Course Description

Elizabethan Ireland (1558-1603) was the experimental training-ground for Britain’s colonial empire as well as an internationally recognised theatre for the struggle between Europe’s old and new Christian traditions. Focussing on the three main ethno-cultural groupings residing in Ireland during Elizabeth I’s reign, this seminar will draw on cultural and ethnic discourses to explore issues of segregation, acculturation, and accommodation between natives and newcomers. Ideologies of conquest and colonisation will be assessed through an analysis of various colonial projects and proposals. The role of religion in shaping colonial ambitions will also be explored, as will the emergence of nationalist thought and patriotic propaganda in late Elizabethan Ireland.
Course Structure

This course will incorporate lectures, student led seminars, and class discussions over the course of five 3 hour seminars on Tuesdays. Each seminar will focus on a specific theme relating to the Elizabethan Conquest of Ireland, and students will be expected to read, present, and discuss primary literature according to the topic being discussed each week.

Course Aims

• Acquire an advanced knowledge of key cultural, social, religious and political shifts in Elizabethan Ireland
• Explore Elizabethan concepts of civility, barbarity, and cultural degeneration
• Introduce students to primary sources representing different socio-political interests and viewpoints on events and affairs in early modern Ireland
• Assess the success and failure of conquest, colonisation, and religious reform in Ireland
• Develop writing, communication and presentation skills

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:
• Identify and analyse the main points of contention between crown and community in Elizabethan Ireland
• Critically assess primary sources representing ethnographic and cultural depictions of different peoples
• Gain an informed understanding of the ideologies of conquest and colonisation in Elizabethan Ireland
• Present cogent arguments which engage with current historiographical debates

Moodle: All students enrolled in this course have access to ‘Moodle’ and should consult it regularly. I will, periodically, post information, including reading materials, instructions, or announcements, on Moodle.

Useful Texts

• Ellis, S.G., Ireland in the age of the Tudors, 1447-1603: English expansion and the end of Gaelic rule, (2nd ed., Harlow, 1998)
• Lennon, C. Sixteenth-Century Ireland: The Incomplete Conquest. 2nd Ed. (Dublin, 2005)
Course Outline

Introduction: Putting Ireland and the Elizabethan Conquest in Context


Ethnic Tensions and Cultural Accommodation


Colonial Ideologies and Implementation


Religious Reform: Success and Failure

  https://archive.org/stream/calendarireland06greauoft#page/13/mode/1up
• CSPI, Vol. 9, 76-80. SP 63/207(2)/92. 7 April 1600. Lord Chancellor Adam Loftus and Thomas Jones, Bishop of Meath, to John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury.
  https://archive.org/stream/1903calendarofstatep09greauoft#page/75/mode/1up
Nationalism and Propaganda


Leading A Seminar

Each student will be expected to introduce a primary document to the class and place it in its historical context by highlighting its relevance to the theme being discussed in that seminar. Particular attention should be paid to the cultural, social, and political attitudes represented in each document or excerpt.

Assessment

Assessment is based on one 3,000 word essay worth 100%. The word count includes footnotes/endnotes, but excludes the bibliography. Essays should be diligently referenced according to the Department’s guidelines and should be submitted via TURNITIN by DATE.

Essay Questions

a) To what extent did ideas about race and ethnicity influence colonial discourses on Ireland?

b) What was more important in determining English colonial policy in Ireland: economy; strategic defence; or religion? Discuss.

c) What factors influenced the development of faith and fatherland nationalist ideology in Elizabethan Ireland?

Online Resources

• British History Online Guides and Calendars [http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue/guides-and-calendars](http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue/guides-and-calendars)
• The British Library
  The 1500’s [http://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/timeline/accessvers/1500s/index.html](http://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/timeline/accessvers/1500s/index.html)
Key Primary Sources

- Calendar of State Papers: Ireland (London)
- Derricke, J., The Image of Irelande, (London, 1581), D.B. Quinn (ed.), (Belfast, 1925)
- Maxwell, Constantia. Irish History from Contemporary Sources (1509-1610). London, 1923
Key Secondary Works

- Ford, A. *The Protestant Reformation in Ireland, 1590-1641*. (Dublin, 1997)
- Lennon, C. *Sixteenth-Century Ireland: The Incomplete Conquest. 2nd Ed.* (Dublin, 2005)
- Lennon, C., *The Lords of Dublin in the Age of Reformation*, (Blackrock, 1989)
- Silke, J.J. *Kinsale: The Spanish Intervention in Ireland at the End of the Elizabethan Wars*. (Liverpool, 1970)