

Trinity
Arts & Humanities
Research Festival

22 - 26
September
2025

Festival Programme

Do universities play a role in international solidarity? • Can AI transform historical research? • Why is the Irish President important? • What horror have we forgotten? • How do the humanities advance health? • Is it a 'crime' to watch True Crime? • Are universities a refuge of truth-telling? • Do we need another flag? • Can Arts and Humanities fight the climate crisis? • Who is allowed to fail? • When is the end of the world? • How do you make major life choices? • Why does *Ulysses*' censorship still matter? • Can prisons preserve dignity? • Was rhyme beneath the Greeks? • How do books wander? • Can plants and animals have digital lives? • Could Trinity tell an uncomfortable story? • How do we express loss? • Who knows what Latin sounded like? • What's cutting-edge in choral music?



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



Start Talking
About Research
Today

Trinity Long Room Hub
Arts & Humanities Research Institute

Trinity Arts & Humanities Research Festival

Monday 22nd September

All events in
Trinity Long
Room Hub
unless
indicated

10.00 - 11.00 **I Fall Down**



Gina Moxley and the creative team behind *I Fall Down: A Restoration Comedy* give us a behind-the-scenes look at this punk-feminist production taking place in Trinity as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival. Hosted by the School of Creative Arts Research Forum.

11.00 - 12.00 **Coffee Morning**



Kick off the Research Festival with coffee and conversation. We'll hear from Provost Linda Doyle, alongside the Hub's new Director Patrick Geoghegan (History) and Deputy Director Etain Tannam (Peace Studies).

12.00 - 13.00 **What does Dignity mean when you are Deprived of your Liberty?**



Mary Rogan (Law) discusses her pioneering research on human rights and detention, and how people in prison experience the protection of human rights through monitoring.

14.00 - 15.00 **Spotlight on US History**



This international history seminar focuses on the US with Dan Geary (History) discussing 'Forgotten American Liberals: Why American Politics isn't all about Trump', and Gillian Frank (Centre for Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies) discussing 'The Cross and the Clinic: Liberal Religion and Abortion Provision before Roe'.



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16.00 - 17.30



Behind the Headlines: The Irish Presidency

Tickets Required

The Hub's Behind the Headlines series begins its second decade with a public discussion on the Irish Presidency. The panel is chaired by David Kenny (Law) and features Etain Tannam (Peace Studies), Declan Leddin (History), John Walsh (Education) and Gail McElroy (Political Science).

Behind the Headlines is supported by the John Pollard Foundation.

18.30 - 20.00



‘The Evidence of Things Not Seen’: Ethics and the True Crime Industry

Tickets Required

Why are we so drawn to true crime? And what are the ethical stakes behind the stories? Join popular literature experts Clare Clarke, Bernice Murphy, writer Una Mannion (English), and Ailise Bulfin (UCD), whose research focuses on cultural representations of major social issues, for a discussion on the moral complexities of creating and consuming true crime narratives. Bring your own thoughts, the audience is part of the conversation.



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10.00 - 11.00

Thesis in 5



Five minutes. One big idea. Get a glimpse into the latest Arts and Humanities research from Trinity's PhD community in this fast-paced showcase.

11.00 - 12.00

Coffee Morning



What might a tour of Trinity's more troubled past look like? Over coffee, Caitlin White (Education) and Holly Ritchie (History) invite you to imagine a tour of Trinity's uncomfortable history and how we could start talking about it openly.

12.00 - 13.00

Is there Rhyme in Ancient Greek Poetry?



Ben Jonson's claim that "Greek was free from Rime's Infection" has echoed for centuries, although rejected by some. Leon Wash (Classics) revisits the debate, sharing striking evidence of rhyme in ancient Greek, including a poem about beer among the Celts.



We know how Latin was Written, but how was it Spoken?

Boris Kayachev (Classics) investigates the rhythms, stresses, and pauses of spoken Latin by analysing metrical breaks in classical poetry and applying the same methodology to Neo-Latin poetry.

14.00 - 15.00

Tales of Brave *Ulysses*: From Swerve of Censorship to Bend of Copyright



Join James Joyce expert Sam Slote (English) for a sharp look at censorship, copyright, and *Ulysses* in this festival edition of the School of English Staff and Postgrad Seminar Series.



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Trinity's Medical and Health Humanities: Bridging Cultures; Challenging Norms; Raising Consciousness

Join Georgina Laragy (History) and Mandy Lee (Medicine) to explore past achievements and future directions for Trinity's expanding Medical and Health Humanities Network.

16.00 - 17.00



Famine Then, Famine Now: A Conversation about Famine in the Middle East, Past and Present

James Hanrahan (French) hosts a difficult and timely conversation with Tylor Brand (Near & Middle Eastern Studies), in this festival edition of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultural Studies Research Seminar.

17.00 - 18.00



Fur, Feathers, and Flora: Alternative Branches in the Digital Humanities

From emojis in online condolences, to legendary goat-riding criminals and mapping wild urban plants, this panel (Shannon Mora, Noel Castro Fernandez, Nicole Basaraba, Ginevra Santivale and Vicky Garnett) explores how plants and animals are featuring across Trinity's digital humanities research.

18.30 - 20.00



The Arts and Humanities on a Warming Planet *Tickets Required*

Can the humanities help us understand climate change and achieve a livable planet? Jacob Erickson (Religion) chairs this multidisciplinary discussion with Karen Wiltshire (Climate Science), Jonathan Rodgers (Music), Katja Bruisch (History), and Timothy Stott (History of Art & Architecture).



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10.00 - 11.00

Thesis in 5



A second round of PhD researchers take the stage to present their work, in just five minutes! Discover new research happening across the Arts and Humanities in this fast-paced showcase.

11.00 - 12.00

Coffee Morning



Róisín Costello (Law) explores how the Kneecap trial highlights challenges faced by minority language speakers in the courtroom while Max McGuinness (French) discusses his experiences as a newspaper theatre critic on Broadway and in Dublin.

12.00 - 13.00

Expressions of Loss: Creative Arts, Culture, and Public Health Approaches to Mourning



In this joint session chaired by AHSS Faculty Dean Carmel O'Sullivan, Shannon Mora (Digital Humanities) will explore mourning as a social and cultural determinant of health. Sarah Jane Scaife (Drama Studies), Conor McGuckin and Aoife Lynam (Education) will discuss their project 'Illuminating the Shadows of Grief: Unveiling Adult Experiences of Childhood Bereavement using the Creative Arts.'



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13.00 - 14.00

Festival Concert: Irish Composers in Focus

Location - Senior Common Room, Tickets Required



This festival edition of the Trinity Centre for Music Composition Series showcases an exciting programme of contemporary Irish music performed by Darragh Morgan (violin) and Mary Dullea (piano), hosted by Evangelia Rigaki (Music). Featuring works by Gerald Barry, Deirdre McKay, Gráinne Mulvey, and Raymond Deane.

14.30 - 16.00

Partition and P.E.N. International

Stephen O'Neill (English) looks at writing and partition in this festival edition of the Modern and Contemporary Irish History Seminar Series, hosted by Carole Holohan (History).



16.30 - 18.00

Wandering Books Showcase

How do we locate books in time and place? Nicole Volmering (History) and the Trinity Centre for the Book invite you into the world of early medieval manuscripts for an interdisciplinary showcase exploring how we trace the movement of texts, through language, material, and meaning.



19.00 - 20.00

Exploring Contemporary Choral Music

Tickets Required

Experience an open rehearsal with the award-winning Mornington Singers and conductor Orla Flanagan (Music) as they delve into the sounds and textures of contemporary choral music.



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10.00 - 11.00 Thesis in 5



More fresh insights from Trinity's Arts and Humanities PhD community. Each speaker has just five minutes to share a snapshot of their work. Expect thought-provoking questions and surprising connections.

11.00 - 12.00 Coffee Morning



Come for the coffee, stay for the apocalypse. PhD researchers Irene Barbotti and Maicol Cortes (Biblical Studies) present *Beyond the End*, an interdisciplinary podcast project supported by the Hub's new graduate scheme.

12.00 - 13.00 Lost Souls: Resurrecting the Neglected Creators of Gothic and Horror



Why do some creators of Gothic and Horror fade into obscurity, while others become icons? Bernice Murphy (English) chairs a panel with Trinity literary experts Darryl Jones, Orla Donnelly, Dara Downey, and Janice Deitner, each championing an overlooked talent. The event explores literary celebrity, cultural memory, and why some voices are marginalised while others are rediscovered.

14.00 - 15.30 Trinity Library Quick Picks



Library staff share favourite finds from current projects. From autumnal windmills and apples to cartoons, maps and Michael Davitt's favourite colour, come along for a celebration of the unexpected wonders in the archives.



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15.30 - 16.00

The University and Truth-Telling



Reflecting on her new publication *Theology and the University*, Fáinche Ryan (Theology) explores whether the university is or could be 'a refuge of truth-telling' (Hannah Arendt).

16.00 - 16.30

Beyond Competition, towards International Solidarity



Franciszek Krawczyk (Education) explores the role of the university in advancing international solidarity, comparing Trinity and the University of Warsaw and their geopolitical positions and legacies.

16.30 - 17.30

Is it Wrong for Someone to Stop you from making a Major Life Choice?



Consider becoming a parent, getting married, or emigrating to another country. These 'transformative choices' change who we are and give rise to difficult ethical questions. Farbod Akhlaghi (Philosophy) discusses his research on the ethics of hard choices with Clare Moriarty.

18.30 - 20.00

The Flag That Doesn't Exist Yet?: Re-Imagining Symbols in Northern Ireland and Ireland

Tickets Required



Should Northern Ireland, or Ireland, have a new flag? David Michell and Etain Tannam (Peace Studies) explore this long-debated idea. A timely conversation on identity, representation, and national symbols.



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10.00 - 11.00

Thesis in 5



The final morning to get snack-sized insights into new Arts and Humanities projects as our PhD researchers present their theses in only five minutes.

11.00 - 12.00

Coffee Morning



At this final festival coffee morning, we hear from Maya Petrovich (Near and Middle Eastern Studies) on 'Princes, Kings and Gods in Islamic India'; and novelist and screenwriter Eoin McNamee, Director of the Oscar Wilde Centre for Irish Writing.

12.00 - 13.00

PhD Research Poster Celebration



Join Trinity Long Room Hub Director, Patrick Geoghegan, to meet the early career researchers behind our vibrant poster display in the Hoey Ideas Space.

14.00 - 15.30

Futures of the Future: AI and Humanities Research



What does artificial intelligence mean for research in the Humanities? This panel brings together research fellows David Brown (the IRC funded Empire project), Bronagh McShane and Daniel Patterson (the ERC funded Voices project), and Nathan Hill (Linguistics) to explore how AI is reshaping research, archives, and the way we think about the future.



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Fail Worse: A Long Table

Tickets Required

Pull up a chair and share your thoughts in this space for open reflection. Hosted by Krzysztof Rowinski (Polish Studies) and Nick Johnson (Drama Studies), this Long Table invites participative discussion on the cultural and narrative impulse to redeem failure. Rather than treating it as a step on the road to success, we'll explore failure as a phenomenon in-its-own-right, one that resists resolution and opens space for alternative modes of thinking, being, and acting.

18.30 - 20.00



Science, Public Policy, and the Humanities

Tickets Required

Trinity's Dean of Research, Professor Sinéad Ryan, welcomes Government Science Advisor, Aoife McLysaght, for a lively conversation with Hub Director Patrick Geoghegan on bridging research and public policy. Drawing on her career as a geneticist and public communicator and adviser, Dr McLysaght reflects on how Science and the Humanities can work together to shape understanding and create impact.



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