

OLLSCOIL ULADH
UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

SCOIL NA dTEANGACHA AGUS NA LITRÍOCHTA
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

AN GHAEILGE/AN LÉANN ÉIREANNACH
IRISH/IRISH STUDIES

LÁMHLEABHAR NA gCÚRSAÍ GAEILGE
BLIAIN ACADÚIL 2006/2007
IRISH COURSE HANDBOOK
ACADEMIC YEAR 2006/2007

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Irish at the University of Ulster

Irish is a designated area of very high priority in teaching and research at the University of Ulster and is currently in a period of rapid growth and expansion. In all, some 300 students are studying Irish at the University. There are eleven full-time lecturing staff at Coleraine including a professor, two senior lecturers, two lecturers, a language technologist and five research assistants/fellows.

Irish Studies is one of the three divisions that form the School of Languages and Literature along with Modern Languages and English. The School is contained within the Faculty of Arts, which also includes four other schools.

Irish is one of a number of subjects offered to Faculty of Arts students on the Coleraine campus. It can be studied either as a multidisciplinary course (**BA Hons Irish Studies**), a single subject (**BA Hons Irish Language and Literature**) or as one of the components of a broader arts programme in which it can be taken as a major, main, or minor option.

Summary of Courses in Irish

The **BA Hons Irish Studies** is a multidisciplinary degree course. The aims are, *inter alia*, to: bring students to a very high level of accuracy and fluency in Modern Irish, both oral and written; develop students' ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate literary texts; provide a thorough grounding in the linguistic and literary history of Gaelic Ireland with particular emphasis on the period stretching from classical Irish to the present day; and to deepen students' understanding and awareness of the historical, cultural and social factors which have shaped Modern Ireland. It consists of eighteen modules of study over three years, six per year, and comprises compulsory modules in Modern Irish language and literature, the Irish oral tradition, the Irish of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Classical Irish and the Irish of the seventeenth century, Irish sociolinguistics and Irish dialects, and the history of Irish language and literature. It also includes obligatory modules in Irish history (one per year taught by History staff) and Irish literature in English (one module in Year One taught by English staff). Irish language and literature modules are normally taught through Irish; the History and English modules through English.

The **BA Hons Irish Language and Literature** differs from the BA Hons Irish Studies in that students do not take modules of Irish history or of Irish Literature in English. Instead they take modules in modern Celtic cultures and Irish media in Year 1 and two modules of Scottish Gaelic, one in Year 2 and another in Year 3.

Students on the **combined degree courses** take two or three subjects in their first year. Students majoring in Irish take four modules in Irish in each year and two in their other subject. In Years Two and Three, students doing a main in Irish take three modules in each year in Irish, and students taking minor Irish take two modules in Irish in each year. Core modules are designed to ensure that all students acquire a sound proficiency in Irish written and spoken skills, as well as a thorough acquaintance with modern literature in Irish.

Irish Secretary

The secretary for Irish is located in the Faculty Office in C Block (South Building). You can seek advice and information on queries you might have in relation to your course from the office, and you can leave messages for your lecturers and tutors, or find out whom to contact if you need to sort out a problem. The Secretary will be happy to offer assistance. Contact details:

- by phone: 028-70324142 (Mrs Rosemary Savage)
- by fax 028-70324963
- by e-mail: r.savage@ulster.ac.uk
- by post: Irish Studies
School of Languages and Literature
University of Ulster
Coleraine
BT52 1SA

Or in the absence of Mrs Savage

- by phone: 028-70324537 (Mrs Pat Shortt)
- by email: mp.shortt@ulster.ac.uk

Faculty Office Staff

Faculty Office staff share the same office as the Irish Studies secretary. It is the Faculty that deals with such matters as registration, payment of grants, collection and release of marks, award of degrees, and so on. Members of Faculty Office will always be able to help you directly, or advise you on who to turn to with any particular query you might have.

The Faculty staff at **Coleraine** are Mrs Janetta Chambers, Mrs Lyn Doyle, and Mrs Karen Gibson and can be contacted in room C100 or at 028-70324391.

More complex problems can be addressed directly to the Head of Faculty Administration, Mr Gary Kendall, who is based on the Coleraine Campus (room C100 tel. 028-70324391).

Communication

All student mail addressed via the University will usually come to the Faculty Office. On arrival it will be placed for collection on the **Student Mail Rack** at C100 in South Building. Communications from students to members of academic staff should be handed to the Irish Studies secretary.

Important mail will be sent to your term-time address. It is therefore absolutely vital that, if you change your address, you should notify both the Academic Registry and the Faculty Office. It is your responsibility to make sure that you keep us informed on this matter. If you have an email address please notify the Faculty of that too.

Noticeboards

The main noticeboards for Irish Studies at Coleraine are outside Irish Studies staff offices on level 2 of B Block in the South Building, and at the top of the stairs leading to these offices. On these noticeboards you will find detailed information about lecture schedules for individual modules, about essay deadlines, class tests, and any other matters that might be of interest to students in Irish. It is important that you keep a regular check on these noticeboards to keep yourself informed.

Full-time Members of Teaching Staff in Irish at Coleraine:

Professor Séamus Mac Mathúna Head of Subject	Room B257 Tel: 028-70324557 E-mail s.macmathuna@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Gregory Toner Course Director	Room B256 Tel: 028-70324092 E-mail gj.toner@ulster.ac.uk
Mr Micheál Ó Murchú	Room B201 Tel: 028-70324336 E-mail m.omurchu@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Iwan Wmffre	Room B202 Tel: 028-70324558 E-mail i.wmffre@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Pádraig Ó Mianáin	Room B254B +44 (0)28 70323060 E-mail pa.omianain@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Iain Mac a Phearsain	Room B254A +44 (0)28 70324083 E-mail js.macpherson@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Fionntán de Brún	Room B203 +44 (0)28 70324165 E-mail f.debrun@ulster.ac.uk
Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill Language Technologist	Room D036 D 028-70323003 E-mail c.odonaill@ulster.ac.uk

History and English Staff teaching on the Irish Studies course:

Professor Valerie Morgan

History
Room L123
Tel: 028-70324593
E-mail v.morgan@ulster.ac.uk

Dr Eamonn Ó Ciardha

English
Room D040
Tel: 028-70323214
E-mail e.ociardha@ulster.ac.uk

ORGANISATION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Semester System

The academic year at the University of Ulster is divided into two semesters: the autumn semester and the spring semester. Each semester consists of twelve teaching weeks and a two-week examination period. The autumn semester normally starts in late September; the teaching lasts until just before Christmas, and the examination period does not begin until the second or third week of January, which gives students some extra time to prepare for the examinations. In the spring semester, the teaching starts towards the end of January and lasts normally until early May, with a two-week Easter vacation falling some time in the course of the teaching period; the last week of teaching is followed by a revision week (no formal classes) and then by two weeks of exams.

Modular System

All teaching at the University of Ulster is based on the principle of modularisation. Some modules are delivered by one lecturer only, while on others you will be taught by a team of people; in either case, however, the responsibility for the organisation and delivery of the teaching lies with the module coordinator. Each module is taught and examined over one semester - that is, modules taught in the autumn semester are examined in January, and those taught in the spring semester are examined in May. There is, as a result, no such thing as “finals”, during which you would be examined in subjects you may have been taught months before. If you have any problems with a module or need any information about it, you should contact the module coordinator.

Delayed Choice

Entering university is a major threshold in everyone’s life, regardless of whether you come directly from school, or you have taken time off studying to work or travel, or you are a mature student returning to education after maybe several decades spent working or raising your family. Some university entrants know exactly what they want to concentrate on in their studies, but to others university environment may

appear bewildering - so you may need time to find your way around the place, not just in terms of where to look for the library or the lecture theatres, but also how to make the best possible use of the opportunities the university offers. It may be some time before you work out where exactly your interests lie, or what structure of degree would be best suited for the particular career path you plan to follow; it is therefore important that all the decisions with respect to the choice of subjects you will be studying are made when you feel you are genuinely ready to do so.

To make sure that this is the case, the Faculty of Arts operates a system of delayed choice. This means that whatever course in the Faculty (such as BA Hons Irish Studies or one of the combined programmes) you have been admitted to, you can choose, in the course of your first year, from a variety of potential paths towards your final degree.

Choosing Modules: Rules and Regulations

All Arts students are expected to complete six modules per year - normally three modules in each semester in the full-time mode. The rules governing the selection of modules vary depending on the year of study you are in; in particular, the principles of module choice in Year 1 are different from those applying in Years 2 and 3.

If you need help with your choice of modules, turn in the first instance to your **Adviser of Studies** - it is his or her role to offer you help and guidance. However, if your Adviser of Studies is in a subject other than Irish (this might happen in Year 1 if you are registered for a course other than the BA Hons Irish Studies or BA Hons Irish Language and Literature, or in Years 2 or 3 if you are taking Irish Studies as minor or main option), you can approach the course director. But remember - if your Adviser of Studies is in Irish Studies, approach him or her directly.

Changing Modules and Courses

The University will normally expect you to make up your mind about which modules you will be taking in any given year when you register - that is, in the week preceding the first week of Semester 1. It is a good idea to think about your choice of modules before you arrive for registration, so that you have the time to consider all the options and select your optimum combination of modules. Still, thoughtful as you may have been when choosing your modules, it may nonetheless happen that you want to make a last-minute change - perhaps because you have unexpectedly discovered a module which you would really want to do and which you did not notice when first studying the module list, or perhaps because you got confused over the various module codes. If this happens before the end of Week 2 of the semester, which the change would affect, it is not too late: you can still de-register from the module which you want to drop, and register for the one you want to opt into. To do so, you need to collect a change of course/module form from the Faculty Office, fill it in, get it signed by your Adviser of Studies, and return it back to the Faculty Office - before the Friday of Week 2. Late re-registrations will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances, and will normally require the permission of the Dean.

Similar (though perhaps more formal) procedures apply when you want to change courses - this may happen, for instance, at the beginning of your Year 2, when, having had an opportunity to study other subjects in the previous year, you decide that you want to transfer from the course you originally enrolled for to one that would be better suited to your individual interests. What you need to do is, again, to pick up a form and fill it in; you then need to see the Course Director of the course you are leaving (so you can be signed out) and the Course Director responsible for the course you want to join (so you can be signed in). Remember, however, that to change courses you need the two Course Directors' permission to do so: this will in most cases be granted, but the Course Director of the course you intend to transfer to will normally want to have a brief interview with you to make sure that you have taken the right decision, that your marks in the subjects you want to do are good enough to promise a good performance in your new course, and so on.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS

Teaching: Lectures and Seminars

All modules in Irish except the dissertation module (IRS504C1) are taught through a combination of lectures (during which the material is explained to the students by the lecturer) and seminars (in which issues arising from the lectures and from other material studied can be discussed by students under the guidance of the seminar tutor). Lectures are designed for all students doing the module, seminars are normally taught in small groups (of around 10 people), so it is during them that you will have the opportunity to ask questions, to focus on problems that you find particularly important or particularly difficult, and to discuss points of interest both with your fellow-students and with your seminar tutor. Arrangements with regard to dividing the module into seminar groups and working out the schedule of meetings will normally be made by the module co-ordinator some time during the first week of the semester in which the module is taught. Do not be reluctant to contribute to seminars. They can be very enjoyable as well as instructive if there is a free exchange of views, and no one will mind if what you say is controversial.

On a number of modules, the teaching is shared between various people - there may be more than one person taking the lectures, and different seminar groups may be taught by different tutors - some of them perhaps part-time members of staff, others postgraduate research students. All people involved on a module would always be happy to discuss with you any issues relating to the material you study, to answer any questions you might want to ask, or to help with any difficulties you might be facing; among them, your first port of call would normally be your seminar tutor, or, on matters relating to the administration of the module (registration, allocation to a seminar group, and so on), the module co-ordinator.

Forms of Assessment

Irish Studies employs a variety of forms of assessment. Most modules in Years 1 and 3 of the BA Hons Courses are examined through a mixture of coursework and formal examination; in some modules, a small proportion of coursework marks may be awarded for seminar attendance and performance. The relative weighting of coursework marks vs. examination marks is normally 50%/50%. In Year 2, all modules are, formally speaking, examined through coursework only; this, however,

may consist of various elements including a class test written under exam conditions. The difference between examinations (Years 1 and 3) and class tests (Year 2) is largely a technical matter to do with university regulations relating to the administration of assessment procedures, the recording of marks, and the analysis of student performance and progress. The overall coursework mark (which is at the same time the module mark) is calculated on the basis of performance in the various elements.

The titles of coursework essays you will be expected to write will normally be set for you by the module coordinators at the beginning of the semester.

Examinations and class tests are all sat during the exam periods, i.e. in early or mid-January in Semester 1 and in mid-May in Semester 2. The format of the examination (or class test) will of course depend on the contents of the module, but you will usually be given some idea as to the structure of the paper, how many questions you will be expected to answer, and so on.

The Dissertation Module (IRS504C1)

This module differs from other modules in Irish Studies in a number of ways; it is the only Irish Studies module with restricted entry (compulsory for single-subject students and students doing Irish Studies as a major, optional for students taking Irish as a main or minor subject), it is taught through individual supervision sessions, and it is assessed on the basis of a dissertation of 8,000-10,000 words. Many students find this module one of the most satisfying parts of the course because it allows them to develop in depth a personal interest in the area of Irish Studies.

The special character of the dissertation module results from the fact that, rather than receiving regular tuition from your lecturers and tutors, you are expected to engage in independent research on a subject of your choice. You will be working under the guidance of a supervisor - a specialist in the field within which the subject of your dissertation will fall; you will be expected to negotiate with him or her specific theme, focus, and scope of your work.

Specific arrangements with respect to the organisation of the work on that module, the allocation of students to supervisors and so on will be made towards the end of Year 2 and at the beginning of Year 3. The deadline for the submission of the dissertation will normally be some time during the first week of the January examination period.

Notification of Absence

If you have been absent for more than three days through illness or other reason you must immediately notify the Course Director. Where the absence is for a period of more than five working days, and is caused by illness, which may affect your studies, you should arrange for a medical certificate to be presented. Where the period is less than five working days, you may fill in a self-certification form (NA1), although a medical certificate is also acceptable. The form can be downloaded from <http://www.ulster.ac.uk/academicservices/student/>

If your health or other circumstances have interfered with your ability to submit assessed work or attend an examination, the NA1 form may authenticate a difficulty, which arose before, the assessment date but which nevertheless affected your performance. You should also think carefully about whether it is wise to seek assistance from a counsellor or other advisor at an early stage rather than waiting until your problems are severe. Do not feel that you have to go into great detail about your difficulties on this form. If your circumstances are complex then a letter from a doctor or counsellor is advised.

Deadlines and Extensions

Irish Studies maintains a strict system of discipline to ensure that all coursework is submitted on time. Deadlines for the submission of essays are announced at the beginning of each semester, so that students know exactly when they will be expected to complete their assignments.

However, there are situations when you may be prevented from submitting work on time by circumstances beyond your control - illness, bereavement, unexpected family problems, etc. In cases like those, you can apply for extensions on your essays; **the person to contact is the Course Director for your programme**. You will be expected to present some form of evidence of the circumstances, medical or compassionate, preventing you from completing your work on time; you will also need to show evidence of the existence of work in progress (notes, draft versions of the essay, and so on).

Medical and/or compassionate evidence is also required to cover absence from examinations and class tests. In cases like those, you would normally be expected to contact your Course Director, who would advise you what course of action could best be taken in your specific circumstances.

You are also entitled to an automatic three-day extension if you have three essay deadlines coinciding on the same day - if that is the case, you need to see **the Course Director for your programme**, who will grant you an extension on an Irish module of your choice, as long as you can present evidence of work in progress, as well as some form of confirmation that work for the other two modules due on that day has in fact been submitted.

Administration of the Courses

The Courses in Irish are run by the BA Hons Irish Studies Course Committee and the BA Hons Irish Language and Literature Course Committee. This includes all the members of staff who teach on the course, along with the Head of School of Languages and Literature and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The Course Committees also have student representatives, normally one from each year. These student representatives are elected annually by their fellow students, usually at the start of Semester 1. They keep the Course Committees informed about student response to the course and bring to its attention any difficulties or problems which may arise.

The Course Director for the BA Hons Irish Studies and BA Hons Irish Language and Literature is Dr Gregory Toner. He is responsible for the organisation and management of these courses. The Head of Irish is Professor Séamus Mac Mathúna who is responsible for the subject in general. Professor John Gillespie is our actively engaged and interested Head of School of Languages and Literature. He has an important and overarching role in a range of areas including human and physical resources and quality management.

Staff-Student Liaison Committee

If you have any views, ideas, or complaints about the course or the modules you are taking, as well as the general services provided by the University, you can make these formally through the Staff-Student Liaison Committees which meet once a semester and report to the Course Committees.

The Staff-Student Liaison Committees consist of two members of academic staff and one elected student representative for each year of each course. The student representatives are elected at the beginning of the academic year. All students registered for Irish courses including combined courses are eligible. The names of the student representatives are displayed on the Irish Studies notice boards; it is through them that representations or complaints can be made.

Adviser of Studies

On the day you register at the University, you will be assigned an Adviser of Studies and an appointment will be made for you to see your adviser before teaching begins. The role of the Adviser of Studies is to help students with any academic or personal difficulties, which might arise. For example, if you initially find it difficult to understand the timetable, you should contact your adviser for assistance. Similarly, if you wish to change one of the subjects you have opted to study, your adviser of studies will help you complete a module amendment form. Please note, however, that you should normally do this only during the first week of the Semester, or, in exceptional cases, during the second week.

In short, do not hesitate to contact your adviser whenever you want help or guidance on academic or other matters.

Counselling Service

If you have a personal problem, the first person you should approach is your Adviser of Studies. However, if you feel the problem is too personal to discuss with your adviser, the University has an excellent Counselling Service, which is completely confidential and which has a number of trained professional counsellors on its staff.

Courses in Irish and Course Diagrams

Courses in Irish include the following:

BA (Hons) Irish Studies
(Full-time Coleraine D130UC/D)

BA (Hons) Irish Language and Literature
(Full-time, Coleraine D132 UC)

Irish as Major, Main and Minor (various codes)

BA (Hons) Irish Studies

Year/Level	Semester 1	Semester 2
1/B	<p><u>IRS101</u> Irish Language and Literature 1</p> <p><u>IRS1xx</u> The Irish Language in the Modern Era</p> <p><u>HIS101</u> Ireland in the Twentieth Century</p>	<p><u>IRS102</u> Irish Language and Literature 2</p> <p><u>IRS105</u> Irish Oral Tradition 1</p> <p><u>ENG106</u> Literature and Society in Ireland: an Introduction</p>
2/C	<p><u>IRS301</u> Irish Language and Literature 3</p> <p><u>IRS303</u> Irish Language and Literature of the 18th and 19th Centuries</p> <p><u>IRS304</u> Irish Heritage Studies</p>	<p><u>IRS302</u> Irish Language and Literature 4</p> <p><u>IRS312</u> Translation Studies</p> <p><u>HIS336C2</u> Ireland in the Nineteenth Century</p>
3/D	<p><u>IRS501</u> Irish Language and Literature 5</p> <p><u>IRS504</u> Topics in Irish Studies (Dissertation)</p> <p><u>HIS529</u> Early Modern Ireland, 1534-1691</p>	<p><u>IRS502</u> Irish Language and Literature 6</p> <p><u>IRS503</u> Classical Irish and the Irish of the Seventeenth Century</p> <p><u>IRS508</u> Written and Oral Proficiency in Irish</p>

BA (Hons) Irish Language and Literature (Full-time)

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	<p><u>IRS101</u> Irish Language and Literature 1</p> <p><u>IRS1xx</u> The Irish Language in the Modern Era</p> <p><u>IRS1xx</u> Ireland and the Celts</p>	<p><u>IRS102</u> Irish Language and Literature 2</p> <p><u>IRS105</u> Irish Oral Tradition 1</p> <p><u>IRS1xx</u> The Media in Irish</p>
Year 2	<p><u>IRS301</u> Irish Language and Literature 3</p> <p><u>IRS303</u> Irish Language and Literature of the 18th and 19th Centuries</p> <p><u>IRS304</u> Irish Heritage Studies</p>	<p><u>IRS302</u> Irish Language and Literature 4</p> <p><u>IRS312</u> Translation Studies</p> <p><u>IRS306</u> Scottish Gaelic Language</p>
Year 3	<p><u>IRS501</u> Irish Language and Literature 5</p> <p><u>IRS504</u> Topics in Irish Studies (Dissertation)</p> <p><u>IRS505</u> Scottish Gaelic Language and Literature</p>	<p><u>IRS502</u> Irish Language and Literature 6</p> <p><u>IRS503</u> Classical Irish and the Irish of the Seventeenth Century</p> <p><u>IRS508</u> Written and Oral Proficiency in Irish</p>

**BA (Hons) Combined Courses
(with Irish as Major, Joint or Minor subject)**

Year/Level	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1, level B	<u>IRS101*</u> Irish Language and Literature 1 <u>IRS1xx</u> The Irish Language in the Modern Era	<u>IRS102*</u> Irish Language and Literature 2 <u>IRS105</u> Irish Oral Tradition
Year 2, level C	<u>IRS301*</u> Irish Language and Literature 3 <u>IRS303**</u> Irish Language and Literature of the 18 th and 19 th Centuries	<u>IRS302*</u> Irish Language and Literature 4 <u>IRS305***</u> The Language of Irish Prose Writing
Year 3, level D	<u>IRS501*</u> Irish Language and Literature 5 <u>IRS504***</u> Topics in Irish Studies (Dissertation)	<u>IRS502*</u> Irish Language and Literature 6 <u>IRS503**</u> Classical Irish and the Irish of the Seventeenth Century

* CORE MODULES FOR MINOR, JOINT AND MAJOR IRISH STUDENTS.

** CORE MODULES FOR JOINT AND MAJOR IRISH STUDENTS.
MAIN STUDENTS MAY CHOOSE BETWEEN IRS503 AND IRS504

*** CORE MODULE FOR MAJOR IRISH STUDENTS

Modules of Study

YEAR 1

IRS101C1 - Irish language and literature 1

Module Co-ordinator: An Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module examines the structure of Irish syntax, accent and morphology; entails practical work, pronunciation, usage; an introduction to the Irish Literary tradition from the era of the Revival and methods of practical criticism.

HIS101C1 – Ireland in the Twentieth Century

Module Co-ordinator: Professor V Morgan

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

IRS1xxC1 - The Irish Language in the Modern Era

Module Co-ordinator: Dr P Ó Mianáin

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module introduces students to the main social, political, historical and sociolinguistic forces that have affected the development of the Irish language since the Revival Movement at the end of the 19th century.

IRS104C1 – Practical Skills in Modern Irish (not available in current academic year)

Module Co-ordinator: Mr M Ó Murchú

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%.

This module surveys current methodologies of critical approach and emphasises the necessity of responding to the written word. Texts for close reading analysis are chosen from the modern period and the terminology of literary analysis in modern Irish is promoted.

IRS1C1 – Ireland and the Celts**

Module Co-ordinator: Dr I. Wmffre

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module will examine the early history of the languages and cultures of the Celts and early Irish. You will also consider the fortunes of the Celtic languages in modern times so as to be able to place the development of Irish in an international context.

IRS102C2 – Irish language and literature 2

Module Co-ordinator: Mr M Ó Murchú

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module consolidates advanced language at first year level in the spoken and written modes. It also examines modern Irish literature in its early stages of development with special emphasis on prose and exercises in practical criticism.

IRS105C2 – Irish oral tradition

Module Co-ordinator: Dr A McCann

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module provides a general summary of the theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of folklore and the history of folklore studies in Ireland. It offers an introduction to Irish folk culture including oral prose narratives, folk customs and festivals, traditional cures and remedies and supernatural belief.

IRS1C2 – The Media in Irish**

Module Co-ordinator: Dr F. de Brún

Assessment: tbc

This module deals with the print and broadcast media in the Irish language. Students will study articles in Irish-language newspapers and periodicals and will be asked to draft their own articles for publication. Irish language television production will be explored in the context of the first ten years of TnaG/ TG4 and also of the recently established Irish-language broadcasting fund. Particular areas of interest will be programme development and script-writing.

ENG106C2 Literature and Society in Ireland: an introduction

Module Co-ordinator: Dr E. Ó Ciardha

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module offers a general survey of the history of Irish literature in English in its social, cultural, and political context, including Gaelic literature in translation. It involves both close literary study of selected texts by some of the most representative Irish writers in English and discussion of broader issues such as the relationship between Irish writing in English and the broader context of English literary history.

YEAR 2

IRS301C1 – Irish language and literature 3

Module Co-ordinator: Mr M A Ó Murchú

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module includes guided extensive and intensive reading of popular Ulster authors, standard prescriptive grammar; developments in Irish literary tradition with special emphasis on the poetry of Ó Ríordáin, Ó Direáin and Mac an tSaoi through close textual readings and criticism.

IRS303C1 – Irish language and literature of the 18th and 19th centuries

Module Co-ordinator: Dr F. de Brún

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module provides a detailed survey of the literary and linguistic tradition of Irish in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries with particular emphasis on Ulster.

IRS304C1 – Irish heritage studies

Module Co-ordinator: Dr I. Wmffres

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module examines various aspects of Irish Heritage including early Irish society and literature; Celtic heritage; the impact of Christianity; place names and personal names; and the development of Irish heritage in the 19th and 20th centuries.

IRS302C2 – Irish language and literature 4

Module Co-ordinator: Dr F. de Brún

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module includes communicative skills in register, practical phonetics and phonology, short synopses in standard convention; the literary tradition with general emphasis on the writings of Mac Grianna, Ó Conaire, Ó Flaithearta, Ó Céileachair and the early writings of Ó Cadhain, close textual readings and criticism.

IRS312C2 – Translation Studies

Module Co-ordinator: Dr P Ó Mianáin

Assessment: Coursework 100%

HIS336C2– Ireland in the Nineteenth Century

Module Co-ordinator: Dr J Holmes

Assessment: Coursework 100%

A survey of social, cultural and political change in nineteenth-century Ireland.

IRS306C2 – Scottish Gaelic language

Module Co-ordinator: Iain Mac a' Phearsain

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

The module provides a general introduction to Scottish Gaelic language and literature. Students are made aware of the major differences between Irish and Scottish Gaelic, acquire the ability to comprehend simply spoken and written Scottish Gaelic and become acquainted with the most important aspects of the Scottish Gaelic literary tradition in its historical context.

YEAR 3

IRS501C1 - Irish language and literature 5

Module Co-ordinator: Dr G. Toner

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module examines various aspects of Irish linguistics and contemporary Irish poetry. It also contains practical work in written and oral proficiency, including translation work. In Irish linguistics, subjects covered include Irish dialects; differences between phonetics and phonology; standard language and dialect; language acquisition; bilingualism and structuralism. In Irish poetry, the module concentrates on present-day poetry with detailed examination of the INNTI poets in particular, and discusses the themes that emerged, the forms employed and the literary effectiveness of the poetic diction in use. There will be further emphasis on close reading skills, and students will be expected to adopt acceptable literary terminology and to express themselves and their responses effectively and cohesively.

IRS504C1 – Topics in Irish studies (dissertation)

Module Co-ordinator: Dr G Toner

Assessment: Coursework 100%

An independent research project in Irish studies on a topic chosen by negotiation with a member of staff.

HIS521C1 – Early Modern Ireland, 1534-1691

Module Co-ordinator: Dr J Holmes

Assessment: Coursework 100%

This module represents a study of the major problems and issues in Irish history and Anglo-Irish relations from the sixteenth to the end of the seventeenth centuries.

IRS502C2 – Irish language and literature 6

Module Co-ordinator: Dr I Wmffres

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module is designed to give students a knowledge and understanding of the major landmarks in the history of the Irish language and to apply linguistic theory to an analysis of some of the main syntactic structures and semantic features of Irish. It is also designed to explore prose literature in Irish from the early 1960s with special emphasis on a study of the forms of the novel. It introduces students to the major prose writers of Modern Irish. The module also seeks to further develop written and oral skills acquired in IRS501C1 and in other modules of study.

IRS503C2 – Classical Irish and the Irish of the 17th century

Module Co-ordinator: Dr I Wmffres

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

This module introduces students to Classical Irish and the Irish of the seventeenth century. An examination is made of the nature and form of Bardic poetry and learned love poetry. The major foreign influences on Irish literature during the period are examined and a study is made of key Reformation and Counter-Reformation texts.

IRS505C1 – Scottish Gaelic Language and Literature

Module Co-ordinator: Dr Ian McPherson

Assessment: Coursework 50%, Examination 50%

The module provides an examination of a range of themes, periods and writers in the history of Scottish Gaelic literature. It also seeks to develop oral, writing and reading skills acquired in Scottish Gaelic Language and Literature I.

IRS508C2 – Written and Oral Proficiency in Irish

Module Co-ordinator: tbc

Assessment: Coursework 100%

The purpose of this module is to further develop the students' listening, speaking and writing skills in Irish in order to participate in sustained and accurate communication in a wide range of contexts and on a wide range of topics.

Gaeltacht Course

All students enrolled on the full-time BA in Irish or Irish Studies, or combined course of which Irish is an element are required to spend a minimum of six weeks in the Gaeltacht. In order to facilitate students in fulfilling this requirement, the Division of Irish Studies runs an annual three-week course in the Donegal Gaeltacht. Students stay in local, Irish-speaking homes for the duration of the course and attend daily classes in language and literature. Lecturers are invited to address the students, usually on topics relating to Gaeltacht life, and students participate in numerous other events, such as *céilithe*, day trips and quizzes. Attendance at the course is compulsory.

Rationale

The course offers you the opportunity to experience Irish as a living, everyday language, and to hear and speak Irish on a continuous basis over an extended period of time. It builds on and reinforces knowledge acquired in IRS102, IRS302, and IRS502, and allows you to increase your fluency and confidence. It also offers you the chance to get to know native speakers, and to increase your understanding of the life and culture of the Gaeltacht.

Aims and Objectives

- to help students improve their fluency and confidence in spoken Irish
- to expose students to the speech of native Donegal Irish-speakers, both within formal lessons and in freer, informal social situations
- to broaden students' vocabulary and range of expressions
- to increase students' knowledge and understanding of Gaeltacht life and culture

Learning and Teaching Methods

Students are immersed in an Irish-speaking environment in which they are continually challenged to speak Irish, both to native speakers they encounter socially or with whom they are lodged, and to fellow students and teachers. There is also an active social programme including *céilithe*, sessions, and quizzes. Formal classes in mornings and afternoons provide structure to the day, increase students exposure to the language and offers them an opportunity to practise spoken Irish in a structured environment on selected topics.

Organisation

The Gaeltacht course is held annually in late August / September at Gort an Choirce in Co. Donegal, and is organised by the course coordinator (Dr. Ó Dónaill).

You will be informed of the dates for the course early in Semester 2 and you will be allocated a host on payment of the course fee.

Attendance at the course is obligatory but in exceptional circumstances students can request exemption from the course. In such cases, students are normally required to compensate for their non-attendance by spending three weeks in the Gaeltacht at another time (see **Regulations** below).

Regulations

Full-time students studying for the BA Hons Irish Studies and BA Hons Irish Language and Literature or combined courses including an Irish element are required

to spend at least three weeks a year in the Gaeltacht. You are normally expected to do so by attending the course organised by the Subject staff. In exceptional circumstances you may be permitted to miss all or part of the course but in such cases you will normally be expected to compensate for the period you have missed by spending an equivalent period of time in the Gaeltacht at another time.

In cases where a student fails to attend the Gaeltacht course, or is absent from a substantial number of classes, he/she will be invited to explain their reasons to an Attendance Board normally consisting of the Head of Subject and the Course Co-ordinator. Where the Board feels that valid reasons have not been presented, the student may be required to spend an additional period of time in the Gaeltacht. Where a student does not spend the required period of time in the Gaeltacht over the duration of his/her course, he/she may be deemed to have failed to fulfil the course requirements.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS

Marking

All work is marked on the traditional scale from 0 to 100 points. The pass mark is 40; marks between 40 and 49 fall into the third-class category, those between 50 and 59 indicate lower-second class performance, those between 60 and 69 are awarded for upper-second class work, and those of 70 and above mark first-class standard. All marking is subject to internal and external monitoring, and a substantial proportion of the work, particularly in the final year, is routinely double-marked.

In all matters relating to marking, the last word belongs to the external examiners - senior academics from other universities, appointed to ensure parity of standards across the university sector nationwide. Because their approval is needed before whatever marks awarded in Irish modules become final, you should remember that any marks issued to you in the course of the academic year (including all coursework and Semester 1 examination marks) remain provisional until externally confirmed. Changes will not happen very often, but do not be surprised if the marks officially released after the final meeting of the Board of Examiners in May/June differ from those you will have obtained in the course of the academic year - this would mean that the external examiners have considered your work and decided to change the original marks.

Coursework essays will normally be marked and returned to you, with comments, in the course of the semester; class test and examination scripts remain confidential and are not released to the students after they have been marked. If you are for any reason unhappy with the mark you have been awarded, or if you require clarification of the marker's comments, ask him or her for a more detailed explanation; you may always ask for your essay to be read by another examiner, and indeed, in exceptional circumstances, by an external examiner.

Passing a Module

To pass a module, you would normally need a mark of 40 or more for all its components: the coursework and (in Years 1 and 3) the examination. However, in

modules examined by both coursework and examination, you may sometimes condone for a failure in one component if you achieve a sufficiently high mark in the other. The conditions are: the fail mark must not be lower than 35, **AND either** the pass mark must be high enough for the average of the two marks to be at least 45, **or** your overall average for the whole academic year must be at least 45. Thus, a mark of 39 awarded for coursework may be condoned if you receive a mark of 50 or more in the examination; similarly, a mark of 35 in an examination may be deemed condoned if you obtained a mark of 54 or more in the coursework. In both cases, if your mark in the passed component is not good enough to take your average for the module up to 45, the failed component can still be deemed condoned if the average mark for the whole academic year is at least 45. On the other hand, a mark of 34 or lower in either component is uncondonable; however good the performance in the other component, and in your other modules, the module will always be deemed failed.

Similarly, you may condone for failures in modules in which you have failed both coursework and examination (Years 1 and 3), and in modules assessed by coursework only (Year 2, and the dissertation module in Year 3 (IRS504C1)). The conditions are simple: the failed marks must never be lower than 35, and your overall mark for the whole academic year must be at least 45.

Either way, you may condone in up to two modules in Years 1 and 2, and in one module only in Year 3.

Boards of Examiners

All decisions with respect to student progress and classification are taken by the Board of Examiners for your course. All meetings of the Board are normally chaired by the Dean, and attended by all members of the teaching staff. Boards of Examiners meet at the end of each semester to consider student progress in the course of that semester; they look at evidence of medical and compassionate circumstances in cases of non-submission (or late submission) of coursework, and non-attendance at examinations, they evaluate the performance of each individual student, and they take decisions on his or her progress to the following year of the course or on any supplementary work he or she might be required to do before proceeding. In the case of final-year students, the role of the Board of Examiners is also to make recommendations for the award of degrees and to decide the class of degree to be awarded to each individual student.

Progress from Year to Year

The rules governing student progress from year to year are complex and can be studied in detail in the University regulations. In broad terms, you can normally proceed to the next year of your course (or in the final year, proceed to be classified) if you have passed all the six modules you have taken over the whole academic year; you may also be allowed to proceed if you have condonable fails (**see above**) in up to two modules in Years 1 and 2, and in one module only in Year 3.

The nature and amount of supplementary work you may be required to do before proceeding if you do not fulfil the above conditions will differ depending on how many modules you have failed, and how badly. In broad terms again, if you have not

completed one or more elements of assessment through no fault of your own, you will normally be allowed to submit coursework and/or sit examinations (as appropriate) as for the first time (i.e. for full marks); if, however, your fails are a reflection of low academic quality of the work or of a negligent attitude to your studies, you will only be allowed to re-submit coursework or to re-sit examinations - this means that however well you perform in them, the maximum mark you can be awarded is the marginal pass mark of 40.

In most cases, decisions with respect to supplementary work are taken during the May/June meetings of Boards of Examiners, with coursework to be delivered over the summer, and examinations to be sat in August; progress of students required to do work over the summer is then reviewed again in early September. In some special cases, decisions on student progress may be taken at other times; for details see the University regulations or contact your Course Director.

Classification and Awarding of Degrees

When you reach the end of your final year and successfully complete all the work required, the Board of Examiners will consider your progress throughout your time at the University and will make its recommendation about the degree you will be awarded. The classification of your degree will depend on your the result achieved in the final year of your course – the final average mark as well as the marks for the individual final-year modules.

The final average mark is simply the weighted average of the six module marks for the modules you will have taken in Year 3. This average will determine the class of degree you will be awarded, on condition that you have received marks in the same (or higher) class in at least three of your final-year modules. In other words, the system works as follows:

- average mark 70+ AND three final-year module marks of 70 or over - first-class honours;
- average mark 60-69 AND three final-year module marks of 60 or over - upper-second class honours;
- average mark 50-59 AND three final-year module marks of 50 or over - lower-second class honours;
- average mark 40-49 - third class honours.

In some circumstances, involving students who have had to repeat the final year, the University may award an unclassified degree; further details on that can be found in the University regulations.

All decisions with respect to classification and award of degrees are closely scrutinised by the external examiners; they analyse all mark profiles, they read work by candidates considered for the award of first-class honours degrees, they adjudicate in cases of borderline candidates, and they confirm all fails. In this way, the University ensures that the degrees it awards recognise and reward student achievement along the same lines as those normally adopted by other universities throughout the country.

Appeals

There is no mechanism for the appeal of academic marks or of degree classifications – in this respect, the decisions of the Board of Examiners, externally confirmed, are final. However, it may happen that the Board of Examiners may not, during its deliberations, have access to full knowledge of your circumstances: for example, unexplained non-submission of coursework or absence from an examination, for which you will normally be penalised, may have been caused by a medical or compassionate problem not known to the Board. In situations like those, you may lodge an appeal (details of procedures available from the Faculty Office); these are heard by a Board of Appeals, a meeting of which you can attend in order to present your case. This Board cannot change your marks, but it can, for instance, accept your explanations and offer you another chance to sit an examination, or decide to retrospectively accept an essay that was submitted late. In any case, it is always useful, before lodging an appeal, to discuss your circumstances with your Course Director.

Marking Criteria

This following is to be considered as a general guide to the process of marking language work.

- 1 Proficiency in language (including one's native language) can be assessed positively or negatively:
 - a) Positively, the language user should be able to express clearly, precisely and effectively a wide range of ideas and feelings on a wide range of subjects, with a good feeling for register and style, and should be able to use creatively all the resources of the language.
 - b) Negatively, the language user (i) should not make it difficult for the reader or listener to comprehend him or her, (ii) should not offend the reader or listener by inappropriate tone or register and (iii) should not distract the reader or listener by errors of pronunciation, vocabulary or grammar.
- 2 These positive and negative qualities can be noted on the levels of:
 - (i) formation of sounds
 - (ii) intonation
 - (iii) rapidity of response and fluency of utterance
 - (iv) spelling and punctuation
 - (v) vocabulary
 - (vi) grammatical structures
 - (vii) textual cohesion
 - (viii) overall textual construction and rhetoric
- 3 Each of the language exercises used tends to focus primarily on some of these manifested qualities. For instance:

Phonetic tests: chiefly avoidance of errors in sound formation;

Reading tests: avoidance of errors in sound formation and intonation;

Conversation: avoidance of errors in sound formation and intonation; acquisition of rapid and fluent responses;

Oral presentations: avoidance of faults in pronunciation, acquisition of fluent utterance, mastery of good and appropriate expression of ideas and feelings on the set topic;

Essays dissertations: avoidance of errors in spelling, vocabulary and grammatical structures, use of suitable expression on level of vocabulary and structure, appropriate textual cohesion and overall construction;

Summaries and comprehensions: avoidance of errors in spelling and vocabulary, use of suitable expression on level of vocabulary and structure, textual cohesion; secondarily textual construction and rhetoric;

Translations: primarily avoidance of errors of vocabulary, grammar, tone or register; effective solution of problems of meaning and idiom; successful combination of good style and accuracy.

- 4 Some of these exercises also require non-linguistic skills, eg:

Essays and dissertations: gathering, assessment and analysis of relevant information; presentation and organisation;

Summaries: precise comprehension of original.

- 5 Given the extreme variety of criteria thus involved, the grade awarded must involve careful balance between various factors.

- 6 Moreover, the levels of accuracy, appropriacy and expressive ability that can be reasonably expected should rise from year to year of the course, with stress increasingly falling on the achievement of the positive rather than the avoidance of the negative.

- 7 Bearing in mind these factors, the significance of classes may be indicated thus:

A First Class student should show no serious negative features on levels relevant to the set exercise and at the level expected for the year of the course, and should show a good range of positive qualities.

A II(i) student should show few negative qualities in relevant areas and should show positive qualities in some areas.

A II(ii) student may show negative qualities in some areas, providing these are not too extreme, but should be relatively free from negative qualities in the majority of relevant areas of language use, and have a reasonable level of positive competence overall.

A Third Class student should have an adequate level of positive competence overall but may show negative qualities in some relevant areas.

A student should not pass in language work if his or her use of the target language is so inaccurate or unidiomatic that a native speaker would have serious difficulty in comprehending it.

Plagiarism

There are two kinds of plagiarism. The first is the copying of passages from books, articles or some other source, and attempting to pass them off as your own words. A piece of work containing plagiarised passages will normally receive a mark of zero, and persistent plagiarism may lead to formal disciplinary action against you. Remember that it is not enough to quote a source in a general way at the end of your essay. You must formally and explicitly acknowledge ALL sources at the time that they are used. This is usually done in the form of footnotes. The second type of plagiarism is getting someone else to help you write translations, essays or your dissertation. All your work must be written by you in your own words.

DEALING WITH PROBLEMS

Academic Problems - What to Do if Things Go Wrong

If you have not been attending seminars regularly, or not handing in written work, the module co-ordinator or the Course Director will usually write to you asking for some explanation. Do not ignore such letters because this may have serious consequences for your academic progress. If you have some genuine explanation for poor attendance or failure to submit written work, the module co-ordinator and the Course Director will be prepared to listen and may well be in a position to offer some sound practical advice. In any case it is much easier to sort out problems if you keep your seminar tutor and/or your adviser of studies informed of your difficulties as they arise.

If you have any doubts about whom you should see or what you should do in case you face problems affecting your academic work, do not hesitate to approach any member of staff - they will all be able to offer you advice. However, certain categories of academic and personal problems and issues can only be dealt with by consulting particular members of staff. A number of these are listed here, together with the various procedures you should follow in specific cases.

Seminar Tutors

If you have any problems relating to the material studied in a particular module, you should approach, in the first instance, your seminar tutor. This can best be done at the end of a class - some seminar tutors work part-time, and they may be rather difficult to contact outside their allocated teaching time. If your seminar tutor is a full-time member of staff, you can contact him or her during their office hours (information as to when these are will normally be displayed on their notice boards). Alternatively, you may always ask your tutor for an appointment; arrangements in this respect can be made via the Irish secretary. The seminar tutor will be happy to discuss your

problems and to offer advice on the contents of the module, study methods, assessment procedures, and so on.

Module Co-ordinators

If you have any other, non-academic problems relating to a particular module (to do, for example, with timetable clashes, allocation to a seminar group, access to books, short-term extensions on your written work, and so on), the person to contact is your module co-ordinator. He or she would normally also be happy to answer any queries you might have in connection with the academic side of the module: its contents, assessment procedures, and so on. However, it might sometimes be easier to address these in the first instance to the seminar tutor: in some modules, particularly in Year 1 and in the big core modules in Years 2 and 3, the module co-ordinator might just not have enough time to deal with queries from all the students, sometimes in excess of a hundred people, doing his or her module. Needless to say, when the module co-ordinator is at the same time your seminar tutor, he or she is your first port of call irrespective of the nature of your particular query. All module-coordinators are full-time members of staff, so they can be contacted either after a lecture or seminar, or during their office hours, or by appointment.

Advisers of Studies

All students on taught courses are assigned to advisers of studies, whose role it is to offer to their advisees' general academic and personal guidance throughout their course of study. You would contact your adviser on matters such as, for example, what modules to choose in any given semester, where to turn for advice in case of academic or financial difficulties, and what to do if you have failed to submit an essay or missed an examination. You will be given the name of your adviser of studies at registration or during the first week of Semester 1, and you will be expected to contact him or her around that time to talk about how you plan to organise your work throughout the academic year. You are encouraged to talk to your adviser about your progress; he or she will also be happy to discuss with you matters such as study methods and examination skills. You should also bring to the attention of your adviser any medical or other problems that may affect your work; he or she will be pleased to provide you with information about the range of support available from, e.g., Student Services, Chaplaincy, Careers Advisory Service, and so on. Needless to say, your adviser will always, if requested, assist you in making arrangements if you need to seek specialist advice or help.

Course Director

The Course Director is responsible for the day-to-day running of the course, and it is to him or her that you would normally turn to discuss any major problems with relation to your work, particularly those that are not specific to individual modules and are beyond the remit of your adviser of studies. The Course Director will deal with issues such as long-term extensions and late submission of work, absence from class tests and/or examinations, resits and resubmissions, and so on. The names of the Course Directors for other programmes (e.g. BA Hons Combined Arts, etc.) are available from the Faculty Office.

Dean

On very rare occasions, and only in cases of very serious problems, you may have to discuss matters with the Head of the Faculty, the Dean, Professor Robert Welch (tel. 028-70324517). You will always need to make an appointment, which may well have to be arranged for you via the Dean's secretary.

Staff-Student Liaison Committee

If you have any views, ideas, or complaints about the course or the modules you are taking, as well as the general services provided by the University, you can make these formally through the Staff-Student Liaison Committee, which meets regularly throughout the academic year. It is composed of the Course Director, a staff representative and student representatives. The student representatives for each of study are elected at the beginning of the academic year.

LIBRARY SERVICES

There are two libraries at Coleraine. The great majority of the material you will need in your study of Irish is to be found in the Central Library, which houses books and journals in Humanities, Science, and Engineering; the South Library contains material for Education, Social and Health Sciences, Business and Management, Informatics, as well as a European Documentation Centre and a Teaching Resource Collection. Special collections at the Central Library include the Henry Morris Collection of Irish material, the Henry Davis Collection of early printed books, the Headlam-Morley Collection of books, pamphlets and manuscripts relating to the First World War and the subsequent peace treaties, and the Stelfox Natural History Collection. Recent additions include the John Hewitt Library and the Francis Stuart Archive of literary manuscripts.

The two libraries on the Coleraine campus work together with the three other constituent branches of the University of Ulster Library, that is the campus libraries at Jordanstown, Magee, and Belfast. Although most books relating to Irish studies are housed at Coleraine, some books are available at Magee as well; as a result, if you cannot find the book you need at Coleraine, it is always worth checking whether it might be available on another campus. If it is, it can always be ordered via the Library's intercampus loan system.

In the first few weeks of the academic year the Library staff offer induction tours in which they give guidance on how to use the variety of services which the Library offers; you are strongly advised to participate in these. If for some reason you miss the opportunity or, at a later stage, you wish to know more about particular aspects of the Library's stock and services, you should consult a member of the Library staff. Leaflets describing the various services on offer are freely available.

Important: Please note that a fines policy operates on the late return of library material. You are advised that you should return all library items before or on the due

date; if you do not, you may not be able to borrow any more books until you pay your outstanding fines, which may be very steep.

The Library website at <http://www.ulst.ac.uk/library> gives full details of the Library services as well as access to the on-line catalogue.

COURSE REGULATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

COURSE TITLE	COURSE CODE
Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Irish Studies	D130UC
Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Irish Studies (with DAS)	D131UC
Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Irish Language and Literature	D132UC
Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Irish Language and Literature (with DAS)	D133UC

MODE OF ATTENDANCE

Full-Time

DURATION

D130UC – Normally 3 years (6 semesters of study).

D132UC/D133UC – Normally 4 years (8 semesters of study including year of study abroad)

LOCATION

Coleraine

5. FACULTY

Arts

6. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

6.1 Applicants must:

- (a) satisfy the University's general entrance requirements;
- (b) Normally 3 A levels (or equivalent) including a Grade C in Irish at A level or at Leaving Certificate (Honours)

No subject may be counted at more than one level except in the case of the Intermediate GNVQ and Advanced GNVQ/Vocational A level.

6.2 Applicants of 21 years of age or over (or in exceptional circumstances, of less than 21) at the date of entry may be admitted even if they have not satisfied the requirements, provided they can provide documentary evidence demonstrating their ability to undertake the course.

7. EXEMPTIONS

Studies pursued and examinations passed in respect of other qualifications awarded by the University or by another university or other educational institution may be

accepted as exempting candidates from part of an approved course provided that they shall register as students of the University for modules amounting to at least the final third of the credit value of the award at the highest level.

8. PLACEMENT

D130UC/D132UC

Students must spend 3 weeks in the Gaeltacht each year as part of their course.

D131UC/D133UC

Students who have satisfactorily completed a year of study abroad under the BEI scheme are eligible for an award of a Diploma in Area Studies. During their year abroad, the students concerned undertake a programme of study agreed between the University and the host institution.

9. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

9.1 Students are expected to attend all classes associated with the course and be punctual and regular in attendance.

9.2 A student who has not been in attendance for more than three days through illness or other cause must notify immediately the Course Director. The student shall state the reasons for the absence and whether it is likely to be prolonged. Where the absence is for a period of more than five working days, and is caused by illness, which may affect their studies, the student shall provide appropriate medical certification in accordance with the General Regulations for Students.

9.3 Students who are absent without good cause for a substantial proportion of classes may be required to discontinue studies, in accordance with the General Regulations for Students.

10. RULES GOVERNING STUDENT CHOICE

10.1 Modules are offered as indicated in the attached table. Revisions may be made in accordance with the University's quality assurance procedures. Module availability may vary.

11. EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT

11.1 The performance of candidates shall be assessed by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the Regulations Governing Examinations in Courses of Study.

11.2 Candidates shall be assessed in the modules for which they have enrolled in each year of study. All candidates must take an oral examination in each semester together with a final oral and *viva voce* examination at the end of the course.

11.3 Within each module candidates shall be assessed by coursework, or by a combination of written examination and coursework, *in* accordance with the attached table.

11.4 In modules, which are assessed by either coursework or written examination, the pass mark shall be 40%.

In modules, which are assessed by a combination of coursework and written examination, the pass mark for each assessment element shall be 40%.

11.5 D131UC/D133UC

The pass mark for the placement year is 50%; a mark of 40% is sufficient for progression in the next stage of the course.

12. SUBMISSION OF COURSEWORK

12.1 Coursework must be submitted by the dates specified by the course committee.

12.2 Students may seek prior consent from the course committee to submit coursework after the official deadline; such requests must be accompanied by a satisfactory explanation, accompanied in the case of illness by a medical certificate. This application shall be made to the Course Director.

12.3 Coursework submitted without consent after the deadline shall not normally be accepted.

13. PROGRESS

13.1 Subject to 13 below, candidates are required to pass all modules in each year of study in order to proceed to the next.

14. CONDONEMENT

14.1 Condonement permits candidates to fail in modules without a requirement to repeat assessment.

In considering performance in an academic year, subject to this proviso, the Board of Examiners shall condone failure in modules in accordance with the following principles:

Failure in assessment elements of modules or in modules overall as specified below and in the table shall not be condoned.

14.2 Minimum Mark

The minimum percentage which must be obtained by a candidate in each assessment element (coursework or written examination) in order to be considered for condonement of failure is 35%.

The minimum percentage mark required in IRS508 *Written and Oral Proficiency in Irish* is 40%.

14.3 Extent of Condonement

14.3.1 In any year other than the final year, candidates may be permitted to fail in module(s) to a value of no more than one-third of the credit value of modules studied;

Candidates who are repeating an entire year may be permitted to fail in module(s) to a value of one-sixth of the credit value of modules studied.

14.3.2 In the final year, candidates may be permitted to fail in module(s) to a value of no more than one-sixth of the credit value of modules studied.

14.4 Application

14.4.1 In modules which are assessed by coursework or written examination only, failure may be condoned provided that there is evidence of sufficient merit in the other modules taken in the year, demonstrated by an overall mark of at least 45% (with each module weighted according to its credit value);

14.4.2 In modules which are assessed by a **combination** of coursework and written examination, failure in **one** element may be condoned provided that there is evidence of sufficient merit in the other element demonstrated by an overall mark of at least 45% in the module (with the application of equal weighting between the two elements). If this evidence is insufficient, an overall mark of 45% in the year may be accepted (with each module weighted according to its credit value);

14.4.3 In modules which are assessed by a **combination** of coursework and written examination, failure in **both** elements may be condoned provided that there is evidence of sufficient merit in the other modules taken in the year, demonstrated by an overall mark of at least 45% (with each module weighted according to its credit value).

14.5 Repeated Assessments

For the purpose of applying condonement only, the actual mark achieved shall be considered and the maximum mark allowed (40%) shall be disregarded.

15. CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE

15.1 Where candidates are required to repeat coursework or to take a supplementary examination the original mark in the failed element shall be replaced by a mark of 40% or the repeat mark whichever is the lower for the purpose of calculating the module result except in the DAS year where the maximum mark allowed shall be 50%.

15.2 In each year, other than the final year, the consequences of failure which is not condoned in accordance with 13 above shall normally be as follows:

Failure at the First Attempt

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 60 credit points.	Repeat specified examinations and/or coursework in the failed modules (examinations August).
Failure in modules with an overall value of 70 or 80 credit points.	Repeat specified examinations and/or coursework in the failed module(s) (examinations January) and of specified examinations and/or coursework in the second semester modules (examinations May) with or without attendance OR withdraw from the course or discontinue studies at the University.
Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 80 credit points.	Withdraw from the course or discontinue studies at the University.
Failure by candidates in Year 2 of DAS courses.	Exceptionally, second year students on DAS courses may be permitted to commence the placement period, pending a requirement to represent themselves for supplementary written examinations or to repeat coursework.

Failure at the Second Attempt

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 20 credit points. Provided that the module(s) are not prerequisite(s), proceed to next year and repeat *once only* specified examination(s) and/or coursework in the failed module(s) at the next examination period (January or May).

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 40 credit points (except as above). Repeat *once only* specified examination(s) and/or coursework in the failed module(s) at the next examination period (January or May or August if semester already repeated) with or without attendance (progress to the next year is not permitted).

Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 40 credit points. Withdraw from the course or discontinue studies at the University.

Consequences of failure in intercalary year (DAS)

Failure at the First Attempt Repeat *once only* the study period in whole or in part OR take specified examinations and/or coursework. (Maximum mark not to exceed 50%.)

Failure at the Second Attempt Withdraw from the course OR repeat *once only* specified examinations and/or coursework. (Maximum mark not to exceed 50%.)

15.3 Failure in the Final Year (Honours degree)

In the final year the consequences of failure which is not condoned in accordance with section 14 above, shall normally be as follows:

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 40 credit points.	Repeat <i>once only</i> specified examination(s) and/or coursework in the failed module(s) in consideration for Honours classification (examinations August).
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Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 40 credit points.	Withdraw from the course or discontinue studies at the University.
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15.4 Failure in Final Year

In the final year the consequences of failure which is not condoned in accordance with section 14 above, shall normally be as follows:

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 40 credit points.	Repeat <i>once only</i> specified examination(s) and/or repeat of coursework in the failed module(s) (examinations August).
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Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 40 credit points.	Withdraw from the course or discontinue studies at the University.
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16. CLASSIFICATION OF FINAL RESULT

16.1 The attached table indicates the contribution of each module/level to the final award.

16.2 Classification of Final Result (Honours degree)

The following percentages shall be used to determine candidates' overall grading:

Class I	At least 70%
Class II (division i) (IIi)	At least 60% and less than 70%
Class II (division ii) (IIii)	At least 50% and less than 60%
Class III	At least 40% and less than 50%

In order to be considered for a particular class of Honours degree a candidate must have obtained marks in the appropriate range or above in at least 50% of the credit value of Level 3 modules, in addition to achieving the minimum percentage for that class.

16.3 D131UC/D133UC only: Award of Diploma in Area Studies

The following shall be the minimum percentages used in determining the overall gradings of candidates in the Diploma:

Pass with Commendation	70%
Pass	50%

17. ILLNESS AND OTHER EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

17.1 In any year other than final year:

The Board of Examiners may in the case of candidates who are prevented by illness or other sufficient cause from taking or completing the whole or part of the assessment during the course, or whose results are substantially affected by illness or other sufficient cause, permit the candidates to complete, take, or repeat the assessment in one or more modules at an approved subsequent date.

17.2 Final year (Honours Degree):

The Board of Examiners may in the case of candidates who are prevented by illness or other sufficient cause from taking or completing the whole or part of the final stage assessment or whose results are substantially affected by illness or other sufficient cause:

- (a) Permit the candidate to complete, take, or repeat as candidates for the Honours degree, the assessment in one or more modules at an approved subsequent date

Or

- (b) deem the candidate to have passed and recommend the award of an Aegrotat Honours Degree.

17.3 Before an Aegrotat award is recommended a candidate must have signified that he or she is willing to accept the award.

18. REVISIONS TO REGULATIONS

These regulations may be revised during the student's period of registration in accordance with the procedures approved by Senate.

Year/ Level	Semester	Module Title	Code	Credit Value	Status	Condonable (Y/N)	Assessment Methods		Contribution to the overall mark of the Final Award
							% W/E	% C/W	
1	1	Irish language and literature 1	IRS101	20	B	N		100%	
1	1	The Irish language in the modern era	IRS1**	20	B	Y	50%	50%	
1	1	Ireland in the Twentieth Century	HIS101	20	B	Y	50%	50%	
1	1	Ireland and the Celts	tbc	20	B	Y		100%	
1	1	Practical Skills in Modern Irish	IRS104	20	B	Y		100%	
1	2	Irish language and literature 2	IRS102	20	B	N	50%	50%	
1	2	Irish oral tradition	IRS105	20	B	Y	50%	50%	
1	2	Literature and society in Ireland: an introduction	ENG106	20	B	Y		100%	
1	2	The Irish-language media	tbc	20	B	Y			
1	2	Critical Skills in Modern Irish Literature	IRS103	20	B	Y		100%	
2	1	Irish language and literature 3	IRS301	20	C	N		100%	
2	1	Irish language and literature of the 18th & 19 th centuries	IRS303	20	C	Y		100%	
2	1	Irish heritage studies	IRS304	20	C	Y		100%	

2	2	Irish language and literature 4	IRS302	20	C	N	50%	50%	
2	2	The language of Irish prose writing	IRS305	20	C	Y	50%	50%	
2	2	Translation Studies	IRS312	20	C	Y		100%	
2	2	Scottish Gaelic Language	IRS306	20	C	Y	50%	50%	
2	2	Ireland in the Nineteenth Century	HIS336	20	C	Y		100%	
3	1	Irish language and literature 5	IRS501	20	D	N	50%	50%	
3	1	Topics in Irish studies (Dissertation)	IRS504	20	D	Y		100%	
3	1	Early Modern Ireland, 1534-1691	HIS529	20	D	Y	50%	50%	
3	2	Irish language and literature 6	IRS502	20	D	N	50%	50%	
3	2	Classical Irish and the Irish of the 17 th century	IRS503	20	D	Y	50%	50%	
	2	Written and Oral Proficiency in Irish	IRS508	20	D	Y		100%	
3	2	Scottish Gaelic language and literature	IRS505	20	D	Y	50%	50%	

