




Irish Sign Language

Module Coordinators	Hongfei Wang (wangh11@tcd.ie) & Dr John Bosco Conama
What will you learn from this Elective?	This Trinity Elective is designed to deliver key foundational knowledge of Irish Sign Language. You will acquire new linguistic and intercultural skills related to the use of Irish Sign Language. You will develop knowledge of the difference between signed and spoken languages. You will learn about the Deaf community as a linguistic and cultural minority in Ireland, and the journey of Irish Sign Language from a language which was formerly banned in education and is now Ireland's third official language (Irish Sign Language Act 2017).
Student Workload	This Elective will incorporate a blended delivery model. Each module will involve 100 hours of student work over one term: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 18 hours of face-to-face language classes and 10 hours of student engagement through teamwork and collaborative tasks○ About 36 hours of online language learning activities○ About 36 hours preparing and delivering the module's assessment requirements.
Assessment Components	Your progress and achievement in this module will be measured using a combination of summative and end-of-module assessment activities: 70% continuous assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online language quizzes 30%• Online personal learning journal 10%• Online discussion board 30% 30% summative assessment: you will prepare to deliver a short personal presentation in ISL, to be uploaded to Blackboard.
Indicative Reading List	Leeson, Lorraine and John I. Saeed 2012: Irish Sign Language. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. Leeson, L., van den Bogaerde, B., Rathmann, C. and Haug, T. (2016) Sign Languages and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Common Reference Level Descriptors. Graz; European Centre for Modern Languages. (in English and International Sign). http://www.ecml.at/ProSign/ Schembri, A. and Lucas, C. (eds.) 2013. Sociolinguistics and Deaf Communities. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Learning Outcomes	1. Communicate in ISL with other learners as well as native or competent ISL signers, at a proficiency level equivalent to CEFR level A1 for complete beginners. [Tasks at this proficiency level involves spelling using the finger alphabet, describing physical shape (height, width, length), signing direct requests, conventional greetings and leave taking expressions, stating opinion (agree/disagree), indicating the lexical signs for months, days of the week and times of the day.]

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2. Demonstrate a knowledge and a critical understanding of Deaf culture and ISL as the indigenous language of the Deaf community in Ireland
 3. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of some of the structures and features of ISL as a visual and spatial language
 4. Collaborate with other learners to complete interactive tasks in ISL
 5. Exploit a range of materials and other stimuli appropriate to the proficiency level attained, in order to complete a short presentation in ISL.