

From Reformation to Revolution: Cultural Change and Political Conflict in Early Modern Europe

Course Code: HI

Module Title: From Reformation to Revolution: Cultural Change and Political Conflict in Early Modern Europe

Weighting: 10 ECTS

Co-Ordinator: Dr. Joseph Clarke

Teaching Staff: Dr. Robert Armstrong, Professor Ciaran Brady, Dr. Joseph Clarke, Dr. Graeme Murdock, Dr. Micheál O'Siochru.

Course Overview and Aims: The course is designed to introduce students to key issues and scholarly debates in the political, religious, social and cultural history of Early Modern Ireland, Britain and Europe. By adopting a comparative, trans-national approach to the history of this period it aims to transcend the confines of 'national' histories and identify points of comparison and contrast in the evolution of the Early Modern state and society. It also encourages students to encounter and evaluate differing scholarly approaches in the historiography of this period in a critically informed manner. The course will draw on a variety of primary documents, visual, literary and historical, especially those housed in Trinity College Library and Marsh's Library. Students will also be introduced to a number of online resources: most importantly, *Early English Books Online*, *Eighteenth-Century Collections Online* and the Bibliothèque Nationale de France *Gallica* collection.

Working Methods: The course consists of a series of weekly two-hour graduate seminars. Students are required to attend all seminars, make presentations based on their own research, and submit research-based essays.

Assessment:

- One seminar presentation per term.
- One 3,500 word essay.

Learning Outcomes:

- to analyse key themes in the political, cultural and religious history of early modern Ireland, Britain and Europe
- to promote the study of these themes in a comparative and trans-national context
- to identify relevant bodies of primary materials available in libraries and archives and on the web
- to interpret and analyse primary source materials
- to explore the historiographical debates and interpretative issues relevant to the cultural and political history of Early Modern Europe.
- to foster the ability to judge, to reflect upon and to argue the merits of conflicting interpretations
- to encourage intellectual debate and scholarly initiative
- to encourage co-operation among students through group work organized by the students themselves