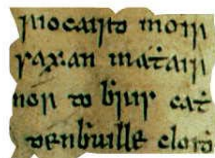




MA sa Léann Éireannach

MA in Irish Studies

2011-2012



Ionad an Léinn Éireannaigh
Centre for Irish Studies

MA in Irish Studies

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Centre for Irish Studies and we hope that you will both enjoy and gain from your year of postgraduate studies on the interdisciplinary MA in Irish Studies programme. This information document provides you with essential information about Irish Studies as part of your MA degree course and supplements the information given through general University sources.

The MA in Irish Studies is a one year interdisciplinary programme drawing on the disciplines of English, History, and Irish and including sociological and political science perspectives. The programme focuses on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and seeks to provide for participants a critical interrogation of key junctions and issues in the historical, cultural and social development of modern Ireland. The approach will be interdisciplinary throughout, aiming to provide a comprehensive overview of the Irish experience since the early nineteenth century.

A wide range of political and literary texts and other forms of cultural representation will be studied as primary material and students will be encouraged to make inter-connections between the various strands of their course.

The teaching language of the course is English. Essays, dissertations and oral presentations may be in either English or Irish at students' own discretion.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

- All students should complete and return the Irish Studies Student Registration form to Dr Nessa Cronin, MA Programme Coordinator. Please fill in all information requested, including your NUI Galway email address. Any change in contact details should be registered with the Centre for Irish Studies and the relevant University offices. Copies of the registration forms are available from the Irish Studies Office or can be downloaded from the Irish Studies website.
- **Please note that you should only use your NUI Galway email address when corresponding with us. You are responsible for checking your NUI Galway email regularly.** You should also check the Irish Studies notice board regularly for information about upcoming events and class announcements.
- Information from the Course Coordinator and from individual lecturers and tutors will be sent to your college email address. It is also the quickest way to contact a member of staff.
- Readings and other material for distribution will be disseminated through Blackboard or can be collected from the MA mailbox in the foyer of the Centre for Irish Studies.

MA IN IRISH STUDIES: Programme Director and Module Convenors

Below are the contact details for staff members associated with the MA in Irish Studies, NUI Galway.

MA Director:

Dr Louis de Paor (Irish Studies)

Tel: 091-493660 louis.depaor@nuigalway.ie

MA Co-ordinator:

Dr Nessa Cronin (Irish Studies)

Tel: 091-492893 nessa.cronin@nuigalway.ie

Centre Administrator:

Samantha Williams (Irish Studies)

Tel: 091-492051 samantha.williams@nuigalway.ie

Irish Writing in English:

Dr Riana O'Dwyer (English) riana.odwyer@nuigalway.ie

Irish Writing in Irish:

An tOllamh Gearóid Denvir (Gaeilge) gearoid.denvir@oegaillimh.ie

Irish History:

Dr Mary Harris (History) mary.n.harris@nuigalway.ie

Political Science and Sociology:

Dr Niall Ó Dochartaigh (Political Science and Sociology)

niall.odochartaigh@nuigalway.ie

Interdisciplinary Seminar:

Mr Leo Keohane (Irish Studies) leo.keohane@nuigalway.ie

Irish Language Course:

Ms Anne Corbett (Gaeilge) anne.corbett@nuigalway.ie

LECTURES IN IRISH STUDIES

All classes are held in the Seminar Room, Centre for Irish Studies unless otherwise indicated. Attendance at all classes is required, with student participation central to your learning experience. Readings are assigned for each lecture and will be circulated in advance.

COURSEWORK AND ASSESSMENT

All essays must be submitted by the specified date indicated by your Course Lecturer. All essays must be typed and submitted in duplicate hard copy unless otherwise indicated by your course lecturer. Coursework 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 lots of 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.

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 course teacher. 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.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is when a student presents the work of other authors as his/her 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 webpage on the University home page.**

Writing skills support

All of your lecturers on the MA in Irish Studies will assist you in developing good academic 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).

MA Course Assessment

Assessment on all course modules is by essay only. There are no end-of-year examinations for this programme. Individual lecturers will explain the mode of assessment and essay requirements in detail to you over the course of the semester.

Essay Weightings:

Semester 1:

Essay 1: 40%

Essay 2: 60%

Semester 2:

Essay 1: 50%

Essay 2: 50%

Marks:

Marks for the MA are out of a total of 900: 100 marks are awarded for each taught module, and 300 marks for the MA Minor Dissertation. The Irish Language module is assessed on a Pass/Fail basis.

Grade Bands:

70-100%:	First Class Honours
60-69%:	Second Class Honours (Grade 1)
50-59%:	Second Class Honours (Grade 2)
40-49%:	Pass
0-39%:	Fail

MA Course Content

The duration of the course is of one calendar year, running from September to September, and consists of the following modules, to be undertaken by all students:

Semester I

Ideology, Politics and Society in Ireland 1800-1921
Young Ireland to the Free State: Writing in English 1849-1922
Decline and Revival: Language, Literature and Society 1800-1939
Irish Language Class
Interdisciplinary Seminar

Semester II

Divided Ireland: Politics and Society since 1921
The Politics of Modernity: Writing in English 1922 to the present
Gaelic and Free: Cultural Politics and Writing in Irish since 1939

Irish Language Course

The aim of this module is to ensure that all students achieve a minimum working level of competence that will enable them to communicate in Irish. The course is obligatory and is offered at beginners (for ab initio learners), intermediate and advanced levels, as appropriate to students' needs.

Full course descriptions, syllabi, and assessment details are available from the individual instructors at the beginning of term.

MA Minor Dissertation*Requirements*

The Dissertation should make an original contribution to our understanding of the topic in question, should demonstrate good analytical skills, and should be presented in a scholarly manner. The recommended word-length of an MA Dissertation is 15,000-20,000 words. The subject shall be chosen by students in consultation with the course board and the MA Programme Director during the second semester.

Topic

Students should identify and select a topic relating to Irish culture and society since 1800 which will enable them to fulfil the above requirements and for which they can find a supervisor willing to supervise them.

Dissertation Schedule

- ❖ Research Methodology and Archival Research Workshops
 - ❖ Preliminary MA Dissertation meeting before Christmas
 - ❖ MA Dissertation Workshops throughout Semester 2 (5 x 2hour workshops)
 - ❖ Graduate Research Fieldtrip to National Archives of Ireland, National Library of Ireland, Royal Irish Academy and the National Museum of Ireland
 - ❖ Students should identify a supervisor and discuss the feasibility of the topic with him/her by March/April of the submission year
 - ❖ Students submit an MA Dissertation Proposal to the MA in Irish Studies Course Board towards the end of Semester 2
 - ❖ Students present an outline of their proposed project and their progress to date to the MA in Irish Studies Course Board in late April/early May of the year of submission
 - ❖ Students submit their MA Minor Dissertations at the end of the academic year
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MA IN IRISH STUDIES ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2011-12
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Introductory Lectures

7-16 September 2011

Semester 1, Lectures (10 weeks)

19 September – 25 November 2011

Semester 2, Lectures (10 weeks)

9 January – 16 March 2012

MA Thesis Workshops (5 x 2 hour workshops)

9 January – 1 June 2012

Irish Language Weekend 1

21-23 October 2011: Áras Shorcha Ní Ghuairim, Carna

Irish Language Weekend 2

17-19 February 2012: Áras Shorcha Ní Ghuairim, Carna

Graduate Research Fieldtrip, Dublin

10 February 2012: National Library of Ireland, National Archives, Royal Irish Academy, National Museum of Ireland.
