



ucc

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland

Celtic Civilisation

Second Year 2021-22

PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Roinn na Sean- agus na Meán-Ghaeilge
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Department of Early and Medieval Irish
University College Cork

Modes of Teaching Delivery for Academic Year 2021-22

The Department of Early and Medieval Irish is committed to delivering as much face-to-face teaching as possible within the context of room capacity, ventilation and student and staff safety.

Lectures and Tutorials for AY 2021-22 will proceed in keeping with public health guidelines and as per the University's recommendations.

It is possible that attendance at some lectures may be restricted in numbers in order to observe social distancing requirements. In these cases, teaching will be done in blended format.

Please note that lectures will be recorded and made available subsequently online for the benefit of students for whom physical attendance is not feasible.

The most accurate and up-to-date timetabling and teaching arrangements will be available on the relevant CANVAS module pages after completion of programme and module registration. It is important that students be properly registered early so that they can access this information.

Second Year 2021-22

Students can choose Celtic Civilisation as a 10, 20, 30 or 40 credit subject.

CC2002 Celtic Saints

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

Through close reading of stories about several major Celtic saints, this module illuminates such key aspects of Christianity in the Celtic lands as the nature of miracles, the relationship between spiritual and political power, the place of the saint in the community, and conceptions of the nature of holiness. Attention is given to the texts as literature, to the portrayal of a saint as an individual, and to the process of his or her growth into sainthood.

Timetable: Semester 1

Thursdays 9am – 10am (Boole 6) & Thursdays 3pm – 4pm (ORB 212)

Assessment: 1hr in-class essay/assessment (20%) & 1½hr Winter Written Examination (80%)

Reading: John Carey, *King of Mysteries*; Liam de Paor, *Saint Patrick's World*; Adomnán, *Life of St Columba* (trans. Richard Sharpe); Máire Herbert, 'Hagiography', in K. McCone & K. Simms, *Progress in Medieval Irish Studies*.

CC2003 Exile and Longing: Early Celtic Lyric Poetry

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

Selected texts representative of the earliest poetry of Ireland and Wales are studied in translation. The primary aim of this module is to examine the context that gave rise to the oldest extant vernacular literature in Europe through a close reading of particular poems. The emphasis is on the salient themes that are readily identifiable in these texts such as love, loss, exile, longing, companionship, love and praise of the Creator and the onset of age.

Timetable: Semester 1

Tuesdays 9am – 10am (ORB G20) & Tuesdays 11am-12noon (ORB G20)

Assessment: 2,000-word essay (60%) & 1hr in-class assessment (40%)

Reading: James Carney, *Early Irish Poetry*; Gerard Murphy, *Early Irish Lyrics*; Kuno Meyer, *Selections from Ancient Irish Poetry*; Joseph Clancy, *The Earliest Welsh Poetry*.

CC2006 Learning and Society in the Celtic Countries

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

A survey of the written sources concerned with the institutions of Church and State. Though the medieval Irish and Welsh law tracts are the most important primary sources for this module, this is not a course in legal history. The course focuses on the nature of learning and society in the Celtic countries in the Middle Ages, examines the major social documents from medieval Ireland and Wales, and provides an outline of the main features of medieval Irish and Welsh societies. All material will be studied in translation.

Timetable: Semester 2

Tuesdays 9am – 10am (ORB 145) & Tuesdays 11am – 12noon (ORB G20)

Assessment: 1hr in-class essay/assessment (20%) & 1½hr Summer Written Examination (80%)

Reading: F. Kelly, *A Guide to Early Irish Law*; L. Breatnach, 'Law', in McCone & Simms (ed.), *Progress in Medieval Irish Studies*, 107-21; D.A. Binchy, 'Irish History and Irish Law I-II', *Studia Hibernica* 15, 7-36; 16, 7-45.

CC2007 The Celtic Languages

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

An examination of the emergence of the Celtic family of languages, and of the main developments undergone by them in the ancient and medieval periods. This course provides students with an overview of the Celtic languages from the earliest Continental Celtic inscriptions down to the decline of the Celtic languages in modern times. Such topics as the place of the Celtic languages within the Indo-European language family and the emergence of Celtic in Britain and Ireland are addressed. This course enables students to recognise how the various Celtic languages are related to one another, but each language is also examined individually within its cultural context.

Timetable: Semester 2

Wednesdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB G20) & Thursdays 4pm – 5pm (West Wing 7)

Assessment: 1hr in-class essay/assessment (20%) & 1½hr Summer Written Examination (80%)

Reading: G. Price, *Languages in Britain and Ireland*; M.J. Ball, *The Celtic Languages*; D. Greene, *The Irish Language*.

CC2011 Gender, Image and Identity in Medieval Ireland

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

The Celtic literatures contain a variety of strong and memorable female and male characters, some positively portrayed and others negatively. The idealised gender characteristics which may underpin these portrayals will be explored in the lectures. In the case of the ultimate model of masculinity, the male hero, the myth of heroic prowess coupled with the underlying threat of unpredictability and violence will be examined. In addition, the blurred lines of gender identity in poetry will be a particular focus. Saints' Lives of the Middle Ages, often an unexpected source of gender role reversal and fluidity, will also be covered. A range of representative texts will be read in translation, and discussed and analysed in lectures.

Timetable: Semester 1

Wednesdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB 101) & Thursdays 4pm – 5pm (ORB 212)

Assessment: 2,000-word essay (60%) & 1hr in-class assessment (40%)

Reading: Sheehan and Dooley, *Constructing Gender in Medieval Ireland*; Angela Bourke, et al., *The Field Day Anthology of Irish Literature*, vol. 4: *Irish Women's Writing and Traditions*; Charlene Eska, *Cáin Lánamna*.

CC2013 The Finn Cycle

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

Close reading, in translation, of tales and poems from the Finn cycle. Finn mac Cumail is perhaps the greatest hero of the Gaelic world: a warrior and seer celebrated from the oldest records down to our own day. This module surveys tales and poems (all read in translation) reflecting the early phases of the rich cycle of traditions concerning his adventures.

Timetable: Semester 2

Thursdays 9am –10am (ORB 212) & Thursdays 3pm – 4pm (West Wing 9)

Assessment: 1hr in-class essay/assessment (20%) & 1½hr Summer Written Examination (80%)

Reading: Ann Dooley and Harry Roe, *Tales of the Elders of Ireland*; John T. Koch and John Carey, *The Celtic Heroic Age*; Joseph J. Flahive, *The Fenian Cycle in Irish and Scots-Gaelic Literature*; Kuno Meyer, *Fianaigeacht*; Kevin Murray, *The Early Finn Cycle*.

CC2010 Directed Study in Medieval Celtic Culture

(10 credits, Autumn & Spring Semesters)

CC2010 is only available to those who are taking Celtic Civilisation as a 40 credit subject.

Detailed research and presentation on a topic agreed with the Department.

The assessment of this module is based on research on a topic agreed with the Department. You are required to contact a staff member of the Department of Early and Medieval Irish to discuss your proposed project.

Staff members are Professor John Carey (j.carey@ucc.ie), Dr Kevin Murray (k.murray@ucc.ie), Dr Cairtriona Ó Dochartaigh (c.odochartaigh@ucc.ie) and Dr Emma Nic Cárthaigh (emma.niccarthaigh@ucc.ie).

Staff profiles on the departmental website outline their different areas of expertise:

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/smg/peoplepublications/>

Please email EMI@ucc.ie with your supervisor's name before 13 October 2021. It is expected that you will have identified a suitable topic by that date also.

The assessment of CC2010 is as follows:

Essay (2,500 - 4,000 words): 100 marks

Annotated Bibliography: 50 marks

Presentation: 50 marks

Please be advised that the submission end date for the CC2010 Essay and Annotated Bibliography is Wednesday 23rd March 2022. This has to be handed in to the departmental office (ORB G22) before 4pm on or before the above date. A receipt will be issued.

The presentation will take place during the final two weeks of term.

Module Descriptions & University Calendar

Module descriptions are contained in the Book of Modules, which is available on the web at <http://www.ucc.ie/modules/>. The Book of Modules is designed for use with the University Calendar, which contain the regulations relating to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and indicates which modules belong to which programmes. Students should refer to the Book of Modules to find out about individual modules and to the University Calendar to find out about how modules are grouped together to make up degree programmes. The University Calendar may be found on the web <http://www.ucc.ie/calendar/>.

University Calendar Entry/ Combination Options for BA (Hons) Degree

SECOND ARTS

40-credit Subject

Students take 40 credits as follows:

CC2002, CC2003, CC2006, CC2007, CC2011, CC2013 (5 credits per module), CC2010 (10 credits)

30-credit Subject

Students take 30 credits as follows:

CC2002, CC2003, CC2006, CC2007, CC2011, CC2013 (5 credits per module)

20-credit Subject

Students take 20 credits from the following:

CC2002, CC2003, CC2006, CC2007, CC2011, CC2013 (5 credits per module)

10-credit Subject

Students take 10 credits from the following:

CC2002, CC2003, CC2006, CC2007, CC2011, CC2013 (5 credits per module)

University Calendar entry for the BA (Hons) Degree:

<https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/calendar/arts/art002.html>

2021/22 TIMETABLE

SEMESTER 1/ AUTUMN SEMESTER

Provisional and Subject to Change

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-10		CC2003 O'Rahilly Building G20 <i>Emma</i> <i>Nic Cárthaigh</i>		CC2002 Boole 6 <i>John Carey</i>	
10-11					
11-12		CC2003 O'Rahilly Building G20 <i>Emma</i> <i>Nic Cárthaigh</i>			
12-1					
1-2			CC2011 O'Rahilly Building 101 <i>Caitríona</i> <i>Ó Dochartaigh</i>		
2-3					
3-4				CC2002 O'Rahilly Building 212 <i>John Carey</i>	
4-5				CC2011 O'Rahilly Building 212 <i>Caitríona</i> <i>Ó Dochartaigh</i>	
5-6					

CC2002 Celtic Saints

CC2003 Exile and Longing: Early Celtic Lyric Poetry

CC2011 Gender, Image and Identity in Medieval Ireland

2021/22 TIMETABLE

SEMESTER 2/ SPRING SEMESTER

Provisional and Subject to Change

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-10		CC2006 O'Rahilly Building 145 <i>Kevin Murray</i>		CC2013 O'Rahilly Building 212 <i>John Carey</i>	
10-11					
11-12		CC2006 O'Rahilly Building G20 <i>Kevin Murray</i>			
12-1					
1-2			CC2007 O'Rahilly Building G20 <i>Caitriona Ó Dochartaigh</i>		
2-3					
3-4				CC2013 West Wing 9 <i>John Carey</i>	
4-5				CC2007 West Wing 7 <i>Caitriona Ó Dochartaigh</i>	
5-6					

CC2006 Learning and Society in the Celtic Countries

CC2007 The Celtic Languages

CC2013 The Finn Cycle