

Diploma in Irish Studies: Online, Year 2

Irish Studies Online is an interdisciplinary introduction to Irish Studies, developed by the Centre for Irish Studies, NUI, Galway. The programme offers an excellent opportunity for those interested in Ireland, especially those without access to traditional programmes of study in this area. The purpose of the diploma is to provide a basic introduction to Irish life and culture through the disciplines of Archaeology, History, literature in English and in Irish (presented in translation), Political Science and Sociology, traditional Irish music and dance.

Irish Studies online provides 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 18th century, to the 20th century revival of writing in Irish. Emphasis is also placed on the study of Irish society since independence with due consideration of such crucial issues as gender, religion, modernization, emigration, identity and socio-economic development.

This diploma is suitable for anyone interested in Ireland's past and culture, primary school teachers, secondary school teachers, heritage employees, those employed in the tourism industry.

This course is delivered 100% online.

IS2154***Modern Ireland 1845-1998***

Students acquire an interdisciplinary perspective on the patterns of Modern Irish society by integrating perspectives gained through the study of Irish literature in both languages - Irish (Gaelic) and English, and history during the period from the Irish Famine to the present day. Students study the development of Anglo-Irish literature in the 19th century as well as the 20th century revival of writing in Irish. Particular emphasis will be give to the study of Irish society since independence.

Assessment: 2 essays, continuous assessment

Weighting: 5 ECTs

Reading List

Kiberd, D. 2002 *Irish Classics*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Ó Tuama, S. 1995 *Repossessions: Selected Essays on the Irish Literary Heritage*. Cork, Ireland: Cork University Press.

O'Brien, F. 1996 *The Poor Mouth*. Dalkey, Archive Press.

Lee, J. 2008 *The Modernization of Irish Society 1848-1918*. Dublin, Gill and MacMillan. [also available on Kindle]

Crotty, P. 2003 *Modern Irish Poetry*. Belfast: Blackstaff Press.

IS2155***Social & Political Change in Contemporary Ireland***

This course will use the results of sociological research in Ireland to examine Irish society. There is an underlying question that will be addressed as we move through the different topics - how has Irish society been changed by the economic transformation that was initiated in the 1950s? On completion of this introductory course in Irish Society, students will have gained an insight into the planned economic change and unplanned social changes that have shaped contemporary Ireland.

Assessment: 2 essays, continuous assessment

Weighting: 5 ECTs

Reading List

Tovey, H. & Share, P. 2003 *A Sociology of Ireland* (2nd ed.). Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Tonge, J. 2002 *Northern Ireland conflict and change* (2nd ed.). Harlow, England: Pearson Education Limited.

IS2156

From Ceili to Riverdance: Irish Traditional Music

This course explores some of the key changes in Irish traditional music and dance practice during the long twentieth century, 1893 to 2000. Taking the cultural revival of the latter part of the nineteenth century as a starting point, students critically examine the role of music and dance practice in rural Ireland and the process of modernization which occurred as these practices became urbanized, both in Ireland and among her emigrant communities.

Assessment: 2 essays, continuous assessment

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Reading List

Williams, S. 2010 *Focus: Irish Traditional Music* (book with CD included). New York: Routledge.

Vallely, F. 2011 *Companion to Irish Traditional Music*. Cork: Cork University press.