



A World to Discover:

Travel Memoirs and Memorabilia at Trinity

Module Coordinator	Prof Anna Chahoud, Classics, School of Histories and Humanities
What will you learn from this Elective?	<p>This module is about travel and cultural encounters, the ways in which these experiences are recorded, and the exploration of the significance of such records through a journey around the Trinity Library collections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– How many different experiences go under the word 'travel' (curiosity and adventure, relocation and dislocation, migration and pilgrimage, colonisation and war)?– How are these experiences recorded, fictionalised, or altogether imagined, and to what effect?– What 'objects' (books, diaries, photos, material objects) do people take with them in their travels, and back with them from their travels, and why?– What are the methodologies applied to the study of these records? <p>The module is purposefully broad in its chronological and geographical span and will encourage both the acquisition of historical overviews and the development of awareness about methodologies through specific case studies. The lectures will combine discussions of well-known accounts with explorations of lesser-known material such as memoirs, diaries, letters, maps, scrapbooks, photographs.</p> <p>This module will give you an opportunity to incorporate unique artefacts in your projects. You will work individually and in groups.</p>
Student Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– 18 contact hours (6 overview lectures + 6 flipped lectures + 2 concluding plenary sessions for reflection on artefacts; 10 practical sessions)– 22 hours of directed study on primary material– 15 hours of independent group work– 25 hours of assessed reflective writing (individual essay)
Assessment Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Individual essay on one of the special topics and relevant source material (midterm, 50%)2) Group work production and presentation of digital poster and video on a fully researched Trinity item, inclusive of cultural contextualisation, comparative material, and adequate use of critical literature (end of term, 50%)



Indicative Reading List

Explore the Trinity Digital Collections at:

<https://digitalcollections.tcd.ie>

<https://www.tcd.ie/virtual-trinity-library/>

Introductory readings to special topics:

- Cardell, Kylie and Douglas, Kate (2018) 'Visualizing lives: the "selfie" as travel writing' *Journal of Travel Writing* 22: no 1, 104-117
- Appadurai, A. (2013), *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective* (Cambridge)
- Cioffi, Robert L. 'Travel in the Roman World', in *Oxford Handbook Topics in Classical Studies*,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935390.013.110>
- Popkin, Maggie (2022) 'Introduction', *Souvenirs and the Experience of Empire in Ancient Rome* (Cambridge)
- Bale, A. and Sobecki S. (eds.) (2019) *Medieval English Travel: A Critical Anthology* (Oxford)
- M. O'Doherty, F. Schmieder (eds.) (2015) *Travels and Mobilities in the Middle Ages: From the Atlantic to the Black Sea* (Turnhout: Brepols)
- Armstrong, Catherine (2016) *Using non-textual Sources: A Historian's Guide* (London: Bloomsbury)

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and analyse the main lines of inquiry applied to travel writing and material records
2. Demonstrate familiarity with diverse primary material from the Library collections, its origin and significance
3. Compare records from different societies and analyse their shared and distinctive features, through effective use of appropriate critical methods
4. Produce an original critical analysis of record/artefact in context
5. Engage effectively in group discussion and team work, both in class and in the virtual learning environment
6. Demonstrate proficiency in oral and written communication