

MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES (LITERATURE and MUSIC)

National University of Ireland,
Galway

FINAL ARTS 3BA / 4BA

AY2021-22
Semester 1 and 2



Final Year Coordinator

Dr. Verena Commins,

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MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES (LITERATURE and MUSIC)

3BA / 4BA CONNECT

Welcome to Final Year Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) at NUI Galway! We are looking forward to welcoming you back into the classroom for this, your final year of study. **Our plan for Modern Irish Culture Studies is that all classes will take place in person, on campus.** We will be following public health and university Covid-related guidelines at all times.

In Final Arts, you continue with your two subjects from Second Year. For all Final Arts students, end of year total marks will count **70% towards your final degree**. You should also be aware that all repeat module marks in Final Year (unless deferred) are capped at 40%.

SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATION

- All general enquiries should be directed to Dr Verena Commins, Final Year Academic Coordinator in Modern Irish Culture Studies (verena.commins@nuigalway.ie), Room 204, Centre for Irish Studies.
- **Blackboard** is the main way that we keep in touch with you at a modular level.
- Students should check Blackboard regularly for class/programme announcements.
- When we are emailing you, we will use only your **student@nuigalway** email account and it is your responsibility to check it regularly.
- Information from the Module Coordinator and from individual lecturers and tutors will be sent to your college email address or made available on BlackBoard. Email is the quickest way to contact a member of staff.
- **Facebook** is also another key way of keeping up with all that is happening at the Centre for Irish Studies. Follow us for additional events, activities and announcements.
- Hardcopy material for distribution where assigned can be collected from the readings mailbox in the foyer of the Centre for Irish Studies, on Distillery Road.

IRISH STUDIES STAFF

Below are the contact details for staff members in Irish Studies. All offices are located in the Centre for Irish Studies on Distillery Road.

Head of Discipline

Prof. Louis de Paor, Room 202
louis.depaor@nuigalway.ie

Administrator

Samantha Williams, Room 101
samantha.williams@nuigalway.ie

Lecturers and Teaching Staff

Dr Verena Commins
verena.commins@nuigalway.ie

Dr Nessa Cronin
nessa.cronin@nuigalway.ie

Dr Leo Keohane
leo.keohane@nuigalway.ie

Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin [ON LEAVE AY202122]
meabh.nifhuarthain@nuigalway.ie

LECTURES IN MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES

Attendance at all classes is required and class attendance is noted. Each class requires student participation, and this will be central to your learning experience. Readings are assigned that you will be required to read in advance and discuss. Please note that all lectures start on the hour (e.g. 9am, 10am, 11am etc.) and following Covid protocols, will finish at fifteen minutes to the hour (e.g. 9.45am, 10.45am, etc.). Students who cannot attend for medical/personal reasons should communicate with their lecturer directly and appropriate support will be provided.

UPDATE for academic year 202122: All of your classes take in-person; individual lecturers will advise you of any other arrangements during the semester.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in Modern Irish Culture Studies is by continuous assessment only (there are no final, exam period exams). Essays, presentations, reviews and other methods of continuous assessment are used. Assessments should include a cover page indicating date of submission, title and student details.

Academic writing

Writing in an academic style is a process of investigating ideas, collating information and presenting a coherent and critical argument. You will be reading diverse texts which will develop your awareness of different styles of writing and approaches to scholarship. All academic writing requires the author to properly acknowledge the source/s of the information presented through a system of referencing/citation. This is the cornerstone of good academic practice. Your Irish Studies tutorial will focus on developing academic writing.

Referencing/citations

In your essays, quotations and substantive information taken from other works must be acknowledged in footnotes or endnotes, giving author, title, and page number. When citing unpublished sources, students should follow the advice of the module lecturer. A bibliography, listing the documentary sources, books, and articles used (including all those acknowledged in footnotes/endnotes) must be included at the end of your essay. The most common style of referencing used by scholars in the disciplines of literature and languages is the MLA style. For a useful and succinct outline of this follow the link below through the Hardiman Library style guide: <https://owl.purdue.edu/>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is when a student presents the work of other authors as their own without proper acknowledgement or reference. Plagiarism is a serious offence and is subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University. **A full university statement on plagiarism is available through the student services portal on the university home page here: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/plagiarism/>**

When a student directly uses an idea or expressive quotation from something they have read, it must be put in quotation marks and the source acknowledged. When a student paraphrases something, or relies substantially on an idea or construct of a particular author, that too needs to be acknowledged through references. Not to do so is academically dishonest. If you have any question about the difference between scholarly citation, collaboration and paraphrase, ask for clarification.

Writing skills support

All of your lecturers at the Centre for Irish Studies will assist you in developing good academic writing skills and the First Year Tutorial will also help develop your writing skills. In addition, we strongly advise students to avail of the services of the Academic Writing Centre. This is a free service where students of all disciplines are welcome to get assistance with their writing skills, essays and reports. Situated in

the James Hardiman library, students can drop-in or make an appointment (writingcentre@nuigalway.ie).

Assignment Submission Procedures

All assignment must be completed by the specified date indicated by your Module Lecturer. **Late submission of any assignment is subject to the following penalties: 5% for part or all of the first week and 1% for each subsequent day.**

Marking system

The marking system in Modern Irish Culture Studies is as follows

A: 70-100% / 1	B-: 50-59% / II.2	D: 40-44% / Pass
B+: 60-69% / II.1	C: 45-49%/ Pass	Fail: 30-39%/ Fail

Please find further information relating to Marks and Standards here:

<https://www.nuigalway.ie/media/registry/exams/QA228---Undergraduate-Marks-and-Standards.pdf>

EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER AND ACCUMULATION SYSTEM (ECTS)

ECTS is an academic credit system based on the estimated student workload required to achieve the objectives of a module or programme of study. The ECTS is the recommended credit system for higher education in Ireland and across the European Higher Education Area. The ECTS weighting for a module is a **measure of the student input or workload** required for that module, based on factors such as the number of contact hours the number and length of written or verbally presented assessment exercises, class preparation and private study time, as appropriate.

The European **norm for full-time undergraduate study over one academic year is 60 credits**. The distribution of credits for the **BA Joint Hons degree** is as follows:

First Year	60 ECTS (20 ECTS x Three subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Second Year	60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Third Year	60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)

The distribution of credits for **BA CONNECT degrees** is as follows:

First Year	60 ECTS (15 ECTS x Four subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Second Year	60 ECTS (10 ECTS CONNECT subject) (25 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Third Year	60 ECTS (CONNECT subject)
Fourth Year	60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)

STUDENTS TAKING BA CONNECT PROGRAMMES

In Final Arts, BA Connect students take 30 ECTS credits in Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music).



FINAL YEAR MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES TIMETABLE SEMESTER 1

Module: <i>IS3100 Introducing Literary and Cultural Theory</i>		
Time: Thursday, 9-10am (Dr Leo Keohane)	Venue: TB302	
Time: Friday, 2-3pm (Dr Leo Keohane)	Venue: Centre for Irish Studies	
11 weeks, classes begin 15 September (Week 2)		Credits: 5 ECTS

Module: <i>IS3101 Topics in Irish Music Studies</i>		
Time: Monday, 10-11am (Dr Verena Commins)	Venue: BLE1006, Block E	
Time: Monday, 2-3pm (Dr Verena Commins)	Venue: AC202	
*11 weeks, classes begin Week 1		Credits: 5 ECTS

Module: <i>IS3102 Topics in Irish Literature Studies</i>		
Time: Tuesday, 4-5pm (Prof Louis de Paor)	Venue: AMB G012	
Time: Wednesday, 1-2pm (Prof Louis de Paor)	Venue: AMB G005	
12 weeks, classes begin Week 1		Credits: 5 ECTS

*Monday, 26 October, Bank Holiday, no classes

SEMESTER 2

Module: <i>IS3103 Irish Studies Independent Research Project</i>		
Time: Friday, 1.30pm-4.30pm (Prof Louis de Paor)	Venue: Centre for Irish Studies	
12 weeks, classes begin Week 1		Credits: 15 ECTS

Academic Year 2021-2022	
2021	
Orientation 1st years	Dates to be confirmed for Orientation
Start of teaching - 1 st Years*	Monday 27th September
End of teaching - 1 st Years*	Friday 17th December (12 weeks of teaching)
Start of teaching all other years	Monday 6th September
End of teaching all other years	Friday 26th November (12 weeks of teaching)
Study week	Monday 29th November to Friday 3rd December
Semester 1 exams start	Monday 6th December
Semester 1 exams end	Friday 17th December (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 18th December
2022	
Start of teaching	Monday 10th January
End of Teaching	Friday 1st April (12 weeks of teaching)
Easter	Good Friday 15th April to Easter Monday 18th April
Field Trips	Monday 4th April to Friday 8th April
Study Week	Monday 11th April to Friday 15th April
Semester 2 Exams Start	Tuesday 19th April
Semester 2 Exams End	Friday 6th May (13 days of exams)
Autumn Repeat Exams	Tuesday 2nd August to Friday 12th August (9 days of exams)
Holidays	Easter: Good Friday 15th April to Easter Monday 18th April 2022
	Bank Holidays: Monday 25th October 2021 / Thursday 17th March 2022 /
	Monday 2nd May 2022 / Monday 6th June 2022 / Monday 1st August 2022



MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

IS3100	<p>INTRODUCING LITERARY AND CULTURAL THEORY (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will provide an introduction to literary and cultural theory and its application to modern and contemporary Irish cultural production. In particular, it will investigate the extent to which theories of gender and post-colonialism have had an impact on the production and reception of modern and contemporary Irish literature and culture. It will explore the Irish contribution to literary and cultural theory and the extent to which Irish critics and scholars have adapted the reading methods of gender studies and post-colonial studies to their interpretation and reinterpretation of Irish culture in its historical and contemporary settings.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Blackboard. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final take-home exam assessment.</p>
IS3101	<p>TOPICS IN IRISH MUSIC STUDIES: Irish traditional music, identity and place (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will introduce students to further critical scholarship in Irish music, drawing on writings in ethnomusicology, cultural geography, music studies and Irish studies. Particular emphasis will be given to traditional music styles and performances from 1970 to the twenty-first century in Irish traditional music, examining key canonical figures and significant recordings/events heralding new Irish identities. In particular, this module selects and tracks key recordings, performances and performers, following a largely chronological trajectory from 1970 to the present day, to interrogate the role of Irish traditional and folk music and its influence on the formations of (political) identities and place.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Blackboard. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS3102	<p>TOPICS IN IRISH LITERATURE STUDIES: Flann O'Brien and the Irish Comic Tradition (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will provide an opportunity for critical evaluation of significant writers, historical moments, and recurrent preoccupations in modern and contemporary Irish writing. Specifically, it will explore Flann O'Brien's work as part of an Irish comic tradition that extends from early and medieval Gaelic literature to the work of a new generation of contemporary Irish writers including Kevin Barry and Mike McCormack through a close reading of his most accomplished novels and journalism. By positioning O'Brien's fiction between European modernism and the Gaelic Irish literary tradition, it will investigate a key moment in the development of twentieth-century Irish literature and cultural politics.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Blackboard. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS3102	<p>INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT IN IRISH (15 ECTS)</p> <p>Over the course of the full semester, with guidance from module convenors and advisors, students research a selected and approved topic in Irish Studies, through independent and directed learning. Meeting weekly, for required, roundtable class discussions, students write and submit a customized independent project/thesis in Irish studies drawing on research skills developed throughout undergraduate studies.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Project/thesis submission, final presentation, weekly discussions</p>