

General Module

STAGE 3

Module	Irish History and Culture
Course code	GCD-IHC
Credits	5
Allocation of marks	100% continuous assessment

Course description

This course provides an overview of Irish history from pre-history to the early 21st. Through a combination of lectures and field trips, students explore how the 'Irish Question' (up to and including the recent troubles and peace process in the North, and the collapse of the 'Celtic Tiger' economy in the South) has found artistic expression in film, theatre, visual arts, sport, music, and humour. The use of evidence in the construction of the distinct but overlapping categories of history, memory, commemoration, and propaganda is also considered.

Course objectives

- 1 To provide a basic narrative of Irish history over the past two centuries.
- 2 To provide more detailed analysis of key turning points in Irish history: the Great Famine; the Irish Revolution 1916-23; partition; the outbreak of the troubles in August 1969; the emergence of the 'Celtic Tiger' in the 1990s.
- 3 To develop a facility in weighing up and using evidence (documentary, visual, folklore, artistic, etc.) in constructing an argument (essays/assignments).
- 4 To use a variety of artistic forms (film, drama, documentary, sport, etc.) to provide insights into Ireland's historical and political development and vice versa.
- 5 To encourage students to bring their own experiences to bear in arriving at an understanding of contemporary Irish society.

Learning Outcomes:

(1) *Intellectual skills:* By the end of the course students should be able to detail chronologically the main developments in Ireland's history from the coming of the Anglo-Normans to the modern era.

(2) *Personal and Transferable Skills:* By the end of the course, students should have: enhanced their skills in written and verbal communications, through assignment and discussion; enhanced their teamwork skills, through collaboration with other students in group work, on-site visits, walking tours etc.; enhanced their ability to learn independently, through preparation for assignment; and enhanced their analytical skills,

(3) *Attitudinal Skills:* This course is intended to enhance appreciation and awareness of the complexities of Irish national identity and of the patterns of political dynamic in the relationship between colony and empire.

Teaching style

Teaching will take the form of lectures, tutorials, field trips and tours with a particular emphasis on participation and interaction.