



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



**Ionad Léann na hÉireann**  
Centre for Irish Studies

## MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES (LITERATURE and MUSIC)

University of Galway

FINAL ARTS

AY202526

Semester 1 and 2



**BA Programme Director**

**Dr. Méabh Ní Fhuartháin**

Rm 203, Centre for Irish Studies

✉ [meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie)

**Sem 1 Office Hours:**

Tuesdays, 11am-12pm,  
or by appointment

*Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin*

*Academic Coordinator, Final Year Modern Irish Culture Studies*

[meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie)

## MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES (LITERATURE and MUSIC)

### 3BA (Joint Hons) and all 4BA programmes

Welcome to Final Year Modern Irish Culture Studies (Literature and Music) at the University of Galway! We are looking forward to welcoming you back into the classroom for this, your final year of study. **All classes are in person.**

In Final Arts, you continue with your two subjects from Second Year. For all Final Arts students, end of year total marks counts for **70% towards of final degree award (with 30% ascribed to your 2<sup>nd</sup> year results)**. You should also be aware that all repeat module marks in Final Year (unless deferred) are capped at 40%.

#### SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATION

- All general enquiries should be directed to Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin Final Year Academic Coordinator in Modern Irish Culture Studies ([meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie)) Room 203, Centre for Irish Studies.
- **Canvas** is the main way that we keep in touch with you at a modular level.
- Students should check Canvas regularly for class/programme announcements.
- When we are emailing you, 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.
- Follow us on social media for additional events, activities, and announcements.
- Hardcopy material for distribution where assigned can be collected from the readings mailbox in the foyer of the Centre for Irish Studies, on Distillery Road.

#### OUR TEAM

Below are the contact details for staff at the Centre for Irish Studies.

<b>Head of Discipline, Centre for Irish Studies</b> Dr Nessa Cronin, Room 205 <a href="mailto:nessa.cronin@universityofgalway.ie">nessa.cronin@universityofgalway.ie</a>	<b>Administrator</b> Samantha Williams, Room 101 <a href="mailto:samantha.williams@universityofgalway.ie">samantha.williams@universityofgalway.ie</a>
An tOll Louis de Paor, Room 202 ( <a href="mailto:louis.depaor@universityofgalway.ie">louis.depaor@universityofgalway.ie</a> )	Dr Leo Keohane, Room 206 ( <a href="mailto:leo.keohane@universityofgalway.ie">leo.keohane@universityofgalway.ie</a> )
Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Room 203 <a href="mailto:meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie">meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie</a>	Dr Verena Commins, Room 204 ( <a href="mailto:verena.commins@universityofgalway.ie">verena.commins@universityofgalway.ie</a> )
Laoighseach Ní Choisdealbha, <a href="mailto:l.nichoisdealbha@universityofgalway.ie">l.nichoisdealbha@universityofgalway.ie</a>	

#### 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 to the hour (e.g. 9.50am). Students who cannot attend for medical/personal reasons should communicate with their lecturer directly and appropriate support will be provided.

*Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin*  
*Academic Coordinator, Final Year Modern Irish Culture Studies*  
[meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:meabh.nifhuarthain@universityofgalway.ie)

## 1.1 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.

## 1.2 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.

## 1.3. 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>

## 1.4 Academic Integrity and plagiarism

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

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

A full university statement on Academic Integrity is available here: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/academicintegrity/policies/>

## 1.5 Writing skills support

All of your lecturers at the Centre for Irish Studies will assist you in developing good academic writing skills and the First Year Tutorial will also help develop your 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 make an appointment ([writingcentre@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:writingcentre@universityofgalway.ie)).

## 1.6 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.***

### 1.7 Marking system

The marking system in	A: 70-100% / 1	C: 45-49% / Pass
Modern Irish Culture	B+: 60-69% / II.1	D: 40-44% / Pass
Studies is as follows:	B-: 50-59% / II.2	Fail: 30-39% / Fail

Please find further information relating to Marks and Standards here:

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

### 1.8 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 deadline extensions. The only exception is where there are additional circumstances (e.g. an medical emergency) unrelated to those outlined in the LENS report.

### 2.1 EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER AND ACCUMULATION SYSTEM (ECTS)

ECTS is an academic credit system based on the estimated student workload required to achieve the objectives of a module or programme of study. The ECTS is the recommended credit system for higher education in Ireland and across the European Higher Education Area. The ECTS weighting for a module is a **measure of the student input or workload** required for that module, based on factors such as the

number of contact hours the number and length of written or verbally presented assessment exercises, class preparation and private study time, as appropriate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

*First Year* 60 ECTS (20 ECTS x Three subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)  
*Second Year* 60 ECTS (30 x Two subjects including Modern Irish Culture Studies)  
*Third Year* 60 ECTS (No Modern Irish Culture Studies modules, specialist subject only)  
*Fourth Year* 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
<b>2025</b>	
Start of Teaching	Monday 12th January 2026
End of Teaching	Thursday 2nd April (12 weeks of teaching)
<b>Easter</b>	<b>Good Friday 3rd April to Easter Monday 6th April</b>
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)
<b>Holidays</b>	
	<b>Easter: Good Friday 3rd April to Easter Monday 6th April 2026</b>
	<b>Bank Holidays: Monday 27th October 2025 / Monday, 2nd February 2026</b>
	<b>Tuesday, 17th March 2026/ Monday 4th May 2026/ Monday 1st June 2026</b>
	<b>Monday 3rd August 2026</b>

\* Updated 17th July 2025

Approved AC Standing Dec 2020

Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin  
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## MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

IS3100	<p><b>INTRODUCING LITERARY AND CULTURAL THEORY (5 ECTS)</b></p> <p>This module will provide an introduction to literary and cultural theory and its application to modern and contemporary Irish cultural production. In particular, it will investigate the extent to which theories of gender and post-colonialism have had an impact on the production and reception of modern and contemporary Irish literature and culture. It will explore the Irish contribution to literary and cultural theory and the extent to which Irish critics and scholars have adapted the reading methods of gender studies and post-colonial studies to their interpretation and reinterpretation of Irish culture in its historical and contemporary settings.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final take-home exam assessment.</p>
IS3101	<p><b>TOPICS IN IRISH MUSIC STUDIES: Constructing Identities in Music and Dance (5 ECTS)</b></p> <p>This module further explores scholarship, themes and concepts in Irish Music Studies. In particular, this module investigates how music and dance in Ireland are frequently used as architectural frameworks of identity building and power brokerage. Drawing on scholarly criticism, cultural history and performance studies, this module will focus on key performers, commentary and scholarship, together with performances of Irish music and dance from the late nineteenth century to the new millennium as a means of examining particular constructions of Irish identity.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS3102	<p><b>TOPICS IN IRISH LITERATURE STUDIES: Full and plenty: Food in Irish Literature (5 ECTS)</b></p> <p>This module investigates representations of food in Irish writing from the medieval period to the contemporary world. It explores aspects of food production, preparation and consumption in poetry, fiction, and non-fiction, to challenge the historical perception of Irish food culture as underdeveloped. The significance of food in relation to gender, politics, identity, tradition, and heritage will be central to the interrogation of selected texts in Irish and in English. Irish language material is to be considered in English translation and no prior knowledge of the language is required.</p> <p>TEXT: Readings available on Canvas. Texts tbc.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Continuous assessment and final essay.</p>
IS3103	<p><b>INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT IN IRISH STUDIES (15 ECTS)</b></p> <p>Over the course of the full semester, with guidance from module convenors and advisors, students research a selected and approved topic in Irish Studies, through independent and directed learning. Meeting weekly for required, roundtable class discussions, students write and submit a customized independent project/thesis in Irish studies drawing on research skills developed throughout undergraduate studies.</p> <p>ASSESSMENT: Project/thesis submission, final presentation, weekly discussions</p>

## FINAL YEAR MODERN IRISH CULTURE STUDIES TIMETABLE

### SEMESTER 1

CIS= Centre for Irish Studies

<b>Module:</b>	<b>IS3100 Introducing Literary and Cultural Theory</b> *Classes begin <b>Week 2</b>		
<b>Time:</b>	Thursday, 9am (tbc) (Dr Leo Keohane)	Venue: AMB-G043 Seminar Room	
	Friday, 2pm (tbc) (Dr Leo Keohane)	Venue: Room 103 Seomra Seimineáir, CIS	

<b>Module:</b>	<b>IS3101 Topics in Irish Music Studies</b>		
<b>Time:</b>	Monday, 10-11am (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)	Venue: BLE1006, Block E	
	Monday, 2-3pm (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin)	Venue: AC202	

<b>Module:</b>	<b>IS3102 Topics in Irish Literature Studies</b>		
<b>Time:</b>	Tuesday, 4-5pm (An tOll. Louis de Paor)	Venue: <a href="#">CSB-1008</a>	
	Wednesday, 1-2pm (An tOll. Louis de Paor)	Venue: AMB-G005 Lecture Room	

\*Monday, 27 October, Bank Holiday, no classes

### SEMESTER 2

<b>Module:</b>	<b>IS3103 Irish Studies Independent Research Project</b>		
<b>Time:</b>	Friday, 1.1-4.30pm (Dr Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Laoighseach Ní Choisdealbha and Dr Nessa Cronin)		
<b>Venue:</b>	CIS		Credits: 15 ECTS

<b>SEM 1 Time/Day</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>9-9.50am</b>				<b>IS3100</b> AMB G043	
<b>10-10.50am</b>	<b>IS3101</b> BLE1006, Block E				
<b>11-11.50am</b>					
<b>12-12.50pm</b>					
<b>1-1.50pm</b>			<b>IS3102</b> AMB-G005		
<b>2-2.50pm</b>	<b>IS3101</b> AC202				<b>IS3100</b> CIS
<b>3-3.50pm</b>					
<b>4-4.50pm</b>		<b>IS3102</b> CSB-1008			
<b>5-5.50pm</b>					