

History of Modern Ireland: 1880 to the Present

IRISH-UA 9184, Summer 2022



"Birth of the Republic" by Walter Paget

Courtesy Wikimedia Commons: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Birth_of_the_Irish_Republic.jpg

Instructor: Miriam Nyhan Grey, Ph.D.

Office hours: By appointment. To arrange e-mail: miriam.nyhan@nyu.edu

Lecture and discussion:

Mon. and Wed., Time: 9.30am-12.00pm

Location: TCD Arts Building, in the following lecture rooms–

June 20 to June 24: Room 3126

June 27 to July 8: Room 5052

July 11 to July 15 : Room 5025 (not a typo!)

July 18 to July 21: Room 5052

Course Description

The course begins with an examination of the era of revolution and war that gave rise to a divided Ireland and moves on to study the following decades of state-building, the impact of the Second World War, cultural identity, religion, emigration, modernization, the reemergence of the "troubles" and the subsequent "war" in Northern Ireland, and the recent moves toward peace. Lectures from guest speakers and field trips to sites of historical interest form an integral part of the course

Course Learning Goals

Students who consistently attend class, participate in classroom discussion, and complete all the written assignments will improve their ability to:

- Analyze and contextualize a range of primary sources, read secondary sources critically, and differentiate between informed interpretations and biased accounts
- Convey ideas verbally and craft written arguments based on relevant historical evidence
- Conduct historical research using library, archival, and online resources, comprehend standard citation formats, and understand historiography

Students will also further their knowledge and understanding of: •

The key themes and topics in modern Irish history

- The major events, personalities, and forces that shaped the history of Ireland since 1910.
- The main approaches and interpretations in the study of modern Irish history

Required Reading

- Richard Bourke and Ian McBride, eds., *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016). (NO NEED TO PURCHASE AS AVAILABLE VIA BOBCAT. Read chapters 3 through 6 over the term.

Suggested Supplemental Texts:

- Diarmaid Ferriter, *The Transformation of Ireland, 1900-2000* (London: Profile Books, 2004). (THIS IS A GOOD OVERVIEW)
- Alvin Jackson, *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and Beyond*, 2nd ed. (West Sussex, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010). This book is available at the NYU Bookstore.
- R. F. Foster, *Modern Ireland, 1600-1972* (London: Penguin, 1989)
- K. T. Hoppen, *Ireland since 1800: Conflict and Conformity* (London: Routledge, 1998)
- Alvin Jackson, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History* (Oxford: OUP, 2014)
- J. J. Lee, *Ireland 1912-1985. Politics and Society* (Cambridge: CUP, 1989)
- F. S. L. Lyons, *Ireland since the Famine* (London: Fontana, 1985)
- Angela McCarthy, ed., *Ireland in the World: Comparative, Transnational, and Personal Perspectives* (New York: Routledge, 2015)
- Kerby A. Miller, *Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985)
- Cormac Ó Gráda, *Black '47 and Beyond: The Great Irish Famine in History, Economy and Memory* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999)
- Niall Whelehan, ed. *Transnational Perspectives on Modern Irish History* (New York: Routledge, 2015)

Course Requirements and Grading Policies

- **Attendance and participation:** Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded at the beginning of every class. Unexcused absences will depreciate your grade so inform me in advance if you are unable to attend class. Students are expected to arrive at class on time and prepared to discuss the assigned readings. (30%)
- **Research paper:** 10-12 page research paper based on themes and topics addressed in lectures and course readings. The research paper should have at least five secondary sources and at least one primary source and is due in class July 20. (45%)
- **Research presentation:** In the final class of the semester students will present their research paper findings orally in class. (35%)

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to uphold the New York University College of Arts & Science Honor Code, which can be found here: <http://cas.nyu.edu/page/honorcode>. Consult with me if you are unsure about any aspect of the honor code. Further details on academic integrity can be found at the following web page: <http://cas.nyu.edu/page/academicintegrity>.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Course Overview (themes, topics, & approaches) & a Bird's-eye View of Modern Irish History

- Richard Bourke and Ian McBride, eds., *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016). Chapter 3. (NYU Bobcat)
 - Eileen Reilly, "Modern Ireland: An Introductory Survey," in *Making the Irish American: History and Heritage of the Irish in the United States*, eds. J. J. Lee and Marion R. Casey (New York: New York University Press, 2006), 63-150 (NYU Brightspace) (OPTIONAL OVERVIEW)
 - TG4 Documentary on Ernie O'Malley: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCAadp0Dcwk>

Week 2: Diaspora in Irish History

Richard Bourke and Ian McBride, eds., *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016). Chapter 21.

Week 3: World War 1 and the 1916 Easter Rising: Irish and Global Perspectives

Fearghal McGarry, "Southern Ireland 1922-32, A Free State?" in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, ed. Alvin Jackson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014) (via email)

View this short film: <https://ifiarchiveplayer.ie/irish-revolution-1922/>

- Alvin Jackson, *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and*

Beyond, 2nd ed. (West Sussex, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), 142-244 (OPTIONAL)

- Timothy Bowman, "Ireland and the First World War," in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, ed. Alvin Jackson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), 603-20 (OPTIONAL)

- Fearghal McGarry, "'A Land Beyond the Wave:' Transnational Perspectives on Easter 1916" in *Transnational Perspectives on Modern Irish History*, ed. Niall Whelehan (New York: Routledge, 2015), 165-88 (OPTIONAL)

Week 4: Independent Ireland and State Building

- Diarmaid Ferriter, "De Valera's Ireland, 1932-58," in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, ed. Alvin Jackson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), 3-21

- Richard Bourke and Ian McBride, eds., *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016). Chapter 4, 119-126

Also, please read the two short readings on *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* (2006) as distributed in class.

Week 5: Church, State, and Modern Ireland

- Alvin Jackson, *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and Beyond*, 2nd ed. (West Sussex, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), 275-317

- Diarmaid Ferriter, "Twenty-First-Century Ireland," in *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, eds. Richard Bourke and Ian McBride (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016), 168-92

Week 6: Northern Ireland, 1920-1998 and Making of 21st-Century Ireland

- Alvin Jackson, *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and Beyond*, 2nd ed. (West Sussex, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), 335-77

- Niall Ó Dochartaigh, "Northern Ireland since 1920," in *The Princeton History of Modern Ireland*, eds. Richard Bourke and Ian McBride (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016), 141-67

• Alvin Jackson, *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and Beyond*, 2nd ed. (West Sussex, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), 317-34; 378-417

• Brian Girvin, "The Lemass Legacy and the Making of Contemporary Ireland, 1958-2011" in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, ed. Alvin Jackson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), 726-42

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