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**


**Suggested Supplemental Texts:**

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](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](http://cas.nyu.edu/page/academicintegrity).

Course Schedule

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

- TG4 Documentary on Ernie O’Malley: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCAadp0Dcwk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCAadp0Dcwk)

**Week 2: Diaspora in Irish History**


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


View this short film: [https://ifiarchiveplayer.ie/irish-revolution-1922/](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)


• 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


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


