

2nd Year

Semester: 1

Colloquium

HI166 Ireland in the 1950s

Dr Tomás Finn

This colloquium examines perceptions of the 1950s in Ireland as a lost decade. It considers the economic stagnation from which the country suffered but also looks at the emergence of a culture of inquiry and many of the policies that shaped contemporary Ireland.

By the end of this module, students will:

Be familiar with key political and social controversies of this period

Understand the main social and economic problems facing Ireland

Be familiar with historiographical debates on this period

Identify relevant material, both primary and secondary sources, relating to Ireland in the 1950s

Carry out an independent research project about this period

Construct coherent and well-informed arguments about Ireland in the 1950s

Communicate information orally and in writing, in a well-organised and well-presented manner.

Colloquium

HI295 The American Civil War: Causes and Developments

Dr Enrico Dal Lago

This course will introduce students to the American Civil War, which between 1861 and 1865 caused more than 600,000 dead, destroyed the lives of an entire generation, and led to the emancipation of 4,000,000 African American slaves. Through the analysis of key documents –ranging from South Carolina’s Declaration of the Causes of Secession to Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation – and through the reading of writings by key historians, students will familiarize with the main issues of contention in the American Civil War and with the different scholarly interpretations of them.

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- Find relevant material, both printed and online, relating to the American Civil War
- Carry out a short independent research project about the American Civil War
- Avoid plagiarism through careful note-taking and citation
- Construct coherent and well-informed arguments about the American Civil War
- Communicate historical information orally and in writing, in a well-organised and well-presented manner

Textbook:

Michael Perman, eds., Major problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2nd edition 1998).

Additional Readings:

James McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (New York, 1988)

James McPherson & William Cooper, eds., *Writing the Civil War: The Quest to Understand* (2000)

Orville Vernon Burton, *The Age of Lincoln* (2007)

Ira Berlin et al., *Slaves No More: Three Essays on Emancipation and the Civil War* (1992)

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Colloquium

HI458 Land Wars in Ireland, 1879-1920

Dr Laurence Marley

In this colloquium course, students will examine how the Irish 'land question', and the conflicts surrounding that question, presented serious challenges and opportunities to successive British governments, the landed ascendancy class in Ireland, and the leadership of the Irish nationalist and revolutionary movements in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The politicisation of the land question and its far-reaching social implications will be considered in the wider context of the shaping of modern Ireland. In the course of study, students will examine contemporary parliamentary reports and speeches, minutes of meetings, police reports, newspaper coverage, and the diaries of contemporaries.

By the end of this course, students should:

- Have gained an understanding of the social and economic, as well as political, forces at play in the shaping of modern Ireland
- Understand the role and impact of popular social protest in this period
- Appreciate the impact of the Irish land question on British politics in the late Victorian period
- Have gained experience in accessing and critically evaluating primary sources

Reading:

Michael Winstanley, *Ireland and the Land Question* (London, 1984)

Samuel Clark, *Origins of the Irish Land War* (Princeton, 1979)

Paul Bew, *Land and the National Question in Ireland, 1858-82* (Dublin, 1980)

Philip Bull, *Land, Politics and Nationalism: A Study of the Irish Land Question* (Dublin, 1996)

Fergus Campbell, *Land and Revolution: Nationalist Politics in the West of Ireland, 1891-1921* (Oxford, 2005)

Colloquium

HI572 Irish Ideologies and Activists, 1905-1916

Dr Mary Harris

This colloquium focuses on prominent Irish nationalist, republican, unionist, feminist and socialist figures of the period. It examines their writings, relating them to their Irish and international contexts. It considers their use of the mosquito press, demonstrations, agitprop and other means of conveying their message and assesses their impact.

Lecture

HI208 The Two Irelands in the 20th Century

Dr John Cunningham

This module will explain the process whereby Ireland was partitioned into two states, the effectively independent dominion of the Irish Free State and the home rule state of Northern Ireland. It will also follow the course of both states after partition, focusing on how both dealt with early threats to their authority and the economic difficulties faced by them in the 1930s. The differing experiences of both states in World War II and the effect of that in solidifying partition will also be examined. Other themes discussed include the evolution of southern Ireland to an independent republic; its growing role in the international community through membership of the European Union and the United Nations; the emergence of the troubles and the end of home rule in Northern Ireland; and relations between both states throughout the period of the module.

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Lecture

HI211 Medieval Ireland 5th-9th century

Prof. Dáibhí Ó Cróinín

This module comprises a survey of the history, politics, culture, literature and society of Ireland in the Early Middle Ages (from c. AD 400 to c. AD 800). It traces the transition from a so-called 'tribal' society to one in which 'dynastic' politics are the norm, and explains how that change is reflected in society. It ends with an assessment of the Viking impact in Ireland.

The lectures cover such themes as Early Irish (Brehon) law and institutions; politics and society; the origins of Irish artistic and literary culture; the beginnings of Christianity and the later evolution of the Irish Church; the Irish abroad, and the Vikings. Students are introduced to some of the original documentary material used by historians.

On completion of this module, students will have obtained:

- An overview of the main social, political and ecclesiastical developments in Irish society from c. AD 400 to c. AD 800
- A knowledge of what are the principal primary sources for this period (in Latin & Old Irish) & an appreciation of how to evaluate them.
- Acquired essay-writing skills using original source-materials

Required Texts:

Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, *Early Medieval Ireland, 400-1200* (Pearson)
Thomas Charles-Edwards, *Early Christian Ireland* (Oxford 2000)

Lecture

HI223 Aspects of Modern Irish History 1750-1900

Dr Niall Whelehan

This course will be mainly concerned with examining contested views on the best future for Ireland held at a popular local, national and wider level, with special attention paid to the press, parliamentary debates and theoretical discourse during what are normatively seen as the 'milestones' of modern Irish history. Among them Grattan's Parliament, influences of the American and French Revolution, the 1798 Rising, Act of Union, Catholic Emancipation, the Irish in the Union Parliament, the development of cultural nationalism, Parnellism, Home Rule and Constructive Unionism.

There will be, however, particular attention given to the ideas and influence of Irish movements and individuals opposed to what would become the tropes and 'great men' of a linear nationalist historiography. Those such as Tory, Whig, Liberal and Conservative press-men, pamphleteers, parliamentarians and political thinkers; Catholic and Protestant Unionists and radical reformers, as well as the Irish in Empire, who saw nothing anomalous in being both patriotically Irish and British. They substantially outnumbered their separatist opponents for most of our period of study, but their alternative ambitions for Ireland and their influence have remained much less well known.

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Lecture

HI252 Problems in the History of Ireland 1580-1700

Dr Pádraig Lenihan

This course focuses on several principal developments in the political, social, economic and religious history of Ireland during this period. The overarching themes addressed include violent conflict between Irish-based groups and the English state; British migration to Ireland; government in Ireland; the rise of sectarianism; and divisions in Irish society along ethnic and religious lines. The 'problems' discussed in the course are punctuated by three lectures which summarise society and politics in Ireland in c. 1580, 1620 and 1700. Finally, the course has a strong historiographical element. Thus students will not only confront the defining problems of early modern Ireland, but will also engage with the various responses to these events by historians.

Lecture

HI262 Medieval Europe c. 1050-1250

Dr Kimberly LoPrete

This survey introduces students to key actors, events and ideas that shaped culture, politics and religious affairs in the central middle ages—a period that saw great experimentation and expansion followed by the development of legal and administrative structures to centralise monarchs' powers in both 'church' and 'states'. Topics treated in lectures include how lordship shaped knightly, clerical, peasant and burgh communities; papal reform and Christian kingship; the Norman impact in England and south Italy; 'reconquista' and the first crusade; new religious movements, both orthodox and heterodox; the rise of universities. Lectures are complemented by the discussion in tutorials of primary sources devoted to such themes as medieval warfare; the relations of kings and prelates; the charismatic religious figures Peter Waldo and Francis of Assisi; the purpose and reach of inquisitors; and legal compilations like the canons of the Fourth Lateran Council (1215), Magna Carta (1215) and the Constitutions of Melfi (1231).

By the end of this module you should be able

To locate recommended reading material in the library

To avoid plagiarism through careful note-taking and citation

To prepare written work which is well-organised and well-presented

To construct coherent and well-informed arguments about Europe, c.1050-1250, in which primary source evidence is distinguished from interpretations of it used by historians in the construction of their secondary historical narratives

To grasp the historical significance to medieval people & modern folk of key events, trends and deeds of historical actors in Europe, c.1050-1250.

Reading:

Required primary sources are in a course booklet to be purchased.

Required background readings are selections from titles like:

Malcolm Barber, *The Two Cities: Medieval Europe, 1050-1320*, 2nd ed. (2004)

C.N.L. Brooke, *Europe in the Central Middle Ages, 962-1154*, 3rd ed. (2000)

J.W. Baldwin, *Scholastic Culture of the Middle Ages* (1997 rpt)

C. Morris, *The Papal Monarchy: The Western Church from 1050-1250* (1989)

C.H. Lawrence, *Medieval Monasticism. . .*, 2nd ed. (1989)

J. Riley-Smith, *The Crusades: A Short History* (c. 1987)

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Lecture

HI267 Reformation Europe

Prof. Steven Ellis

This module examines events in Europe during the age of the Reformation, viz. from Martin Luther's 95 theses in 1517 to the peace of Cateau-Cambrésis in 1559. Besides studying ecclesiastical change, the module will focus on the impact of the Reformation on European politics and society, Germany and England in particular. There will also be an emphasis on popular responses to the Reformation, as exemplified by the German Peasants' War and the English revolts of 1536 and 1549.

Lecture

HI292 Central Europe, 1867-1918

Dr Róisín Healy

Definitions of Central Europe vary, but for the purposes of this course, the term refers to the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires. Together these two empires covered vast territories from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Adriatic in the south, from which many of the recent EU-accession states emerged. These empires experienced similar tensions to states in western Europe, for instance, over the relationship between church and state, the social consequences of industrialization, and the acquisition of overseas colonies. Their ethnic heterogeneity, however, gave rise to other, more serious divisions. German nationalism clashed with the nationalisms of Poles, Slovaks, Magyars and others. This course examines both the 'normal' problems of Central Europeans at this time and those that derived from the clash of nationalisms in these two empires. Figures familiar to western Europeans, such as Bismarck, William II and Francis Joseph I, all make appearances, as do others who are better known to central Europeans, such as Józef Piłsudski, Tomas Masaryk, and Rosa Luxemburg.

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Semester: 2

Colloquium

HI298 The South African War

Dr Laurence Marley

Students will consider the causes, course and consequences of the war that was fought between the British Empire and the Boer Republics of the Transvaal and Orange Free State between 1899 and 1902. Particular attention will be devoted to: debates among historians over the reasons for the outbreak of war; the difficulties encountered by the British Army in South Africa and the strategies adopted to overcome them; Canadian, Australian, New Zealand and Irish contributions to the conflict; the war as a 'media war'; the role of women in the war; the role of black Africans and coloured people; the British Army concentration camps and the death of Boer civilians; and the consequences of the war for Britain, South Africa and the British Empire more generally. Students will examine contemporary government documents, contemporary newspaper coverage, the diaries and letters of soldiers and civilians and other printed primary documents.

Colloquium

HI410 The Great Exhibition of 1851

Dr Laura Kelly

This module will introduce you to the cultural history of Britain through a focus on the biggest and most famous event in the nineteenth century outside wars or politics: the Great Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations, held in the specially-constructed Crystal Palace in London, and visited by an incredible 6 million people in the summer of 1851. We will be investigating the ambitions behind the exhibition, in relation to Britain's industrial and imperial expansion; and we will be considering the experience of visiting the Exhibition, compared with daily life and with other cultural and tourist activities. As well as learning about mid-nineteenth century Britain, you will be learning about a different style of doing history – cultural history – and you will have plenty of opportunities to use a wide range of primary source material, such as diaries, letters, newspaper reports, advertisements, railway timetables and illustrations.

Colloquium

HI429.II The Mid-Tudor Crisis, 1547-60

Prof. Steven Ellis

The module focuses on the English state in the period from the death of Henry VIII (1509-47) through the reigns of Edward VI (1547-53) and Mary I (1553-8) to the start of the reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603). At a time when kings were expected to rule as well as reign, King Henry was succeeded by his young son, Edward, and on the latter's death, aged only 15, by the two half-sisters, Mary (who defeated an attempt by Lady Jane Grey to pervert the Tudor succession) and then Elizabeth. The absence of a male ruler was thus a major part of the 'crisis', but in addition Edward's reign saw a lurch towards Protestantism, with a Catholic reaction under Mary, and then more Protestantism under Elizabeth. These religious changes sparked popular unrest and rebellion and this was also fuelled by social unrest arising out of inflation and demographic growth. The module will thus assess the nature of the 'crisis', with particular reference to politics, religious developments, socio-economic change, and popular unrest.

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Colloquium

HI465 European Encounters with the Mongols

Dr Kimberly LoPrete

This Colloquium examines Europeans' encounters with the Mongols from the initial shock and outrageous rumours after the Mongols' destructive attacks on central European cities in the 1240s to the studied attempts--through 'fact-finding' and other diplomatic embassies--both to acquire accurate knowledge of the Mongols' way of life and to forge alliances with some of them against the Muslim powers of the middle east. Emphasis will be on the considered discussion of contemporary reports, most notably those by the papal envoy John of 'Planus Carpinus' and by William of Rubruck, sent by the French king Louis IX, in attempts to see how knowledge of the Mongols and central Asia affected Europeans' views of themselves and their wider world.

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

- Find relevant material, both printed and online, relating to European encounters with the Mongols
- Carry out a short independent research project about European encounters with the Mongols
- Avoid plagiarism through careful note-taking and citation
- Construct coherent and well-informed arguments, based on primary sources analysed as evidence for past events, about European encounters with the Mongols
- Communicate historical information orally and in writing, in a well-organised and well-presented manner
- Critique widely held myths about thirteenth-century Europeans and Mongols with reference to contemporary evidence and established facts

Core readings include:

'History of the Mongols' by John of 'Planus Carpinus' in C. Dawson, ed., *The Mongol Mission: Narratives and Letters of the Franciscan Missionaries in Mongolia and China in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries* (1955)

Mission of Friar William of Rubruck: His Journey to the Court of the Great Khan Möngke, 1253-1255, ed. & trs. P. Jackson (1990)

P. Jackson, *The Mongols and the West, 1221-1410* (2005)

HISTORY MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

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Lecture

HI170 Europe, 1919-89

Dr Gearóid Barry

This is a survey course of politics and society across Europe since the First World War. It will pay special attention to key states such as Germany, France and the Soviet Union and key themes such as the role of political ideology, ethnic conflict, decolonization and the process of European integration. Students will be exposed to a broad range of historiographical interpretations, seeking to give a holistic overview that does not excessively privilege Western Europe or the totalitarian states.

The committed student will gain:

Overview of political developments in Europe since the treaty of Versailles

Awareness of major scholarly debates

A sound sense of chronology and grasp of the political geography of twentieth-century Europe

Essay writing skills with reference to summarising historiographical debates

Reading includes: Blanning, TCW, *The Oxford history of modern Europe* (Oxford: OUP, 2000)

Judt, Tony, *Postwar: A history of Europe since 1945* (London: Pimlico, 2005)

Lecture

HI171 Social History of Ireland 1850 - 1922

Dr Caitríona Clear

This module is a social history of the entire island of Ireland in the years between the end of the Famine and independence/partition. It looks at Irish workers of all classes, on the land and off it, in towns and cities, institutions and services, paying particular attention to the new employees created by the social changes of the period. It also looks at population change, marriage and family life, and permanent and temporary emigration, education and schooling, religion including nuns and priests (from the point of view of work), public health, houses, food, accommodation, and institutions as they developed and changed over time.

Lecture

HI204 18th Century Ireland, 1691-1801

Dr Pádraig Lenihan

This course is a survey of Irish history in the period from the articles of Limerick to the Act of Union. It aims to introduce students to salient developments in the spheres of government, society and the economy while paying particular attention to the identities of the three main religious communities and the ways in which these evolved during the eighteenth century. Topics that will be explored include the relationship between the Irish political nation and British government; the significance of Catholic Jacobitism; and the political dimension of Protestant Dissent. The course also aims to acquaint students with current historiographical debates on such issues as Penal legislation; Anglo-Irish patriotism; politicisation in the 1790s; and the applicability of 'colonial' and/or 'ancien régime' models in the context of eighteenth-century Ireland.

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Lecture

HI229 Medieval Europe 5th-9th Century

Prof. Dáibhí Ó Cróinín

This module comprises a survey of the history, politics, culture, and society of Western Europe in the Early Middle Ages (from c. AD 400 to c. AD 800), and traces the transition from Late Antiquity to the so-called 'barbarian' kingdoms of France, Germany, Spain and Italy in the period sometimes called the 'Dark Ages'.

The lectures cover such themes as law and institutions in Late Roman Gaul and in the barbarian kingdoms; politics and society; literature and culture; the role of the church and its evolution, and the general question of how 'The First Europe' came into existence. Students are introduced to some of the original documentary and archaeological material used by historians of the period.

On completion of this module, students will have obtained:

- An overview of the principal developments in European history in the centuries following the 'Fall of the Roman Empire'
- An awareness of the major scholarly controversies & debates regarding the period
- Experience in essay-writing skills & analysis of contemporary historical documents

Required Reading:

Edward James, *Europe's Barbarians, AD 200-600* (London 2009)

Thomas F.X. Noble (ed), *From Roman Provinces to Medieval Kingdoms* (London 2006)

Bryan Ward-Perkins, *The Fall of Rome and the End of Civilization* (Oxford 2005)

Lecture

HI259 Rise of Modern America, 1865-1996

Dr Enrico Dal Lago

This course will introduce students to the history of the United States from Reconstruction (after the Civil War) to the present. Focusing on the economic, social, and political forces operating during the emergence of the modern American nation, the module will account for the rise of the United States as a global power and for the strains that that rise imposed upon American society. Special emphasis will be placed on the 1960s, the Civil Rights Movement, the "New Left", and the significance of the Vietnam War.

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- Locate recommended reading material related to The Rise of Modern America in the library
- Avoid plagiarism through careful note-taking and citation
- Present written work on The Rise of Modern America which is well-organised and well-thought out
- Construct coherent and well-informed arguments about The Rise of Modern America

Textbook:

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History, Vol. II* (New York, 2005)

Additional Readings:

E. Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution* (1988)

N.I. Painter, *Standing at Armageddon: The United States, 1877-1919* (1989)

W. Leuchtenburg, *The Perils of Prosperity, 1914-1932* (1993)

D. Kennedy, *Freedom from Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945* (1999)

W. Chafe, *The Unfinished Journey: America since World War II* (2003)

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Lecture

HI288 State & Society in Early Modern Europe 1555-1685

Dr Alison Forrestal

This course offers a survey of political and economic developments in Central and Western (continental) Europe from the Peace of Augsburg in 1555 to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV of France in 1685. Key aspects of the period are examined, for example: economic structures and changes, the consequences of the Protestant Reformation, the Catholic Reformation, the Military Revolution, overseas expansion and developments in sovereignty and government. Particular case studies such as Council of Trent, the Dutch Golden Age, the decline of Spain and the 'absolute' reign of Louis XIV are placed in representative and comparative contexts.