



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY



Modern Irish Culture Studies

(Literature and Music)

Information for First Years

Academic Year AY202425

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/collegeofartssocialsciencescelticstudies/schools/irishstudies/1BA-MICS-Handbook-AY202324-27-July.pdf>

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Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music), BA subject Information for First Years AY202425

Welcome to Modern Irish Culture Studies (MICS) at University of Galway! This handbook will address some of the questions that you have about Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) as a BA subject available to all First Year Arts students, across all programmes. Any other questions, please email First Year Coordinator, Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie.

1. INTRODUCTION

Modern Irish Culture Studies is an integrated, interdisciplinary programme of learning which seeks to explore key aspects of the Irish experience in its historical and contemporary settings. The Centre for Irish Studies is located on Distillery Road, which dissects the old campus from the newer western campus. Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) is available as a full BA subject from first year to degree level. Modern Irish Culture Studies may be taken as one of three or four first year subjects, depending upon your programme of study. Students may choose to continue with Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) as one, of two, degree level subjects from second year onwards (or in the case of BA Connects, also with the Connect specialism).

Further information about aspects of all First Year BA programmes is available at <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/ba-degrees/>

The first year of Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) will provide an overview of writing in Irish (studied in translation) and English, and of traditional music and dance from the late nineteenth century to the present. The themes of emigration and migration provide a distinct focus, particularly in the second semester and how these themes are reflected in Irish poetry, fiction, drama, and in the performance and transmission of Irish music and dance from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century.

2. KEEPING IN TOUCH

- Please note that you should only use your University of Galway email address when corresponding with us. You are responsible for checking your University of Galway email and Canvas accounts regularly.
- Follow the Centre for Irish Studies Facebook page and our Twitter to keep up to date with all activities.
- Information from the Module Coordinator and from individual lecturers and tutors will be sent to your college email address or made available on Canvas. Email is the quickest way to contact a member of staff.
- Learning materials will be available online through your Canvas account.

3. OUR TEAM

The Centre for Irish Studies, at no. 4, Distillery Road, will be your virtual and actual academic home for Modern Irish Culture Studies.

Below are the contact details for core staff members in Irish Studi

Head of Discipline, Centre for Irish Studies Dr Nessa Cronin, Room 205 nessa.cronin@universityofgalway.ie	Administrator Samantha Williams, Room 101 samantha.williams@universityofgalway.ie
Prof Louis de Paor, Room 202 (louis.depaor@universityofgalway.ie)	Dr Leo Keohane, Room 206 (leo.keohane@universityofgalway.ie)
Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Room 203 meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie	Dr Verena Commins, Room 204 (verena.commins@universityofgalway.ie)

4. ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Individual queries relating to modules should be directed to your module lecturer. Alternatively, for all concerns, academic and otherwise your First Year Coordinator is Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Room 203 (meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie).

5. LECTURES IN MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES AY202425

Attendance at classes provides the best learning experience and class attendance is required. Each class requires student participation, and this will be central to your learning experience. Readings and other learning materials that you will be required to read in advance and discuss in class are provided beforehand. Please note that all lectures start on the hour and finish at ten minutes to the hour.

6. ASSESSMENT

Assessment in Modern Irish Culture Studies is by continuous assessment. Essays, presentations, reviews and other methods of continuous assessment are used including oral and in-class examination. Assessment submissions should include a cover page indicating date of submission, title and student details. Details are provided at individual module level.

6.1 Academic writing

Writing in an academic style is a process of investigating ideas, collating information and presenting a coherent and critical argument. You will be reading and looking at diverse texts which will develop your awareness of different styles and approaches to scholarship. All academic writing requires the author to properly acknowledge the source/s of the information presented through a system of referencing/citation. This is the cornerstone of good academic practice, and all Modern Irish Culture Studies classes will help develop those critical writing skills.

6.2 Referencing/citations

In your essays, quotations and substantive information taken from other works must be acknowledged in footnotes or endnotes, giving author, title, and page number. When citing unpublished sources, students should follow the advice of the module lecturer. A bibliography, listing the documentary sources, books, and articles used (including all those acknowledged in footnotes/endnotes) must be included at the end of your essay. The most common style of referencing used by scholars in the disciplines of

literature and languages is the MLA style. For a useful outline of this follow the link below to Hardiman Library style guide here at University of Galway:

<https://libguides.library.universityofgalway.ie/c.php?g=534782&p=3799183>

6.3 Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is when a student presents the work of other authors as their own without proper acknowledgement or reference. Plagiarism is a serious offence and is subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University.

When a student directly uses an idea or expressive quotation from something they have read, it must be put in quotation marks and the source acknowledged. When a student paraphrases or relies substantially on an idea or construct of a particular author, that too needs to be acknowledged through references. Not to do so is academically dishonest. If you have any question about the difference between scholarly citation, collaboration and paraphrase, ask for clarification.

A full university statement on Academic Integrity is available here:

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/registrar/docs/policiesmay2023/QA220-Academic-Integrity-Policy-v2.0-Sept-2023.pdf>

6.4 Writing skills support

All of your lecturers assist you in developing good academic writing skills. In addition, we strongly advise students to avail of the services of the Academic Writing Centre. This is a free service where students of all disciplines situated in the James Hardiman Library. To make an appointment for online writing support, see details here: <https://library.universityofgalway.ie/awc/>

6.5 Assignment Submission Procedures All assignments must be completed by the specified date indicated by your Module Lecturer. Late submission of any assignment is subject to the following penalties: 5% for part or all of the first week and 1% for each subsequent day.

6.6 Marking system

The marking system in Modern Irish Culture Studies is as follows:

A: 70-100% / 1	B-: 50-59% / II.2	D: 40-44% / Pass
B+: 60-69% / II.1	C: 45-49% / Pass	Fail: 30-39% / Fail

Please find further information relating to Marks and Standards here:

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/exams/policies-procedures/>

7. EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER AND ACCUMULATION SYSTEM (ECTS)

ECTS is an academic credit system based on the estimated student workload required to achieve the objectives of a module or programme of study. The ECTS is the recommended credit system for higher education in Ireland and across the European Higher Education Area. The ECTS weighting for a module is a measure of the student input or workload required for that module, based on factors such as the number of contact hours the number and length of written or verbally presented assessment exercises, class preparation and private study time, as appropriate.

The European norm for full-time undergraduate study over one academic year is 60 credits.

The distribution of credits for the BA Joint Hons degree is as follows:

First Year 60 ECTS (20 ECTS x Three subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Second Year 60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Final Year 60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)

The distribution of credits for BA CONNECT degrees is as follows:

First Year 60 ECTS (15 ECTS x Four subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Second Year 60 ECTS (25 ECTS x Two subjects including. Modern Irish Culture Studies)
10 ECTS CONNECT subject
Third Year 60 ECTS (No Modern Irish Culture Studies modules)
Fourth Year 60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)

The distribution of credits for all other BA four-year denominated programmes is as follows:

First Year 60 ECTS (20 ECTS x Three subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Second Year 60 ECTS (30 x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)
Third Year 60 ECTS (No Modern Irish Culture Studies modules, denominated subject only)
Fourth Year 60 ECTS (30 ECTS x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)

7.1 MODULE REQUIREMENTS IN FIRST YEAR MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES (Literature and Music)

Full module descriptions, syllabuses, and assessment details are available from the individual instructors at the beginning of term and available on Canvas

Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) in first year comprises four lecture-seminar hours per week which will provide an introduction to your studies of modern and contemporary Irish culture. All modules are worth 5 ECTS.

Which modules do I take?

BA Joint Honours (GY101) and four-year denominated degree programme students take all four available modules in Modern Irish Culture Studies (IS1100, IS1103, IS1104, ISSK1100) totalling 20 ECTS.

BA Connect students take three modules (IS1103, IS1104 and ISSK1100) totalling 15 ECTS.

Where are my classes?

Getting familiar with the campus will take a little bit of time. The interactive campus map, available here will help: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/buildings/maps/>

7.2 MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES FIRST YEAR MODULES

SEMESTER 1, Week 1 begins 16 September 2024

Module:	ISSK1100 Introducing Modern and Contemporary Irish Writing	
Time:	Monday, 2-3pm (Dr Nessa Cronin)	Venue: AC204
	Classes begin 16 September	
Time:	Tuesday, 5-6pm (An tOll. Louis de Paor)	Venue: AMBG009
	Classes begin 17 September	

Module:	IS1103 Introducing Irish Traditional Music and Dance since 1893 (year-long module)	
Time:	Monday, 3-4pm (Dr Verena Commins)	
	Classes begin 16 September	
Venue:	ENG-2035 Lecture Room 08	

Module:	IS1100 Irish Music and Emigration (year-long module)	
Time:	Thursday, 12-1pm (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)	
	11 weeks, classes begin 19 September	
Venue:	Room 103 Seomra Seimineáir, Centre for Irish Studies	

SEMESTER 2 Week 1 begins 13 January 2024

Module:	IS1103 Introducing Irish Traditional Music and Dance (continued from first semester)	
Time:	Monday, 3-4pm (Dr Verena Commins)	
	Classes begin Week 1, Sem 2	
Venue:	Room 103 Seomra Seimineáir, CIS	

Module:	IS1104 The Migrant Experience in Modern Irish Writing	
Time:	Monday, 2-3pm (Dr Nessa Cronin) *9 weeks, classes begin Week 1, Sem 2	
Venue:	AC215 – Lecture Room	
Time:	Tuesday, 5-6pm (An tOll. Louis de Paor) 12 weeks, classes begin Week 1, Sem 2	
Venue:	IT204 Seminar Room	

Module:	IS1100 Irish Music and Emigration (year-long module)	
Time:	Thursday, 12-1pm (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)	
	Classes begin Week 1	
Venue:	Room 103 Seomra Seimineáir, CIS	

*Monday, 28 October, no classes, public holiday

Monday, 3 February, Bridget's Day observed, no classes, public holiday

* 17–21 February is a reading week. There are no classes across the College that week.

*Monday, 17 March, St Patrick's Day, no classes, public holiday

7.3 MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES, FIRST YEAR MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

Code & Sem	MODULE TITLE and ECTS
IS1103 Sem 1&2	<p style="text-align: center;">INTRODUCING TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE SINCE 1893 (5 ECTS)*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*NOTE: This module begins in Sem 1 and continues in Sem 2, 24 x 1 hour lectures, over both semesters</p> <p>This course will survey the development of traditional music and dance in Ireland from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. It will explore the key moments, and leading figures in the movement of these expressive forms from a traditional setting to a modern context and examine the consequences of these changes. In particular, revival, as a process and ideology, will be explored.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay</p>
ISSK1100 Sem 1	<p style="text-align: center;">INTRODUCING MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY IRISH WRITING (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This course will provide an overview of Irish writing in Irish (studied in translation) and in English from the literary and cultural revivals of late nineteenth-century Ireland to the present. It will introduce the work of some of the most outstanding modern writers in both languages, with a particular emphasis on the ways in which issues such as gender, nationalism, sexuality, politics, religion and social class are represented in literature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS1100 Sem 1&2	<p style="text-align: center;">IRISH MUSIC AND EMIGRATION (5 ECTS)*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*NOTE: This module begins in Sem 1 and continues in Sem 2, 24 x 1 hour lectures, over both semesters</p> <p>This module will examine Irish music and migration from the eighteenth century to the twenty-first century. In particular, the module will explore music and cultural practices as they evolved and responded to migrant contexts in North America and Britain. The reciprocal influences of Irish traditional practices and American folk and popular music will also be investigated. Finally, key developments such as the advent of music recording folk music revival of the 1960s will be assessed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS1104 Sem 2	<p style="text-align: center;">THE MIGRANT EXPERIENCE IN MODERN IRISH WRITING (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This course will look at how the experience of migration is represented in twentieth-century Irish writing. While the central focus will be on literary representations of the Irish diaspora, contemporary representations of the immigrant experience within Ireland will also be examined. English language and Irish language texts (in translation) will be considered.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>

7.4 Modern Irish Culture Studies Timetable Semester 1 and General Academic Calendar

Time/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-9.50am					
10-10.50am					
11-11.50am					
12-12.50pm				IS1100 Venue: Room 103, Centre for Irish Studies*	
1-1.50pm					
2-2.50pm	ISSK1100 Venue: AC204				
3-3.50pm	IS1103 Venue: ENG-2035 Lecture Room 08				
4-4.50pm					
5-5.50pm		ISSK1100 Venue: AMBG009			

*Centre for Irish Studies, no. 4 Distillery Road

Academic Year 2024 -2025	
Orientation 1st years	<i>To be confirmed</i>
Start of teaching - 1st years*	Monday 16th September*
End of teaching - 1st years*	Friday 29th November * (11 weeks of teaching)
Start of teaching all years	Monday 9th September
End of teaching all years	Friday 29th November (12 weeks of teaching)
Study week	Monday 2nd December to Friday 6th December
Semester 1 exams start	Monday 9th December
Semester 1 exams end	Friday 20th December (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 21st December
2025	
Start of Teaching	Monday 13th January 2025
End of Teaching	Friday 4th April (12 weeks of teaching)
Field Trips	Monday 7th April to Thursday 10th April (4 working days as in 2020/21, 2022/23, 2023/24)
Study Week	Friday 11th April to Thursday, 17th April
Semester 2 Exams Start	Tuesday, 22nd April
Easter	Good Friday 18th April to Easter Monday 21st April 2025
Semester 2 Exams End	Friday, 9th May (13 days of exams)
Autumn Repeat Exams	Tuesday 5th to Friday 15th August (9 days of exams)
Holidays	
	Easter: Good Friday 18th April to Easter Monday 21st April 2025
	Bank Holidays: Monday 28th October 2024 / Monday, 3rd February, 2025 / Monday, 17th March 2025
	Monday 5th May 2025/ Monday 2nd June 2025 / Monday 4th August 2025