



# Irish Studies Summer School 2015

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School of Irish Language and Literature  
Magee campus, Ulster University  
June - August 2015



In association with:



## Irish Studies Summer School, Ulster University

June-August 2015

Ulster University is delighted to announce its second annual Irish Studies Summer School to be held in June/August 2015.

### Location

Its setting (Counties Tyrone, Donegal and Derry) is in some of the most beautiful and culturally rich regions of Western Europe, adjacent to the Causeway Coast and the Donegal and Sperrin Mountains. Regular flights to London will enable students to visit most of Europe's great capital cities.

### The O'Neills of Ulster

The O'Neill Kingdom/Lordship in the heart of Ireland's most northerly province (week 1) has played a crucial role in the history of Ireland, Europe and the Atlantic world for over a thousand years. Its emergence, consolidation and decline between the Viking invasions (8th century) and the end of the English Re-conquest (18th century) provides an effective microcosm for the impact of conquest, colonialism and plantation on Ireland.

## The Donegal Gaeltacht

Week 2 offers participants a unique Irish Language immersion in Gaith Dobhair, a vibrant, Irish-speaking community, set in some of the finest scenery and amenities in Europe.

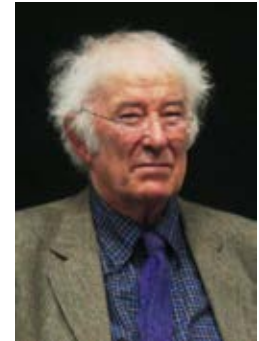
## Derry: A microcosm for Irish Studies

As 'Atlantic Gateway', 'UK City of Culture' (2013) and a 'Lonely Planet' top-ten tourist destination (2013), Derry (weeks 3 - 6) is one of the most historic and culturally vibrant cities on these islands.

Founded in the 6th Century by Colm Cille, one of Ireland's three patron saints, it is the mother-house of the great Columban monastic confederacy which blazed the trail for Irish involvement in the preservation of European Christianity.



*The Annals of the Four Masters, a key source for Irish History, were compiled in west Ulster*



*Seamus Heaney*



*Roaring Meg,  
Derry's Walls*

## **Derry and global literature**

Derry is also associated with Ireland's major contributions to world letters: the Book of Kells, the 'Cathach' of Colmcille, the plays of George Farquhar, the philosophical tracts of George Berkeley and the writings of the Field-Day circle, founded and directed by Seamus Heaney, Brian Friel, Stephen Rea, Seamus Deane, Tom Paulin and Thomas Kilroy.

## **'American Gateway' and window on Ireland's past**

Derry became a key cock-pit for the post-Reformation, Tudor Re-Conquest of Ireland (1534- 1603) and its Tower Museum houses the 'Trinidad Valencera', one of the finest Spanish

Armada wrecks to have been excavated off the Irish coast. It is also the primary, purpose-built citadel of the Ulster Plantation (1609) and the sister-city of London. Its historic walls, among the finest in Western Europe, have been the setting for one of the most important sieges in Irish and British History. Derry is also the 'Atlantic Gateway', through which millions of Irish men and women would make their voyage to the Land of Caanan (America) in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

## **Derry and World War II**

The Royal Navy and US Marines based themselves in Derry for the war's duration; the Allies would subsequently win the Battle of the Atlantic (1940-42) from Lough Foyle and Germany finally surrendered the North Atlantic U-boat fleet at nearby Lisahally.

*Surrendered  
German  
U-boats,  
Lisahally*





*Peter Robinson, Martin McGuinness, President Clinton and John Hume*

## **‘The Troubles’ and Good Friday Agreement**

The Civil Rights Movement (1968) and the subsequent ‘Troubles’ effectively commenced in Derry and it provided the setting for some of its worst violence. However, the city has emerged as a key focus of cross-community peace-building and reconciliation post-Good Friday Agreement (1998).

## **The Programme**

Our interdisciplinary programme will enable participants to acquire specialist knowledge of Irish Studies across drama, film, history, literature,

music, peace and conflict studies and politics. The curriculum connects the inter-related cultures, histories, languages and literatures of Ulster, the rest of Ireland, Britain, Europe and North America.

## **Accreditation**

The participants will accrue credit points for the six-week course for which they will also receive a certificate from Ulster University.



*Madonna & Child,  
Book of Kells*

## Week 1

## 'O'Neill History and Heritage over 1000 Years'

### Wed 24 June

8am-9am	Meet and greet at Belfast International Airport	11am-4pm	Free Morning, Refreshments (3.30pm)
9am-10am	Transfer to Benburb, Co. Tyrone: <a href="http://www.servites-benburb.com">www.servites-benburb.com</a>	5pm-6pm	Talk on the Battle of Benburb (James Kane), followed by walking tour of Shane's Castle
10am-11am	Breakfast with local politicians	6pm-8pm	Arms display by Tomás Ó Brógáin, evening meal (8pm)

### Thurs 25 June

8.30-9.30am	Breakfast	2pm-6pm	Visit to Armagh city: <a href="http://www.armagh.co.uk">www.armagh.co.uk</a>
9.30am-1pm	Visit to the great sites of the O'Neill lordship	6pm-8pm	Evening meal with local politicians and dignitaries
1pm-2pm	Lunch in Viscount's Restaurant: <a href="http://www.viscountsrestaurant.co.uk">www.viscountsrestaurant.co.uk</a>	9pm-11pm	Traditional music session in 'Bottle of Benburb' (Brendan McAnallen)

### Fri 26 June

9am-10am	Breakfast	2-4.30pm	Lectures 3+4: The O'Neills in Vernacular Literature (NMC); The Great Families of Ireland (PMG)
10.30-12.30pm	Lectures 1+2: The O'Neills of Ulster (MÓN); The O'Neills and the English Conquest (ÉOC)	6pm-8pm	Evening meal, with after-dinner speeches by Lord O'Neill of Shane's Castle and Pat O'Neill (local entrepreneur)
1pm-2pm	Lunch	9pm-11pm	<i>Sean-nós</i> singing and poetry recital in 'Bottle of Benburb'

### Saturday 27 June

9am-10am	Breakfast	3.30pm	Transfer to Gaoth Dobhair/Gweedore, Co. Donegal
10.30-1.30pm	Visit to Shane's Castle (Antrim), Masserene Estate and Antrim Castle Gardens.	7pm-8pm	Reception at Teach Campbell: <a href="http://www.teac-campbell.com">www.teac-campbell.com</a>
2pm-3pm	Lunch at Clotworthy House followed by farewell address by Fionn O'Neill-Morgan	9pm-11pm	'Seisiún Ceoil' (traditional music) in 'Teach Hiúdaí Beag': <a href="http://www.tradcentre.com/hiudaibeag/">www.tradcentre.com/hiudaibeag/</a>

(Sat 27 June - Sat 4 July 2015)

### Unique experience

The course shows Irish, which has one of the oldest vernacular literatures in Europe, as a vibrant language and culture, relevant to all aspects of modern life. Additional course information available at: [www.gael-linn.ie](http://www.gael-linn.ie)

### Language classes

This conversation-focused course caters for all levels of ability. Classes run from 9.45 am -3.00 pm (concluding 1.00 pm on Saturday 4 July)

### Evening activities

A varied programme of lectures, poetry-readings, table-quiz and Irish dancing, guided tours and walks in this area of outstanding natural beauty

### Accommodation

Students will stay in 'Teach Campbell', a family-run, high-end Bed and Breakfast ([www.teac-campbell.com](http://www.teac-campbell.com))

### Student Support

At least one member of Ulster University academic staff will be present throughout the week in Gaioth Dobhair

### Civic Reception and Lecture

6.00pm - 8.00pm Civic Reception (Guildhall, Derry), followed by a lecture on Derry, Donegal and the American Revolution

## Week 3

## 'The Celts and the Irish; their Languages and Literatures'

### Tues 7 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Irish Language: A Gem of European Philology	AÓC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: The Gaelic League and Irish 'Revival'	CMS
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Screening: 'Colm Cille, Derry & Iona'		3.15pm-4.45pm	Lecture: The Irish Folklore Commission	PÓT

### Wed 8 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Oxford History of the Irish Book Project	ÉÓC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: Irish Literature in English – Edmund Spenser to Seamus Heaney	ÉÓC
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Lecture: Irish Scribes and their Manuscripts	NMC	3.15pm-4.45pm	The Field-Day Theatre Company	PD

### Thurs 9 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Great Irish Sagas	NMC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: Ireland and her Celtic Neighbours	IW
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.30pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Screening: 'Cúchulainn' / 'Wolfland'		3.30pm-4.30pm	Lecture: Scotland and Nova Scotia	IMP

### Fri 10 July

	Free Weekend				
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## Week 4

## Conquest, Colonization and Cultural Revival

### Tues 14 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Ulster Plantation	DMcC-H	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: Reformation to Revolution, 1534-1688	BK
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Screening: 'Plandáil': Plantation		3.15pm-4.45pm	Screening: 'Mapping Ulster'	

### Wed 15 July

	Free		1.00pm-5.00pm	Visit to Doagh Famine Village	
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### Thur 16 July

9.30am-11.00am	Discussion: The Gaelic Athletic Association	NC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Workshop: Irish Traditional Music I	LD
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.30pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Screening: The All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final, 2014		3.30pm-4.30pm	Workshop: Irish Traditional Music II	NC

### Fri 17 July

	Optional Dublin Trip/Free Weekend				
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## Week 5

## 'The Fighting Irish'

### Tue 21 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Irish Military Diaspora: The Reformation to the American Civil War	ÉÓC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: Scots-Irish History and Culture	MCP
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Revolutionary Ireland, 1913-23	ÉÓC	3.15pm-4.45pm	Visit: Monreagh Ulster-Scots Heritage Centre	MCP

### Wed 22 July

9.30am-11.00am	The Great War, 1914-18	JL	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: Irishmen in the Spanish Civil War	POC
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	The Great War in Nationalist and Unionist Memory	PM	3.15pm-4.45pm	Film: 'The Rocky Road to Dublin' (with discussion)	

### Thu 23 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: The Ordnance Survey I	LC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Screening: 'The Boys of Saint Colm's'	MF
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.30pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Lecture: The Ordnance Survey II	LC	3.30pm-4.30pm	Screening: 'Translations'	MF

### Fri 24 July

	'Game of Thrones Tour'				
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## Week 6

## 'The Troubles and the Peace Process'

### Tue 28 July

9.30am-11.00am	Lecture: 'The Troubles', 1968-1998	ÉÓC	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lecture: 'The Troubles', 1968-1998	MCP
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Film: 'Five Minutes of Heaven' (with discussion)		3.15pm-4.45pm	Film: 'Hunger' (with discussion)	

### Wed 29 July

9.30am-11.00am	Workshop: 'Troubles' and Post-Agreement Fiction	GD	1.30pm-3.00pm	Workshop: The Far Side of Revenge I	JK
11.00am-11.15am	Break		3.00pm-3.15pm	Break	
11.15am-12.30pm	Workshop: Derry and Irish Theatre	DD	3.15pm-4.45pm	Workshop: The Far Side of Revenge II	JK

### Thu 30 July

9.30am-1.00pm	Trip to Seamus Heaney's Grave, with talk	MÓN	2.00pm-6.00pm	Tour of Belfast and Titanic Quarter	
1.00 pm	Lunch				

### Fri 31 July

7.00pm	Summer School Closes; Dinner/Presentation of Certificates				
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## MEET THE TEAM:



**Liam Campbell** holds a BA in Theology and Philosophy (NUI, Maynooth), an MA in Environmental Science (Queen's) and a PhD in Cultural Heritage from Ulster. He is Cultural History and Heritage Innovator at the Holywell Trust and Heritage

Officer for the Foyle Civic Trust. In addition he has worked for nearly twenty years as a TV producer for BBC, UTV, Channel 4 and RTÉ.



**Niall Comer** is a Lecturer in Irish and a member of the Northern Ireland Languages Council. Formerly President of Comhaltas Uladh (2008) and editor of 'An tUltach', one of Ireland's leading Irish-Language journals, his major research interests include Irish- language

lexicography and place-lore.



**Liz Doherty** is an internationally-acclaimed fiddle player, educator and consultant in the traditional arts. A founder-member and performer with bands such as 'Nomos' and 'Fiddlesticks', 'The Bumblebees', 'String Sisters' and 'Blazin' Fiddles', she has also performed with 'Riverdance – The Show'. Before coming to Ulster, Liz taught at Cape Breton University (Canada) and Marshall University (US).



**Garbhan Downey** is a Derry-born novelist who has published seven critically-acclaimed works of fiction. He has also contributed stories to several anthologies of Irish crime fiction and edits Desmond Doherty's new thriller series 'Valberg' for Guildhall Press. A former newspaper editor and senior BBC producer, Downey was the founding editor of 'Verbal: The Northern Ireland Literary Review'. He currently manages the Hive Studio, Derry's newest creative cultural hub and is an editor at Guildhall Press.



**Dave Duggan** is a dramatist and novelist. His theatre work has been seen in Ireland, the US, Scotland, England and Afghanistan. MAKARONIK (Aisling Ghéar, 2014) and DENIZEN (CEL, 2015) are his most recent theatre productions. A Fare Play For Voices for BBC Radio 4 (2013-4),

with Amanda Burton, is his latest radio drama. He wrote the Oscar-nominated short film Dance Lexie Dance (Raw Nerve Productions, 1996). Guildhall Press publish his novels and plays.



**Maurice Fitzpatrick** holds degrees from Trinity College Dublin and Keio University (Japan) and now lectures at the University of Cologne (Germany). He has written and co-produced an RTÉ/BBC documentary film and book entitled 'The Boys of St.

Columb's' (2010), a BBC production on Brian Friel's 'Translations' (2013) and is currently developing a film and book entitled 'John Hume in America' (forthcoming, 2015).



**Art Hughes**, a Reader in Irish at Ulster, recently spent a year as Visiting Professor and Senior Fulbright Scholar at New York University. His major research interests are in Old Irish to Modern Irish, pan-Gaelic dialects and phonetics and Old Irish to Modern Irish literature.



**Billy Kelly** is a native of Derry and a graduate of Trinity College Dublin and Cambridge University. Billy's research interests are in early modern Irish and British History. He is general editor of the Ulster and Scotland Series (Four Courts Press) and managing editor of the 'Commentarius Rinuccianus', a Hiberno-Latin account of the Papal Nuncio's embassy in Ireland, 1645-9.



### **Nioclas Mac Cathmhaoil**

completed his PhD at Ulster (2010) and served as a Fulbright Professor at UC Berkeley in 2012-3. During this sojourn, he completed his monograph on the Irish poet/scribe Muiris Ó Gormáin. His research interests

include the Irish manuscript tradition, Classical and Early Modern Irish, dialects and modern Irish literature.



### **Peadar Mac Gabhann**

joined the university in 2000, having been previously employed at Notre Dame. Before moving to the United States, Peadar held the position of Lecturer in Celtic at the University of Bonn. He has recently served as the Ireland-

Canada University Foundation's Visiting Professor at St. Michael's College, University of Toronto.



**Iain MacPherson** attended the Universities of Alberta, Calgary & Saint Francis Xavier (Canada), and taught at Sabhal Mór Ostaig/ University of the Highlands & Islands (Scotland) before joining the university in 2006. His

research involves close textual analysis of the song-poem enactments of Scottish-Gaelic emigration/immigration tradition.



### **Donald Mac Raild** is

Professor of History at Ulster, having previously held chairs at Northumbria University (England) and Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand). Don has several overlapping fields of research and teaching expertise and interest, including the Irish in

Britain and the wider British World.



**Conal Mac Seáin** received his BA and MRes in Irish Language and Literature from Ulster University and is presently completing a PhD on Énrí Ó Muirgheasa, one of Ulster's leading Irish-language scholars.



**Caitlín Ní Bhroin** is a native-speaker of Irish from Machaire Rabhartaigh in the Donegal Gaeltacht. After working with various cross-border, Irish language movements, she returned to third level education, completing

her BA and MRes at Ulster. She is presently writing a PhD on a major collection of oral literature from north-west Donegal.



**Éamonn Ó Ciardha** has published books and articles on law and order, popular politics, cultural history, the outlaw, and the use of Irish-language sources for Irish History. Formerly a research assistant at the University of Aberdeen

(Scotland) and the Royal Irish Academy, he has held visiting professorships at the Universities of Toronto (Canada), Notre Dame (US) and the Saarland (Germany). He is a Senior Lecturer in History at Ulster.



**Ailbhe Ó Corráin** is Professor of Irish at Ulster and Director of the Irish and Celtic Studies Research Institute. He has also taught at the Universities of Bonn (Germany) and Uppsala (Sweden). He is editor of *Studia Celtica Upsaliensia*, Vice-

President of Societas Celtologica Nordica and a former president of the European Society for Irish Studies.



**Malachy Ó Néill** is Head of the School of Irish Language and Literature at Ulster. An award-winning teacher and passionate advocate for Irish, Dr Ó Néill has delivered guest-lectures at Freiburg, Notre Dame and New York Universities.



### **Pádraig Ó Tiarnaigh**

holds BA and MRes degrees from Ulster. He is currently in the final stages of completing his PhD thesis on the diaries of Seán Ó hEochaidh, the Teelin-born folklorist and collector.



### **Ros O'Hagan**

is a native of County Donegal but has lived in Derry for over 20 years. She looks after Summer School administration and also serves as secretary to the Head of the School of Irish Language and Literature.



### **Marie-Claire Peters**

received her PhD from Ulster in 2012. She co-edited *The Flight of the Earls/Imeacht na nIarlaí* (2010) with Drs Éamonn Ó Ciardha and David Finnegan, named a BBC History Magazine 'Book of the Year' in 2011. She is currently a researcher and lecturer at Ulster.



**Iwan Wmffre** joined the University in 2006, having held posts at Lublin, Poland (2003–05), NUI, Galway (1999–2001) and the University of Wales (1991–97). His research and teaching specialisms focus on the Brittonic and Gaelic

languages. Other interests include the modern histories of Celtic countries and regions, societal linguistics, wartime Brittany, Celtic literary men and the Irish Revival.

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