

## Global Perspectives through the narratives of Ireland

### SYLLABUS

Timeline – minimum recommended 4 weeks; ideally over 8 weeks or semester

Open to

- 1: Individuals – any student can sign up and take this program independently.
- 2: Incorporated with an existing course, or as a credited course in Cultural Competency and Global Learning, or an interdisciplinary humanities course, or as a new program on global learning. Start and end time can be set by the college, and student group enrollment can be as individuals, or student registers with college and the college works directly to process the enrollment.
- 3: As a Continuing Education course
- 4: As an early college course

### FAQs

#### ***What is needed from our faculty?***

If your college offers this course in any capacity, it is useful for ISAI to have a point-person to bring it to the students, -we can report to regarding student progress and assessments, and we assume the college will want access to this information. But other than that, there is no extra work needed.

#### ***When can we do this?***

You set the start and end date. There are fifteen lectures, we recommend a minimum of four weeks to take the classes, the ideal is probably an 8-week block or a 15-week semester.

#### ***What does it cost?***

Funding has been made available to enroll 10 students (fully funded) or more than ten students (part funded) for the Fall 2021 semester for Texas Community Colleges. A discounted price of \$50 per student is also available once the funding has been used.

#### ***What credentials does your instructor have?***

The main lecturer is Dr. Niamh Hamill, Ph.D. in Cultural History, director of the Institute of Study Abroad Ireland and Professor of Global Studies, Drew University NJ, and guest faculty include lecturers from University College Dublin, Quinnipiac University, Penn State, and exceptional guest speakers from a realm of Irish studies.

#### ***What are the student learning outcomes?***

Investigate the world beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.

Recognize perspectives, others' and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.

Observe and evaluate the opinions and experiences of diverse audiences, with an awareness of geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural similarities and differences.

Engage in a personal way with the narratives and themes of each module and contribute creatively to an ongoing dialogue over the duration of the program.

Reflect critically on their role as a member of the global community and pursue ways to create positive change.

## The Modules

This online program will explore shared narratives of Ireland and the USA, based around the following modules.

1. Course Introduction and Orientation
2. 'We all come from somewhere'
3. Myth and Magic
4. 'A Stranger in my own land' Clearances and Colonization
5. 'A Modest Proposal' – The Welfare State
6. 'Mná na hÉireann' – The Women of Ireland
7. 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' – Civil Rights Campaigns in USA and Ireland
8. 'When Hope and History Rhyme' – The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Half time check-in with students

9. 'Taking Care of Business' Ireland in the Global Economy
10. 'The Lighting of a Fire' - Ireland and Education
11. 'Gods Make their own Importance' – Irish Literary Culture
12. 'Good Craic' Arts and Leisure in modern Ireland
13. 'The meat of the buffalo' Global Networks and International Allies
14. 'Impossible, until it's done.' Advocacy and Activism
15. 'On the Road' Educational and Cultural Travel

## Modules

Each module contains the following components –

- 1: 25–40-minute video lecture introducing the topic & key concepts- focus will be on the module topic through the lens of Irish & European experience, and compared with the U.S. experience.
- 2: Animated 'fast facts' section on the topic
- 3: On-location sites and interviews relevant to the topic from a range of excellent guests.
- 4: Prescribed assignment to portfolio (can be compulsory or optional).
- 5: A recommended reading and resource list

## Course Delivery

The program is available on the ISAI Learning Platform, which is usable by any enrollee on all devices. It can be always accessed, it is an asynchronous program, but we can release the lectures according to a timetable if required. For group programs we will also have live conversations at points during the program. Students can contact ISAI any time regarding technical or academic issues.

[To register interest for funding, please click here](#)

For further information, please email [info@isaireland.com](mailto:info@isaireland.com) or visit the platform at <https://interculturalireland.com/p/globaltexas>

## Syllabus

### **1. Course Introduction by ISAI**

General introduction to Ireland. Explanation of modules and how they will work, how assignments work – generally, they are optional for Continuing Ed students, and compulsory for all for-credit programs, but we work with each college and/or individual to decide. We strongly recommend, for maximum effectiveness, that everyone who engages with this program does an assignment per each topic.

Students also participate in pre-program and post-program survey, to provide data for the evaluation of this program. This survey was created with Dr. Melissa Whatley, a postdoctoral research scholar in the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research at North Carolina State University.

Site Visit- Intro from the Hill of Tara site in County Meath.

Assignment 1: *'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) and tell us a little bit about yourself – where you live, what you are studying, why you decided to take this program, and what you would like to learn from this program.*

## SECTION 1 HISTORY AND CULTURE

### **2. 'We all come from somewhere.'**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### Class Topic

Introduction to Ireland- overview of Irish History from Ice Age to present, focus will be on movement, migration and emigration, how we define identity, language and culture, our local and global neighbors and relationships.

#### Site visits and Interviews

Creevykeel Megalithic site Sligo

Parkes Castle, Leitrim

Interview - Una-Minh Kavanagh, Irish Language multi-media entrepreneur and broadcaster.

Assignment– Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

1: *'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) about your own family history - any information you have about any of your ancestors/family background, where your parents/grandparents came from, and why you are living where you are.*

OR

2: *'Our story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) about the history of your town or area, explaining when it was founded and why, any important or notable features of where you live, or any famous people associated with it.*

OR

3: *'Their story' video – create a short video about anyone you know who came to the USA from somewhere else, where they came from, why they came, and how the experience worked out for them.*

OR

4: *Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on any traditional folk custom or myth. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

### **3 Myth and Magic**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### **Class Topic**

Origin myths and stories of Ireland, folklore, superstition and magic, and its role in Irish culture.

#### **Site visits and Interviews**

Knocknarea Mountain, Sligo

Glencar Waterfall, Yeats Country

Interview with Marion Rose McFadden, author and lecturer on Irish Mythology

**Assessment** – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

*1: video – create a short video (2-3 mins) sharing a custom or tradition that is part of your culture, and what 'message' it might convey.*

*OR*

*2: video - create a short video (2 mins) re-enacting the practice of a traditional ritual, cure or superstition, dance or chant, and what its purpose is.*

*OR*

*3: video-create a short video (2-3 mins) Interview an older person who will share stories of mythology or folklore and what their meaning might be.*

*OR*

*4: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on any traditional folk custom or myth. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

### **4 'A Stranger in my own land' Clearances and Colonization**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### **Class Topic**

Colonization, clearance of land, use of resources and susceptibility to climate issues- the impacts of colonization – the treatment of, and attitudes to the poor.

#### **Site Visits & Interviews**

Interview with Native American Sylvia Rios,

Interview with Historian Connor Donnan, Native American & Irish Connections (Penn State)

Interview with Irish Office of Public Works Guide at Donegal Castle, Sean Browne

Site visit- Donegal Castle

**D. Assessment** – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

*1: 'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) about yourself and any personal connection you have with migration or movement because of colonization or land clearance.*

*OR*

*2: 'Our story' video - create a short video (2 mins) telling the story of any colonizing or clearance that took place in the U.S.A.*

*OR*

*3: 'Their story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) about any group of people you believe to be adversely affected by climate change, which is connected to colonization or clearance.*

*OR*

*4: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of colonization, or land clearance. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

### **5 'A Modest Proposal' Addressing Poverty and Migration**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### Class Topic

Using the story of the Irish Famine, we consider the treatment of poor people and migrants by wealthier nations.

#### Site Visits & Interviews

Extract 'A Modest proposal' Jonathan Swift, read by John O'Connell with illustrations by contemporary artist David O'Kane.

Presentation by Professor Christine Kinealy, Director of the Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University

Site Visit to Famine Workhouse, Ballyshannon, Donegal.

Irish Charity *Concern* presentation on current global hunger statistics.

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

1: *Create a short video (2-3 mins) sharing a story of, or interview with someone within your community who has an experience of migration.*

OR

2: *Create a short video (2-3 mins) of an interview with somebody who is working to address poverty in your community.*

OR

3: *Create a short video of your response to the song 'City of Chicago' performed by Christy Moore*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvOcyRqNfBI>

OR

4: *Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

### **6 'Mná na hÉireann- The Women of Ireland**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### Class Topic

We track the history of Irish women from the early 1900s through to contemporary Ireland.

#### Site Visits & Interviews

President Mary Robinson Inauguration Speech

Site Visit to Countess Markiewicz sculpture, Rathcormack, Sligo

Media Coverage of 2015 and 2018 Irish referenda

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

1: *'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) about a female revolutionary that interests you, explaining why.*

2: *Create a short video of your response to the song 'Grace' performed by Jim McCann. Include what you have been able to find out about Grace Gifford, and if the song reflects her accurately.*

<https://youtu.be/SMf6IyJI0e4>

OR

3: *Create a short video (2-3 mins) about a person or an event in recent history, with information that you believe should be more widely known – explain why.*

OR

4: *Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

## **7 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' – Civil Rights Campaigns in USA and Ireland**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

### Class Topic

This class will focus on the civil rights issues in Northern Ireland and their connection to the American Civil Rights movement by referencing the two Bloody Sunday events in USA and Ireland.

### Site Visits & Interviews

Interview with Don Mullan, Derry native, witness to Bloody Sunday and author of 'Eyewitness: Bloody Sunday'.

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

1: 'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) discussing, with a friend or family member, any story or memories of the Civil Rights movement in the USA.

OR

2: 'Border story' video - create a short video (2-3 mins) about any constructed border between two communities, and its impact.

OR

3: Create a short video (2-3 mins) of your response to the song 'Zombie' performed by The Cranberries. Include what you have been able to find out about the context of the song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Ejga4kJUts>

OR

4: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.

## **8 'When Hope and History Rhyme' – The Northern Ireland Peace Process**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

### Class Topic

This class will focus on the Peace Process and Good Friday Agreement 1998

### Site Visits & Interviews

Introduction Professor Liam Kennedy, Director of the Clinton Institute, University College Dublin.

Interview with Niall O'Dowd, leader of Irish American group who played a key part in the Irish Peace Process. Also includes clip of Mo Mowlam interview.

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

1: 'My story' video – create a short video (2-3 mins) telling a story or interviewing someone in your family/friend circle who was involved in a conflict resolution event or meeting or activity.

OR

2: 'Our story' video - create a short video (2-3 mins) with a review of a movie that you believe promotes shared empathy and kindness. Highlight key moments in the movie.

OR

3: Visit and create a video (2-3 mins) at any monument or memorial or museum that commemorates a gesture of peace or solidarity.

OR

4: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.

**HALF-TIME CHECK IN – Short video with Niamh re half-way point of the program. Option to set up direct zoom link with student/s to discuss progress.**

## SECTION 2 CONTEMPORARY

### **9 ‘Taking Care of Business’ Ireland in the Global Economy**

Lecturer: John O’Connell

#### Class Topic

Overview of Global networks in Irish Business- membership of the European Union, relationship with USA, Irish Government program of Ireland’s Global reach for economic and social development.

#### Site Visits & Interviews

Dublin City – Irish Financial Services District, Google HQ and ‘Silicon Docks’ area.

Short presentations by IDA Ireland -Global Ireland

Government of Ireland -Economic Strategy for US/Canada-Ireland Networks 2025

Bord Bia (Irish Department for Food) Origin Green Project

#### Assessment –

*For this assignment, you will need to find one of the following: The links in your resource sheet for this lesson will help you find the information you need.*

***An American business (preferably based in your area or state) that has an office/ branch/ operation in Ireland.***

*Or*

***An Irish business that has an office/branch/operation based in the USA (preferably based in your area or state)***

*Or*

***an Irish product or service that is available to you in the USA.***

*We would like you to upload a **video presentation** about any of the above, - an **interview** with someone connected with any of the above, or a **business profile** of the company, or a **profile of the service or product**, including why you think it is a successful enterprise. Please keep your video 1-2 mins in length, and you must present the video (profiles of business websites will not do – we need to see you discuss the specific business).*

### **10 ‘The Lighting of a Fire’ - Ireland and Education**

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### Class Topic

Ireland’s Education system from Kindergarten to College: The all-Irish language school, How Irish Universities work; General Stats on Education. Comparisons with USA systems

#### Site Visits & Interviews

Interview School Principal Daire Mac Pháidin Gaelscoil Mologa

Pupils of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Scoil Mologa

Interview School Principal Carmel Hume Terenure Girls’ School

Site visit- Kilbarron Church, connected with the *Annals of the Four Masters*

Site Visit- Donegal Hedge School

Assessment – *For this assignment, you will need to find one of the following: The links in your resource sheet for this lesson will help you find the information you need.*

*Or*

***Present a short video on any Irish (in Ireland) University or Institute of Technology that you think would be a good place for you to study – in the video, please tell us why you like the college that you choose, and why it would suit your career path or plans for education.***

*Or*

***Make a video of yourself and at least one other student, discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the American College/University system and /or the strengths and weaknesses of the Irish College/University system***

## 11 'Gods Make their own Importance' – Irish Literary Culture

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

Class Topic – Contemporary Irish Literature in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

This class takes place in the format of an excellent interview with Irish poet Dr. Paula Meehan.

Assessment -We would like you to make a short video about one of the following.

*Any Irish writer or poet, past or present, that you like. In your 1-2 min video, explain your reasons, and explain your reasons, with some references to the text.*

*Or*

*Any contemporary American writer that you think is making an important contribution to American Literary Culture. In your 1-2 min video, explain your reasons, and explain your reasons, with some references to the text.*

*Or*

*Any writer from an ethnic minority that you think has made a significant impact on writing and literature. In your 1-2 min video, explain your reasons, and explain your reasons, with some references to the text.*

*Or*

*Video your own response to the interview you have watched with Paula Meehan. In your 1-2 min video, explain your reasons, with some references to her comments.*

## 12 'What's the Craic'? Arts and Leisure in modern Ireland

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

Class Topic Important Cultural pursuit- Music & Gaelic Sports and Surfing.

Site Visits & Interviews

Interview with Today FM Radio Producer & DJ Ed Smyth,

Interview with Director of the Temple Bar Tradfest Claudine Murray,

Footage of Sharon Shannon & Denise Chaila performing IrishTrad-Rap

On site footage from Croke Park, Gaelic Sports footage

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

*Find out if there is a local Gaelic games club or organization in your area, and in your video, profile this group, or do an interview with someone who is connected to this organization, or video yourself playing any Gaelic sport.*

*or*

*Do a video review of any one of the four YouTube videos in your resource sheet of Irish music performances.*

*or*

*Perform a song or piece of music on video (original or a cover) that has some Irish connection, or a connection with any traditional or folk music genre.*



### 13. 'The meat of the buffalo' Global Networks and International Allies

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

#### Class Topic

Global Networks- The Irish Defense Forces and its relationship with the U.S. Armed Forces and UN Peacekeeping Forces. Global Environmental and Climate Action Partnerships.

#### Site Visits & Interviews

Interview with Captain Bartley McFadden, Irish Defense Forces Footage from UN Peacekeeping missions  
Audio from The Mothers of Invention Podcast.

Footage of Mary Robinson Interview, courtesy of Mary Robinson Foundation

Interview with Gary Tyrrell, Climate Action Officer of *An Taisce*, Irish Environmental Protection Agency.

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio; 1-2 minutes

*1: Introduce us to a place of natural beauty that is local to you –*

*OR*

*2: Do an interview with anyone who has served in the U.S. military, about any experience they had with peace-keeping roles or conflict resolution.*

*OR*

*3: Please do a short video with your opinions on Climate action – or you can interview or discuss climate action with a friend or family member. All opinions welcome!*

*OR*

*4: Make a short video about any global organization which works to improve the wellbeing of people in some way. Tell us about why you chose it, and why you like it*

*OR*

*5: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme.*

### 14. 'Impossible, until it's done.' Advocacy and Activism

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

Class Topic The importance of Advocacy and Activism

#### Site Visits & Interviews

Interview with Rory Fallon, Food Cloud (Ireland)

Interview with Ailbhe Smyth, founder of the Women's Education, Resource and Research Centre (WERRC), University College Dublin

Interview with Senator Eileen Flynn, advocate for the Irish Traveller Community

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

*1: Tell any story about activism or advocacy that energizes you. This can be a campaign that you, or your family or friends were involved with. Please compare your experiences with any or all of the experiences documented by our guest speakers.*

*OR*

*2: Do an interview with anyone who is currently involved in advocacy or activism. Please compare your experiences with any or all of the experiences documented by our guest speakers.*

*OR*

*3: Video your response to any of our three guest speakers in the class today, Ailbhe Smyth, Femi Bankole or Senator Eileen Flynn. Please use comparisons with campaigns or social issues relevant in the U.S.*

*OR 4: Create an image slideshow, audio file, original poem, original song or a piece of art based on the theme of this topic. Include your explanation of how your work was inspired and how it is representative of this theme*

## 15. 'On the Road' Educational and Cultural Travel

Lecturer: Niamh Hamill Ph.D.

### Class Topic

Global adventures - The benefits of doing a study trip. How you should prepare to study abroad. How to address finance and the fear factor.

Assessment – Students will film and upload one of the following to their portfolio.

*For your final assignment, I would like you to tell me where you would most like to travel, and why. In your video upload, you can use images or video clips, interviews or maps.*

### Completion of Course

Students will complete post-program survey before a certificate from the Institute of Study Abroad Ireland is issued.

Faculty or administrators from participating colleges can access student assessments and progress reports at any point.

To register interest for funding, please click here

For further information, please email [info@isaireland.com](mailto:info@isaireland.com) or visit the platform at <https://interculturalireland.com/p/globaltexas>