



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



Ionad Léann na hÉireann
Centre for Irish Studies

Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music)

Second Arts

AY202526

Semester 1 and 2



Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin
MICS Programme Director
Rm 203, Centre for Irish Studies
meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie

Sem 1 Office Hours:
Tuesdays, 11am-12pm,
or by appointment

Modern Irish Culture Studies (MICS) SECOND ARTS

Welcome to 2BA Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) at the University of Galway! In Second Arts, you will pursue two of the subjects you completed in First Arts (the same two subjects you will complete to Final Arts). For all Second Arts students, end of year total marks in second year is calculated as **30% of your final degree**. You should also be aware that all repeat marks in Second Year are capped at 40%.

SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATION

- All general enquiries should be directed to Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, 2BA MICS Programme Director (meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie), Room 203, Centre for Irish Studies. Just get in touch via email to make a virtual appointment.
- **Canvas** is the main way that we keep in touch with you at a modular level. Students should check Canvas regularly for class or programme announcements.
- We will use only your **student@universityofgalway.ie** email account and it is your responsibility to check it regularly.
- 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.
- **Facebook and Twitter** are other ways of keeping up with all that is happening at the Centre for Irish Studies. Follow us for additional events, activities, and announcements.

OUR TEAM

Below are the contact details for members of the teaching team at the Centre for Irish Studies.

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 Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Room 203 meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie	Dr Verena Commins, Room 204 (verena.commins@universityofgalway.ie)

Additional contributors to module delivery will be identified in advance of classes.

LECTURES IN MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES

Attendance at all classes is required and class attendance is noted. Each class requires student participation, and this will be central to your learning experience. Readings are assigned that you will be required to read in advance and discuss. Please note that all lectures start on the hour (e.g. 9am) and finish at ten minutes to the hour (e.g. 9.50am).

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in Modern Irish Culture Studies is by continuous assessment only (there are no final exams). Essays, presentations, reviews and other methods of continuous assessment are used. Assessments should include a cover page indicating date of submission, title and student details.

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 diverse texts which will develop your awareness of different styles of writing 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.

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 and succinct outline of this follow the link below through the Hardiman Library style guide: <https://libguides.library.universityofgalway.ie/c.php?g=534782&p=3799183>

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is a cornerstone of your academic writing and engagement. Plagiarism is when a student presents the work of other authors as his/her 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>

Writing skills support

All of your lecturers at the Centre for Irish Studies will 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 are welcome to get assistance with their writing skills, essays and reports. Situated in the James Hardiman library, students can drop-in or, in the case of this year, make virtual appointments (academicwriting@universityofgalway.ie).

Assignment Submission Procedures All assignment 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.***

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

Extenuating Circumstances Policy

In line with the University policy on Extenuating Circumstances, procedures are in place in the College to manage applications from students who experience extenuating circumstances that may negatively impact the student's performance in assessment.

Students may apply centrally to the College Extenuating Circumstances Committee if the following conditions are met:

- The student experiences serious, unavoidable, unpredictable and exceptional circumstances outside of their control, which may negatively impact the student's performance in assessment
- The affected assessment is worth **20% or greater** of the final module mark
- Supporting documentation is provided, as outlined in the attached policy
- If supporting documentation is not available, students should submit an application to the College Extenuating Circumstances Committee describing the nature of their circumstances, and they will normally be asked to meet with our

Student Support Officer (Dr Rosemary Crosse) to help evaluate an appropriate course of action.

Students can access our online form here: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/student-information/studentformsandlinks/>

If an assessment is worth less than 20% of the final module mark and/or a student requires an extension of 7 days or less, they should liaise with their Local Year Co-ordinator or Programme Director.

Note: If an extension of more than 7 days is required or an affected assessment is worth at least 20% of the overall module mark, students must apply to the College Extenuating Circumstances Committee to request additional time. Local Year Co-ordinators or Programme Directors cannot grant extensions beyond a one-week window. One application listing all affected modules and assignments should be made to cover the student's full circumstances.

Students who possess a LENS report that uses specific language about the need for 'leniency with deadlines' and who have no additional compounding circumstances are not required to apply to the College Extenuating Circumstances for additional time. Instead, they should liaise directly with their module instructor and / or relevant local Year Co-ordinator / Programme Director to agree appropriate

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**.

2BA Connect students must take 25 ECTS in Modern Irish Culture Studies (10+15 or 15+10 in Sem 1 and 2 respectively). Choose any five modules (5ECTS x 5) across both semesters. Your overall degree result in your Second Year is worth 30% of your degree award. Ask for advice from the BA MICS Programme Director, Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, if you have any questions.

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

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

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

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

Academic Year 2025 -2026	
Orientation 1st years*	Monday 8th September to Friday 12th September
Start of teaching 1st years*	Monday 15th September
End of teaching 1st years*	Friday 28th November (11 weeks of teaching)
Start of teaching all years	Monday 8th September
End of teaching all years	Friday 28th November (12 weeks of teaching)
Study week	Monday 1st December to Friday 5th December
Semester 1 exams start	Monday 8th December
Semester 1 exams end	Friday 19th December (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 20th December
2025	
Start of Teaching	Monday 12th January 2026
End of Teaching	Thursday 2nd April (12 weeks of teaching)
Easter	Good Friday 3rd April to Easter Monday 6th April
Field Trips	Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th April
Study Week	Monday 13th to Friday 17th April
Semester 2 Exams Start	Tuesday 21st April
Semester 2 Exams End	Friday 8th May (13 days of exams)
Autumn Repeat Exams	Tuesday 4th August to Friday 14th August (9 days of exams)
Holidays	Easter: Good Friday 3rd April to Easter Monday 6th April 2026
	Bank Holidays: Monday 27th October 2025 / Monday, 2nd February 2026
	Tuesday, 17th March 2026/ Monday 4th May 2026/ Monday 1st June 2026
	Monday 3rd August 2026

* Updated 17th July 2025

Approved AC Standing Dec 2020

2BA MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES: MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

CIS= CENTRE FOR IRISH STUDIES

Campus map with room locations: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/buildings/maps/>

Code	SEMESTER 1 MODULE TITLE and ECTS
IS2105	<p>POPULAR MUSIC, CULTURAL IDENTITIES AND IRELAND (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will introduce students to critical scholarship in Irish popular music, drawing on writings in ethnomusicology, cultural geography, popular music studies and Irish studies. Particular emphasis will be given to popular music styles and performances from 1960 to the twenty-first century examining key canonical figures within Irish popular music and significant recordings/events heralding new Irish identities. Topics for discussion include regional and transnational Irish music scenes; musical hybridity; gender and Irish popular music; Irish popular music and LGBT; Irish popular music in literature and visual media; and marginalised ethnic voices in Irish popular music.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS2104	<p>CLAIMING PLACE IN GAELIC IRISH LITERATURE (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will explore the sense of place as a defining element in Irish culture through a close reading of selected Gaelic language texts (studied in English translation). It will examine how space and place are important in the construction of identity, and particularly how they have shaped the Irish literary imagination. It will also look at the ways in which Irish language writers deal with the sense of displacement which is a characteristic of the Irish experience in the twentieth century.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS2106	<p>IRISH ENVIRONMENTAL LITERATURES (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module explores how literature shapes and responds understanding of the natural environment in the age of the anthropocene. It traces historical modes of writing about the natural world and examines contemporary writing. The module focuses primarily on Irish environmental literatures in both Irish and English languages uncovering connections in the global context of world literatures. Irish language texts will be studied in translation. Key concepts include environment, Anthropocene, climate change, Petro capitalism, sustainability, eco social justice and decolonial practices.</p> <p>Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
	SEMESTER 2 MODULE TITLE and ECTS
IS2100	<p>MUSIC, GENDER AND IRELAND (5 ECTS)</p> <p>Ireland's symbolic and gendered construction as a musical nation will offer a starting point for discussions of music, gender and Ireland. Following that, this module will survey a range of genres, performers and performance platforms from the nineteenth century onwards to explore the relationship between gender and music in the Irish context. Particular emphasis will be given to traditional and popular music examples.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS2103	<p>IRISH LANDSCAPES, CULTURE AND LITERATURE (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module explores the intersection between landscape, culture and literature in modern Ireland and examines how ideas of 'placemaking' and 'sense of place' are defining features of Irish cultural traditions, particularly as expressed in Irish literature. Through a close reading of texts written in the English language, the module examines how the Irish landscape (and ideas of space and place) has played an important role in shaping the Irish cultural and literary imagination. Key critical approaches include: ecocriticism, environmental humanities, translation studies and cultural geography.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS2102	<p>FESTIVAL, RITUAL AND COMMEMORATION (5 ECTS)</p> <p>This module will critically examine festival, ritual and commemoration in Ireland, in particular as it relates to the traditional arts (food ways, literary and visual representations). It will demonstrate links between historical and contemporary understandings through critical engagement of contemporary and historical contexts. Arenas of exploration will be at local, national and international levels.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Campus. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc. ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>

2BA MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES TIMETABLE

SEMESTER 1 (CIS = Centre for Irish Studies)

Module: *IS2106 Irish Environmental Literatures* (Dr Nessa Cronin)

Times: Monday, 10-11am

Venue: CSB 1007

Monday, 1-2pm

Venue: BLE 1006

5 ECTS

Module: *IS2105 Popular Music, Cultural Identities and Ireland* (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)

Times: Tuesday, 1-2pm

Venue: ENG-2033

Friday, 9-10am

Venue: AUC G002, Áras Uí Chathail

5 ECTS

Module: *IS2104 Claiming Place in Gaelic Irish Literature*

Times: Wednesday, 3-4pm and 5-6pm (Prof Louis de Paor)

Venue: Room 103 Seomra Seimineáir, CIS

5 ECTS

* Monday, 27 October, public holiday, no classes

SEMESTER 2

Module: *IS2102 Festival, Ritual and Commemoration* (Dr Verena Commins)

Time: Monday, 10-11am

Venue: SC003 Thomas Dillon Theatre

Monday, 1-2pm

Venue: SC002 Joseph Larmor Theatre

5 ECTS

Module: *IS2100 Music, Gender and Ireland* (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)

Time: Wednesday, 3-4pm

Venue: AUC G002, Áras Uí Chathail

Wednesday, 5-6pm

Venue: IT125G

5 ECTS

Module: *IS2103 Irish Landscapes, Literature and Culture* (Dr Nessa Cronin)

Time: Tuesday, 1-2pm

Venue:

Friday, 9-10am

Venue:

5 ECTS

* Monday, 2 February, Bridget's Day observed, no classes.

* Tuesday, 17 March, no classes, St Patrick's Day observed, no classes.