

Core Course One

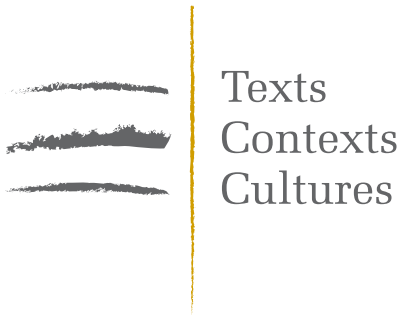
Imaging Ireland: Theories, Cultures, Contexts
 Nicholas Allen (NUIG)


This element of research training in the Texts, Contexts, Cultures pathway provides participating students with an introduction to the theoretical and material concerns of the study of Irish culture. The interdisciplinary framework is designed from elements of literature, history, visual arts and critical theory. The key concepts of Irish cultural criticism are terms of translation: empire, partition, civil war, emigration and globalization are current concerns in a wide range of transnational subject fields. This course is designed to introduce you to these general issues by means of their interpretation in the particular context of twentieth century Ireland.

Based in case studies of texts and objects in literature, history and the visual arts, *Imaging Ireland* tests the ways in which cultures, contexts and criticisms relate. Developing broad explanations of cultural movements through specific case studies of key artists and their works, we will take shifting perspectives of a multiple aesthetic landscape. In so doing, we will diversify our practice of cultural study, putting writers, painters, photographers and film makers in conversation with their changing moment. This course is intended to give students the theoretical and material tools necessary for pursuit of interdisciplinary research in their chosen field. In so doing it will offer grounding in the cultural concerns of twentieth century Ireland.

Dedicated class time will be set aside for research and writing skills. Each week's text will be supported by a wide range of critical readings, which will be posted online. All classes will lead with a brief graduate presentation and all assessment will be designed to suit your professional needs. This will result in a document useful to your progress, which may include an essay for publication, a conference proposal and paper, a thesis chapter or mixed media project. Students will also draw on resources provided by EEBO and ECCO. During the semester, twentieth century Ireland will be considered in five contexts: *Empire? (1900-1922)*, *Independence (1922-1945)*, *Republic (1945-1968)*, *Loss (1968-1989)* and *Transformation (1990-2000)*.

Indicative Reading: J. M. Synge, *The Aran Islands*; William Butler Yeats, *Yeats's Poems*; Erskine Childers, *The Riddle of the Sands*; Terence MacSwiney, *Principles of Irish Freedom*; Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington, *Reminiscences of an Irish Suffragette*; J. M. Synge and Jack Yeats, *Report on the West of Ireland*; James Joyce, *Ulysses*; Paul Henry; Mainie Jellett; Sir John Lavery; William Orpen; Ernie O'Malley, *On Another Man's Wound*; Eric Cross, *The Tailor and Anstey*; Kate O'Brien, *The Land of Spices*; Sean Keating; Colin Middleton; Flann O'Brien, *At Swim-Two-Birds*; Patrick Scott; John McGahern, *The Dark*; Edna O'Brien, *The Country Girls*; Samuel Beckett, *Collected Plays*; Louis le Brocq; Norah McGuinness; Ciaran Carson, *Belfast Confetti*; Seamus Heaney, *Opened Ground*; Medbh McGuckian, *On Ballycastle Beach*; Paul Muldoon, *Moy Sand and Gravel*; Hugo Hamilton, *The Speckled People*; Richard Murphy, *Sailing to an Island*; Francis Bacon; Paul Durcan, *O Westport in the Light of Asia Minor*; Brian Friel, *Translations*; Neil Jordan, *A Night in Tunisia*, (dir.), *The Crying Game*; Thomas Kilroy, *Double Cross*;



Thomas Kinsella, *Nightwalker and Other Poems*; Tony O'Malley; Robert Ballagh; Eavan Boland, *In a Time of Violence*; Seamus Deane, *Reading in the Dark*; John Banville, *The Sea*; Vona Groarke, *Shale*; Sean Hillen; Martin McDonagh, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*; Magnum Ireland; Jamie O'Neill, *At Swim Two Boys*; Paul Seawright; Colm Toibin, *The Blackwater Lightship*; Ken Loach (dir.), *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*; Jim Sheridan, (dir.) *In America*

General Reference: Terence Brown, *Ireland: A Social and Cultural History 1922-1985*; Diarmid Ferriter, *The Transformation of Ireland*; Roy Foster, *Modern Ireland 1600-1972*; J.J. Lee, *Ireland 1912-1985: Politics and Society*:
On Literature: *Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing* (1991, 2002); David Cairns and Shaun Richards, *Writing Ireland: Colonialism, Nationalism and Culture* (1988); Seamus Deane, *Celtic Revivals. Essays in Modern Irish Literature* (1985); Declan Kiberd, *Inventing Ireland* (1996); *Irish Classics* (2000); David Lloyd, *Anomalous States: Irish Writing and the Post-Colonial Moment* (1993); Chris Morash, *A History of Irish Theatre 1601-2000* (2002); Ray Ryan, (ed.), *Writing in the Irish Republic: Literature, Culture, Politics 1949-1999* (2000):
On History: Sean Connolly, (ed.), *Oxford Companion to Irish History* (2000); Ruth Dudley Edwards and Bridget Hourican, *An Atlas of Irish History* (2005); Diarmid Ferriter, *The Transformation of Ireland* (2005); R. F. Foster, *Paddy and Mr. Punch* (1993); Stephen Howe, *Ireland and Empire: Colonial Legacies in Irish History and Culture* (2000); Alvin Jackson, *Home Rule: An Irish History 1800-2000* (2003); Ian McBride, (ed.), *History and Memory in Modern Ireland* (2001); Kevin Kenny, (ed.), *Ireland and the British Empire* (2004); Bill Kissane, *Explaining Irish Democracy* (2002); Eunan O'Hallpin, *Defending Ireland. The Irish State and its Enemies since 1922* (1999):
On Visual Arts: Bruce Arnold, *Irish Art: A Concise History* (1977); *Circa*; Fintan Cullen, *Visual Politics: The Representation of Ireland, 1750-1930* (1997); Brian Fallon, *Irish Art, 1830-1990* (1994); S. B. Kennedy, *Irish Art and Modernism, 1880-1950* (1991); *Source*; Dorothy Walker, *Modern Art in Ireland* (1997):
On Criticism: Joe Cleary and Claire Connolly (eds), *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Irish Culture* (2005); Joe Cleary, *Outrageous Fortune* (2007); Claire Connolly, (ed.), *Theorizing Ireland* (2003); Walter Benjamin, *Illuminations* (1968); Elleke Boehmer, *Empire, the National, and the Postcolonial, 1890-1920* (2002); Terry Eagleton, *Crazy John and the Bishop and other essays on Irish Culture* (1998); Brian Fallon, *An Age of Innocence: Irish Culture, 1930-1960* (1998); Marjorie Howes, *Colonial Crossings: Figures in Irish Literary History* (2006); Gerry Smyth, *Space and the Irish Cultural Imagination* (2001)