

Dr Tugba Boz | Dublin City University

General Biography

I am currently working as an assistant professor (lecturer) in the School of STEM Education, Innovation, and Global Studies in Dublin City University. Prior to DCU, I completed my PhD in the Department of Educational Theories and Practice at the University of Georgia (USA). In my doctoral dissertation, I investigated how primary school teachers learned coding and robotics in a semester long professional learning module (PL). Throughout my PhD, I worked as a research assistant in multiple nationally funded and interdisciplinary research projects and worked with many in-service teachers. I completed my BA degree in Foreign Language Education and MSc degree in Curriculum and Instruction. I have worked as a K-8 teacher for several years in three different countries (Turkey, Italy, and USA).

I am applying to become a RIRS panel member because I would like to be a resource for the teacher community in Ireland. I would like to work with teachers to inquire into any questions they have. As an experienced teacher, I approach teaching as embedded in social and organizational realities of schools. Therefore, in doing research, I always keep in mind that research should be practical, and research must reflect the realities of schools. Being a RIRS panel member will allow me to learn what questions and concerns the Irish teachers have and reflect on educational research together with them to increase student learning in primary schools.

I am interested in integrating new/emergent technological tools into primary schools in a way that will facilitate teaching and increase student learning. In particular, my current research encompasses integrating coding and robotics into primary school curriculum to increase student engagement and learning and to facilitate teaching in primary schools. In becoming a RIRS panel member, I will strengthen my network with schools, teachers, and educational organizations, and I will be involved in research with in-service teachers and make progress in reaching my aim to close the gap between educational theory and practice.