

# Dr Brenda Gallagher | NUI Galway

## General Biography

Dr Brenda Gallagher is a graduate of NUI, Galway and was awarded her PhD from Trinity College Dublin in 1998. She has experience of working in industry and of teaching at second level within the Irish context. She also has extensive experience of conducting research and teaching at third level, within both Irish and African contexts. Currently she works in the area of Initial Teacher Education (ITE) with a focus on both the secondary and further education sectors. Her current key areas of research interest include global citizenship education (GCE), teacher professional identity and assessment as learning.

Her interest in being an RiRS panel member arises from her extensive experience of supervising student teachers' action research projects and practicing teachers' Masters dissertation research projects. As such, Brenda supports an evidence-based innovative approach to practice and is interested in supporting teachers to conduct research in areas that promote their professional and personal development. In addition, Brenda believes passionately in collaboration and the opportunities it provided for enhanced learning. As such, she sees the RiRS as an exciting opportunity to learn with and from practicing teachers; to develop her own professional and personal capacity and to promote, within education practice, critical thinking and thoughtful action.

In line with her key areas of research, Brenda proposes that some potential research projects could include: the integration of GCE in the classroom - opportunities, assumptions and dilemmas; professional identity and subject pedagogy - subject appreciation versus examination requirement; and assessment as learning within the secondary education sector - change and acceptance.