



UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland

Celtic Civilisation

Third 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.

Third Year 2021-22

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

CC3001 The *Mabinogi*: Legends of Medieval Wales

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

An examination of the Welsh tales called the *Mabinogi*, considered both as vehicles of Celtic tradition and as works of literature. These four stories represent some of the finest narrative prose produced in medieval Europe. In a close reading of these tales in translation, students consider their roots in British myth, the evidence for external influences, and ways in which they serve as documents of the time of their composition.

Timetable: Semester 1

Thursdays 10am – 11am (West Wing 3) & Thursdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB 202)

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

Reading: John Carey, *Ireland and the Grail*; Sioned Davies, *The Mabinogion*; Proinsias Mac Cana, *The Mabinogi*; C. W. Sullivan III, *The Mabinogi: A Book of Essays*.

CC3003 Ireland and Scotland: The Gaelic World in the Middle Ages

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

This module examines the early political and ecclesiastical interchange between Ireland and Scotland, covering such topics as the expansion of Irish settlers in Scotland at the expense of the indigenous Picts, the range and significance of the monastic federation of Iona, and the impact of the Vikings in different parts of the Gaelic world.

Timetable: Semester 1

Tuesdays 3pm – 4pm (ORB 156) & Tuesdays 4pm – 5pm (West Wing 8)

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

Reading: M. Herbert, *Iona, Kells and Derry*; F.J. Byrne, *Irish Kings and High-Kings*; A.P. Smyth, *Warlords and Holy Men: Scotland AD 80-1000*; A. Woolf, *From Pictland to Alba: 789-1070*; J. Bannerman, *Studies in the History of Dalriada*.

CC3006 Irish Historical Tales

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

This module serves as an introduction to medieval Irish literary compositions about characters and events of the early historical era. It deals with the genre of medieval Irish literature variously referred to as the Historical Cycle or the Cycles of the Kings. The material under investigation is datable to the period between the eighth and twelfth centuries A.D. and details aspects of the political scene in Ireland c.200-800A.D. Attitudes to kingship and views of history in the tales are explored. Such prominent figures as Niall of the Nine Hostages (Níall Noígíallach), Conn Cétchathach (Conn of the Hundred Battles), Labraid Loingsech and Díarmait mac Cerbaill are

discussed comprehensively. Many of the tales reflect political contention between the provinces and with Tara, and there are numerous origin legends of kingdoms and dynasties. They share a common concern with persons and events of the early historical period, from the sixth century to the early eighth. Otherwise, however, the narratives vary in their attitudes to their subjects. Some consist of timeless story-themes, others focus on events like notable battles, and on the personal dramas within the public sphere. The past is viewed through the lens of the present in many such tales.

Study and analysis of selected narrative texts in translation. All texts are read in translation.

Timetable: Semester 2

Mondays 12noon – 1pm (West Wing 8) & Tuesdays 3pm – 4pm (West Wing 7)

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

Reading: M. Dillon, *The Cycles of the Kings*; D. Wiley, *Essays on the Early Irish King Tales*; Lee J. Rayner, *Legends of the Kings of Ireland*; T.P. Cross & C.H. Slover, *Ancient Irish Tales*.

CC3009 Research Project

(5 credits, Autumn and Spring Semesters)

Research on a topic agreed with the Department.

Assessment: 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 Caitríona 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 6 October 2021. It is expected that you will have identified a suitable topic by that date also. The recommended word count for the CC3009 project is 2,500 words. Please be advised that the submission end date for the CC3009 project is Wednesday 6 April 2022. This project must be handed in to the departmental office (ORB G22) before 4pm on or before the above date. A receipt will be issued.

CC3010 Early Irish I

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

Study of the basic rules of Early Irish grammar and syntax.

Timetable: Semester 1

Mondays 12noon– 1pm (ORB 255) & Tuesdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB 145)

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

Reading: E.G. Quin, *Old-Irish Workbook*; J. Strachan, *Old-Irish Paradigms and Selections from the Old-Irish Glosses*; R. Thurneysen, *A Grammar of Old Irish*.

CC3011 Early Irish II

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

Students wishing to take this module must have studied CC3010 or Early Irish previously. Further study of the basic rules of Early Irish grammar and syntax.

Timetable: Semester 2

Tuesdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB 145) in & Tuesdays 4pm – 5pm (West Wing 8)

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

Reading: E.G. Quin, *Old-Irish Workbook*; J. Strachan, *Old-Irish Paradigms and Selections from the Old-Irish Glosses*; R. Thurneysen, *A Grammar of Old Irish*; R. de Vries, *A Student's Companion to Old Irish Grammar*.

CC3012 The Roots of the Arthurian Legend

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

The most far-reaching Celtic impact on the European imagination was probably through stories about King Arthur and his knights: although adapted to fit the norms of chivalry, these narratives preserve many themes from Welsh tradition. This module considers the origins of the legends, and traces Celtic elements in the romances themselves. Welsh and Continental Arthurian texts will be read in translation, and analysed and placed in their broader context in lectures.

Timetable: Semester 1

Thursdays 11am – 12noon (West Wing 4) & Fridays 9am – 10am (Boole 5)

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

Reading: Rachel Bromwich et al., *The Arthur of the Welsh*; John Carey, *Ireland and the Grail*; Jeffrey Gantz, *The Mabinogion*; John T. Koch and John Carey, *The Celtic Heroic Age*.

CC3013 Medieval Manuscript Culture

(5 credits, Autumn Semester)

An Introduction to the rich history of medieval manuscripts with a particular emphasis on Irish examples. Themes covered: Medieval Manuscript Culture and Codex Production; Insular Scripts and Scribal Techniques; Late Medieval and Humanist Scripts; the Corpus of Medieval Irish Manuscripts; the later Irish Manuscript Tradition; Digital Technology and Manuscript Research.

Timetable: Semester 1

Mondays 4pm – 6pm (Food Science Building, Room 322)

Assessment: In-class Transcription Exercise (25%); in-class Codicology Exercise (25%); 1,500-2,000 word essay on a Manuscript/Palaeographical Topic (50%).

Reading: Timothy O'Neill, *The Irish Hand* (Cork University Press: 2014); Michelle P. Brown, *A Guide to Western Historical Scripts from Antiquity to 1600* (British Library Publishing Division, 1999)

CC3014 Early Irish Spirituality

(5 credits, Spring Semester)

This module examines a range of Irish religious writings from the early medieval period. Students use original sources, read in translation, in order to gain insight into the many-sided world of Christian faith in early Ireland. Themes include prayer, the saints, God's relationship with the cosmos, the continuing role of pagan tradition, and ideas concerning the afterlife and the end of the world.

Timetable: Semester 2

Thursdays 11am – 12noon (Connolly C) & Thursdays 1pm – 2pm (ORB 101)

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

Reading: John Carey, *King of Mysteries: Early Irish Religious Writings*; John Carey, *A Single Ray of the Sun: Religious Speculation in Early Ireland*; Gerard Murphy, *Early Irish Lyrics*; Thomas O'Loughlin, *Celtic Theology*.

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

THIRD ARTS

40-credit Subject

Students take 40 credits from the following:

CC3001, CC3003, CC3006, CC3010, CC3011¹, CC3012, CC3013, CC3014² (5 credits per module)

Students may substitute one module from Semester 2 with CC3009 (5 credits). Students should refer to the Department for timetabling information.

30-credit Subject

Students take 30 credits from the following:

CC3001, CC3003, CC3006, CC3009, CC3010, CC3011¹, CC3012, CC3013, CC3014² (5 credits per module)

20-credit Subject

Students take 20 credits from the following:

CC3001, CC3003, CC3006, CC3009, CC3010, CC3011¹, CC3012, CC3013, CC3014² (5 credits per module)

10-credit Subject

Students take 10 credits from the following:

CC3001, CC3003, CC3006, CC3009, CC3010, CC3011¹, CC3012, CC3013, CC3014² (5 credits per module).

Notes

1. Students wishing to take this module must have studied Early Irish previously.
2. Students who took CC2008 in Second Year, cannot select CC3014 in Third Year.

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					CC3012 Boole 5 <i>John Carey</i>
10-11				CC3001 West Wing 3 <i>John Carey</i>	
11-12				CC3012 West Wing 4 <i>John Carey</i>	
12-1	CC3010 ORB 255 <i>Emma</i> <i>Nic Cárthaigh</i>				
1-2		CC3010 O’Rahilly Building 145 <i>Emma</i> <i>Nic Cárthaigh</i>		CC3001 O’Rahilly Building 202 <i>John Carey</i>	
2-3					
3-4		CC3003 O’Rahilly Building 156 <i>Kevin Murray</i>			
4-5	CC3013 Food Science Building 322 <i>Caitríona Ó</i> <i>Dochartaigh</i>	CC3003 West Wing 8 <i>Kevin Murray</i>			
5-6	CC3013 Food Science Building 322 <i>Caitríona Ó</i> <i>Dochartaigh</i>				

CC3003 Ireland and Scotland: The Gaelic World in
the Middle Ages
CC3010 Early Irish I

CC3012 The Roots of the Arthurian Legend
CC3013 Medieval Manuscript Culture

2021/22 TIMETABLE

SEMESTER 2/ SPRING SEMESTER

PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-10					
10-11					
11-12				CC3014 Connolly C <i>John Carey</i>	
12-1	CC3006 West Wing 8 <i>Emma Nic</i> <i>Cárthaigh</i>				
1-2		CC3011 O'Rahilly Building 145 <i>Kevin Murray</i>		CC3014 O'Rahilly Building 101 <i>John Carey</i>	
2-3					
3-4		CC3006 West Wing 7 <i>Emma Nic</i> <i>Cárthaigh</i>			
4-5		CC3011 West Wing 8 <i>Kevin Murray</i>			
5-6					

CC3006 Irish Historical Tales
CC3011 Early Irish II

CC3014 Early Irish Spirituality