CAREERS FOR CELTIC CIVILISATION GRADUATES

CELTIC CIVILISATION AT UCC

Celtic Civilisation offers an innovative perspective on early Irish culture. Requiring no previous knowledge or language skill, this course opens up a rich world of myth, legend, poetry and tradition, revealing Ireland’s place in early Europe as well as its links with other Celtic regions. Offering a unique view of some of the most distinctive elements in Irish identity, it complements courses in such areas as Archaeology, Folklore, History or Irish language. With a record of preparing students for careers in teaching, scholarship, libraries and heritage, it provides interdisciplinary and analytical skills that are widely transferable.
WHAT CAN CELTIC CIVILISATION GRADUATES OFFER EMPLOYERS?

Celtic Civilisation is an excellent qualification for careers involving familiarity with the Irish past, and with Irish tradition and culture, or as a preparation for further study in this and related fields. It fosters a set of widely applicable transferable skills.

- Grounding in traditions that have shaped Irish identity.
- Understanding of the role of Ireland and other Celtic regions in the development of European culture.
- A distinctive supplement to qualifications in areas such as Archaeology, History, Classics, Religion, Comparative Literature and Irish language.
- Skills in textual analysis and expository writing.
• Familiarity with the traditional significance of historic sites, valuable in the heritage sector.

• Expertise in investigating both primary and secondary sources; document formatting; technical writing including a variety of bibliographical styles.

• Competence in utilising databases and online tools for analysing the cultural context and textual remnants of media.
GRADUATE OUTCOMES FOR CELTIC CIVILISATION

Of students majoring in Celtic Civilisation who graduated in AY 2017-18, 60% of those who responded to a survey have gone on to postgraduate study at UCC and in the UK, in such fields as Religion, Archaeology and Library Studies.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Students with a Celtic Civilisation qualification frequently continue to develop their interest in the subject by going on to join one of the three MA programmes offered by the Department of Early and Medieval Irish: Celtic Civilisation, Early and Medieval Irish, and The Beginnings of Irish Christianity, sometimes going yet further to earn a PhD. Other potential areas are Archaeology, Classics, History and Nua-Ghaeilge. Beyond UCC, our graduates have pursued advanced degrees in such fields as Celtic Studies, History, Library Science, Medieval Studies and Religion. A Celtic Civilisation qualification provides a unique perspective in many areas of the humanities.
This qualification prepares students for further study in Celtic Studies and related fields, and is an asset for careers in teaching and the heritage sector. It also confers widely applicable skills in interdisciplinary, analysis and writing.

Celtic Civilisation graduates may go on to do advanced degrees in Celtic Studies and related fields. From here, some have continued to postdoctoral positions in the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and elsewhere, and to teaching positions in universities in Ireland and abroad.

A Celtic Civilisation qualification provides valuable knowledge to supplement the teaching of subjects like literature, history and Irish at primary and secondary level.
Familiarity with the legendary and traditional associations of prehistoric and historic sites is a highly valuable asset in the heritage sector; thus some Celtic Civilisation graduates have careers in museums and as tour guides. There are also opportunities in heritage centre design, and in the preparation of explanatory literature.

Skills in analysis, interdisciplinary thinking and clear self-expression have an application in many fields, serving as assets for instance in careers in banking, the civil service and administration.

Background in the great imaginative works of the Irish past can provide material and inspiration for careers in the creative and performing arts, such as writing and music.

Transferable skills related to close work with texts have contributed to the successful pursuit of a career in librarianship.
Graduate Profile 1

MARIE-LUISE THEUERKAUF

Marie-Luise Theuerkauf completed her Bachelor of Arts (Joint Honours) in French and Celtic Civilisation at UCC in 2009, subsequently winning an Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship. As part of her PhD, she spent a year at the University of Notre Dame in the United States after winning the inaugural Murphy Irish Exchange scholarship (2012-2013). She graduated with a PhD in Early Irish and French in 2015 and joined the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies as an O’Donovan Scholar later that year. In 2018, she began working as a Research Associate in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at the University of Cambridge.

Graduate Profile 2

TOMÁS Ó HAODHA

Tomás Ó hAodha pursued a long-held dream of studying Celtic Civilization at UCC, and eventually achieved a Master’s Degree in Early and Medieval Irish at the college. While there he learned how to do deep research, perform detailed analysis, and communicate complex topics with his colleagues and lecturers. All of these skills are indispensable to him in his current role, leading an engineering team for a multinational cybersecurity company. He also remains active in the field of Celtic Civilization, recently taking a position on the board of the Irish Texts Society, and teaching Irish language classes in the Múscraí Gaeltacht.
Graduate Profile 3

PETER HOLZMANN

After majoring in Celtic Civilisation I went on to write an MPhil thesis in Early and Medieval Irish: to date, this is the achievement of which I am most proud. I came to the discipline because I recognised the demanding nature of the material and looked forward to the challenge of uncovering the fascinating world of Early Ireland. I subsequently qualified as a librarian, and now work in a library in south London. The work, the department in UCC and my research have had a profound impact on my thinking to this day and have greatly influenced the decision to follow a career in helping people discover knowledge and information.

Graduate Profile 4

MICHELLE DORAN

Michelle Doran studied Celtic Civilisation, and went on to earn a PhD in Early and Medieval Irish while working in the banking sector. She is now a postdoctoral Research Fellow at Trinity Long Room Hub, where she is contributing to the CHIST-ERA PROVIDEDH (PROgressive VIsual Decision-making in Digital Humanities) project and is Project Officer for the Centre of Digital Humanities. She is module coordinator of the Digital Scholarship and Skills workshop and facilitates workshops on the subjects of Digital Humanities, Data Management Planning and Digital Scholarly Editing.
WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

TWITTER

SOCIETAS CELTOLOGICA EUROPAEA

UCC DEPARTMENT OF EARLY AND MEDIEVAL IRISH
CELTIC STUDIES
ASSOCIATION OF
NORTH AMERICA

CELTIC DIGITAL
INITIATIVE
Use tutorials as a way of pursuing those aspects of the subject that most engage you.

If doing a joint or combined degree, pick subjects relating to the aspects of Celtic Civilisation that you find most interesting.

Ask instructors for additional reading in key areas.

Travel to historic sites and museums connected to course subject matter.
Use online resources such as CELT, Celtic Digital Initiative, Irish Script on Screen and Irish Sagas Online to access source material.

Explore Boole Library’s Special Collections.

Attend subject-specific conferences, seminars and special lectures.

Gain relevant skills and experience by taking an active role in the Student’s Union or in a club/society that interests you.
Avail of university-wide modules and skills training that will equip you with professional expertise, such as planning, IT, languages or presentation skills.

Create an up-to-date CV and professional social media profile and presence.

Take summer courses in relevant subjects such as Latin or Irish.

Develop your degree with a Masters course in Celtic Civilisation or a related subject for further career.
Celtic Studies covers at least two and a half millennia, and the literature and history of regions all across Europe and beyond. It has key relevance to a multitude of other fields in the humanities.