Module Description:
The module will study the history of the Book of Kells and other Books of the Gospel from this era. The Chi-Rho page of the Book of Kells will be taken as a central point from which to discuss the theology of these manuscripts, as depicted in their illustrations. The course will also introduce students to a representative sample of early Irish Christian texts. It will consider the role of the bible in the life of the early Irish church through a reading of exegetical and homiletic texts. Some attention will be given to the Irish tradition of ‘soul care’ (anam cara) and the role of the early Irish Penitentials in the evolution of the sacrament of reconciliation.

Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this module students should be able to:

- Assess, in theological perspective, selected important texts of the early Irish Church.
- Interpret the distinctive elements of theological themes in the illustrations of the Book of Kells.
- Explain the distinctive treatment of key theological themes in the visual art of the High Crosses.

Timetable details: Module to be offered in Hilary Term

Number of lecture/tutorial: 16 lectures and 6 seminars

The module code, if from existing UG programme: Currently awaiting

Credit value of the module, 5 ECTS
Maximum capacity of the module: 20

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Dr Cornelius Casey cocasey@tcd.ie Extension number: 4789 [module co-taught]

Method of assessment: Continual assessment

Date of submission of assignment/essay: All assignments to be completed by the end of Hilary term.