Special and Public Lectures and Courses

SPECIAL LECTURES

Elementary Irish

A course in Irish for beginners is given each year. It is, as a rule, confined to members of staff, students on the College books and graduates of the University.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The Cocker lecture in chemistry

In 2007 the late Professor Wesley Cocker bequeathed a sum of money to the College for the benefit of the School of Chemistry. The income from this bequest is used to support an annual lecture on a topic of public interest related to chemistry. The speaker, eminent in the field of chemical science, is chosen by staff of the School of Chemistry.

The Godfrey Day memorial lectures

The Godfrey Day memorial lectureship was founded by the Board on 9 December 1939. Each year a lecture (or lectures) on a missionary theme is organised. The Board appoints the lecturer on the nomination of the Missionary Council of the Church of Ireland which is at all times advised by the committee of the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission.

The Donnellan lectures

The Donnellan lectures were founded by the Board on 22 February 1794, to carry out the intentions of Miss Anne Donnellan, of the parish of St George, Hanover Square, Middlesex, spinster, who bequeathed £1,243 to the College ‘for the encouragement of religion, learning, and good manners; the particular mode of application being left to the Provost and Senior Fellows’. The subject is presented in not less than two lectures.

The Edmund Burke lecture

The annual Edmund Burke lecture was instituted in 2014 by the Trinity Long Room Hub arts and humanities research institute thanks to a generous endowment from the Fallon family in honour of Trinity graduate Padraic Fallon (B.A. 1969). The lecture was established to mark Trinity College Dublin’s deep connection with the 18th-century philosopher, historian and politician Edmund Burke. This lecture is to be delivered by a leading public intellectual on a topic that engages with current challenges and in doing so keep Edmund Burke’s manifold legacies alive in considering the type of society we want to live in and the traditions, perspectives and values we need to draw on in the shaping of our future.

The E.S. and R. Duthie lecture in microbiology

In 1984 the late Mrs Ruth Duthie made a gift of £1,000 to the College, which she augmented in 1989 by a further £1,000, to fund a lecture to be delivered once every two years, the lecturer to be chosen by the Professor of Microbiology and the Head of Clinical Microbiology.

The Hely-Hutchinson memorial lecture

In 1976 the Earl of Donoughmore, together with members of the Hely-Hutchinson family, endowed a visiting lectureship in memory of John Hely-Hutchinson who established the Professorships of Modern Languages and Literature in 1776 (during his term as Provost). The lectures are given every second year by a scholar or writer of the highest distinction in the modern languages and literature field.
Public Lectures

The Joly memorial lectures

After the death of John Joly, F.T.C.D., SC.D., F.R.S., Professor of Geology and Mineralogy 1897-1933, a number of his friends subscribed a sum of money to found a series of lectures in his memory.

The John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy

Dr John Kirker (1922-2011), a graduate of the University of Dublin, was consultant neurologist in Sir Patrick Dun and Beaumont hospitals. He was instrumental in the development of clinical services in epilepsy in Ireland. Dr Kirker cared deeply about Trinity. In 2013 his family provided an endowment to fund an annual John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy to be organised by the School of Medicine.

The James Lydon lectures in Medieval history and culture

The Lydon lectures provide a platform for a distinguished lecturer to reflect on these issues and to convey specialist findings to a mixed audience of academic specialists, students and members of the public. The series, which is published by Cambridge University Press, is named for Professor James Francis Lydon, Department of History, who died in 2013. The inaugural Lydon lecture was Professor John Gillingham (Emeritus Professor of History at the London School of Economics) in 2014.

The MacNeill lectures

This lectureship was founded in 1970 from a benefaction provided by the Engineering School Trust Fund to commemorate Sir John MacNeill, the first professor of civil engineering in the University. A public lecture is delivered every year by a lecturer appointed by the Board.

The Normanby lecture in microbiology

Founded in 1996 by the Department of Microbiology in recognition of the generous support given to the department by the late Dowager Marchioness of Normanby and her family, which includes funding the construction of the Moyne Institute of Preventive Medicine in 1953 and the provision of additional research facilities within the institute since then. The lecture is delivered annually by a research scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of microbiology.

The O’Donnell lectures in Celtic history and literature

These lectures take their name from Charles James O’Donnell 1850-1934, who bequeathed a sum of money to found annual lectures in the Universities of Oxford, Wales and Edinburgh, the National University of Ireland, and the University of Dublin. In the British universities the lectures are on the Celtic element in the English language and population; in the Irish universities they are on Irish history since Cromwell, with special reference to the history of ancient Irish families since 1641.

The first O’Donnell lecture given in the University of Dublin was in 1957.

The Royal Dublin Society lecture

In 1981, on the occasion of its 250th anniversary, the Royal Dublin Society commemorated the College meeting to which it traces its origins by endowing a biennial lecture on aspects of Irish social and economic policy and history with special reference to the contribution of individuals and institutions.

The Schrödinger lecture series

In 1995 the School of Physics, together with the Austrian Embassy and the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies, hosted the first Schrödinger lecture. The lecture series is an annual event commemorating the famous lecture series entitled ‘What is Life?’ given by Erwin Schrödinger in Trinity College Dublin in 1943.
The W.B. Stanford memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1988 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate William Bedell Stanford, Regius Professor of Greek 1940-80, and Chancellor of the University 1983-4. A series of three public lectures is delivered twice every three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board. It is intended that the lectures shall be published.

The John Lighton Synge public lecture

This lecture was established in 1992 from funds subscribed by friends and past colleagues and students to honour John Lighton Synge, F.R.S., M.R.I.A. [Scholar (1916), Fellow and Professor of Natural Philosophy (1925-30), Honorary Fellow (1954-95)]. The lecture is delivered once every two years by a lecturer appointed by the School of Mathematics.

The Hilda and Robert Tweedy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2007 in honour of Mr and Mrs Robert and Hilda Tweedy by Dr Jean M. Tweedy Walker, a Trinity alumna and daughter of Hilda and Robert. It consists of biennial lectures alternatively addressing peace, gender and human rights, and environmental issues. These topics reflect long-time interests of Hilda and Robert Tweedy.

The H.O. White memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1964 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate Herbert Martyn Oliver White, Professor of English Literature 1939-60. A public lecture is delivered every two or three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board and is followed by a seminar for senior students in English literature.

The White social policy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2004 from funds given by Tony White, former student of the College, to honour Emeritus Senior Lecturer in Social Policy, Anthony Coughlan.

The Whitfield Drama Series

This series of events incorporating academic talks from visiting lecturers and workshop masterclasses from visiting practitioners was established in 2019 from funds given by Needham Whitfield in memory of his wife Brigid Pike Whitfield, a Trinity graduate in modern languages and a life-long lover of the performance arts.

PUBLIC LECTURES IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Mary Louisa Prentice Montgomery lectures in ophthalmology
The John Mallet Purser lectures
The Frederick Price lectures
The T.J.D. Lane lectures

For details see FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The following public lectures were held during the academic year 2020-21.

TRINITY MONDAY DISCOURSE

Leo Varadkar, T.D.: 'Noël Christopher Browne (1915-1997)'

MICHAELMAS TERM

Shahzeen Attari, 'Fusing facts and feelings to motivate action on climate change'
Siobhán Corrigan, 'Challenges of implementing organisational change'
Oliver Scott Curry, 'Morality as cooperation: past, present and future'
Rhodri Cusack, 'Neuroimaging of the emergence of cognition in infants'
Paul Dockree, 'The wandering mind: perspectives from psychology and neuroscience'
John Duncan, 'Integrated intelligence from distributed brain activity'
Public Lectures

Michael Gormley, 'What can experimental psychology tell us about the unconscious mind'
Kristin Hadfield, 'The genetics of psychological wellbeing'
David Hevey, 'The placebo effect'
Sabine Hunnius, 'How young children learn about and from others'
Christa McIntyre, 'Preclinical studies of vagus nerve stimulation as a potential adjunct to exposure-based therapies'
Rahul Mishra, 'A ticking bomb: Myanmar’s Rohingya crisis'
Lorina Naci, 'Using neuroimaging to detect consciousness and communicate with patients misdiagnosed as unconscious'
John O’Connor, 'Psychoanalysis and the struggle for personal meaning'
Robert Whelan, 'The psychology of habit: how they are formed and how to break them'
Ross White, 'Supporting the mental health needs of asylum seekers and refugees'
Chenchen Zhang, 'Disaster nationalism in the digital age: reimagining the (inter)national community through pandemic narratives in China'

HILARY TERM

Jamil Anderlini, Finbarr Bermingham, Tim Mawe, Yvonne Murray, 'Political implications of Ireland’s deepening economic relationship with China'
Julien Baley, 'Networks as a tool for the study of Chinese rhyme'
Richard Carson, 'How can we bring a damaged brain back into action?'
Noel Dorr, John Maguire, Shona Bell, David Mitchell, Lisa Clark, Iain Atack, 'Ireland – island of peace'
Hana D’Souza, 'Towards embracing complexity to understand development: the case of Down syndrome'
Jude Lal Fernando, ‘Window to my world: resistance and justice, World Poetry Day 2021’
Linda Hogan, Salters Sterling, Trevor Williams, Damian Jackson, Simone Sinn, Geraldine Smyth, 'Ecumenical movement and reconciliation in Ireland and beyond: “like wheat that sprouts up green”'
Claire Hughes, 'Family life and mentalizing – a whistle-stop tour of seven questions'
Clare Kelly, 'The neuroscience of good and evil, how brain imaging can help us understand morality'
David Little, 'The common European framework of reference for languages and the learning, teaching and assessment of sign languages'
Fantasy Lozada, ‘“Our emotions aren’t for everyone”: understanding cultural and race-related experiences in socioemotional development'
Mathew McCauley, 'Military psychology'
Rosaleen McElvaney, 'CSA and its psychological consequences'
Johnston McMaster, Kate Turner, Niall O’Dochartaigh, Mary Murphy, Duncan Morrow, Etain Tannam, 'Centenary of the partition and a shared island'
Natasha Mera, 'Using drivers’ eye movements to understand driver attention during different stages of SAE level 2 and 3 automated driving'
Anusha Mohan, 'Neural correlates of auditory phantom perception – a disorder of aberrant predictive coding in the brain'
Redmond O’Connell, 'Social neuroscience'
Alexander O’Hara, Thomas O’Loughlin, Jonathan Wooding, ‘Columcille in context: theologians and historians in conversation to commemorate the 15th centenary of the birth of Saint Columba of Iona’
Shane O’Mara, ‘Understanding the enchanted loom: exploring the mind and brain'
Kiri Paramore, 'Anti-China now and then: anti-Chinese racism and the liberal tradition 1776-2021'
Fadilah Salawu, Jobin Joseph Prince, Nadette Foley, Alice Vignoles-Russell, Derick Wilson, Jude Lal Fernando, ‘Emerging Irish identities – intercultural and intergenerational conversations’
Ladislav Timulak, 'Using emotions to overcome emotional disorders'
Tim Trimble, 'Forensic psychology: research-informed applied practice'