

IRISH AND CELTIC LANGUAGES

Junior Freshman (1st Year) Early Irish Modules

IR1012-13 Old Irish Grammar and Prose (20 ECTS, year-long or 10 ECTS, MT only)

Grammar component

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

- read and translate basic classical Old Irish
- describe the orthography of Old Irish and how it differs from its modern counterpart
- analyse the grammatical structure of basic Old Irish sentences with the appropriate terminology
- describe the concept of the 'paradigm' and apply it to the grammatical analysis
- recognise and explain the main differences between Old and Modern Irish
- apply the skills of grammatical analysis acquired in the study of Old Irish to any other language
- use textual glossaries competently.

Prose component

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

- translate on their own Old Irish prose tales of a similar level (such as the remainder of those edited in *Stories from the Táin*)
- recall and apply the format of grammatical analysis to other Old Irish forms within their level of competence
- transfer the format of grammatical analysis to words in their own mother tongue and other languages outside of Old Irish
- consult a textual glossary and correctly identify words and grammatical forms in it.

IR1002 The sources of Early Irish literature (5 ECTS, HT)

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.

IR1004 Introduction to Early Irish Sagas (5 ECTS, MT)

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
- 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.