

**Teanga & Litríocht na Gaeilge/An Léann Éireannach**  
Irish Language & Literature/Irish Studies

**An Scoil Teangacha, Litríochtaí agus Cultúr**  
School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures



**LÁMHLEABHAR CÚRSA 2009/10**  
COURSE HANDBOOK 2009/10

**Course/Subject Director: Professor Gregory Toner**

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## Fáilte

On behalf of the course team at Coleraine I would like to welcome you, whether this is your first year or you are returning for your second or final year. The information contained in this Handbook will apply to all students who commence their studies in 2009/10 until they have completed their degree. The handbook will provide you with key information relating to Irish at Coleraine and to your studies at the University in general. We have a number of course options available to students who meet the entry requirements for Irish. You have the choice of one of two degrees, BA Hons Irish Language and Literature or BA Hons Irish Studies, or you can choose to study Irish in combination with other subjects either as a minor subject (1/3 of your degree), main subject (1/2 of your degree) or major subject (2/3 of your degree). Pages 13-16 below outline the compulsory and optional modules relating to each of the above course options.

Whether you have chosen to study Irish as a minor subject or have opted for a full degree in Irish you can expect to be taught by dedicated staff, and be supported in your studies by the latest technology available. We employ a wide range of teaching and learning methods to help us improve both your linguistic and your generic skills, you are encouraged to use the Internet, as well as more traditional information-gathering activities centred on books, periodicals and the Library. Lectures and seminars are supplemented by conversation classes and sessions in our state-of-the-art digital language learning laboratories, which are supported by the University's internationally recognised Centre for Excellence in Multimedia Language Learning.

Teaching staff in Irish are also members of the Research Institute for Irish and Celtic Studies (UU), which was ranked at the very top end of both Celtic Studies and language and linguistics departments in the UK in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. All of the work of the department was assessed as being of international standard, with very substantial evidence of world-leading quality. Ulster was one of only three institutions in Celtic Studies with excellence of this magnitude, and was also joint third out of a total of 249 submissions in languages and linguistics in general.

Graduates from Irish at the University of Ulster are always in demand. Our former students have gone on to pursue a wide variety of careers, including: television and radio (presenting and production), lecturing and teaching, publishing, lexicography, research, librarianship, translating and interpreting, and administrative roles within local government and language groups/agencies.

We are here to support you in your chosen course of study, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or one of the course team if you require any further information or assistance.

Go n-éirí leat,

Professor Gregory Toner.

## Summary of Courses in Irish

Irish is part of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and is one of a number of subjects offered to Faculty of Arts students on the Coleraine campus. It can be studied either as a multidisciplinary course (**BA Hons Irish Studies**), a single subject (**BA Hons Irish Language and Literature**) or as one of the components of a broader arts programme in which it can be taken as a major, main, or minor option.

Students on the **BA Hons Irish Language and Literature** take core language and literature modules in each semester. Two separate pathways are offered: a contemporary route focussing on the twentieth century, and an historical route. The first three semesters (into the middle of your second year) offer a graduated programme of immersion into the history of the language and literature, with the emphasis on the period back as far as the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The first-year, first-semester module on Irish in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (IRS118 Survival and Revival) provides an introduction to the socio-political phenomenon of the Irish language revival and subsequent developments, and complements the examination of poetry since the Revival that will be the focus of study in the literature module in the same semester. The module on Irish Cultural Studies in the same semester will place Irish language and culture within a broader cultural, social, political and historical context and so develop the necessary skills to critically examine Irish culture. In the second semester of the first year, The Irish Tradition to 1800 complements work done in the first semester by examining the Irish tradition from its beginnings to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, thereby providing you with a longer view and an appreciation of the Gaelic past, and laying the groundwork for historical modules later in the programme. Simultaneously, a module on the Irish Folklore Tradition will expand your area of study to consider the non-literary culture of the present and recent past. In the first semester of your second year, you will receive your first introduction to pre-Revival Irish in the module on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, thereby deepening your historical understanding of the language and culture and providing you with a foundation in the *amhrán* tradition. The concurrent module in Irish dialects will complement the language element of the module on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, while providing you with a greater array of theoretical skills and practical knowledge to investigate language.

A range of choice in the final three semesters (from the middle of your second year until the end of your degree) will enable you to pursue a contemporary path or a historical pathway. In the second semester of your second year, you will have a choice between Translation Studies (contemporary) and Religion, Politics and the Emergence of Modern Irish 1540-1640 (historical). Translation Studies will reinforce your language skills and provide practical experience of a growth sector in employment, while Modern Irish 1540-1640 will allow you to explore in detail a key period in Gaelic history while acquiring reading skills in the language of that period. All students on this programme will take Scottish Gaelic and so explore a different branch of the Gaelic family.

You will have the opportunity to improve your communication skills in Scottish Gaelic in Year 3, and to read modern Scottish Gaelic literature, or you may opt to begin the study of Early Medieval Irish. Concurrently, you will begin to explore a topic of choice in your dissertation. In your final semester, you can take two contemporary modules

– Language Planning & Strategy and Media & Communication – or two historical modules – Early Modern Irish and Early Medieval Irish Language and Literature, although you may choose to combine one historical module with one contemporary module.

The **BA Hons Irish Studies** is a multidisciplinary degree course. The aims are, *inter alia*, to: bring students to a very high level of accuracy and fluency in Modern Irish, both oral and written; develop students' ability to analyse, evaluate and appreciate literary texts; provide a thorough grounding in the linguistic and literary history of Gaelic Ireland with particular emphasis on the period stretching from Classical Irish to the present day; and to deepen students' understanding and awareness of the historical, cultural and social factors which have shaped Modern Ireland. The course is broadly similar to the BA Hons Irish Language and Literature, except that you will study three modules in Irish history (one per year taught by History staff) and one module in Irish literature in English (taught in Year One by English staff). Irish language and literature modules are normally taught through Irish; the History and English modules through English.

Students on the **combined degree courses** take two or three subjects in their first year. Students majoring in Irish take four modules in Irish in each year and two in their other subject. In Years Two and Three, students doing a main in Irish take three modules in each year in Irish, and students taking minor Irish take two modules in Irish in each year. Core modules are designed to ensure that all students acquire a sound proficiency in Irish written and spoken skills, as well as a thorough acquaintance with modern literature in Irish.

### **Secretarial support**

#### **Irish Secretaries**

The secretaries for Irish can be found in the School of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures office - C108 (South Building). You can seek advice and information on queries you might have in relation to your course from this office, and you can leave messages for your lecturers and tutors, or find out whom to contact if you need to sort out a problem. The Secretary will be happy to offer assistance.

Contact details: Mrs Rosemary Savage or Mrs Toni Patton (Jobshare)

- by phone: 028-70324142
- by fax: 028-70324962
- by e-mail: [r.savage@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:r.savage@ulster.ac.uk) , [t.patton@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:t.patton@ulster.ac.uk)
- by post: Irish Studies  
School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures.  
University of Ulster  
Coleraine  
BT52 1SA

If either Mrs Savage or Mrs Patton are unavailable please contact Mrs Rosemary Moore

- by phone: 028-70324636
- by e-mail: [r.moore1@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:r.moore1@ulster.ac.uk)

## **Faculty Office Staff**

The Faculty office deals with such matters as registration, payment of grants, collection and release of marks, award of degrees, changing course/modules and so on. Members of Faculty Office will always be able to help you directly, or advise you on whom to turn to with any particular query you might have.

The Faculty staff at **Coleraine** are Mrs Janetta Chambers, Mrs Lyn Doyle, and Mrs Karen Gibson and can be contacted in room C100 or at 028-70324391.

More complex problems can be addressed directly to the Head of Faculty Administration, Mr Gary Kendall, who is based on the Coleraine Campus (room C100 tel. 028-70324391).

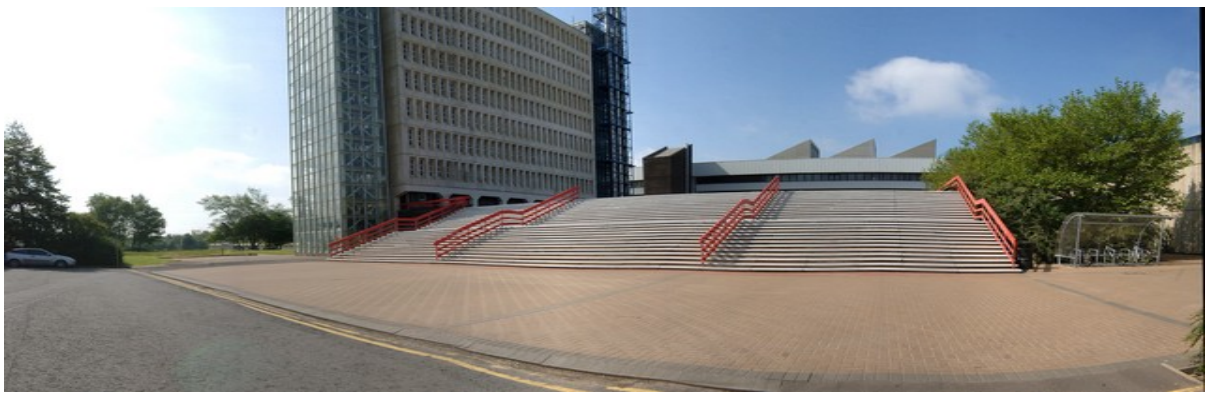
## **Communication**

All student mail addressed via the University will usually come to the Faculty Office. On arrival it will be placed for collection on the **Student Mail Rack** at C100 in South Building. Communications from students to members of academic staff should be handed to one of the Irish Studies secretaries.

**The primary method of communication between University staff and students is the via University's email system, you are expected to check this on a regular basis and use it (and not your private email accounts) when contacting University staff. Important mail will be sent to your term-time address. It is therefore absolutely vital that, if you change your address, you should notify both the Academic Registry and the Faculty Office. *It is your responsibility to make sure that you keep us informed on this matter.***

## **Noticeboards**

The main noticeboards for Irish Studies at Coleraine are outside Irish Studies staff offices on the ground floor of C Block in the South Building. On these noticeboards you will find detailed information about lecture schedules for individual modules, about essay deadlines, class tests, and any other matters that might be of interest to students in Irish. It is important that you keep a regular check on these noticeboards to keep yourself informed.



### **Full-time Teaching Staff in Irish at Coleraine:**

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Room C007  
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### **History and English Staff teaching on the Irish Studies course:**

Dr Neal Garnham  
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## **ORGANISATION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR**

### **Semester System**

The academic year at the University of Ulster is divided into two semesters: the autumn semester and the spring semester. Each semester consists of twelve teaching weeks and a two-week examination period. The autumn semester normally starts in late September; the teaching lasts until just before Christmas, and the examination period does not begin until the second or third week of January, which gives students some extra time to prepare for the examinations. In the spring semester, the teaching starts towards the end of January and lasts normally until early May, with a two-week Easter vacation falling some time in the course of the teaching period; the last week of teaching is followed by a revision week (no formal classes) and then by two weeks of exams.

### **Modular System**

All teaching at the University of Ulster is based on the principle of modularisation. Some modules are delivered by one lecturer only, while on others you will be taught by a team of people; in either case, however, the responsibility for the organisation and delivery of the teaching lies with the module coordinator. Each module is taught and examined over one semester - that is, modules taught in the autumn semester are examined in January, and those taught in the spring semester are examined in May. There is, as a result, no such thing as "finals", during which you would be examined in subjects you may have been taught months before. If you have any problems with a module or need any information about it, you should contact the module co-ordinator.

### **Delayed Choice**

Entering university is a major threshold in everyone's life, regardless of whether you come directly from school, or you have taken time off studying to work or travel, or you are a mature student returning to education after maybe several decades spent working or raising your family. Some university entrants know exactly what they want to concentrate on in their studies, but to others the university environment may appear bewildering - so you may need time to find your way around the place, not just in terms of where to look for the library or the lecture theatres, but also how to make the best possible use of the opportunities the university offers. It may be some time before you work out where exactly your interests lie, or what structure of degree would be best suited for the particular career path you plan to follow; it is therefore important that all the decisions with respect to the choice of subjects you will be studying are made when you feel you are genuinely ready to do so.

To make sure that this is the case, the Faculty of Arts operates a system of delayed choice. This means that whatever course in the Faculty (such as BA Hons Irish Studies or one of the combined programmes) you have been admitted to, you can choose, in the course of your first year, from a variety of potential paths towards your final degree.

## Choosing Modules: Rules and Regulations

All Arts students are expected to complete 12 credit points per year - normally three modules in each semester in the full-time mode. The rules governing the selection of modules vary depending on the year of study you are in; in particular, the principles of module choice in Year 1 are different from those applying in Years 2 and 3.

If you need help with your choice of modules, turn in the first instance to your **Adviser of Studies** - it is his or her role to offer you help and guidance. However, if your Adviser of Studies is in a subject other than Irish (this might happen in Year 1 if you are registered for a course other than the BA Hons Irish Studies or BA Hons Irish Language and Literature, or in Years 2 or 3 if you are taking Irish as a minor or main option), you can approach the course/subject director. But remember - if your Adviser of Studies is in Irish Studies, approach him or her directly.

## Changing Modules and Courses

The University will normally expect you to make up your mind about which modules you will be taking in any given year when you register - that is, in the week preceding the first week of Semester 1. It is a good idea to think about your choice of modules before you arrive for registration, so that you have the time to consider all the options and select your optimum combination of modules. Still, thoughtful as you may have been when choosing your modules, it may nonetheless happen that you want to make a last-minute change - perhaps because you have unexpectedly discovered a module which you would really want to do and which you did not notice when first studying the module list, or perhaps because you got confused over the various module codes. If this happens before the end of Week 2 of the semester, which the change would affect, it is not too late: you can still de-register from the module which you want to drop, and register for the one you want to opt into. To do so, you need to collect a change of course/module form from the Faculty Office, fill it in, get it signed by your Adviser of Studies, and return it back to the Faculty Office - before the Friday of Week 2. Late re-registrations will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances, and will normally require the permission of the Dean.

Similar (though perhaps more formal) procedures apply when you want to change courses - this may happen, for instance, at the beginning of your Year 2, when, having had an opportunity to study other subjects in the previous year, you decide that you want to transfer from the course you originally enrolled for to one that would be better suited to your individual interests. What you need to do is, again, to pick up a form and fill it in; you then need to see the course/subject director of the course you are leaving (so you can be signed out) and the course/subject director responsible for the course you want to join (so you can be signed in). Remember, however, that to change courses you need the two course/subject director' permission to do so: this will in most cases be granted, but the course/subject director of the course you intend to transfer to will normally want to have a brief interview with you to make sure that you have taken the right decision, that your marks in the subjects you want to do are good enough to promise a good performance in your new course, and so on.

## **TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS**

### **Teaching: Lectures and Seminars**

All modules in Irish except the dissertation module (IRS504) are taught through a combination of lectures (during which the material is explained to the students by the lecturer) and seminars (in which issues arising from the lectures and from other material studied can be discussed by students under the guidance of the seminar tutor). Lectures are designed for all students doing the module, seminars are normally taught in small groups (of around 10 people), so it is during them that you will have the opportunity to ask questions, to focus on problems that you find particularly important or particularly difficult, and to discuss points of interest both with your fellow-students and with your seminar tutor. Arrangements with regard to dividing the module into seminar groups and working out the schedule of meetings will normally be made by the module co-ordinator some time during the first week of the semester in which the module is taught. Do not be reluctant to contribute to seminars. They can be very enjoyable as well as instructive if there is a free exchange of views, and no one will mind if what you say is controversial.

On a number of modules, the teaching is shared between various people - there may be more than one person taking the lectures, and different seminar groups may be taught by different tutors - some of them perhaps part-time members of staff, others postgraduate research students. All people involved on a module would always be happy to discuss with you any issues relating to the material you study, to answer any questions you might want to ask, or to help with any difficulties you might be facing; among them, your first port of call would normally be your seminar tutor, or, on matters relating to the administration of the module (registration, allocation to a seminar group, and so on), the module co-ordinator.



## **Forms of Assessment**

Irish Studies employs a variety of forms of assessment. Most modules in Years 1 and 3 of the BA Hons Courses are examined through a mixture of coursework and formal examination; in some modules, a small proportion of coursework marks may be awarded for seminar attendance and performance. The relative weighting of coursework marks vs. examination marks is normally 50%/50%. In Year 2, all modules are, formally speaking, examined through coursework only; this, however, may consist of various elements including a class test written under exam conditions. The difference between examinations (Years 1 and 3) and class tests (Year 2) is largely a technical matter to do with university regulations relating to the administration of assessment procedures, the recording of marks, and the analysis of student performance and progress. The overall coursework mark (which is at the same time the module mark) is calculated on the basis of performance in the various elements. The titles of coursework essays you will be expected to write will normally be set for you by the module coordinators at the beginning of the semester.

Examinations and class tests are all sat during the exam periods, i.e. in early or mid-January in Semester 1 and in mid-May in Semester 2. The format of the examination (or class test) will of course depend on the contents of the module, but you will usually be given some idea as to the structure of the paper, how many questions you will be expected to answer, and so on.

## **The Dissertation Module**

This module differs from other modules in Irish Studies in a number of ways; it is the only Irish Studies module with restricted entry (compulsory for single-subject students and students doing Irish Studies as a major, optional for students taking Irish as a main or minor subject), it is taught through individual supervision sessions, and it is assessed on the basis of a dissertation of 8,000-10,000 words. Many students find this module one of the most satisfying parts of the course because it allows them to develop in depth a personal interest in the area of Irish Studies.

The special character of the dissertation module results from the fact that, rather than receiving regular tuition from your lecturers and tutors, you are expected to engage in independent research on a subject of your choice. You will be working under the guidance of a supervisor - a specialist in the field within which the subject of your dissertation will fall; you will be expected to negotiate with him or her specific theme, focus, and scope of your work. Specific arrangements with respect to the organisation of the work on that module, the allocation of students to supervisors and so on will be made towards the end of Year 2 and at the beginning of Year 3. The deadline for the submission of the dissertation will normally be some time during the first week of the January examination period.

## **Notification of Absence**

If you have been absent for more than three days through illness or other reason you must immediately notify the course/subject director. Where the absence is for a period of more than five working days, and is caused by illness, which may affect your studies, you should arrange for a medical certificate to be presented. Where

the period is less than five working days, you may fill in a self-certification form (NA1), although a medical certificate is also acceptable. The form can be downloaded from <http://www.ulster.ac.uk/academicservices/student/>

If your health or other circumstances have interfered with your ability to submit assessed work or attend an examination, the NA1 form may authenticate a difficulty, which arose before, the assessment date but which nevertheless affected your performance. You should also think carefully about whether it is wise to seek assistance from a counsellor or other advisor at an early stage rather than waiting until your problems are severe. Do not feel that you have to go into great detail about your difficulties on this form. If your circumstances are complex then a letter from a doctor or counsellor is advised.

### **Deadlines and Extensions**

Irish Studies maintains a strict system of discipline to ensure that all coursework is submitted on time. Deadlines for the submission of essays are announced at the beginning of each semester, so that students know exactly when they will be expected to complete their assignments.

However, there are situations when you may be prevented from submitting work on time by circumstances beyond your control - illness, bereavement, unexpected family problems, etc. In cases like those, you can apply for extensions on your essays; **the person to contact is the Course/Subject Director for your programme**. You will be expected to present some form of evidence of the circumstances, medical or compassionate, preventing you from completing your work on time; you will also need to show evidence of the existence of work in progress (notes, draft versions of the essay, and so on). Medical and/or compassionate evidence is also required to cover absence from examinations and class tests. In cases like those, you would normally be expected to contact your Course Director, who would advise you what course of action could best be taken in your specific circumstances.

You are also entitled to an automatic three-day extension if you have three essay deadlines coinciding on the same day - if that is the case, you need to see **the Course/Subject Director for your programme**, who will grant you an extension on an Irish module of your choice, as long as you can present evidence of work in progress, as well as some form of confirmation that work for the other two modules due on that day has in fact been submitted.

### **Counselling Service**

If you have a personal problem, the first person you should approach is your Adviser of Studies. However, if you feel the problem is too personal to discuss with your adviser, the University has an excellent Counselling Service, which is completely confidential and which has a number of trained professional counsellors on its staff.

### **Administration of the Courses**

The courses in Irish are run by the BA Hons Irish Subject Committee. This includes all the members of staff who teach on the courses, along with the Head of School of

Languages and Literature and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The Course/Subject Director for Irish is Professor Gregory Toner. He is responsible for the organisation and management of these courses. The Head of Irish is Professor Séamus Mac Mathúna who is responsible for the subject across all the campuses. Professor John Gillespie is our actively engaged and interested Head of School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures. He has an important and overarching role in a range of areas including human and physical resources and quality management.

### **Adviser of Studies**

On the day you register at the University, you will be assigned an Adviser of Studies and an appointment will be made for you to see your adviser before teaching begins. The role of the Adviser of Studies is to help students with any academic or personal difficulties, which might arise. For example, if you initially find it difficult to understand the timetable, you should contact your adviser for assistance. Similarly, if you wish to change one of the subjects you have opted to study, your adviser of studies will help you complete a module amendment form. Please note, however, that you should normally do this only during the first week of the Semester, or, in exceptional cases, during the second week. In short, do not hesitate to contact your adviser whenever you want help or guidance on academic or other matters.

### **Staff-Student Consultative Committee**

If you have any views, ideas, or complaints about the course or the modules you are taking, as well as the general services provided by the University, you can make these formally through the Staff-Student Consultative Committee which meets once a semester and reports to the Subject Committee. The Staff-Student Consultative Committee consists of two members of academic staff and one elected student representative for each year of each course (normally BA Hons Irish Language and Literature and BA Hons Irish Studies and/or Irish Major/Main/Minor). The student representatives are elected at the beginning of the academic year. All students registered for Irish courses including combined courses are eligible.



## Courses in Irish and Course Diagrams

Note: Not all modules will be available in every year

### BA Hons Irish Language and Literature

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	IRS114 - Irish Language 1 IRS115 - Irish Literature 1 IRS118 - Survival and Revival: Irish in the 20 <sup>th</sup> century IRS121 - Irish Cultural Studies	IRS116 - Irish Language 2 IRS117 - Irish Literature 2 IRS119 - The Irish Tradition to 1800 IRS120 - The Irish Folklore Tradition
2	IRS321 - Irish Language 3 IRS322 - Irish Literature 3 IRS303 - Irish Language & Literature of the 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Centuries IRS314 - Dialects of Irish	IRS323 - Irish Language 4 IRS324 - Irish Literature 4 IRS312 - Translation Studies <i>or</i> IRS325 - Religion, Politics & the Emergence of Modern Irish 1540-1640 IRS306 - Scottish Gaelic Language
3	IRS501 - Irish Language & Literature 5 IRS504 - Dissertation IRS505 - Scottish Gaelic Lang. & Lit. <i>or</i> IRS511 - Introduction to Medieval Irish	IRS502 - Irish Language & Literature 6 IRS513 - Early Modern Irish : Prose and Poetry <i>or</i> IRS517 - Language Planning and Strategy IRS518 - Media & Communication <i>or</i> IRS520 - Middle Irish

## BA Hons Irish Studies

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	<p>IRS114 - Irish Language 1</p> <p>IRS115 - Irish Literature 1</p> <p>IRS118 - Survival and Revival: Irish in the 20<sup>th</sup> century</p> <p>HIS101 – Ireland in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century</p>	<p>IRS116 - Irish Language 2</p> <p>IRS117 - Irish Literature 2</p> <p>IRS119 - The Irish Tradition to 1800</p> <p>ENG106 – Literature and Society in Ireland: An Introduction</p>
2	<p>IRS321 - Irish Language 3</p> <p>IRS322 - Irish Literature 3</p> <p>IRS303 - Irish Language &amp; Literature of the 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries</p> <p>IRS314 - Dialects of Irish</p>	<p>IRS323 - Irish Language 4</p> <p>IRS324 - Irish Literature 4</p> <p>IRS312 - Translation Studies</p> <p>HIS336 – Ireland in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</p>
3	<p>IRS501 - Irish Language &amp; Literature 5</p> <p>IRS504 - Dissertation</p> <p>HIS529 - Early Modern Ireland 1534 - 1801</p>	<p>IRS502 - Irish Language &amp; Literature 6</p> <p>IRS513 - Early Modern Irish : Prose and Poetry</p> <p>IRS517 - Language Planning and Strategy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>IRS518 - Media &amp; Communication</p>

### Major Irish (Coleraine)

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	<p>IRS114 - Irish Language 1</p> <p>IRS115 - Irish Literature 1</p> <p>IRS118 - Survival and Revival: Irish in the 20<sup>th</sup> century</p>	<p>IRS116 - Irish Language 2</p> <p>IRS117 - Irish Literature 2</p> <p>IRS119 - The Irish Tradition to 1800</p>
2	<p>IRS321 - Irish Language 3</p> <p>IRS322 - Irish Literature 3</p> <p>IRS303 - Irish Language &amp; Literature of the 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19th Centuries</p>	<p>IRS323 - Irish Language 4</p> <p>IRS324 - Irish Literature 4</p> <p>IRS312 - Translation Studies <i>or</i> IRS325 - Religion, Politics &amp; the Emergence of Modern Irish 1540-1640</p>
3	<p>IRS501 - Irish Language &amp; Literature 5</p> <p>IRS504 - Dissertation</p>	<p>IRS502 - Irish Language &amp; Literature 6</p> <p>IRS513 - Early Modern Irish : Prose and Poetry <i>or</i> IRS517 - Language Planning and Strategy <i>or</i> IRS518 - Media &amp; Communication</p>

## Main Irish

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	IRS114 - Irish Language 1 IRS115 - Irish Literature 1 IRS118 - Survival and Revival: Irish in the 20 <sup>th</sup> century*	IRS116 - Irish Language 2 IRS117 - Irish Literature 2 IRS119 - The Irish Tradition to 1800*
2	IRS321 - Irish Language 3 IRS322 - Irish Literature 3 IRS303 - Irish Language & Literature of the 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19th Centuries*	IRS323 - Irish Language 4 IRS324 - Irish Literature 4 IRS312 - Translation Studies * <b>or</b> IRS325 - Religion, Politics & the Emergence of Modern Irish 1540-1640*
3	IRS501 - Irish Language & Literature 5 IRS504 - Dissertation_*	IRS502 - Irish Language & Literature 6 IRS513 - Early Modern Irish : Prose and Poetry_ <b>or</b> IRS517 - Language Planning and Strategy * <b>or</b> IRS518 - Media & Communication*

\*Main students must choose from one of these modules in each year of study. In their final year they must do a dissertation either in Irish or in their other chosen subject.

## Minor Irish

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	IRS114 - Irish Language 1 IRS115 - Irish Literature 1	IRS116 - Irish Language 2 IRS117 - Irish Literature 2
2	IRS321 - Irish Language 3 IRS322 - Irish Literature 3	IRS323 - Irish Language 4 IRS324 - Irish Literature 4
3	IRS501 - Irish Language & Literature 5	IRS502 - Irish Language & Literature 6

## Modules of Study

### YEAR 1

#### **IRS114 - Irish language 1** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill)

This module lays the foundation for subsequent study of Irish by building on the achievement of students at A-Level/Hons Leaving Cert and by ensuring that all students get an opportunity to come up to the required level of study. It examines the basic structure of Irish and entails practical work, pronunciation and usage. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 10

#### **IRS115 - Irish literature 1** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

This module is an introduction to the Irish literary tradition from the era of the Revival, and to methods of practical criticism and essay writing. Delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 10

#### **IRS116 – Irish language 2** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill)

This module guides the student towards more advanced study of Irish by building on the achievement of students in the language module in Semester 1, gradually increasing their competence and confidence in both written and spoken Irish. It entails further and more detailed examination of the basic structure of Irish and includes practical work, pronunciation and usage. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 10

#### **IRS117 – Irish literature 2** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

This module is an introduction to prose writing and drama in Irish and a consolidation of practical criticism and essay writing undertaken in IRS114. Students will examine the work of major Irish prose writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century such as Pádraig Ó Conaire, Séamus Ó Grianna and Breandán Ó Beacháin. Delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 10

**IRS118 - Survival and Revival: Irish in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill)

This module introduces students to the main social, political, historical and sociolinguistic forces that have affected the development of the Irish language since the Revival Movement at the end of the 19th century.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**IRS119 – The Irish Tradition to 1800** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module provides an overview of the Irish literary tradition from the earliest times until the collapse of the Gaelic world, exploring the social and historical forces that shaped the production and preservation of Irish literature and promoting a critical understanding the Irish literary heritage.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS120 – Irish folklore tradition** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Iwan Wmffre)

This module offers an introduction to the folklore tradition of Ireland, focusing primarily on the Gaelic tradition. Areas explored are folk belief, otherworldly beings, folk customs, folk medicine, folk wisdom, and traditional storytelling. The context in which Irish folklore tradition developed is examined as is the disappearance of many of these beliefs with the disaggregation of traditional rural society. The module also provides a practical introduction to folklore theory and method (students being given instruction in the collection of folklore).

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS121 – Irish Cultural Studies** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Iwan Wmffre)

This module examines various aspects of Irish cultural tradition, including music, dance, sports, language, place- and personal-names. It also examines the legacy of Ireland's ecclesiastical golden age, early literature in relation to the pagan past, architecture, museums and archives. Emphasis throughout is placed on an understanding of these elements, both within their own context and as part of the developing construct of Irish cultural tradition. The particular situation of competing cultural traditions in Northern Ireland will not be neglected.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**ENG106 Literature and Society  
in Ireland: an introduction**

(Module Co-ordinator: Dr Willa Murphy)

This module offers a general survey of the history of Irish literature in English in its social, cultural, and political context, including Gaelic literature in translation. It involves both close literary study of selected texts by some of the most representative Irish writers in English and discussion of broader issues such as the relationship between Irish writing in English and the broader context of English literary history.

**Coursework:** 100%  
**Exam:** 0%**Semester:** 2  
**Credits:** 20**HIS101 – Ireland in the 20th Century** (Module Co-ordinator: Robert McNamara)

This module will provide an introduction to some of the main developments in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Irish History. These include: the political crises of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the establishment of 2 states within the island of Ireland, the political, social and economic development of the Republic of Ireland, and the impact of community division and violent conflict on the political, social, and economic development of Northern Ireland.

**Coursework:** 50%  
**Exam:** 50%**Semester:** 2  
**Credits:** 20**YEAR 2****IRS321 – Irish language 3**

(Module Co-ordinator: Mr Neil Comer)

This module progresses to more detailed study of the grammar and syntax of Irish, strengthening the competence of students in both written and spoken Irish. It includes practical work, pronunciation and usage. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 100%  
**Exam:** 0%**Semester:** 1  
**Credits:** 10**IRS322 – Irish literature 3**

(Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

This module examines the prevailing contexts and themes of Irish poetry after the second world war and will examine the work of a range of poets including Máirtín Ó Direáin, Seán Ó Ríordáin, Breandán Ó Beacháin, Máire Mhac a' tSaoi, Eoghan Ó Tuairisc and Seán Ó hÉigearthaigh.

**Coursework:** 100%  
**Exam:** 0%**Semester:** 1  
**Credits:** 10

**IRS323 – Irish language 4** (Module Co-ordinator: Mr Gearóid Ó Domagáin)

This module progresses to more detailed study of the grammar and syntax of Irish, strengthening the competence of students in both written and spoken Irish. It includes practical work, pronunciation and usage. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 10

**IRS324 – Irish literature 4** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

This module examines the development of the short story and autobiography in Irish in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Students will study the work of major 20<sup>th</sup> century Irish writers such as Séamus Ó Grianna, Pádraig Ó Conaire, Liam Ó Flaithearta, Seosamh Mac Grianna, and Muiris Ó Súilleabháin.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 10

**IRS303 – Irish Lang. & Lit. in the 18th & 19th Centuries** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module provides a thorough survey of the literary tradition of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Ireland. It examines both poetry and prose texts from this period, places them in their cultural context and further develops methods of practical criticism. Delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**IRS306 – Scottish Gaelic language** (Module Co-ordinator: Iain Mac a' Phearsain)

This module is an introduction to Scottish Gaelic language for students in the Honours Irish Language and Literature degree. Starting from the shared roots of the two languages, students will study Scottish Gaelic for a variety of communicative goals from the basic spoken to the basic written. Finally, students are introduced to modern 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>-century Scottish Gaelic literature to enrich and broaden their command of the language.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS312 – Translation Studies** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Caoimhín Ó Dónaill)

This module builds on linguistic skills developed in language modules and provides students with practical knowledge of the principles and methods of translation. It improves their competence in the Irish language, with particular emphasis on the written language, and enhances career prospects in translation and other areas.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**IRS314 – Dialects of Irish** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Iwan Wmffre)

This module explores differences between the major Irish dialects, looks at historical developments leading to dialect differentiation, examines the ways in which sounds are made in language, and compares native speech to learner speech and written standard.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**IRS325 – Religion, Politics and the Emergence of Mod. Irish 1540-1640** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module examines the effects of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation movements on both the Irish language and its literary tradition, from the early attempts to promote the Protestant religion in the vernacular to the setting up of the Irish Colleges on the continent and the subsequent literary and historical response of the Catholic clergy.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                                **Credits:** 20

**HIS336 – Ireland in the 19th Century** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Neal Garnham)

A survey of social, cultural and political change in nineteenth-century Ireland.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

**YEAR 3**

**IRS501 - Irish language & literature 5** (Module Co-ordinator: Mr Neil Comer)

This module involves detailed study of written and spoken Irish. It includes practical work, pronunciation and usage, and professional development. Modern and contemporary poetry in Irish are also examined. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 50%                                **Credits:** 20

**IRS502 – Irish language& literature 6** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

The language element of this module involves detailed study of the grammar and syntax of Irish, strengthening the competence of students in both written and spoken Irish. It includes practical work, pronunciation and usage. The literature element examines the novel and contemporary prose writing in Irish from a range of modern critical perspectives. This module is delivered through the medium of Irish.

**Coursework:** 50%  
**Exam:** 50%

**Semester:** 1  
**Credits:** 20

**IRS504 – Dissertation** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module provides students with the opportunity to carry out an extended research project on a topic of their choosing and to develop independence, self-reliance, time-management and research skills.

**Coursework:** 100%  
**Exam:** 0%

**Semester:** 1  
**Credits:** 20

**IRS505 – Scottish Gaelic Language & Literature** (Module Co-ordinator: Iain Mac a' Phearsain)

This module provides students with a detailed examination of the major themes and writers, in both poetry and prose, of 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>-century Scottish Gaelic literature through the use of close textual analysis. It also endeavours to develop the written, oral and reading skills acquired in the pre-requisite module IRS306, using both direct classroom instruction and web-based language resources.

**Coursework:** 50%  
**Exam:** 50%

**Semester:** 1  
**Credits:** 20

**IRS513 – Early Modern Irish: Prose and Poetry** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module introduces students to Early Modern Irish prose and poetry, including bardic poetry, love poetry, romances, tales of the Fionn Cycle, translations, and histories.

**Coursework:** 50%  
**Exam:** 50%

**Semester:** 2  
**Credits:** 20

**IRS517 – Language Planning & Strategy** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Iwan Wmffre)

This module examines issues relating to modern societal linguistics and language planning, both theoretical and practical. Themes explored include: language death, language revival, functional and identitarian motivations of language use. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of these elements within a variety of comparable but different multilingual contexts throughout the world, but with the ultimate aim of informing the students of the Irish context (both in the Republic and in Northern Ireland).

**Coursework:** 60%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 40%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS518 – Media and Communication** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Fionntán de Brún)

This module introduces students to the Irish language media in its historical context and its contemporary situation and examines the impact of the Irish language media on language and society. Students are also given the opportunity to create a project for the print or broadcast media. The module is designed to position students to proceed to postgraduate courses in Irish-language media and take up careers within the sector.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS511 – Introduction to Medieval Irish** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module provides an introduction to varieties of medieval Irish language through the close reading of a range of verse and poetry dating from the eighth century to the twelfth.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**IRS520 – Middle Irish** (Module Co-ordinator: Prof. Gregory Toner)

This module provides an introduction to varieties of medieval Irish language through the close reading of a range of verse and poetry dating from the eighth century to the twelfth.

**Coursework:** 50%                      **Semester:** 2  
**Exam:** 50%                              **Credits:** 20

**HIS529 – Early Modern Ireland, 1534-1801** (Module Co-ordinator: Dr Neal Garnham)

This module represents a study of the major problems and issues in Irish history and Anglo-Irish relations from the sixteenth to the end of the seventeenth centuries.

**Coursework:** 100%                      **Semester:** 1  
**Exam:** 0%                                **Credits:** 20

## **Gaeltacht Course**

All students enrolled on the full-time BA in Irish or Irish Studies, or combined course of which Irish is an element are required to spend a minimum of six weeks in the Gaeltacht. In order to facilitate students in fulfilling this requirement, the Division of Irish Studies runs an annual three-week course in the Donegal Gaeltacht. Students stay in local, Irish-speaking homes for the duration of the course and attend daily classes in language and literature. Lecturers are invited to address the students, usually on topics relating to Gaeltacht life, and students participate in numerous other events, such as *céilithe*, day trips and quizzes. Attendance at the course is compulsory.

## **Rationale**

The course offers you the opportunity to experience Irish as a living, everyday language, and to hear and speak Irish on a continuous basis over an extended period of time. It builds on and reinforces knowledge acquired in language modules, and allows you to increase your fluency and confidence. It also offers you the chance to get to know native speakers, and to increase your understanding of the life and culture of the Gaeltacht.



## **Organisation**

The Gaeltacht course is held annually in late August / September at Gort an Choirce in Co. Donegal, and is organised by Dr. Iwan Wmffre.

You will be informed of the dates for the course early in Semester 2 and you will be allocated a host on payment of the course fee.

Attendance at the course is obligatory but in exceptional circumstances students can request exemption from the course. In such cases, students are normally required to

compensate for their non-attendance by spending three weeks in the Gaeltacht at another time (see **Regulations** below).

## **Regulations**

Full-time students studying for the BA Hons Irish Studies and BA Hons Irish Language and Literature or combined courses including an Irish element are required to spend a total of six weeks in the Gaeltacht. You are normally expected to do so by attending the course organised by the Subject staff. In exceptional circumstances you may be permitted to miss all or part of the course but in such cases you will normally be expected to compensate for the period you have missed by spending an equivalent period of time in the Gaeltacht at another time.

In cases where a student fails to attend the Gaeltacht course, or is absent from a substantial number of classes, he/she will be invited to explain their reasons to an Attendance Board normally consisting of the Head of Subject and the Course Co-ordinator. Where a student does not spend the required period of time in the Gaeltacht over the duration of his/her course, he/she may be deemed to have failed to fulfil the course requirements.

## **ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS**

### **Marking**

All work is marked on the traditional scale from 0 to 100 points. The pass mark is 40; marks between 40 and 49 fall into the third-class category, those between 50 and 59 indicate lower-second class performance, those between 60 and 69 are awarded for upper-second class work, and those of 70 and above mark first-class standard. All marking is subject to internal and external monitoring, and a substantial proportion of the work, particularly in the final year, is routinely double-marked.

In all matters relating to marking, the last word belongs to the external examiners - senior academics from other universities, appointed to ensure parity of standards across the university sector nationwide. Because their approval is needed before whatever marks awarded in Irish modules become final, you should remember that any marks issued to you in the course of the academic year (including all coursework and Semester 1 examination marks) remain provisional until externally confirmed. Changes will not happen very often, but do not be surprised if the marks officially released after the final meeting of the Board of Examiners in May/June differ from those you will have obtained in the course of the academic year - this would mean that the external examiners have considered your work and decided to change the original marks.

Coursework essays will normally be marked and returned to you, with comments, in the course of the semester; class test and examination scripts remain confidential and are not released to the students after they have been marked. If you are for any reason unhappy with the mark you have been awarded, or if you require clarification of the marker's comments, ask him or her for a more detailed explanation; you may

always ask for your essay to be read by another examiner, and indeed, in exceptional circumstances, by an external examiner.

### **Passing a Module**

To pass a module you must achieve an overall pass mark of **40%** with a minimum of **35%** in each element for modules where the assessment is made up of a Coursework and an Exam mark (usually 50/50). For modules which are assessed by 100% Coursework an overall mark of **40%** is required to pass the module.

### **Boards of Examiners**

All decisions with respect to student progress and classification are taken by the Board of Examiners for your course. All meetings of the Board are normally chaired by the Dean, and attended by all members of the teaching staff. Boards of Examiners meet at the end of each semester to consider student progress in the course of that semester; they look at evidence of medical and compassionate circumstances in cases of non-submission (or late submission) of coursework, and non-attendance at examinations, they evaluate the performance of each individual student, and they take decisions on his or her progress to the following year of the course or on any supplementary work he or she might be required to do before proceeding. In the case of final-year students, the role of the Board of Examiners is also to make recommendations for the award of degrees and to decide the class of degree to be awarded to each individual student.

### **Progress from Year to Year**

The rules governing student progress from year to year are complex and can be studied in detail in the University regulations. In broad terms, you can normally proceed to the next year of your course (or in the final year, proceed to be classified) if you have passed all the six modules you have taken over the whole academic year; you may also be allowed to proceed if you have condonable fails (**see above**) in up to two modules in Years 1 and 2, and in one module only in Year 3.

The nature and amount of supplementary work you may be required to do before proceeding if you do not fulfill the above conditions will differ depending on how many modules you have failed, and how badly. In broad terms again, if you have not completed one or more elements of assessment through no fault of your own, you will normally be allowed to submit coursework and/or sit examinations (as appropriate) as for the first time (i.e. for full marks); if, however, your fails are a reflection of low academic quality of the work or of a negligent attitude to your studies, you will only be allowed to re-submit coursework or to re-sit examinations - this means that however well you perform in them, the maximum mark you can be awarded is the marginal pass mark of 40.

In most cases, decisions with respect to supplementary work are taken during the May/June meetings of Boards of Examiners, with coursework to be delivered over the summer, and examinations to be sat in August; progress of students required to do work over the summer is then reviewed again in early September. In some

special cases, decisions on student progress may be taken at other times; for details see the University regulations or contact your Course/Subject Director.

## **Classification and Awarding of Degrees**

When you reach the end of your final year and successfully complete all the work required, the Board of Examiners will consider your progress throughout your time at the University and will make its recommendation about the degree you will be awarded. The classification of your degree will depend on your result achieved in the final year of your course – the final average mark as well as the marks for the individual final-year modules.

The final average mark is simply mean average of the six module marks for the modules you will have taken in Year 3, as follows:

- average mark 70+ - first-class honours;
- average mark 60-69 - upper-second class honours;
- average mark 50-59 - lower-second class honours;
- average mark 40-49 - third class honours.

In some circumstances, involving students who have had to repeat the final year, the University may award an unclassified degree; further details on that can be found in the University regulations.

All decisions with respect to classification and award of degrees are closely scrutinised by the external examiners; they analyse all mark profiles, they read work by candidates considered for the award of first-class honours degrees, they adjudicate in cases of borderline candidates, and they confirm all fails. In this way, the University ensures that the degrees it awards recognise and reward student achievement along the same lines as those normally adopted by other universities throughout the country.

## **Appeals**

There is no mechanism for the appeal of academic marks or of degree classifications – in this respect, the decisions of the Board of Examiners, externally confirmed, are final. However, it may happen that the Board of Examiners may not, during its deliberations, have access to full knowledge of your circumstances: for example, unexplained non-submission of coursework or absence from an examination, for which you will normally be penalised, may have been caused by a medical or compassionate problem not known to the Board. In situations like those, you may lodge an appeal (details of procedures available from the Faculty Office); these are heard by a Board of Appeals, a meeting of which you can attend in order to present your case. This Board cannot change your marks, but it can, for instance, accept your explanations and offer you another chance to sit an examination, or decide to retrospectively accept an essay that was submitted late. In any case, it is always useful, before lodging an appeal, to discuss your circumstances with your Course/Subject Director.

## Plagiarism

There are two kinds of plagiarism. The first is the copying of passages from books, articles or some other source, and attempting to pass them off as your own words. A piece of work containing plagiarised passages will normally receive a mark of zero, and persistent plagiarism may lead to formal disciplinary action against you. Remember that it is not enough to quote a source in a general way at the end of your essay. You must formally and explicitly acknowledge ALL sources at the time that they are used. This is usually done in the form of footnotes. The second type of plagiarism is getting someone else to help you write translations, essays or your dissertation. All your work must be written by you in your own words.

### FRAMEWORK OF PENALTIES FOR PLAGIARISM OFFENCES IN TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

1 <sup>ST</sup> OFFENCE	2 <sup>ND</sup> OFFENCE	3 <sup>RD</sup> OFFENCE	4 <sup>TH</sup> OFFENCE	Plagiarism detected subsequent to graduation
<p>Reduction in marks based on exclusion of plagiarised work.</p> <p>Formative interview with module co-ordinator and/or lecturer.</p> <p><i>Where 1<sup>st</sup> offence is in Master's Dissertation:</i></p> <p>Mark of Zero. Re-submit. Interview with Head of School and/or Course Director and or Supervisor.</p>	<p>Mark of zero for assignment containing plagiarism.</p> <p>Interview with Head of School and/or Course Director and or Lecturer.</p> <p>Formal letter placed on student file.</p>	<p>Mark of zero for assignment containing plagiarism and maximum mark of 40% (UG) or 50% (PG) for coursework element.</p> <p>Case referred to Dean with recommendation of reprimand and fine not exceeding the maximum amount permitted under the Ordinance on Student Discipline at the time of application of penalty.</p> <p>Formal letter placed on student file.</p>	<p>Mark of zero for module.</p> <p>Case referred to University Disciplinary Committee with recommendation of suspension (1 semester or 1 year as advised by Faculty) or discontinue studies at the University.</p> <p>Outcome placed on student file.</p>	<p>The award may be revoked.</p>

## DEALING WITH PROBLEMS

### Academic Problems - What to Do if Things Go Wrong

If you have not been attending seminars regularly, or not handing in written work, the module co-ordinator or the Course/Subject Director will usually write to you asking for some explanation. Do not ignore such letters because this may have serious consequences for your academic progress. If you have some genuine explanation for

poor attendance or failure to submit written work, the module co-ordinator and the Course/Subject Director will be prepared to listen and may well be in a position to offer some sound practical advice. In any case it is much easier to sort out problems if you keep your seminar tutor and/or your adviser of studies informed of your difficulties as they arise.

If you have any doubts about whom you should see or what you should do in case you face problems affecting your academic work, do not hesitate to approach any member of staff - they will all be able to offer you advice. However, certain categories of academic and personal problems and issues can only be dealt with by consulting particular members of staff. A number of these are listed here, together with the various procedures you should follow in specific cases.

### **Lecturers/tutors**

If you have any problems relating to the material studied in a particular module, you should approach, in the first instance, your lecturer/tutor. This can best be done at the end of a class - some seminar tutors work part-time, and they may be rather difficult to contact outside their allocated teaching time. If your lecturer/tutor is a full-time member of staff, you can contact him or her during their office hours (information as to when these are will normally be displayed on their notice boards). Alternatively, you may always ask your tutor for an appointment; arrangements in this respect can be made via the Irish secretary. The seminar tutor will be happy to discuss your problems and to offer advice on the contents of the module, study methods, assessment procedures, and so on.

### **Module Co-ordinators**

If you have any other, non-academic problems relating to a particular module (to do, for example, with timetable clashes, allocation to a seminar group, access to books, short-term extensions on your written work, and so on), the person to contact is your module co-ordinator. He or she would normally also be happy to answer any queries you might have in connection with the academic side of the module: its contents, assessment procedures, and so on. However, it might sometimes be easier to address these in the first instance to the seminar tutor: in some modules, particularly in Year 1 and in the big core modules in Years 2 and 3, the module co-ordinator might just not have enough time to deal with queries from all the students, sometimes in excess of a hundred people, doing his or her module. Needless to say, when the module co-ordinator is at the same time your seminar tutor, he or she is your first port of call irrespective of the nature of your particular query. All module-coordinators are full-time members of staff, so they can be contacted either after a lecture or seminar, or during their office hours, or by appointment.

### **Advisers of Studies**

All students on taught courses are assigned to advisers of studies, whose role it is to offer to their advisees' general academic and personal guidance throughout their course of study. You would contact your adviser on matters such as, for example, what modules to choose in any given semester, where to turn for advice in case of academic or financial difficulties, and what to do if you have failed to submit an essay

or missed an examination. You will be given the name of your adviser of studies at registration or during the first week of Semester 1, and you will be expected to contact him or her around that time to talk about how you plan to organise your work throughout the academic year. You are encouraged to talk to your adviser about your progress; he or she will also be happy to discuss with you matters such as study methods and examination skills. You should also bring to the attention of your adviser any medical or other problems that may affect your work; he or she will be pleased to provide you with information about the range of support available from, e.g., Student Services, Chaplaincy, Careers Advisory Service, and so on. Needless to say, your adviser will always, if requested, assist you in making arrangements if you need to seek specialist advice or help.

### **Course/Subject Director**

The Course/Subject Director is responsible for the day-to-day running of the course, and it is to him or her that you would normally turn to discuss any major problems with relation to your work, particularly those that are not specific to individual modules and are beyond the remit of your adviser of studies. The Course/Subject Director will deal with issues such as long-term extensions and late submission of work, absence from class tests and/or examinations, resits and resubmissions, and so on. The names of the Course/Subject Directors for other programmes (e.g. BA Hons Combined Arts, etc.) are available from the Faculty Office.

### **Dean**

On very rare occasions, and only in cases of very serious problems, you may have to discuss matters with the Head of the Faculty, the Dean, Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh (tel. 028-70324517). You will always need to make an appointment, via the Dean's secretary.

### **Disclaimer**

Details of the course are set out in this Handbook. The University will use all reasonable endeavors to deliver the course in accordance with this description. However the University does not provide education on a commercial basis and is largely dependent on public and charitable funds, which the University has to manage in a way which is efficient and cost-effective, in the context of the provision of a diverse range of programmes to a large number of students. The University therefore reserves the right to make variations in the content or method of delivery or assessment or other changes if such action is reasonably considered necessary by the University in the context of its wider purposes.

## The University's web Portal

[portal.ulster.ac.uk](http://portal.ulster.ac.uk)

What is the Portal?

A web portal is a gateway site to a collection of online resources. Typically, portals provide personalised information, features and applications to their users, and are customisable according to users' needs.

The University Portal is the central access point to information relevant to your pursuits and interests at Ulster.

The Portal is also a communication tool that will allow users to receive information targeted according to their role at the University (student, academic, or employee).

The University Portal... *your online gateway to University information and services including WebCT, Banner Student Record System, Library Account, PDS, Athens, Microsoft Live@edu and more!*

## Logging into the Portal

### Enter Your Net ID and Password

Username

Password  [I forgot my password](#)

Warn me before logging me into other sites.

### CAS Credentials

**students** - student ID number e.g. B00345678.

**associates** - associate number e.g. a1234.

For students, your password is your 'network password'. This is the same password you would use to log on to LRC computers.