let the college know in advance so they can see if you are eligible for an exit award.