MA in Irish Studies

The MA in Irish Studies is a one-year interdisciplinary programme drawing on the disciplines of Irish, History and English, and including perspectives from Sociology and Political Science. The programme provides a comprehensive overview of the Irish experience from the early nineteenth century to the present, and is taught by internationally recognised experts at NUI Galway. The MA in Irish Studies is also available as a part-time degree programme.

Tadhg Foley Fellowship
The Tadhg Foley Fellowship is awarded on the basis of academic excellence achieved across all MA modules in the first semester of the programme.

Features of the MA in Irish Studies
- Interdisciplinary focus on the development of modern Irish culture and society
- Bilingual approaches to Irish literature and history
- Intensive year-long Irish-language programme, including classes in the Gaeltacht
- Advanced research workshops

Minimum entry requirements
A Second Class Honours primary degree. Students from North America are required to have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Career opportunities
Graduates of this programme can enter a wide range of careers including doctoral research, teaching and education, publishing and translation, journalism and digital media, and the arts, tourism and heritage sectors.

For further details, contact
Dr Louis de Paor, Programme Director
e-mail: irishstudies@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/cis/
Since its inception in 2000, the Centre for Irish Studies at NUI Galway has established itself as one of the premier locations worldwide for interdisciplinary research and advanced teaching on the cultural, social and political endeavours of Irish people, on the island of Ireland and beyond.

The distinctive features of our taught and research programmes foreground the University’s longstanding commitment to the cultural traditions of the West of Ireland and the research achievements of academic staff across several disciplines.

- Bilingual approaches to literature, history, and culture enable students to develop a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to cultural production by studying both Irish and English language material.
- Irish Music and Dance Studies develops the dynamic relationship between students and the artistic practices of the region where the traditions of Irish music and dance are particularly strong.
- Place Studies encourages students to consider the deep attachment to place as a signature element of the Irish imagination, and migration and dislocation as defining aspects of the Irish experience.
- A commitment to interdisciplinarity requires students to work across the traditional boundaries between individual disciplines, including Irish, English, History, Geography, Political Science and Sociology.

Through Erasmus and Study Abroad initiatives, through staff and student exchanges, and through hosting international conferences, we have developed strong partnerships with many of the foremost centres for Irish Studies in Europe, the United Kingdom, North and South America, Australia, New Zealand, and China, and offer a full range of programmes for Irish and international students and scholars.

Through a generous endowment from the estate of Boston schoolteacher Martha Fox, the Centre’s premises at Martha Fox House were refurbished in 2002 and contain dedicated space for up to twelve research and teaching personnel. A flexible teaching space accommodates most of our taught programmes and a number of arts and community initiatives which are central to the Centre’s engagement with the broader community.

We are delighted to present details of our teaching and research programmes and look forward to working closely with colleagues and students to develop exciting new initiatives in the future.

Is láthair oibre dhátheangach é Ionad an Léinn Éireannaigh is tá fáilte roimh mhicléinn agus scoláirí gnó a dhéanamh linn trí Ghaeilge.
HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

MÁIRE MHAC AN tSAOI

In Spring 2005, the distinguished poet Máire Mhac an tSaoi was appointed to the position of Honorary Professor of Irish Studies at NUI Galway. Professor Mhac an tSaoi is one of a handful of major poets who transformed poetry in Irish in the period during and after the Second World War. Her work is particularly significant in that it anticipates the emergence of women’s voices at the forefront of Irish poetry in both Irish and English during the 1970s and 80s. A generation before the groundbreaking achievements of Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Eavan Boland and others, and in more daunting circumstances, her poetry speaks to and from the intimate experience of women at a time when women’s voices were marginalized both in literature and in Irish society. Her most famous poem ‘Ceathrúintí Mháire Ní Ógáin’, is a powerful challenge to the orthodox morality of Ireland in the 1940s and subsequent decades:

Beagbheann ar amhras daoine,  
Beagbheann ar chros na sagart,
Ar gach ní ach a bheith sinte
Idir tú agus falla-

I care little for people’s suspicions,
I care little for priests’ prohibitions,
For anything save to lie stretched
Between you and the wall-

Her honorary appointment recognises her achievement as a groundbreaking poet and as a public figure who participated in some of the key moments of recent Irish, European, and world history.

JOHN MCGAHERN

The late John McGahern had a long and productive relationship with NUI Galway stretching back to the inaugural Summer School in Irish Studies in 1984. While his reputation flourished, both nationally and internationally, in the intervening years, he continued to contribute to the Summer School until his untimely death in March 2006. In 1994, he was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Literature by the University and, in January 2001, he was appointed Honorary Professor of Irish Studies in recognition of a lifetime of creative achievement at the highest level. In October 2003 Professor McGahern bestowed his substantial literary archive on NUI Galway. This material, which will provide an invaluable resource for generations of future scholars, consists of forty years of writings, personal papers, correspondence, and the manuscript of an unpublished novel.

The McGahern Collection, which includes the manuscripts of The Dark, The Barracks, Amongst Women, That They May Face the Rising Sun, and Memoir, his final published work, provides a unique insight into the working methods and technical development of one of the most meticulous and scrupulous Irish writers of our time.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION

## HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## STAFF PROFILES

## TAUGHT PROGRAMMES
- BA with Irish Studies
- MA in Irish Studies
- Online Diploma in Irish Studies
- International Irish Studies Summer School
- Other Courses for Visiting Students

## RESEARCH
- Doctoral Research in Irish Studies
- International Research Networks
- Irish Studies Conferences
- Research Publications
- Distinguished Research Fellows

## IRISH STUDIES ARCHIVES

## SEAN-NÓS SINGERS/DANCERS IN RESIDENCE
STAFF PROFILES

Dr Louis de Paor, Director, Centre for Irish Studies

Having graduated with First Class Honours in Irish and Léann Dúchais (Irish and Cognate Studies) at UCC, Louis de Paor completed his doctoral research on narrative technique in the short fiction of Máirtín Ó Cadhain under the supervision of Seán Ó Tuama and was awarded a PhD by the National University of Ireland in 1986 for his thesis, Teicníocht agus aigneolaoacht san insint liteartha; anailís ar mhínílai teicníochta agus ar mhínílai tuisceana i dteanga na hínste i ngearrscéalta Mháirtín Ó Chadhain. He spent time as a lecturer in Irish at UCC and Thomond College, Limerick, before moving to Australia in 1987, where he worked in local and ethnic radio in Melbourne and taught evening classes in Irish language and literature at Melbourne University and the Melbourne Council for Adult Education. He was Visiting Professor of Celtic Studies at Sydney University in 1993 and Visiting Fellow in 1992. He returned to Ireland in 1996 and worked as proof editor of the Irish language newspaper Foinse before being appointed Director of the Centre for Irish Studies at NUI Galway in 2000.


He was Jefferson Smurfit Distinguished Fellow at the University of St Louis-Missouri in 2002 and received the Charles Fanning medal from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2009.

Tel: 353(0)91 493660       Email: louis.depaor@nuigalway.ie

Samantha Williams, Administrator, Centre for Irish Studies

Samantha graduated from NUI Galway with a First Class Honours degree in Economic and Social Studies with a specialism in Information Technology and has been a member of the administrative staff of NUI Galway since her appointment in 1992. She has obtained invaluable work experience in both flexible and highly structured work environments in offices and disciplines throughout the University before joining the Centre for Irish Studies in March 2003.

Tel: 353 (0)91 492051       Email: samantha.williams@nuigalway.ie
**Dr Nessa Cronin, Lecturer and Co-Director, MA in Irish Studies**

Dr Nessa Cronin read English and Philosophy for her undergraduate degree at Trinity College, Dublin (1998) and received an MA in Continental Philosophy and Literature from Warwick University (2000). She spent three years teaching English and French in Wales, Spain and Taiwan before returning to Ireland in 2003 to commence her doctoral research in Irish Studies at NUI Galway. Her doctoral thesis, *The Eye of History: Spatiality and Colonial Cartography in Ireland* (2007), focuses on the visual and linguistic construction of the modern Irish map through a critical examination of four key moments in Irish cartographic history.

She was the recipient of an IRCHSS Postgraduate Scholarship, an Arts Faculty Fellowship, and a Notre-Dame Summer School Fellowship for her doctoral research, and has subsequently been awarded fellowships and research awards by the IRCHSS (2007, 2011), European Science Foundation (2008) and Culture Ireland (2008) for her work in Irish cartographic history and Irish Place Studies.

Nessa is the author of several articles, reviews and conference reports on aspects of Irish historical geography and literary geographies, including contributions to *Irish Studies Review*, *New Hibernia Review*, *Journal of Nordic Irish Studies*, *European Journal of English Studies*, *Journal of Historical Geography*, *The Cartographic Journal* and *Dialogues in Human Geography*. Her book chapters include contributions to *Ireland: Myth and Reality* (2012), *Irish Contemporary Landscapes in Literature and the Arts* (2011), and *India and Ireland: Colonies, Culture and Empire* (2006). She is also co-editor with Seán Crosson and John Eastlake of *Anáil an Bhéil Bheo: Orality and Modern Irish Culture* (2009). Her current work on Irish Literary Geographies has involved the development of the interdisciplinary Irish Place Studies network, Ómós Áite at NUI Galway. She is a committee member of the *Geographical Society of Ireland*, the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society, and is also the Irish co-convenor of the *Mapping Spectral Traces* international network.

**Tel:** 353 (0)91 492893  
**Email:** nessa.cronin@nuigalway.ie

---

**Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Lecturer and Co-ordinator, BA with Irish Studies**

Having completed her undergraduate degrees at UCC under the mentorship of Professor Micheál Ó Súilleabháin, Méabh continued her graduate research and teaching at Boston College and Brown University and was awarded the James Carroll Memorial Fellowship and the Father Martin Harney Irish Studies Fellowship for her work in Irish Music and Dance Studies. She spent a number of years lecturing at UCC, before she began teaching at the Centre for Irish Studies in 2002. An IRCHSS scholar, her PhD thesis *Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann: Shaping tradition, 1951-1970* (2011) supervised by Professor Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh, explores the institutionalization of musical revival in the mid-twentieth century and its symbolic significance to Irish music practice and reception.

Méabh has contributed articles and reviews to a variety of journals such as *Ethnomusicology*, *Journal of Music in Ireland*, *Journal of the Society of Musicology in Ireland* and *New York Irish History Roundtable* and is also Popular Music subject editor of the landmark *Encyclopedia of Music in Ireland* (UCD Press, 2012). Co-editor with David Doyle of the forthcoming *Ordinary Life and Popular Culture in Ireland* (IAP, 2013), she is centrally involved in the development of the research network Comhrá Ceoil: Irish Music and Dance Studies at NUI Galway.

**Tel:** 353 (0)91 492872  
**Email:** meabh.nifhuarthain@nuigalway.ie
Michelle is a graduate of the Department of Archaeology, NUI Galway, having completed her primary degree in 1994 (English and Archaeology), a Masters degree in 1996 as an NUI Galway fellow, examining the production of fine metalwork in Early Medieval Ireland, and PhD in 2000 as one of the first IRCHSS scholars exploring the economy of native Early Medieval settlement in Ireland. She then held a one-year post-doctoral research post at the Centre for the Study of Human Settlement and Historical Change, now the Moore Institute, and has nearly 20 years excavation experience.

Michelle is the Academic Co-ordinator of the Irish Studies Online programme, a series of web-based courses in Irish Studies developed by NUI Galway in conjunction with Regis University, Denver, Colorado. Michelle’s current research project is examining the archaeological landscape of the Burren, County Clare, with excavations ongoing at Caherconnell in the heart of the Burren. She has given public lectures throughout Ireland, Scotland and the USA. She is a member of Galway County Heritage Forum, external referee for the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, and sits on the Council of the Discovery Programme.

She has published two monographs based on her MA and PhD theses, Native Evidence of Non-ferrous Metalworking in Early Historic Ireland (2004) and The Economy of the Ringfort and Contemporary Settlement in Early Medieval Ireland (2008). Michelle has also contributed chapters to a number of books, and written articles for academic and popular publications such as the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, the Journal of Irish Archaeology, and Archaeology Ireland.

Tel: 353 (0)91 492887 Email: michelle.comber@nuigalway.ie
“I am deeply convinced that Irish Studies helps to advance the undergraduate educational experience by enhancing internationalism; by affording curricular offerings that open students to a wider appreciation of the Humanities; and by urging students to think in interdisciplinary ways.”

James S. Rogers, President, American Conference for Irish Studies
BA WITH IRISH STUDIES

The BA with Irish Studies is one of a suite of four-year programmes launched by the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies in 2008, and offers all the benefits of a traditional two-subject degree together with a specialism in Irish Studies.

An interdisciplinary approach is adopted throughout as students explore the core question of what it means to be Irish through literature, music and dance, television and film. Students examine how Irish identity and Ireland’s self-image has changed over the past two centuries, from de Valera’s Ireland to the self-confident multiculturalism of Riverdance and the challenges of the post-Celtic Tiger economy. The programme focuses on the extent to which writers, film-makers and musicians create and critique stereotypes of Ireland and Irishness, and how a sense of Irish identity is constructed for ourselves and for others.

A restricted intake of 15-20 students per year allows the Irish Studies specialism to be taught in a supportive, small-group environment where students develop a high level of written and oral presentation skills. The Irish Studies Society organizes fieldtrips, céilís and other events and was nominated Best New Student Society 2009-2010. The most distinctive feature of the BA with Irish Studies is the Third Year, which includes a semester spent abroad at an international partner university and a semester devoted to independent research.

Seamus O’Grady Prize
In recognition of the contribution made by Seamus O’Grady to Irish Studies at NUI Galway and, in particular, his vision of education as lifelong learning, the Seamus O’Grady Prize is awarded to the most outstanding undergraduate student in the BA with Irish Studies. The award is based on academic excellence across all Irish Studies modules in the first two years of study.

First year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IS 122</td>
<td>Performing Ireland 1  Traditional Music and Dance since 1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS 123</td>
<td>Writing Ireland 1  An Introduction to Twentieth-Century Irish Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS 124</td>
<td>Writing Ireland 2  The Migrant Experience in Contemporary Irish Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IS 210</td>
<td>A Sense of Place  Location and Dislocation in Modern Irish Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS 211</td>
<td>Performing Ireland 2  Constructing Identities in Irish Music and Dance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A central part of the BA with Irish Studies is the third year, when students spend their first semester abroad at one of our partner universities in Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Spain, Sweden or North America. In the second semester, students return to NUI Galway and develop an independent research project supported through tutorials, mentoring, and a seminar series on cultural production.

**IS 301 Irish Studies Abroad**
**IS 302 Irish Studies Independent Research Project & Critical Perspectives in Irish Studies**

### Further careers
The BA with Irish Studies provides a strong basis for further studies in the areas of literature, history, ethnomusicology, social and political science and other related disciplines, and many of our students continue on to the MA programme at the Centre for Irish Studies. The knowledge and skills acquired through the BA with Irish Studies are relevant to a broad range of career options including education, journalism and communications, arts and heritage, publishing and the public service.

### How do I apply?
Applications are made through the CAO system. We welcome applications from Mature and Access students. For these and international applications, contact Samantha at irishstudies@nuigalway.ie

---

*Aisling Nolan and Leanne Lynch, BA students on Erasmus placement at Charles University, Prague.*

‘*Erasmus is a must for all students seeking challenge, adventure and personal development. A once in a lifetime opportunity, my Erasmus experience at KU Leuven exceeded all expectations. Meeting new people and living a different cultural way of life was a particular highlight for me. While developing important life skills, building confidence and learning to deal with the unexpected, the Erasmus programme allows students to pursue a diverse range of academic avenues.’*

Shane Walsh
MA IN IRISH STUDIES

The MA in Irish Studies is a one-year interdisciplinary programme drawing on the disciplines of Irish, History and English, and including perspectives from Sociology and Political Science. Since it was first offered in 2001, over 150 students from Ireland, Wales, England, Italy, Germany, Japan, Canada and the US have graduated from the programme. While many of our students pursue careers such as teaching and journalism, a significant number progress to doctoral studies in Ireland and overseas. In recent years, several graduates have been awarded prestigious national and international doctoral fellowships.

The MA in Irish Studies provides a comprehensive overview of the Irish experience from the early nineteenth century to the present day. A key element of the programme is an Irish-language module, which ensures that all students achieve a minimum working knowledge of the language, with a particular focus on reading and translation skills. The teaching language of the course is English and essays, dissertations and oral presentations may be in English or Irish. No prior knowledge of Irish is required for entry into the programme.

The MA in Irish Studies is also available as a part-time degree programme.

Tadhg Foley Fellowship

In recognition of the contribution made by Professor Emeritus Tadhg Foley as Chair of the Board of the Centre for Irish Studies (2003-09), the Tadhg Foley Fellowship is awarded to the most outstanding student on the MA programme each year, based on academic excellence achieved in the first semester of the programme.

Distinctive features of the MA:

- Interdisciplinary focus on the development of modern Irish culture and society
- Bilingual approaches to Irish literature, history and society
- Intensive year-long Irish-language programme, including classes in the Gaeltacht
- Advanced research workshops

Course Structure and Content

The full-time MA programme is of one year’s duration, and consists of six core modules, an interdisciplinary seminar, an Irish language course, and a minor dissertation. A series of introductory lectures on key issues and events relating to continuity and change in Ireland before 1800 is offered at the beginning of the programme.

Semester 1

IS 104 Ideology, Politics and Society in Ireland, 1800-1921

IS 105 Young Ireland to the Free State: Writing in English, 1849-1922

IS 106 Decline and Revival: Language, Literature and Society, 1800-1939
Irish Language Course
The Irish language module ensures that all students achieve a minimum working level of competency in the language that will enable them to utilise Irish-language source materials as part of their research skill-set. The course is obligatory and is offered at beginners, intermediate, and advanced levels.

MA Dissertation
The subject for the MA Dissertation is chosen by students in consultation with the MA Course Board and the Programme Director during the second semester, and comprises of a research project of approximately 15,000-18,000 words.

Further Careers
A significant proportion of our students continue on to pursue doctoral research in Ireland and abroad, while many have secured careers in teaching and education, publishing and translation, journalism and digital media, and the arts, heritage and tourism industries.

How do I apply?
Applications can be made online via the Postgraduate Applications Centre www.pac.ie/

For further information, contact Samantha at irishstudies@nuigalway.ie

“When I came to Galway in September for the MA in Irish Studies programme I was unsure of what to expect, both from living in a new city and from starting a new academic programme. The atmosphere of the university, particularly within the Centre for Irish Studies, was welcoming and intellectually stimulating. Our varied backgrounds, and the interdisciplinary nature of the programme, meant that I have a better understanding of Ireland and the Irish people than I ever could have obtained in a more traditional programme. For a student with many interests, the MA could not have been a better fit.”

Erin Kraus, PhD Candidate in History, University of Notre Dame
ONLINE DIPLOMA IN IRISH STUDIES

“Could anything better typify the move from donkey-and-cart picture postcard Ireland to the high-tech global leader in software technology that Ireland has become in recent decades? Here is a place for the intellectually curious to be curious about the past, the present and the future, to have their imaginations stretched and challenged…” Her Excellency, Mary McAleese, President of Ireland (2006)

The Online Diploma in Irish Studies, the first programme of its kind in the world, is an interdisciplinary introduction to Irish Studies, developed by the Center for Irish Studies, NUI Galway in partnership with Regis University, Denver, Colorado. The courses offer an excellent opportunity for those interested in Ireland, especially those without access to traditional programmes of study in this area.

The purpose of the programme is to provide a basic introduction to Irish life and culture through the disciplines of Archaeology, History, Literature in English and in Irish, Political Science and Sociology, and Irish Music and Dance.

The full programme offers an overview of Irish history from the pagan Celtic world and the coming of Christianity, through to the cataclysmic famines of the 1840s, the establishment of an independent state in 1922 and Ireland’s integration into the European community which has been ongoing since the 1970s. Students are introduced to Irish literature in both the Irish (Gaelic) and English languages, from the Old-Irish sagas and early Irish lyrics through the emergence of Anglo-Irish literature in the eighteenth century, to the twentieth-century revival of writing in Irish. Traditional music and dance performance practice is explored as part of the examination of cultural change during the long twentieth century.

2004 graduates of the Irish Studies Online Programme with the presidents of Regis University and NUI Galway.
Students can also study the changes that have taken place in Irish society since independence with due consideration of such crucial issues as gender, religion, modernization, identity and socio-economic development.

All courses are taught via the internet using self-instructional materials prepared by scholars in the relevant disciplines at NUI Galway. Course content is provided online with the support of a qualified online tutor at the Centre for Irish Studies.

**Course 1. Early Christian Ireland**
explores early Irish culture, literature and society from the introduction of Christianity to the arrival of the Anglo-Normans. It also delves further back into late prehistory, providing an Iron Age context for the coming of Christianity.

**Course 2. Medieval Ireland**
focuses on the impact the Anglo-Normans had on Irish social, political and cultural life, from their arrival through to the Middle Ages.

**Course 3. Early Modern Ireland**
investigates the destruction of the Gaelic heroic world following the defeat of Irish forces at the Battle of Kinsale, and the subsequent dispersal of the native Irish and Old English aristocracy.

**Course 4. Modern Ireland**
introduces the patterns of modern Irish life, literature, history and culture from the famines of the 1840s to Ireland’s accession to the European Union, and the subsequent years of prosperity and recession.

**Course 5. Social and political change in contemporary Ireland**
investigates the extent to which Irish society has been changed by the economic transformation initiated in the 1950s.

**Course 6. Céili to Riverdance: Irish Traditional Music and Dance in the Twentieth Century**
explores some of the key changes in Irish traditional music and dance practice that have taken place during the long twentieth century, from 1893 to 2000.

**Credits and Awards**
The full programme comprises six eight-week modules leading to the award of a Certificate in Irish Studies for students who successfully complete four of the modules, and a Diploma in Irish Studies from NUI Galway for those who complete five.

**How do I apply?**
For further details, see [www.irishstudiesonline.org](http://www.irishstudiesonline.org) or contact Samantha at irishstudies@nuigalway.ie

“The online diploma gave me the opportunity to pursue my passion for Irish history and learn from top scholars. The academics are rigorous, the course material is instructive, and the facilitators stimulate growth and friendly debate. The graders’ feedback and their consistent encouragement to improve my scholarship were superior to any on-site courses I have taken, and the Irish Studies program has prepared me to pursue a graduate degree in Irish history.”

Heather Brown
INTERNATIONAL IRISH STUDIES SUMMER SCHOOL

The Irish Studies Summer School at NUI Galway was inaugurated in 1984 and continues to flourish, offering a diverse programme of interdisciplinary study for some 150 undergraduate and graduate students each year. The modular course structure allows a considerable degree of flexibility and is designed to reflect developments in the world of Irish Studies since the programme was first established. In addition to the seven individual modules, the programme includes a series of field trips, workshops, performances, and interdisciplinary seminars that form an integral part of the overall course structure.

**SU401 Representing Ireland: Literature and Film** This course analyzes the ways in which ‘Ireland’ and ‘Irishness’ have been represented in a range of English-language media, including fiction, poetry, drama and film. It is structured around particular themes such as the representation of ‘The West’, the contrast between city and country, the politics of theatre, gender identity, and the meaning of Irish nationality.

**SU402 The Archaeological Heritage of Ireland** This course, outlining the archaeological heritage of Ireland from about 8000 BC to the early Medieval period, is particularly suitable for students majoring in Archaeology, Anthropology, Sociology or History. Lectures are fully illustrated throughout, with field trips to several prehistoric and historic locations.

**SU403 Irish History** This course critically examines the different peoples who became permanent settlers in Ireland over the centuries and the contribution that each has made to the development of an Irish society and economy, and to a distinctive Irish artistic and political life. The earlier lectures consider the Celts, the Vikings and the Anglo-Normans, but the principal focus is on the modern centuries.

**SU404 Gaelic Culture and Literature** This course traces the development of Gaelic literature, the oldest vernacular literature in Western Europe from earliest times to the present day. Though very much citizens of the world, contemporary Gaelic writers are conscious of their inherited tradition, and freely exploit the rich resources of Gaelic folklore, thus creating a distinctive spirit in their writing.

**SU405 Irish Society** This course provides a comprehensive study of issues in modern Irish society including: family, kinship and marriage patterns; the impact of religion; the role of women; rural and urban communities; social change and social problems such as emigration, poverty and conflict in contemporary Ireland.

**SU406 Irish Traditional Music and Dance** This module surveys key moments in the development of Irish traditional music and dance from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Issues of social and political change and the impact of modernisation are key to understanding how music and dance inform the Irish experience. Students attend workshops with singers and guest musicians.

**SU407 Introduction to Art in Ireland** This course traces the development of Irish art from Newgrange to the Venice Biennale. Students are introduced to a wide variety of prehistoric art before moving on to consider the outstanding artistic achievements of the ‘Golden Age’ of Irish art, including the Book of Kells, the Tara Brooch and Irish High Crosses.

**How do I apply?**

For details on applications see [www.nuigalway.ie/international_summer_school/irish_studies.html](http://www.nuigalway.ie/international_summer_school/irish_studies.html)
OTHER COURSES FOR VISITING STUDENTS

The Centre for Irish Studies provides a number of customized courses for visiting international students that provide an interdisciplinary introduction to modern and contemporary Ireland. Each of these courses, whether in lectures or small group seminars, provides its own particular insights into the extraordinary changes that have taken place in Ireland from the famines of the 1840s through to the more recent experiences of post-Celtic Tiger Ireland.

IR120 Imagining Modern Ireland: An Introduction to Irish Culture Studies
This course is specifically designed to meet the needs of visiting students and requires no previous knowledge of Irish Studies. It provides an integrated interdisciplinary introduction to the ways in which Irish writers, musicians, and film-makers have participated in the formation of Irish identities from the cultural revival of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to the present.

EN464 Negotiating Identities: Aspects of Twentieth-Century Irish Writing
This course provides an introduction to twentieth-century Irish writing and considers how writers in Irish and English have participated in the negotiation of modern and contemporary Irish identities. Beginning with the literary and cultural revivals of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the course investigates the ways in which writers were actively involved in the formation and reformation of identities in terms of nation-building, language, and gender.

IR101 Irish Literature and Culture Course
This course is part of a customised programme of study for visiting students and includes a series of field trips. At present, it is available only to students from Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and Union College in the first semester, and students from Willamette University in semester two. The ILC programme provides an introduction to Irish life and culture through the disciplines of Irish, English, History, and Political Science and Sociology.

“About halfway through our semester in Galway we travelled to Cork and visited the Munster Literature Centre. It was that day, as we listened to Patrick Galvin, Gerry Murphy and Cónaal Creedon read from their literary works in a small room with just enough chairs for the group, I realized what a unique perspective of Ireland we were getting. Although my work is not centered around my experiences in Ireland, there are moments that I find myself influenced by them. Currently, I continue to make and exhibit work as a sculptor and fine arts printmaker, while working in Admissions for the Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University. My work has featured in various shows in the Boston area, including the Boston Young Contemporaries.”

Kate Benson
“In a short time, NUI Galway’s Centre for Irish Studies has become both a centre of excellence and a leader, internationally, in our field. From speaking with the Center’s faculty and students, it was clear to me that the research being conducted here is at the cutting edge of the field.”

Eamonn Wall, Smurfit-Stone Professor of Irish Studies, University of Missouri-St. Louis
DOCTORAL RESEARCH IN IRISH STUDIES

Doctoral research in Irish Studies at NUI Galway requires an interdisciplinary approach to key junctions and issues in the historical, cultural and social development of modern and contemporary Ireland. The Centre for Irish Studies provides a supportive environment and has an exceptional record in assisting PhD candidates to complete their theses to the highest standards in a timely fashion. The postgraduate research group Meitheal enables students to present work in progress to their peers. The Centre also offers support for doctoral students to give papers at academic conferences in Ireland and overseas, as well as training in research methodologies. The Irish Studies Seminar Series and occasional Public Lectures in Irish Studies provide further opportunities for graduate students to engage with distinguished visiting scholars whose expertise coincides with their own research interests.

Applications are especially welcome in the following areas:

- Twentieth-century Irish writing, in Irish and in English; translation studies, with particular emphasis on translation from Irish to English; modern and contemporary critical discourse in Irish
- Sense of place and Irish culture and writing; Irish literary geographies; Irish place studies; philosophies of space and place; Irish historical cartography; colonial and postcolonial geographies
- Emigration and Irish traditional music; popular music in Ireland; performance studies and Irish music practice; cultural revivalism; anthropology of music

How to apply?
Admission to the PhD programme is based on a detailed proposal which will be reviewed by the Irish Studies Graduate Research Committee. Applicants would normally be expected to have an MA in Irish Studies or a cognate discipline.

NUI Galway Doctoral Fellowships
The College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies at NUI Galway offers a number of Doctoral Research Fellowships each year. These fellowships are offered for open competition among candidates across the full range of disciplines in the College, including Irish Studies. Applicants must have a high honours primary degree and would normally be expected to have completed or be near completion of an MA degree.

Meitheal
Meitheal, the Irish Studies Postgraduate Research Group, is led by graduate students and meets throughout the academic year. Initiated in 2004, and open to students and academic staff, Meitheal has developed into a dynamic, interdisciplinary forum, and is now an essential part of the intellectual life of the Centre. The format allows for presentation of current research, close readings of key texts and discussion of dissertation drafts.
PHD GRADUATES

- **Dr Seán Crosson**, ‘The Given Note’: The Influence and Use of Traditional Music and Song in Modern Irish Poetry  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Louis de Paor  
  **External examiner:** An tOllamh Alan Titley, UCC. 2006

- **Dr John Eastlake**, Native American and Irish Native Autobiography: A Comparative Study  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Louis de Paor  
  **External examiner:** Professor Briona Nic Dhiarmada, University of Notre Dame. 2008

- **Dr Elizabeth Ball**, Representing Bloody Sunday: Comparing Docudrama and Public Inquiry as Historical Representations  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Niall Ó Dochartaigh  
  **External examiner:** Professor Paul Arthur, University of Ulster. 2010

- **Dr Leo Keohane**, Captain Jack White DSO (1879-1946): A Study of His Politics and Philosophy, with Special Reference to the Period 1912-1922  
  **Supervisor:** Professor Tadhg Foley  
  **External examiner:** Dr Emmet O’Connor, University of Ulster. 2011

- **Dr Nessa Cronin**, The Eye of History: Spatiality and Colonial Cartography in Ireland  
  **Supervisor:** Professor Tadhg Foley  
  **External examiner:** Professor William J. Smith, UCC. 2007

- **Dr David Doyle**, Sexual Crime and the Formulation of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1935: A Quantitative, Historical and Legislative Analysis  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Caitríona Clear  
  **External examiner:** Dr Senia Paseta, University of Oxford. 2010

- **Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin**, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann: Shaping Tradition 1951-1971  
  **Supervisor:** An tOllamh Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh  
  **External examiner:** Professor Harry White, UCD. 2011

- **Dr Claire Lyons**, Sylvester O’Halloran’s *General History* (1788): Irish Historiography and the late Eighteenth-Century British Empire.  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Niall Ó Ciosáin  
  **External examiner:** Professor Joep Leerssen, University of Amsterdam. 2012

“I began my studies at the Centre for Irish Studies as a Doctoral Fellow in September 2008 and successfully completed my thesis three years later. Although NUI Galway offers a variety of suitable venues for doctoral research, I chose the Centre of Irish Studies because of the interdisciplinary nature of my project. The Centre also has a well-deserved reputation for academic excellence and this is supported by the atmosphere of generosity and availability which permeates the Centre at all levels, providing that small oasis of calm and support so necessary as you pursue the sometimes daunting, but always challenging, doctoral dissertation.”

Dr Claire Lyons
CURRENT DOCTORAL RESEARCH

- **Jenny McCarthy**, Jack B Yeats and John Sloan: Ireland and America, 1910-1916  
  **Supervisor:** Professor Tadhg Foley

- **Margaret Brehonoy**, Irish Migration to Cuba, 1835-1844  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Katherine Powell

- **Tim Collins**, Beyond the Local: Redefining Regionalism in the Traditional Music of Sliabh Aughty and its Diaspora  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Lillis Ó Laoire

- **Debora Biancheri**, Italian ‘readings’ of Ireland: Cultural Implications of Literary Translation Practice  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Louis de Paor

  **Supervisor:** Dr Lillis Ó Laoire

- **Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh**, The French Connection: The Gaelic League and France, 1893-1922  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Louis de Paor

- **Sara Hanafin**, Coming ‘home’: Place, Identity and Second Generation Return Migration from Britain  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Mary Cawley

- **Therese McIntyre**, Folk Memory and Historical ‘fact’: The Creation and Representation of Heroes in Irish Traditional Song and Ballad  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Niall Ó Ciosáin and Dr Lillis Ó Laoire

- **Rita O’Donoghue**, *Fios na mBan*: The Role of Women in the Funerary Customs of Erris in the Post-famine Era  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Lillis Ó Laoire

  **Supervisor:** Dr Nessa Cronin

- **Frank Conlon**, Industrial Development in Ireland, 1922-1939  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Aidan Kane

- **Ciaran McDonough**, Investigating Irish Antiquarianism: A Comparative Study of Protestant and Catholic Antiquarian Cultures, 1785-1886  
  **Supervisor:** An tOllamh Nollaig Ó Muraíle

- **Fionnuala Ní Ráinne**, Aistriú an Spioraid Chruithigh: Grinnstáidear ar Aistriúchán an Ghearrscéil ó Ghaeilge go Béarla, 1907 – 1999  
  **Supervisor:** Dr Louis de Paor

Professor Tadhg Foley, Dr Nessa Cronin, and Dr Louis de Paor with Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin and Dr Leo Keohane on the day of their doctoral conferring
INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORKS

ÓMÓS ÁITE: SPACE/PLACE RESEARCH GROUP

Ómós Áite: Space/Place Research Group was established in 2009 to promote the interdisciplinary study of issues relating to the social, cultural and political production of space and place in modern society. Work conducted in the group critically examines how personal and national identities, cultures and communities ground themselves and construct their sense of place in a world that is becoming increasingly globalised and is sometime perceived as being ‘placeless’. While such spatialised concerns are wide-ranging and demand a critical engagement across a variety of discourses, the focus of much research underway with members is with the significance and role of place and the concept of critical regionalism in Irish culture and society.

Ómós Áite originally grew from a conversation about the contested role of place in Irish culture and this informal dialogue developed into the formation of an interdisciplinary research group that now meets on a monthly basis at the Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway. Membership ranges from Irish Studies to cognate disciplines across NUI Galway, while also including musicians, dancers, artists and community partners concerned with spatial and environmental issues in their work.

In particular, Ómós Áite seeks to forge further thematic connections across key disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences, with a particular emphasis on both foundational texts and contemporary work underway in Irish Studies, Cultural Geography, Modern Languages and Literatures, Critical Theory, Philosophy, Music and Performance Studies, Urban and Rural Planning, and Visual Art & Design.

Website: www.nuigalway.ie/research/centre_irish_studies/omos_aite.html

Mapping Spectral Traces International Network

In early 2011, Ómós Áite was invited to join the Mapping Spectral Traces International Network (MST Network). The MST Network now has a national presence in Ireland and the launch of a new public website in September 2011 has provided a platform for a broader international engagement between wide communities of scholars, artists and associated community partners.

The MST Network consists of seven institutions and associated community partners across Ireland, England, Scotland, USA and Australia, including the Space&Place Research Collaborative, Department of Geography, NUI Maynooth, Land2, School of Design, University of Leeds and PLaCE Research Centre, UWE-Bristol, PLaCE Scotland, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee, PLaCE Minnesota, Departments of Art and Landscape Architecture, College of Design University of Minnesota, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Melbourne, and Ómós Áite, Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway.

Website: www.mappingspectraltraces.org
Irish Music and Dance Studies is central to teaching and research at the Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway, drawing on cognate disciplines of ethnomusicology, cultural history, spatial and cultural geography to expand the field of Irish Studies internationally. There is a vibrant post-graduate research cluster in music and dance studies, a thread which also runs through the fabric of undergraduate teaching.

For a number of years now, a music and dance studies reading group, Comhrá Ceoil, has been meeting regularly as a forum for debate and discussion.

Comhrá Ceoil

Comhrá Ceoil draws together strands of research, discourse and practice in the field and encompasses a variety of research driven initiatives and events, both on and off campus. It provides a robust but collegial environment to develop new ideas and revisit old paradigms of discussion on the matter of music, dance and Irishness.

Martinreillylectureseries@gmail.com

Martin Reilly Lecture Series

Comhrá Ceoil also hosts the Martin Reilly Lecture Series, which takes place at the Galway City Library. In commemoration of the East Galway piper Martin Reilly, the series provides an opportunity for researcher-practitioners in Irish traditional music and dance to present their research in a public forum. Galway and the West of Ireland has long been an important centre of traditional dance, music and song and this lecture series reflects the increasing public interest in the study of these traditions. Comhrá Ceoil also hosts events such as the symposium, Comhrá Ceoil: New Directions for Irish Music and Dance Studies, which contributes to the scholarly expansion of Irish music and dance studies, nationally and internationally.
IRISH STUDIES CONFERENCES

Central to the project of Irish Studies at NUI Galway is a commitment to providing a platform for critical discourse and engagement with new ideas through the hosting of conferences, colloquia and symposia. Since its establishment in 2000, the Centre has organised a considerable number of conferences, with speakers from more than 100 universities worldwide. The joint meeting of the American Conference for Irish Studies and the Galway Conference of Irish Studies was the largest conference in the Arts and Humanities conference to be held in Ireland in 2009.

GALWAY CONFERENCE OF IRISH STUDIES

The Galway Conference of Irish Studies was established in 2006, and provides a platform for established and emerging scholars to explore new directions in Irish Studies. Through workshops, seminars, performances, public interviews and other formats, the emphasis is on dialogue and open exchange among scholars working across disciplinary boundaries, and engagement with the broader community who are encouraged to attend the conference proceedings. Papers are welcome in both Irish and English, with simultaneous translation facilities provided for those presenting their research in Irish.

FIRST GALWAY CONFERENCE OF IRISH STUDIES:
ORALITY AND MODERN IRISH CULTURE (2006)

Connell Foley - Leenane Holy Well

This conference attempted to get beyond the misleading dichotomies that equate orality with the traditional, the rural, and the communal, while literacy is associated with the urban, the written, and the individual. Keynote speakers were Henry Glassie, Angela Bourke, and Gearóid Ó Crualaoich. The publication of the conference proceedings in Anáil an Bhéil Bheo: Orality and Modern Irish Culture was welcomed as ‘a sparkling collection [...] of great importance’ by Béaloideas, the Journal of the Folklore of Ireland Society.
Second Galway Conference of Irish Studies: 
*Into the Heartland of the Ordinary* (2009)

in association with

The American Conference for Irish Studies, 
*Old Ireland, New Irish: ‘The Same People Living in the Same Place’* (2009)

The joint meeting of ACIS and GCIS in June 2009 attracted some 250 delegates from more than a dozen countries. The conference themes encouraged participants to engage with new ideas and approaches to popular culture, migration, and the construction of Irish identities in terms of ‘Old Ireland’ and the ‘New Irish’.

Keynote speakers were TK Whitaker, Bernadette McAliskey and the late Cardinal Cahal Daly in public conversation with veteran broadcaster and journalist John Quinn.

The Second Galway Conference of Irish Studies, ‘Into the Heartland of the Ordinary’, examined the experience of the ‘everyday’ in Irish culture and society, an area which has, at times, been neglected within broader academic discourse. The conference focused on recurring concepts of the everyday in Irish culture and society, cultural practice and performance, and the place of popular culture in modern Ireland. Discussions ranged from the corner boys of small town Ireland, to gender and the Showband stage, to the influence of the Gay Byrne radio show, and working class rugby in Munster.

---

Other Conferences hosted by the Centre for Irish Studies

- 2007 - Fifth Galway Colonialism Conference: Settler Colonialism
- 2007 - Conference of the Society for Irish Latin American Studies
- 2007 - Third Annual Sports History Ireland Conference
- 2004 - The Irish Hero Conference
- 2004 - Fourth Galway Colonialism Conference: India and Ireland
- 2002 - The Twelfth Irish Australian Conference
RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

The Centre for Irish Studies has built an international reputation for welcoming visiting scholars and expanding the pathways of academic debate. This includes a commitment to publishing papers presented at Galway conferences in Irish Studies and follows a strong precedent set by scholars at NUI Galway prior to the establishment of the Centre in 2000. This determination to broaden the parameters of the discipline and develop new forums for the exchange of ideas is confirmed by the publication of *Anáil an Bhéil Bheo: Orality and Modern Irish Culture* (2009) which gathers material from the First Galway Conference of Irish Studies, and selected proceedings of the Second Galway Conference of Irish Studies in, *Irish Popular Culture and Ordinary Life* (2013).

The Centre has also developed its own series of Research Papers in Irish Studies with contributions from Joep Leerssen, Luke Gibbons, William Desmond, Michelle O Riordan, and the late Breandán Ó Buachalla. This series is designed to bring the most innovative research in Irish Studies to as broad an audience as possible and to provide a model for future development of the discipline.

In addition to conference publications and occasional research papers, the Centre, in partnership with others, continues to publish research in Irish and in English by outstanding scholars whose work has a particular connection to the Centre’s own research agenda. These include Máire Mhac an tSaoi’s monograph on the work of the medieval chieftain poet Piaras Feirtéir Cérbh í Meg Russell? and Seán Ó Tuama’s *Aguisíní* which was shortlisted for the Irish language Book of the Year Award in 2007.

**Irish Studies Research Papers Series**

- **Joep Leerssen**, *Hidden Ireland, Public Sphere*, 2002
- **Breandán Ó Buachalla**, *The Crown of Ireland*, 2006
- **William Desmond**, *Being Between*, 2008
- **Michelle O Riordan**, *An Gairmeach*, 2012

**Other Joint Publications**

- **Máire Mhac an tSaoi**, *Cérbh í Meg Russell?*, 2008
- **Seán Ó Tuama**, *Aguisíní*, 2008

**Conference Publications**

DISTINGUISHED VISITING SCHOLARS AT THE CENTRE FOR IRISH STUDIES

The Centre for Irish Studies has a long-standing commitment to supporting international research initiatives in the field of Irish Studies. In particular, the hosting of Visiting Scholars makes a significant contribution to the intellectual life of the Centre by providing a platform for wider discussions among the Irish Studies community at NUI Galway.

With the generous assistance of funding agencies, including the Leverhulme Foundation, the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Fulbright Commission, the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Foras na Gaeilge, and the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies at NUI Galway, the Centre has hosted emerging and established scholars from Europe, the Americas, Australia, New Zealand and Asia.

From Micheál Hishikawa’s exploration of the sean-nós song tradition (Kobe University, Japan) and Christine Beckett’s engagement with traditional music performance (Concordia University, Montreal), to Felix Flores Verona’s quest to uncover Michael Davitt’s Cuban connection (Universidad de Ciego de Ávila, Cuba), from Dara Culhane’s memoirs of the Sheehy sisters (Simon Fraser University, Canada), and Masaya Shimokusu’s study of Irish folk tales (Doshisha University) to William Desmond’s work on ‘being between’ and Irish philosophical thought (KU Leuven), and Asier Altuna García de Salazar’s research on representations of Spain and the Basque Country in Irish Romanticism (University of Deusta, Bilbao), visiting scholars at the Centre have continued to open new pathways in Irish Studies research.

IACI-NUI Galway Fellowship in Irish Studies

In partnership with the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Centre for Irish Studies offers an annual Visiting Fellowship in Irish Studies to enable a scholar from the United States to further her/his research at NUI Galway. The award includes a contribution towards the cost of travel and relocation, from the Irish American Cultural Institute, and a stipend from NUI Galway. The Centre for Irish Studies also provides workspace, computer facilities, library access, and administrative support.


Through their research at NUI Galway, these scholars have made an outstanding contribution to the project of Irish Studies worldwide.

For further details, contact Samantha at irishstudies@nuigalway.ie
ARChives in irish sTUDies at NUI galway

In addition to the archives housed in the James Hardiman Library, the Centre has developed a number of archival projects which relate directly to its teaching and research programmes. These include a small but valuable collection of songs from the repertoires of the sean-nós singers-in-residence, a collection of audio recordings of contemporary Irish writers, in both Irish and English, and the Joe Burke Archive, which provides extraordinary insights into the music traditions of East Galway and the Irish diaspora.

The James Hardiman Library has over three hundred archival collections, mainly relating to the west of Ireland and dating from the fifteenth century to the present. Collections cover a range of areas including academics’ papers, business records, college records, Irish language and literature collections, local authority records, landed estate collections, political papers, personal papers and theatre collections.

Major collections include the records of Galway Corporation from the fifteenth to the twentieth century; manuscript collections of poetry and folklore gathered by Douglas Hyde; the literary papers of John McGahern, Thomas Kilroy, and Eoghan Ó Tuairisc; theatre collections relating to all the major theatre companies based in Galway, including the Druid Theatre Company and An Taibhdhearc, the Irish language national theatre, as well as the Lyric Theatre/O’Malley Archive.

A guide to archival collections is available at http://archives.library.nuigalway.ie/Guide/CollectionListAlpha.html

Joe Burke Archive

Joe Burke is one of a generation of musicians who presided over the dramatic changes in traditional Irish music during the second half of the twentieth century. While scholarship in traditional music and dance has previously focused on the earlier part of the century, and the golden years of recordings in the United States and Britain, there is increasing interest in the changes that took place from 1950 onwards.

The Joe Burke Archive is of critical importance for future research into the transformation that has taken place in the performance and reception of Irish traditional music during the past half-century. The archive contains a substantial amount of audio and paper material relating to Irish traditional music from the 1950s onwards, a hitherto neglected period in the history of Irish music and consequently of immense interest to cultural historians and ethnomusicologists interested in the late twentieth century revival of Irish music.

View the Joe Burke archive at http://archives.library.nuigalway.ie/joeburke/
Archive of Contemporary Irish Writers


View archives at www.nuigalway.ie/centre_irish_studies/archives.htm

Archive of Sean-nós Song

The Sean-nós Singer in Residence appointments at the Centre for Irish Studies, generously supported by Ealaín na Gaeltachta, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council, is designed to acknowledge the artistic excellence of individual performers and heighten awareness of the traditional art of sean-nós singing among the broader community. The scheme has led to the establishment of a small but highly significant collection of recordings from some of the foremost practitioners of the song tradition in the Connemara Gaeltacht, including Cumann Amhránaíochta Iorras Aithneach (2003), Joe John Mac an Iomaire (2003), Johnny Máirtín Learaí Mac Donncha (2003), Dara Bán Mac Donncha (2003), Áine Ní Dhroighneáin (2005), Bríd Ní Mhaírlchairín (2003), Treasa Ní Mhiolláin (2011), Micheál Máire an Ghabha Ó Ceannabháin (2003), and Bairbre Uí Mhaírlchairín (2003).
SEAN-NÓS SINGERS / DANCERS IN RESIDENCE

The appointment of Sean-nós Singers and Dancers in Residence represents the dynamic connection between the University and its Irish-speaking hinterland by recognising sean-nós song and dance as highly developed art forms that are particularly strong in the Connemara Gaeltacht.

Brid Ní Mhaolchiaráin 2002
Brid’s first foray into the world of competitive singing was at the inaugural Féile Joe Éinniú in 1986 where she was awarded Corn Joe Ínniú for the most outstanding young singer at the festival. In 2002, she won Corn Uí Riada, the premier award for a sean-nós singer at the Oireachtas.

Josie Sheáin Jeaic Mac Donncha 2004
A three times winner of the prestigious Corn Uí Riada, Josie has been described by Lillis Ó Laoire as ‘a justly recognised master of the sean-nós tradition. His style is generally unhurried and relaxed, while revealing an intense mesmeric involvement with the texts and the music of his songs’.

Áine Ní Dhroighneáin 2005
Áine’s first introduction to sean-nós was through classes at An Gaedhachad, where she began singing at the age of eight. Among the singers who have influenced her, she lists Peaitsí Ó Ceannabháin, Máire Pheitir Uí Dhroighneáin, Pat Phadraig Tom Ó Conghaile, and Johnny Mháirtín Learaí.

Máire Uí Dhroighneáin 2006
Máire cites her mother Máire Nic an Ríogh as a formative influence on her singing style. While she remains wary of the over-emphasis on competitions, she has won Comórtas na nBan at the Oireachtas and been runner-up in Corn Uí Riada. She was awarded Gradam Sean-nóis Cois Life in 2004.

Micheál Ó Cuaig 2007
A native of Cill Chiaráin, Micheál has organised an annual Féile Joe Éinniú for the past fifteen years, and recently presented a copy of the Joe Heaney Archive held at Washington University, Seattle to NUI Galway. He is the author of two collections of poetry which critics have applauded for their emotional delicacy and scrupulous use of language.

Seosamh Ó Neachtain 2009
Seosamh O Neachtain is one of a handful of performers who have rejuvenated the Gaeltacht tradition of sean-nós dancing, introducing this dynamic art form to international audiences. In collaboration with African dancer Tamango, the Irish Times says, ‘you almost wonder if he might be able to dance across water’.

Treasa Ní Mhiolláin 2010
Treasa Ní Mhiolláin is a renowned exponent of the great love songs of Connacht, but also possesses a store of locally composed songs and some English ballads. She has twice won Corn Uí Riada and her distinctive singing was featured in Bob Quinn’s television series Atlantean.

Róisín Ní Mhainín 2011
Recognised as one of the first generation of female sean-nós dancers to gain widespread popularity, Róisín has developed a distinctive style of dancing and is acknowledged by her peers as a leading exponent of sean-nós dance in the new millennium.
The Centre for Irish Studies and NUI Galway offer a number of prizes and awards for outstanding achievement by students and scholars.

**Seamus O’Grady Prize**
In recognition of the contribution made by Seamus O’Grady to Irish Studies at NUI Galway through the Irish Studies Summer School, and in particular his vision of education as lifelong learning, the Seamus O’Grady Irish Studies Prize is awarded to the most outstanding undergraduate student on the BA with Irish Studies. The award is based on academic excellence across all Irish Studies modules in the first two years of study.

**Tadhg Foley Fellowship**
To acknowledge the contribution made by Professor Emeritus Tadhg Foley as Chair of the Board of the Centre for Irish Studies (2003-2009), the Tadhg Foley Fellowship is awarded to the most outstanding student on the MA in Irish Studies programme each year, based on academic excellence achieved across all MA modules in the first semester of the programme.

**NUI Galway Doctoral Fellowships**
The College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies at NUI Galway offers a number of Doctoral Research Fellowships each year. These fellowships are offered for open competition among candidates across the full range of disciplines in the College, including Irish Studies. Applicants must have a high honours primary degree and would normally be expected to have completed or be near completion of an MA degree.

**Breandán Ó hEithir Prize**
This is an annual award funded by friends of novelist, journalist, broadcaster, and sports historian, Breandán Ó hEithir to celebrate the legacy of his writings in Irish and in English. The award of €1500 in support of doctoral research is open to PhD candidates in Irish, English and Irish Studies, primarily.

**Irish American Cultural Institute/NUI Galway Visiting Fellowship**
In partnership with the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Centre for Irish Studies offers an annual Visiting Fellowship in Irish Studies to enable a distinguished scholar from the United States to further his/her research endeavours at the National University of Ireland Galway. The IACI Visiting Research Fellow is hosted by the Centre for Irish Studies for the duration of the fellowship.

Acknowledgements
We are grateful to the following for permission to reproduce images and photographs included in this booklet: Joe Boske for ‘Homeward Bound’ (front cover); Dara Scott for staff photos (p. 1, 2); Kate Benson for ‘Bóthar an Ghleanna’ (p. 12); NUI Galway Art Collection for images by Stella Frost and Charles Lamb (p. 14) and by Mainie Jellett (inside back cover); Ríonach Ní Néill for photographs on p. 17; Na Piobairí Uilleann for ‘Feis Ceoil, Dublin 1901’ (p. 18); Connell Foley for ‘Leenane Holy Well’ (p. 19); Bridget Breatnach and Cló IarChonnacht for photographs of sean-nós singers (p. 24) and to Seán Ó Mainnín for images of Cúchulainn, James Joyce, Jim Larkin used throughout.

Layout and design: Centre for Irish Studies
RESEARCH PAPERS IN IRISH STUDIES

Hidden Ireland, Public Sphere
Joep Leerssen

Gaelic Gothic
Luke Gibbons

Being Between: Conditions of Irish Thought
William Desmond

The Crown of Ireland
Breandán Ó Buachalla