

## **IRU11141: Irish Language and Literature MT**

### **Semester 1 (10 ECTS)**

**Wednesdays 9am (Room 4050B)**

**Weeks 1 to 8 of Semester 1**

Damian McManus (pmcmanus@tcd.ie) **Early Irish Saga**

A course in early (i.e. pre twelfth-century) Irish saga literature in which a variety of texts, mainly from the Ulster, Mythological and King cycles will be read in translation and discussed in class. Sagas to be read will include the tragic story of Deirdre's love for Naoise, the story of Niall Frasach's judgement regarding the lesbian mother of a 'fatherless' child, and Sín's cold-blooded determination to exact revenge on her 'lover' for the slaughter of her family.

**Thursdays 2pm (Room 4050B)**

**Weeks 1 to 8 of Semester 1**

Pádraig de Paor (depaorp@tcd.ie) **Modern Irish Literature**

20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century literature in Irish is a miracle. Given the cultural traumas of the previous centuries, it is incredible that the Irish language has survived at all. The fact that it has a flourishing literature and vibrant cultural scene is nothing short of miraculous. This course outlines the origins of modern Irish literature in the language renaissance of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and its development up to today. The efforts to save and promote Irish and the heated debates and politics of the language movement provide the background for understanding a literature whose very existence is a triumph of the human spirit. (Part 1)

**Wednesdays 9am (Room 4050B) and Thursdays 2pm (Room 4050B)**

**Weeks 9 to 12 of Semester 1**

Máire Ní Bháin (mnibhain@tcd.ie) **Irish Folklore and Oral Literature**

This course will discuss various aspects of Irish Folklore and Oral Literature. Among the topics covered are:- Brigit: Celtic Goddess and Holy Woman, The Fairies in Irish Folklore, Marriage in Irish Folk-Tradition, The Banshee – The Irish Supernatural Death-Messenger, The Pattern, The Wake in Irish Tradition, The Sea in Irish Popular Culture.

**IRU11141 Assessment: Two short essays to be written over the course of the semester @ c.2,500 – 3,000 words per essay, or one longer essay @ 4,500-5,000 words. Titles will be given in class.**

**Essays to be submitted by the end of term. Hard copy to Room 4055.**

**Electronic copy to aisti.gaeilge@tcd.ie.**

## **IRU11152: Irish Language and Literature**

**Semester 2 (10 ECTS)**

**Mondays 4pm (Room 4050B)**

**Weeks 1 to 8 of Semester 2**

Eoin Mac Cárthaigh (emaccart@tcd.ie) **The Midnight Court**

Brian Merriman composed the Rabelaisian and highly entertaining poem *Cúirt an Mheón-oíche / The Midnight Court* in 1780. We will read the poem in translation and explore its meaning and the context in which it was composed.

**Thursdays 11am (Room 4050A)**

**Weeks 1 to 8 of Semester 2**

Pádraig de Paor (depaorp@tcd.ie) **Modern Irish Literature**

This course will introduce students to key aspects of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century literature and critical debate in Irish – see above for more information. (Part 2).

**Mondays 4pm (Room 4050B) and Thursdays 11am (Room 4050A)**

**Weeks 9 to 12 of Semester 2**

Jürgen Uhlich (uhlichc@tcd.ie) **The Sources of Early Irish Literature**

This module will cover the following aspects of the transmission and wider context of Early Irish documents:

- Periods of Early Irish up to the beginning of Modern Irish (c. 1200 AD);
- Development of the Irish script;
- Irish manuscripts and their dating;
- Irish glosses explaining Latin texts;
- Other (more personal) Irish notes in manuscripts;
- Irish as a Celtic language and a brief comparison with Gaulish;
- Ogam inscriptions;
- Early Irish metrics and poetry.

**IRU11152 Assessment: Two short essays to be written over the course of the semester @ c.2,500-3000 words per essay, or one longer essay @ 4,500-5,000 words. Titles will be given in class.**

**Essays to be submitted by the end of term. Hard copy to Room 4055.**

**Electronic copy to aisti.gaeilge@tcd.ie.**