

**Liverpool Hope University**

**Faculty of Arts and Humanities**



**‘Great Hatred, Little Room’: Ireland 1789-2009**

**MA HISTORY**

**HISM021**

**SAMPLE**

**Course Leader: Dr Bryce Evans**



## Course Synopsis

**This course departs from the majority of Irish history teaching by placing Ireland in a comparative European context. Informed by the overriding context of European history in the late modern period, the course seeks to assess the validity of the popular narrative of Irish exceptionalism by examining Irish history conceptually and comparatively. It therefore looks at key people and processes in Ireland's experience of transnational phenomena: imperialism, nationalism, industrialism, capitalism, confessionalisation, post-colonialism, and artistic and literary outputs.**

**In terms of events, the course begins with the political and theoretical impact of the French Revolution in Ireland; it then examines the key events in between 1789 and the infamous 'Irish Bank Bail-Out' of 2009. These include the Act of Union (1801), Catholic Emancipation (1829), the Great Famine (1845-51), the Land Wars (1870s), Independence (1921), and the Modern Troubles (1970s-90s) and the growth of the global Irish diaspora. The course will reconcile Annales-esque breadth with the personalities, stories and modes of representation unique to the modern Irish experience.**

## **Course Aims**

- The development of a critically informed, analytical (rather than merely chronological) understanding of the key political, social, economic and cultural developments in Ireland during the ‘long’ 19th and 20th centuries.
- The ability to situate Ireland within broader European contexts of power relationships; economic and social trends; competing narratives of ‘progress’; and war and peace.
- The improvement of verbal and written communication skills.
- The ability to synthesise both primary source material and historiographical representations of modern Ireland in expanding comprehension of the key themes and events of the period.

## **Learning Outcomes**

- Clearly demonstrate an advanced knowledge of central themes and events in the story of modern Ireland.
- Evaluate processes of change, upheaval and transition in Ireland in the context of the European experience.
- Demonstrate clarity of expression and well-constructed argument in written assessment and seminar discussions.
- Confident handling and appreciation of primary and secondary source material.

## **Summary of Material**

The course provides a survey of modern Ireland through the critical evaluation of the roles of agency, structure and ideology in shaping the country. It will provide the opportunity to critically analyse contemporary and latter-day representations of certain ‘ages’ and events in Irish history and examine cognisant themes. Informed by the modern European experience, it will assess the validity of the poet W.B. Yeats’ remark that modern Ireland was a place of “Great Hatred [but] Little Room”.

## **Course Leader:**

**Dr Bryce Evans**  
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**Weighting: 15 credit optional module**

**Assessment: 3,000 word essay (topic to be discussed in class)**

**Weeks One - Topic: Writing Modern Irish History - Revisionism and the Revisionist Debate**

**Week Two - Topic: From 1798 to the Great Famine; Causes, Course and Controversies**

**Week Three - Topic: Social and Economic History to 1916; Modernity Unleashed?**

**Week Four- Topic: 1916-1921, the Revolutionary Era, and how the context of the Modern Troubles have affected the Writing of Irish History**

# *Reading Suggestions (all available in Sheppard-Worlock library)*

Allen, Kieran. *The Corporate Takeover of Ireland*

Bartlett, Thomas. *Ireland: A History*

Bew, Paul. *Northern Ireland 1921 - 2001: Political Power and Social Classes*

Brown, Terence. *Ireland: a Social and Cultural history, 1922-1985*

Browne, Noel. *Against the Tide*

Clear, Caitriona. *Social change and everyday life in Ireland, 1850–1922*

Crawford, Elizabeth, *The women's suffrage movement in Britain and Ireland: a regional survey*

Daly, Mary. *The Slow Failure: Population Decline and Independent Ireland, 1920-1973*

Daly, Mary. *Social and Economic History of Ireland Since 1800*

Douglas, R. M. (ed.) *Architects of the Resurrection: Ailtirí na hAisérghe and the fascist 'New Order' in Ireland*

Evans, Bryce. *Seán Lemass: Democratic Dictator*

Fanning, Ronan. *The Irish Department of Finance, 1922-58*

Ferriter, Diarmaid. *The Transformation of Ireland 1900-2000*

Ferriter Diarmaid and Toibin, Colm *The Irish Famine*

Foster, RF. *Modern Ireland*

Garvin, Tom. *Preventing the Future: Why was Ireland so poor for so Long?*

Gillen, Gerard eds. *Music and Irish cultural history*

Groves, Patricia. *Petticoat Rebellion: The Anna Parnell Story*

Hanley, Brian ed. *The lost revolution: the story of the official IRA and the Workers' Party*

Hart, Peter, *The I.R.A. and its enemies: violence and community in Cork, 1916-1923*

Hennessey, Thomas. *Dividing Ireland: World War One and Partition*

Jackson, Alvin. *Ireland 1798-1998: War Peace and Beyond*

Jeffery, Keith. *Ireland and the Great War*

Kennedy, Liam and Ollerenshaw, Phil (eds.) *An economic History of Ulster*

Kennedy, Michael. *Division and Consensus: the Politics of Cross-Border Relations in Ireland*

Kinealy, Christine. *The Great Irish Famine: impact, ideology and rebellion*

Lee, Joseph. *Modern Ireland, 1912-1985*

Luddy, Maria. *Women and philanthropy in nineteenth-century Ireland*

Mathews P.J. (ed) *Revival: The Abbey Theatre, Sinn Fein, the Gaelic League and the Co-operative Movement*

McBride, Ian ed. *History and Memory in Modern Ireland*

McCarthy, Cal. *Cumann Na mBan and the Irish Revolution 1914-1923*

McCoole, Sinead. *No Ordinary Women: Irish Female Activists in the Revolutionary Years 1900-1923*

McDonnell, Albert eds., *Cardinal Paul Cullen and his world*

McGarry, Fearghal. *The Rising: Easter 1916*

MacGinty, Roger (ed.) *Guns and government: the management of the Northern Ireland peace process*

Milotte, Mike. *Communism in Modern Ireland: The Pursuit of the Worker's Republic Since 1916*

Moloney, Ed. Paisley: *From Demagogue to Democrat*

Ó Broin, Eoin. *Sinn Féin and the politics of left republicanism*

O'Toole, Fintan. *Ship of Fools: How Stupidity and Corruption Sank the Celtic Tiger*

O Tuathaigh, Gearoid. *Ireland Before the Famine 1798 - 1848*

Owens, Rosemary Cullen. *Social History of Women in Ireland, 1870-1970*

Parkinson, Alan F; Phoenix, Eamon (ed.) *Conflicts in the north of Ireland, 1900-2000: flashpoints and fracture zones*

Quinlan, Christina, *Inside: Ireland's women's prisons, past and present*  
Rafter, Kevin (ed). *Irish journalism before independence: More a disease than a profession*  
Rattigan, Cliona. *'What else could I do?': single mothers and infanticide, Ireland 1900-1950*  
Roper, Esther (ed). *Prison Letters of Countess Markievicz*  
Ross, Shane. *The Bankers: How the Banks Brought Ireland to Its Knees*  
Tiernan, Sonja. *Eva Gore-Booth: An Image of such politics by Sonja Tiernan*  
Travers, Pauric. *Settlements and Divisions: Ireland 1870-1922*  
Wills, Clair. *That Neutral Island*  
Yeates, Padraig. *Lockout: Dublin, 1913*

#### **A few recommended Journals:**

*Irish Economic and Social history*  
*History Ireland*  
*Irish Historical Studies*

#### **Online material:**

Dáil Debates: [www.daileireann.ie](http://www.daileireann.ie)

Website with articles and debate: [www.historyhub.ie](http://www.historyhub.ie)

Irish national archives: [www.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.nationalarchives.ie)

Good introductory website <http://multitext.ucc.ie/>

Irish national library: <http://www.nli.ie/>

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland: <http://www.proni.gov.uk/>

