



It is now 25 years since the signing of the Good Friday Peace Agreement and the end of the war in Ireland, with the conflict increasingly moving from the realm of memory to history. The current crisis over Brexit, however, and arguments about the possible reintroduction of a hard border on the island of Ireland suggest otherwise. Partition and the future of Northern Ireland is once again dominating the British political agenda and causing deep unease on both sides of the border in Ireland. This module examines competing political and historical interpretations of developments in Ireland (Unionist, Loyalist, Nationalist, Republican, Marxist etc.) from the outbreak of the Troubles in 1968 until the Belfast Agreement in 1998, as well as the interrelationship between Ireland, Scotland, England, Europe and the US. The module will also examine the social, cultural and political impact of the conflict in the Republic of Ireland. The focus throughout will be on the writings of key political commentators and players, as well as academic and cultural commentators. The module also concentrates on how different communities have responded to the Troubles, focusing on the use (and abuse) of history as a representational strategy, memoir and the role of the media.