Professional Diploma in
Strategy and Innovation
Develop and lead innovation in your organisation

The next generation of leaders will be the innovators.

For the successful leader, a capacity to understand and shape the strategy process is an essential requirement for career development. By completing the Professional Diploma in Strategy and Innovation you will learn the skills to lead, influence, and participate in the strategic success of your organisation.

In light of recent global events, and the economic changes that have been brought about, it's organisations that can strategically innovate to deliver value in the future marketplaces that will flourish.

This programme is for you if:

› You have an ambition to play a leading role in developing and implementing strategy and innovation in your organisation.

› You work in the private or public sector, regardless of organisation size.

A Graduate’s View:

// The learning journey was further enriched by the quality of classroom discussions across a diverse group of students. An enjoyable and challenging experience to develop innovation or strategy capabilities and experience. //

Colin McEvoy, Head of Service Transition, Technology Services
Bank of Ireland
Programme Themes:

1. Assessing the External Environment
   › Assess the external macro environment in the context of your organisation, identifying potential game-changing events and possibilities.
   › Define your competitors’ position, map internal and external stakeholders and begin scenario planning.

2. Innovation Management & Business Model Innovation
   › Explore innovation management and start to define an innovation strategy.
   › Learn about innovation adoption and diffusion processes and how to both assess and improve your innovation performance.
   › Discover how to create an innovation policy for your organisation.

3. Strategic Capabilities
   › Learn how to maintain a sustainable competitive advantage.
   › Map your own resources and capabilities, while assessing the differences between resource acquisition versus development.

4. Commercialisation of Innovation
   › Gain the insights to how you can build an innovative organisation.
   › Go from ideation to idea prioritisation through to the commercial realisation of a new innovative product or service.

5. Strategic Choices
   › Read a balance sheet from a strategy perspective and understand different funding options.
   › Discover how to build the human capability of an organisation, and how to expand into global markets.

6. Strategic Change and Implementation
   › Go from strategic planning to implementation.
   › Create defined key performance indicators and capture the big data that will help drive successful innovation initiatives.

This programme will equip you to:

- Undertake a key role in the strategy and innovation process.
- Evaluate and address the strategic challenges facing your organisation.
- Make strategic sense of the global and domestic business environment.
- Develop a practical, well-informed strategy audit for your business or organisation.
Master of Business Framework

The Master of Business gives you the flexibility to choose the subjects that are right for your needs, while building up to a Masters Degree qualification. Each element of your journey promises to be an energising learning experience leading to a world class qualification.

There are two pathways you can take to achieve your Masters qualification with IMI. Both pathways require you to complete two Professional Diplomas before choosing a final capstone programme to bring your learning together in an integrative experience, that will positively impact your professional career and your organisation.

The capstone programmes are focused on rigour and imbued with relevance, improve confidence and self-perception, hone knowledge and skills, and emphasise reflective practice.

All programmes are validated and awarded by University College Cork, and are at level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications. You can complete the taught element of each Professional Diploma on a modular basis over a 6-month period, and have up to five years to complete all elements of your journey.

The Advanced Performance Programme is for professionals who want to bring their leadership capabilities to a new level. Through a blended focus on the environment, the organisation, and the individual, the APP serves to synthesise the learning outcomes of your IMI journey.

Designed and delivered in partnership with Cork University Business School, this pathway will lead to a Professional Masters in Business Studies, Ireland’s first Professional Masters of its kind.

The Business Research Project is for those professionals who want to address a complex business challenge and execute a strategy or develop a strategic response that could change the future of their organisation.

This pathway will lead to a MSc. in Business Practice award.
Programme Delivery

IMI programmes are delivered through a blend of live face-to-face and virtual sessions via the IMI Virtual Learning Environment. Our High Impact Transformation learning approach lies at the core of all IMI programmes, meaning these sessions are always interactive, engaging and experiential.

Action and experiential learning — doing and reflecting — is a highly effective leadership and team development technique, which you will find enjoyable, challenging and in many cases transformational.

Dates:

Facilitated Workshops: Virtual & On-Site | Dublin

1) 09, 10 & 11 November 2020
2) 07, 08 & 09 December 2020
3) 11, 12 & 13 January 2021
4) 08, 09 10 February 2021
5) 08, 09, 10 March 2021
6) 12, 13 &14 April 2021

Facilitated Workshop 1

Day 1 of the Facilitated Workshop 1 will be delivered at the IMI campus in Sandyford, Dublin. Day 2 & 3 of the Facilitated Workshop 1 will be delivered via the IMI Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to your desktop.

Facilitated Workshops 2–6

Day 1 & 2 of the Facilitated Workshops 2-6 will be delivered via the IMI Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to your desktop. Day 3 of Facilitated Workshops 2-6 will be delivered at the IMI campus in Sandyford, Dublin.

Online Delivery
Combination of:
- Live Zoom faculty-led sessions
- Supporting online content & activities accessed via the Moodle learning platform
- Live or online (Moodle forum) group work & discussion

In-IMI Delivery
Combination of:
- Live faculty-led sessions
- Experiential activities
- Fusion of learning
- Live group work & discussion
- Learning material (slides) available on Moodle

Price:
Corporate Member: €8,390
SME: €9,190
Non-Member: €9,990

For more information, including a full listing of facilitated workshop dates, please contact our programme advisors at programmeadvisors@imi.ie.

Jonathan Westrup is an expert in the areas of business, organisational and regulatory strategy and corporate governance. An expert facilitator and executive educator, Jonathan specialises in working with senior teams in designing and implementing their organisational strategies. He was formerly a director of NCB Stockbrokers and is currently a non-executive director of NEAM Asset Management.

Dr Jonathan Westrup
Programme Director

Professional Diploma 1
30 Credits

Professional Diploma 2
30 Credits

Advanced Performance Programme
30 Credits

Business Research Project
30 Credits

Professional Masters in Business Studies
MSc.
in Business Practice
Participant information

Entry Requirements

A candidate’s eligibility for each programme will be determined by a combination of their academic qualifications and/or relevant professional experience. Each applicant will be required to complete the IMI “Portfolio of Learning” application form. A primary degree from a recognised third-level institution (NFQ level 8), with a minimum classification of Second Class Honours, will typically be required with five years relevant work experience, at least 3 of which must be at managerial level, however, prior workplace learning will be recognised where applicants do not meet the academic requirement.

This experience may come from a general business or organisational background, or experience working at a management level or in the area specifically related to the Diploma.

Each candidate will meet with the Programme Directors, who will interview applicants in person virtually or physically. The IMI Office of the Registrar will oversee all applications, and the final decision on any application shall remain with the Registrar.

All applicants whose first language is not English will be required to show evidence of the successful completion of an IELTS or TOEFL test. The English language requirement for this programme is an IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each individual section or equivalent.

*Programmes scheduled subject to cohort size.

Validation

Each Professional Diploma is validated by University College Cork and is at level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Assignments and Workload

To earn a Masters Degree or Professional Diploma, participants will be assessed through a variety of practical assignments. Programmes will have no examinations; instead, the emphasis throughout is on the practical application of knowledge to benefit you and your organisation. Assessment workload extends across the programme to allow you to combine your learning with your work and life demands.