

36TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN IRISH STUDIES

THE GOLDEN AGE

IMAGINATION AND THE MAKING OF IRISH IDENTITY



St Declan (c. 1916) by Harry Clarke, detail of stained glass window in the Hogan Chapel, UCC. Courtesy of The Hogan Trust

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6 JULY – 31 JULY 2015

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK, IRELAND

University College Cork

Founded in 1849, University College Cork is one of Ireland's oldest universities and has three times been named Ireland's University of the Year in recognition of UCC's excellence in teaching and research. UCC is a dynamic learning environment with a global outlook and makes a major contribution to the economy and culture of Ireland.



Dr Mary Breen,
Director

Located in Cork, the second city of the Republic of Ireland, University College Cork is a vibrant teaching and research institution with a diverse student body, attracting students from over 80 countries worldwide. Cork city, placed in one of the most scenic regions of Ireland, is a thriving commercial centre. Although granted its first charter in the twelfth century, the city's origins go much further back, to the early medieval period and

the founding of the ecclesiastical city of Cork. As a major port it has a long history of connections with Europe and the Americas. Through its port the city was the major point of departure for the Irish emigrating to the New World and the point of introduction of new ideas from the outside world.



Dr Damian Bracken,
Director

Welcome from the Directors

As Directors we welcome you to the thirty-sixth International Summer School in Irish Studies at University College Cork. The School attracts over one hundred students with an interest in Irish studies providing them with an ideal location in which to explore the varied aspects of Irish history, literature and culture. It offers expert tuition, optional courses in Irish language and a varied social programme.

Summer School 2015

In 2015, University College Cork holds its thirty-sixth International Summer School in Irish Studies. The School introduces students from across the world to the history, literature and culture of the Irish. It runs for four weeks in the month of July. In History lectures, students explore turning-points in Ireland's History that shaped its destiny and its people's identity. The Literature section will examine how modern writers have sought to define a sense of cultural identity by exploring the works of major modern Irish writers. These historical and literary themes will be explored in lectures, seminars, and in a series of field trips, delivered by leading experts.

The Golden Age refers to a time in the middle ages that had a powerful influence on modern Irish identity. It was idealised for the remarkable flowering of culture that the period witnessed and celebrated as a time when the earliest expressions of Irish identity appeared in literature. By the early twentieth century, the Irish came to see the literature and art of their remote past as the embodiment of a distinctive Irish identity. The 'rediscovery' of that inheritance, and its appropriation by the contemporary Irish, led to a cultural renaissance – sometimes called the Celtic Revival. This cultural revival, in turn, heralded the profound political and social changes that continue to shape Irish culture and political life to this day. The School explores the key events and figures in this quest for political independence in modern Ireland.

The Literature section of the course will examine the works of James Joyce and Seamus Heaney, two of the most important figures in modern world literature. We will read Joyce's semiautobiographical novel *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and his collection of short stories *Dubliners*. We will also read the poetry of Seamus Heaney, beginning with his early writing and charting the changes in his poetry through his career. The subject matter for both writers is Ireland and its people. In their writing they reflect on the role of the writer and on the nature of life in Ireland as they experienced it. The lectures and seminars will address the contrasts and similarities in Heaney's poetry and Joyce's modernist fiction.

The Summer School in Irish Studies in UCC aims to provide a unique learning experience by combining a rigorous introduction to major academic themes in the development of Irish identity with an opportunity to encounter Ireland's rich cultural landscape.

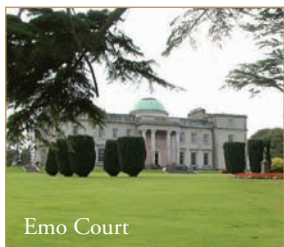


Summer School in Irish Studies

Study Tours



Barryscourt Castle



Emo Court



Cashel

Study tours are an integral part of the Summer School programme and give students the opportunity to explore the beauty of the Irish countryside and to experience the places examined in lectures and seminars. This year, study tours to the following destinations are planned: first study tour: Barryscourt Castle, Fota House and Cobh in County Cork; second study tour: Emo Court, County Laois, Rock of Cashel, County Tipperary; the programme will also include a theatre visit.

Costs

The cost of attending the School for non-EU citizens is €2200 which covers single-room accommodation from Sunday 5 July to Saturday 1 August, tuition, certain social events, study tours, and meals on study tours, but excludes daily meals; the cost for three weeks is €1800; and for two, €1200. Students wishing to arrange their own accommodation should contact Ms Marian Cotter for information on revised costs.

Please direct all queries to: Ms Marian Cotter, Summer School Co-ordinator, International Office, University College Cork, 'Roseleigh', Western Road, Cork, Ireland.

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Credits

The School welcomes students who take the course for credit and those who choose not to enrol for credit. Students who wish to register for credit are expected to have a GPA of 2.85 or above. Students who attend the School for four weeks may take the course for up to 10 ECTS credits, 5 in Literature and 5 in History. Students intending to take credits need to indicate this clearly on the enrolment form. Students should also forward a transcript of courses already completed at their own university or college clearly stating their GPA. They should forward the address of their home institution for processing of completed credits. For further information contact Ms Marian Cotter, Summer School Co-ordinator, International Office, UCC.

Teaching

The Summer School draws on the expertise of Faculty members, established scholars in their field, to deliver lectures. Lectures are followed by discussion-based teaching in seminars of small groups where Teaching Assistants develop the themes of the lectures. These Assistants also give students guidance and encouragement with their work.

Dr Mary Breen (Director)

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