

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

**LIST I: HI 3414**

**FROM REBELLION TO RESTORATION:  
WAR, POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN  
CONFEDERATE AND CROMWELLIAN  
IRELAND**

**Dr Micheál Ó Siochrú**



**LIST I:  
FROM REBELLION TO RESTORATION:  
WAR, POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN CONFEDERATE AND  
CROMWELLIAN IRELAND**

Dr Micheál Ó Siochrú

Wednesday 10-11am: Room 5039

Thursday 1-3pm: Room 5052 [1-2pm] Room 3069 [2-3pm]

**Introduction:**

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This course attempts to untangle one of the most complex periods of Irish history: the 1640s and 1650s. It will analyse the origins, course and impact of the 1641 rebellion and the subsequent fragmentation of Ireland into three political/military groupings (the Catholic Confederates, the Royalists and the Parliamentarians). It will also focus on the English conquest (after 1649) and Cromwellian rule during the 1650s.

The first half of the course focuses on key political and military developments, from the formation of the Confederation of Kilkenny in 1642 to Oliver Cromwell's dramatic intervention in Irish affairs seven years later. The second half of the course takes a more thematic approach. These themes include the conduct of warfare, the domestic sphere during conflict, foreign intervention, Anglicisation and colonization, massacres and atrocities, transplantation and migration. What impact did a decade of bitter and bloody warfare have on the country's economic development, the physical landscape and Irish society? How did the political, social, economic and cultural initiatives of the Cromwellians shape Irish history?

This investigation of Irish history from 1641 until 1660 is set in the wider context of the 'Three Stuart Kingdoms', developments in continental Europe and the wider Atlantic World. Primary and secondary sources are available in abundance (especially online) and include the '1641 Depositions', contemporary pamphlets, maps and surveys, as well as poetry and prose together with governmental and private records.

**Course Topics:**

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**Michaelmas Term:**

**Week 1 (8 & 9 October 2008): Introduction**

**Lecture:** Ireland and the General Crisis

**Reading:**

Aidan Clarke, 'Ireland and the general crisis', in *Past and Present*, No.48 (1970), pp 86-94.

Reading: Jane Ohlmeyer, 'The Wars of Religion, 1603-1660' in Thomas Bartlett and Keith Jeffery (eds.), *A military history of Ireland* (Cambridge, 1996)

**Week 2 (15 & 16 October):**

**Lecture:** Historiographical Overview 1: The New British History

**Reading:** Glenn Burgess, *The New British History: Founding a modern state* (London, 1999)

**Library Visit:** Thursday 16 October – Mary Higgins

**Week 3 (22 & 23 October):**

**Lecture:** Crisis of the Three Stuart Kingdoms

**Class discussion:** The ‘General Crisis’

**Essay Workshop:** Writing and presentation

**Week 4 (29 & 30 October):**

**Lecture:** The 1641 Rebellion

**Class discussion:** The New British History

**Topics for first essay to be decided**

**Week 5 (5 & 6 November):**

**Lecture:** The Confederate Association

**Group A assignment** – 1641 Depositions

**Week 6 (12 & 13 November):**

**Lecture:** The World Turned Upside Down

**Group B assignment** – Loyal rebels: Covenanters and Confederates

**Week 7 (19 & 20 November):**

**Lecture:** The War at Sea [Murphy]

**Group C assignment** – To kill a king: The trial and execution of Charles I

**Week 8: Reading Week – Preparation of Essays**

**Essay Due Monday 1 December**

**Week 9 (3 & 4 December):**

**Lecture:** Cromwellian Conquest

**Video:** ‘Cromwell in Ireland’

**Class discussion:** Cromwell and the Irish

**End of Term**

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**Hilary Term:**

**Week 10 (7 & 8 January 2009):**

**Lecture:** Historiographical Overview 2: Revisionism

**Return of Essays: Thursday 8 January**

**Week 11 (14 & 15 January):**  
**Lecture:** The Conduct of War  
**Video:** BBC Civil War series  
**Class discussion:** Historian and society

**Week 12 (21 & 22 January):**  
**Lecture:** Map-making, Landscapes and Memory [Margey]  
**Presentation 1:** Rupert v Essex

**Week 13 (28 & 29 January):**  
**Lecture:** Rumour, Propaganda and Myth  
**Presentation 2:** Mapping the conflict

**Week 14 (4 & 5 February):**  
**Lecture:** Language and Identity  
**Presentation 3:** Pamphlet Literature of 1641 rebellion

**Week 15 (11 & 12 February):**  
**Lecture:** The Cromwellian Settlement  
**Presentation 4:** Contemporary writers of the 1640s-50s

**Week 16 (18 & 19 February):**  
**Lecture:** Religious Settlements [Gibbon]  
**Presentation 5:** Gookin v Lawrence

**Week 17: Reading Week – Preparation of Essays**

**Moderatorship Essay due on Monday 2 March**

**Week 18 (4 & 5 March):**  
**Lecture:** Ireland a 'Laboratory of Empire' [Ohlmeyer]  
**Presentation 6:** A war of religion?

**End of Term**

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**Trinity Term:**

**Week 19 (1 & 2 April):**  
**Lecture:** Legacies of the 1640-50s  
**Class discussion:** The colonial context

**Week 20 (8 & 9 April): Review of Documents**  
**Mock Documents Test**

**Week 21 (15 & 16 April): General Revision**  
**Discussion of Document Test**

## Week 22 (22 & 23 April): Individual Sessions

### End of Term

#### Written requirements:

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(a) Essays – You will be expected to write TWO essays of 3,000 words (maximum) on an agreed topic. The second essay – your Moderatorship essay – forms part of your Moderatorship assessment. No essay will be marked for Moderatorship unless credit has been given for the first essay. These essays are due:

- Michaelmas Term 2008: Monday 1 December
- Hilary Term 2009: Monday 2 March

Please note that no essay will be accepted after the due date. In the absence of either a medical certificate or an extension granted in advance by the Head of Department (Professor Ciaran Brady) covering the entire period of delay, a mark of zero will be recorded.

(b) Examination – The examination for Moderatorship takes place at the end of the Trinity Term and consists of two 3-hour papers. The first List I paper includes 12 questions, of which 3 must be answered. The second List I paper tests your knowledge of documents and primary sources.

**Our rules have changed so please read the new Handbook very carefully.**

#### Oral requirements:

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Regular contributions to and participation in this class is essential. Everyone will be expected to prepare for each seminar with the appropriate readings, and also to make regular oral presentations in the Michaelmas and Hilary terms and to participate in group learning activities.

#### Plagiarism:

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Plagiarism is interpreted by the University as the act of presenting the work of others as one's own work, without acknowledgement. Plagiarism is considered as academically fraudulent, and an offence against University discipline. The University considers plagiarism to be a major offence, and subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University.

#### Responsibility for the course:

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Overall responsibility for the course lies with Dr Micheál Ó Siochrú (Room 3150; Tel: 8962626; email: [m.osiochru@tcd.ie](mailto:m.osiochru@tcd.ie)). Any recommendations, observations or complaints about the running of the course should be addressed either directly or via

your student representatives to Dr Ó Siochrú. He is usually available to see students during his **office hour on Wednesday at 2-3pm** but is happy to see students at any other convenient time too – please make an appointment by email.

Student Feedback and Comment:

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The Department places great importance on interaction with and feedback from its students. To facilitate this, you are encouraged to share comments and criticisms about any aspect of this course with any of the lecturers, the tutors and the course co-ordinator. You are also free to bring issues to the attention of the School Committee through your year representative.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

### **Important note:**

What follows is merely a guide to some of the sources available for this course in the libraries of Trinity College Dublin. It is by no means exhaustive, and students are expected to look beyond this bibliography in their own research.

### General Overview

Two recent survey books give an overview of seventeenth-century Ireland – Pádraig Lenihan, *Consolidating conquest: Ireland 1603-1727* (London, 2008) and Raymond Gillespie, *Seventeenth-Century Ireland* (Dublin, 2006). For a general overview of the war see Jane Ohlmeyer, ‘The Wars of Religion, 1603-1660’ in Thomas Bartlett and Keith Jeffery (eds.), *A military history of Ireland* and the relevant chapters in T. W. Moody, F. X. Martin and F. J. Byrne (eds.), *A new history of Ireland, III 1534-1691* (Oxford, 1976). For a detailed account of the Confederation of Kilkenny see Micheál Ó Siochrú, *Confederate Ireland, 1642-1649: A constitutional and political analysis* (Dublin, 2008 2<sup>nd</sup> edition). For a military perspective see Pádraig Lenihan, *Confederate Catholics at War 1642-49* (Cork, 2001). The essays in Jane Ohlmeyer (ed.), *Ireland from independence to occupation, 1641-1660* (Cambridge, 1995) also address specific aspects of the war; while Jane Ohlmeyer and John Kenyon (eds.), *The Civil Wars. A military history of England, Scotland and Ireland 1638-1660* offers a ‘three kingdoms’ perspective, as does Martyn Bennet, *The Civil Wars in Britain and Ireland* (Oxford, 1997). For the Cromwellian Conquest see James Scott Wheeler, *Cromwell in Ireland* (Dublin, 1999) and for the 1650s see T. C. Barnard, *Cromwellian Ireland* (Oxford, 2000).

### Academic Journals

The following journals, most of them available on open access on the Research Floor of the Berkeley Library, contain key articles on the wars of the mid-17th century.

*English Historical Review*

*History Ireland*

*History Today*

*Historical Journal*

*Historical Studies*

*Irish Historical Studies (IHS)*

*Irish Economic and Social History*

*Irish Geography*

*Journal of British Studies*

*Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*

*Past & Present*

*Ulster Journal of Archaeology (UJA)*

\*\*[see also the local history journals housed on the Research Floor of the Berkeley Library]

## Online Sources

Early English Books Online (EBBO) is an amazingly comprehensive database of almost everything published in English between 1500 and 1700. For all the material relating to this period published in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century see Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO). Both databases are available through the Library page on the TCD website.

## Select listing of primary printed sources

Adair, Patrick, *A true narrative of the rise and progress of the Presbyterian church in Ireland*, ed. W. D. Killen (Belfast, 1866)

Aiazza, Giuseppe, *The embassy in Ireland of Monsignor G.B. Rinuccini, archbishop of Fermo, in the years 1645-1649...*, translated by Annie Hutton (Dublin, 1873)

‘An aphorismical discovery of treasonable faction’ is reproduced in J. T. Gilbert (ed.), *A contemporary history of affairs in Ireland...* (3 vols., Dublin, 1879)

Baxter, Richard, *A vindication of the royal martyr King Charles I from the Irish massacre in the year 1641...* (3rd edn., London, 1704)

Richard Bellings’s history is reproduced in J. T. Gilbert (ed.), *History of the Irish confederation and war in Ireland* (7 vols., Dublin, 1882-91)

Borlase, Edmund, *History of the execrable Irish Rebellion* (Dublin, 1680)

Burgo, T. de, *Hibernia Dominicana siue historia provinciae Hiberniae ordinis praedica forum...* (n/p 1762)

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Carpenter, Andrew, *Verse in English from Tudor and Stuart Ireland* (Dublin, 2003)

Carte, Thomas, *A collection of original letters and papers concerning affairs...found among the duke of Ormonde’s papers* (2 vols., London, 1739)

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*memoirs...* (London, 1684; reprinted New York, 1974)

Casway, Jerrold I., 'The clandestine correspondence of Father Patrick Crelly 1648-49' in *Collect. Hib.*, XX (1978), pp 7-20

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--- *The history of the rebellion and civil wars in England*, ed. W. D. Macray (6 vols., Oxford, 1888)

Cox, Richard, *Aphorisms relating to the kingdom of Ireland...* (London, 1689)

--- *Hibernia anglicana: or, the history of Ireland*

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Darcy, Patrick, 'An Argument', ed. C. E. J. Caldicott, in *The Camden Miscellany*, 31 (Camden Society, 4th ser., vol. 44, Royal Historical Society, London, 1992).

Deane, Seamus, *Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing* (3 vols., Derry 1991)

Elrington, C. R., and Todd, J. M., *The whole works of ... J. Ussher...* (17 vols., Dublin, 1847-64)

Falkiner, Litton C., *Illustrations of Irish history and topography mainly in the seventeenth century* (London, 1904)

Firth, C. H. (ed.), *Memoirs of Edmund Ludlow: Lieutenant general of the horse in the army of the Commonwealth of England 1625-1672*, 2 vols. (Oxford, 1894)

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--- 'The Ulster civil war, 1641. "The king's commission" in the County Fermanagh' in *U.J.A.*, 2nd series, XIII, no. 3 (Aug. 1907), pp 133-42 continued in XIII, no. 4 (Nov. 1907), pp 155-9

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