

Dr. Mark O'Brien
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Syllabus for CAS HI 325 / PO 381
The History of Ireland

Course Overview:

This course provides an introduction to the major themes, personalities and events that have shaped modern Irish history. Each lecture focuses on a seminal person or event in the history of modern Ireland, examines their background, and assesses their impact on Irish history. The course focuses on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but where necessary, events in earlier centuries are referred to and explained. Among the topics examined are the Great Famine, the constitutional and militant traditions in Irish nationalism, the 1916 Rising, the campaign for Irish independence, the political and economic development of the south and, the Northern 'Troubles'.

Methodology:

The course consists of lectures, class discussions and field trips. Guest lecturers may attend from time to time. Where appropriate, documentaries and films may be shown.

Required Reading:

The primary textbook is Moody, T.W. and Martin, F.X. (eds) *The Course of Irish History* (chapters 16 to 24). This book provides an **introductory survey** to the various topics on the course: students are **required** to engage in **supplementary reading** on their own **initiative** – particularly on topics that are of interest to them or on which they intend writing a paper. The best way of finding books that are of relevance to a topic that interests you is to do a 'keyword' search in the Library's catalogue. Other survey books that may be useful are: Foster, R. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Ireland*, Lee, J.J. *Ireland 1912-1985*, and Keogh, D. *Twentieth Century Ireland*. Copies of these books are included in BU Dublin's library collection in Mary's office, and you can borrow the books on a short-term basis (max. one week). You should also browse through the issues of the journal *History Ireland*. This is available in the Library and is a good source for accessible articles on Irish history.

Grading Criteria:

Class participation and attendance	10%
Two quizzes	20%
Essay	40%
Final Exam	30%

Essay titles will be distributed at the end of week one. Essays should be between 2,000 and 2,500 words long and are due on **Monday 13 February**.

The quizzes take place on **Thursday 26 January and Wednesday 8 February** and are in the form of 10 questions - five multiple-choice questions and five direct answer questions.

Essay and exam questions will be based on topics covered in class. There will be a wide choice.

Both the essays and exams will be graded on the basis of evidence of reading, the analysis / interpretation provided, the understanding displayed, and the clarity of presentation.

Lecture One
Monday, 16 January
Introduction & Key Dates Before 1800

Required Reading: None (introductory session)

Lecture Two
Wednesday, 18 January
Daniel O'Connell and Catholic Emancipation

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 16

Lecture Three
Thursday, 19 January
The Great Famine

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 17

Lecture Four
Monday, 23 January
Charles Stuart Parnell and Home Rule

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 18

Lecture Five
Wednesday, 25 January
Culture, Society and Politics – The 1900s

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 19

Lecture Six
Thursday, 26 January
The 1916 Rising & Aftermath
Quiz 1

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 19

Lecture Seven
Monday, 30 January
Northern Ireland: 'Making War'

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 20

Lecture Eight
Wednesday, 1 February
Documentary: Northern Ireland
Lecture Nine
Thursday, 2 February
Northern Ireland: 'Making Peace'

Required Reading: To be distributed.

**Friday, 3 February
Field Trip to Belfast**

**Lecture Ten
Monday, 6 February
The War of Independence**

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 19

**Lecture Eleven
Wednesday, 8 February
Film: Michael Collins
Quiz 2**

**Lecture Twelve
Thursday, 9 February
Field Trip: Kilmainham Gaol Museum**

**Lecture Thirteen
Monday, 13 February
De Valera in Power 1932-1948**

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 21
History of Ireland Essay Due

**Lecture Fourteen
Wednesday, 15 February
Ireland in the 1950s**

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 22

**Lecture Fifteen
Thursday, 16 February
Lemass Leads On...**

Required Reading: Moody, T.W. & Martin F.X. Chapter 22

**Lecture Sixteen
Monday, 20 February
Feedback Session**

**Lecture Seventeen
Wednesday, 22 February**

History of Ireland Final Exam - 10:30 a.m – 12:30 p.m, Classroom C199

Terms and Conditions:

Full attendance and participation in class is required.

Essays must answer the question or address the topic set. Essays must include discussion of different positions from the material researched, must develop an argument and reach a conclusion. Do not use overly long quotations; quotations, where applicable, must be clearly designated by quotation marks and accredited as to source.

All essays must be typed and one and a half times spaced, with a front page indicating the title, the name of the student, and to whom it is submitted. All essays must contain footnotes and a bibliography, including internet sources. It is essential that you cite all your sources in the text or

in footnotes. Please note that proper and full referencing is a marking criterion. Essays will be graded on the basis of evidence of reading, the analysis / interpretation provided, the understanding displayed, and the clarity of presentation.

Plagiarism:

All students are responsible for having read the Boston University statement on plagiarism. This is available in the Academic Conduct Code. Students are advised that the penalty against students on a Boston University program for cheating on examinations or plagiarism will be '*...expulsion from the program or the University or other such penalty as may be recommended by the Committee on Student Conduct subject to approval by the Dean*'.