

## **IR1014-15 IRISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (SIX SEPARATE SEGMENTS)**

**This course can be taken for one semester or for the whole year. Each semester covers three course segments, as outlined below.**

### **Michaelmas Term (1<sup>st</sup> term) = IR1014 (10 ECTS)**

IR1014 - Early Irish saga

IR1014 - Oral literature

IR1014 - Modern Irish language and literature A

### **Hilary Term (2<sup>nd</sup> term) = IR1015 (10 ECTS)**

IR1015 - Midnight Court

IR1015 - The sources of Early Irish literature

IR1015 - Modern Irish language and literature B (this is a continuation of Part A, and the Learning Outcomes are essentially the same).

**Assessment: Two short essays to be written over the course of the semester @ c.2,500 words per essay, or one longer essay @ 4,000-5,000 words. Titles will be given in class.**

**Learning Outcomes for each segment of the course are detailed overleaf.../.**

### **IR1014 - Early Irish saga segment**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for the semester-long module. This segment = 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Recognise and describe the main cycles into which Early Irish literature is divided for purposes of analysis
- Understand and articulate the varying views of modern scholarship regarding the nature and function of early Irish saga
- Analyse the main features of heroic biography and apply the template to the sagas read
- Identify the underlying moral or message of the sagas studied
- Articulate the relevance of Early Irish saga for the modern reader
- Write a fully referenced essay drawing on the detailed bibliography provided for each saga

### **IR1014 Oral literature segment**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for the semester-long module. This segment = 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Have a broad view of the many facets of Irish oral literature
- Have an understanding of the folktale in general and of aspects of its transmission
- Be able to define the different genres of story found in oral literature
- Be able to speak with authority about rituals and festivities of the calendar year in Ireland

### **IR1014 Modern Irish language and literature segment (A)**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for each semester-long module. This segment = 1 x 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Be conversant with the life, and work (in English translation) of a range of key 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Irish language writers
- Be familiar with the history of Irish literature and language revival from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century up to today
- Be able to discuss how social, cultural and linguistic change during the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries have had an impact on literature and critical thought in Irish.

### **IR1015 Modern Irish language and literature segment (B)**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for each semester-long module. This segment = 1 x 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Be conversant with the life, and work (in English translation) of a range of key 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Irish language writers
- Be familiar with the history of Irish literature and language revival from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century up to today
- Be able to discuss how social, cultural and linguistic change during the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries have had an impact on literature and critical thought in Irish.

### **IR1015 - Midnight Court segment**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for the semester-long module. This segment = 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Have an appreciation of the Irish language roots of the poem
- Have a basic understanding of the historical context in which the poem was composed
- Have a good knowledge of, and be able to discuss, what is known of the poet
- Have a good knowledge of various translations of the poem
- Recognise and be able to discuss the main themes and images of the poem
- Have a developed personal theory on the reasons why the poem was composed
- Have further developed their research and presentation skills by engaging with this subject

### **IR1015 - The sources of Early Irish literature segment**

**ECTS Value: 10 ECTS for the semester-long module. This segment = 1/3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- Read and describe a basic type of the Irish alphabet *cló Gaelach*
- Identify different types of dating criteria and apply them to dating a given manuscript (Irish or otherwise)
- Place Old Irish accurately in a wider continuum of development and transmission of the Irish language
- Provide an elementary assessment of the position of Irish within the wider linguistic family of Celtic
- Read and describe the Ogam alphabet
- Recognise and describe the basic features of Old Irish syllabic metrics.