

General Studies Department: Lehman College. The Irish-American Experience: from the Tain to the United States.

Course #: LEH 301, 2851, Spring 2007
Class times: Mondays 6:00 – 8:40 PM
Location: Reservoir Building, Room 134
Professor: Denis Murphy
e-mail: omurchadha@juno.com

Course Description:

This course focuses on the ethnic background of the Irish who came to the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It explores the Celtic past through the heroic age of An Tain Bo Cuailnge, the Golden age of saints and scholars, invasions, attempted conquest and colonization, the Penal Laws, Catholic Emancipation, The Great Famine, The Gaelic Revival, independence and the new state. From there the course follows the path of the Irish in the “new world” as the cities and farm land of the United States provide new beginnings to grow and prosper.

Learning Aims:

- 1) to learn about the history of the people who emigrated from Ireland to the New World.
- 2) to learn characteristics of the culture of Ireland.
- 3) to learn the history of the Irish as they began to populate the cities of the United States.
- 4) to learn the history of a sample of Irish people who populated the United States outside the urban areas.
- 5) To apply the MLA style of writing in all papers.

Attendance: attendance at class is required in order to successfully complete the course. There is a penalty for undocumented non- attendance.

Grading:

- 1) Class attendance and participation: 30%
- 2) Projects and written assignments: 40%
- 3) Final Exam 30%

The Irish in Ireland.

Written Assignments and Presentations: #1

Write a review of one of the following sites. Prepare them for class distribution. Write one page minimum. Write a heading, the web site address and review of its content. Include a cover page. If the content is too short research and report on another relevant site.

1. Government of Ireland website www.irlgov.ie
2. Irish America West project www.wiisonline.org/IAW
3. National Library of Ireland www.nli.ie
4. National Archives of Ireland www.nationalarchives.ie
5. British Library www.bl.uk

6. Marsh Library www.marshlibrary.ie
7. Public Records Office, Northern Ireland www.proni.gov.uk
8. Royal Irish Academy www.ria.ie
9. Religious Society of Friends in Ireland www.quakers-in-ireland.ie
10. Celt: Corpus of electronic Texts www.ucc.ie/celt/

11. Central Statistics Office www.cso.ie
12. N.U.I. Maynooth Library Online:
www.nuim.ie/library/gateway/other_catalogues.shtml
13. RASCAL www.rascal.ac.uk/
14. U.C.D Archives www.ucd.ie/archives/html/main_fra.htm
15. Linen Hall Library www.linenhall.com

16. Chester Beatty Library www.cbl.ie
17. Christ church cathedral Archive www.cccdub.ie
18. Garda Historical Soc., Police History.com
www.esatclear.ie/~garda/index.html
19. Irish Architectural Archive www.iarc.ie

20. Irish Film archive www.fii.ie.archive/
21. The Irish Manuscripts Commission www.irishmanuscripts.ie/
22. Irish Traditional Music Archive www.itma.ie/
23. Marsh's Library, Dublin www.marshlibrary.ie/
24. National Museum of Ireland www.museum.ie
25. Trinity College Library, Dublin www.tcd.ie/Library/

26. Special Collections, UCC
<http://booleweb.ucc.ie/search/subject/speccol/sc-manus.htm>
27. James Hardiman Library, UCG www.library.nuigalway.ie/
28. Economic and Social History of Ireland www.eh.net/eshi/index.html

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| 29. | The Irish Labour History Society | www.ilhsonline.org/ |
| 30. | History Ireland Magazine | www.history Ireland .com |
| 31. | The Military Heritage of Ireland | www.irishsoldiers.com |
| 32. | The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland | www.rsai.ie |
| 33. | Ulster Historical Foundation | www.ancestryireland.co.uk |
| 34. | Federation of Local History Societies | www.homepage.eircom.net/~localhist/index.html |
| 35. | The Wild Geese | www.thewildgeese.com |
| 36. | The Irish Echo | www.irishecho.com |

Due date: please see calendar.

Themes in Irish History:

- 1) Identity- How did this person/event contribute to the Irish identity and what is it?
 - 2) Invasions-how did these change Irish identity?
 - 3) What is the culture and what survived?
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- 1) How did Ireland relate to England and the rest of the world?
 - 2) How is Ireland coping with economic success?

Written assignment and Presentation #2

Research one of the following or an event from the time chart on Irish History/Culture. Write your sources as citations and in a Bibliography. Write a minimum of four pages and include a cover page. Present in class. Use 12 font regular spacing and Times New Roman.

Due date: please see calendar.

People:

Surnames

Places:

Tara, Cruahan, Cashel, Armagh, Dublin Castle/castles, The Pale,

Religion

Druids

Saint Patrick

The Monasteries/confiscations

Catherine Elizabeth McAuley

Edmund Ignatius Rice

Politics

Brian Boru

Diarmuid Mac Murrough

Grainne Uaile/Grace O'Malley

O'Sullivan Bere (1560-1618)

The O'Neills

The O'Donnells

Henry Grattan

Wolfe Tone

Robert Emmet

Issac Butt

Daniel O'Connell

Charles Gavan Duffy

Charles Stewart Parnell

James Connolly

Grace Gifford Plunkett

Maude Gonne

Countess Markievicz

Michael Collins

Eamon DeValera

Sean MacBride
Sean Lemass
Bernadette Devlin McAliskey
Charles Haughey
Garret FitzGerald
Mairead Farrell
Albert Reynolds / John Major / John Hume / George Mitchell
Mary Robinson
Bertie Ahern
Mary McAleese

Literature

The Book of Kells
Austin Clarke
Brendan Behan
Maeve Binchy
Jonathan Swift
Oliver Goldsmith
Lady Augusta Gregory
Douglas Hyde
Oscar Wilde
John Millington Synge
WB Yeats
Sean O'Casey
George Bernard Shaw
Thomas Moore
Padraig Pearse
Flann O'Brien
James Joyce
Patrick Kavanagh
Frank O'Connor
Samuel Becket
Seamus Heaney
Edna O'Brien

Music and dance, Ireland

O' Carolan
Sets, ceilis, step-dancing
Thin Lizzy
Sean Nos
The Cranberries
U2
Bob Geldof

Movies and People.

Man of Aran

The Lady from Shanghai

The Quiet Man

Colin Farrell

Darby O’Gill and the Little People

Far and Away.

Cal

Far and Away

The Devil’s Own

The Secret of Roan Inish (102 mins.)

One Man’s Hero

Million Dollar Baby

Maureen O’Hara

General Interest

Annie Moore

Bob Geldof

Ann Goody Glover

Newspapers in Ireland

Beo

Irish independent

Irish Times

Sunday Tribune

Sunday Business Post

Also, for historical papers see archives web site

The Irish in America.

Written assignment and Presentation #3

Conduct an interview with a person who is 60 plus. The following questions should be addressed: see appendix.

Due date: please see calendar.

Written assignment and Presentation #4

- 4) Research one of the following subjects or events from the time chart on Irish-American History/Culture. Write your sources as citations and in a Bibliography. Write a minimum of four pages and include a cover page. Present in class.

Due date: please see calendar.

Themes in Irish-American History

- 1) What did it mean to be the “first” minority group?
- 2) Why did Catholicism become such a strong symbol for Irish people in the United States?
- 3) Why did the political machines thrive when today we would regard them as corrupt?
- 4) Was equality achieved?
- 5) What did success mean?
- 6) Why was there a strong sense of no return and such a bond for home?
- 7) What role did the Northern Ireland conflict play (Mac Bride Principles)?
- 8) How did and do the Irish relate to other races?
- 9) What has political and economic success meant?

US People

Business

Alexander Brown	(1764-1834)
Michael Cudahy	(1841-1910)
Henry Ford	(1863-1947)
William Russell Grace	(1832-1904)
William Randolph Hearst	(1863-1951)
Howard R. Hughes	(1863-1951)
Anthony O'Reilly	Former CEO of Heinz Corporation
Charles Feeney	Former Billionaire
Donald Keough	Former CEO of Coca Cola

Education

John R. Gregg	(1867-1948)
William H. McGuffey	(1800-1873)

Journalism

Edward R. Murrow	(1908-1965)
Jimmy Breslin	(1929-)
William F. Buckley	(1925-)

Labour Leaders

Peter James McGuire	(1852-1906)
Elizabeth Gurley Flynn	(1890-1964)
George Meany	(1894-1980)

Literature

Eugene O'Neill	(1888-1953)
Francis Scott Fitzgerald	(1896-1940)
Margaret Mitchell	(1900-1949)
John O'Hara	(1905-1970)
Michael Joseph Quill	(1905-1966)
Flannery O'Connor	(1925-1964)
Cornelius Ryan	
Higgins Clark Mary	

Military

John Barry	(1745-1803)
Patrick R. Cleburne	(1828-1864)
William J. Donovan	(1883-1959)
Alfred Thayer Mahan	(1840-1914)
Audie Murphy	(1924-1971)
Philip H. Sheridan	(1831-1888)
John Sullivan	(1740-1795)

Politics/Public Service

Charles Carroll	(1737-1832)
Richard Joseph Daley	(1902-1976)
Sir Thomas Dongan	(1634-1715)
Raymond Kelly	
John Fitzgerald Kennedy	(1917-1963)
Robert Francis Kennedy	(1925-1968)
Edward More Kennedy	(1932-)
Eugene McCarthy	(1916-)
Joseph Raymond McCarthy	(1908-1957)
Mary Holt Moore	
Daniel P. Moynihan	(1927-)
Sandra Day O'Connor	(1930-)
Thomas P. ("Tip") O'Neill	(1912- 19)
Alfred Emmanuel Smith	(1873-1944)

Religion

John Carroll	(1735-1825)
John Joseph Hughes	(1797-1864)
Francis Makemie	(1658-1708)
John McCloskey	(1810-1885)
John Joseph O'Connor	(1920-)
Fulton J. Sheen	(1895-1979)
Francis Spellman	(1889-1967)
Cardinal O Connor	

Sports

Charles Albert Comiskey	
James Connors	
James (Gentleman Jim) Corbett	(1866-1933)
Willaim H. (Jack) Dempsey	

Newspapers in the United States

American Celt (New York)
Boston Advertiser
Commercial Advertiser (New York)
Daily Tribune (New York)
Evening Post (New York)
Herald (New York)
Irish American (New York)
Irish Echo (New York)
Irish Times (New York)
Irish Voice (New York)
Irish Vindicator (New York)
Morning Telegraph (New York)
Post (New York)
Sun (New York)

Periodicals/Journals/Magazines

Irish Miscellany (New York)
Irish America Magazine
Post Office Directories (New York)
Tablet (New York)
Thom's Directories (New York)
The Truth Teller (New York)

Appendix 1

Schedule of classes: Monday nights except February 21st., 2005

- January 30. Introduction / The Tain Pages 53-100**
- February 06. History and literature / Presentations. #1 on web sites
Work on #2 The Tain pgs 100-156 and #3 The Interview**
- February 21. The Tain Pages 200-205 / History and literature / Presentations #2
Tuesday**
- February 27. The Tain Pages 205-235 /Presentations #2**
- March 06. The Tain / Indentured Servants**
- March 13. History / Poetry / Presentation #3**
- March 20 History / The Confirmation Suit /Presentation #3**
- March 27. Introduction to Irish-America / Long Journey home / Begin #4
Presentation / The Irish-America West Project, Kansas**
- April 03. History / The Lusk Map / Long Journey Home/ Presentations #4**
- April 10 History / Presentation #4**
- April 24 History / The Connemara Irish in Minnesota**
- May 01 History / The Irish-America West Project, Kansas Presentations
#5**
- May 08. History / The Irish-America West Project, Kansas Presentations
#5**
- May 15. Last day of class.**
- May 22. Final Exam.**

Appendix 2

Bibliography

- Driscoll Charles Kansas Irish Online/IAWP.
- Donovan Josephine Black Soil Boston, Massachusetts: The Alpine Press, 1930 Online/IAWP
- Dineen Joseph Ward Eight New York: Arno Press, 1947 (The Bosses)
- Forster R.F. The Oxford History of Ireland Oxford OUP 1992
- Gallagher Thomas Paddy's Lament New York: Harout Brace, 1987
(1846-1847)
- Hayes Charles Edward The Four Winds Online/IAWP
- Ignatiev Noel How the Irish Became White New York: Routledge, 1995
- Kinsella Thomas The Tain Oxford: OUP, 2002
- Kyne Peter B. Tide of Empire Online/IAWP
- Llywelyn Morgan Red Branch New York: Ballantine, 1989
- Norris Kathleen My California Online/IAWP
- Norris Kathleen My San Francisco Online/IAWP
- Quigley Hugh The Irish Race in California, and on the Pacific Coast
San Francisco, California: A. Roman and Company, 1878
Online/IAWP
- Quin Peter Banished Children of Eye New York: Viking 1994
(Draft Riots)
- Stewart Ramona Casey Boston: Little, Brown, 1968

Appendix 3

Irish-America: Time Line

August 2005.

- 1737** Charles Carroll dies. Only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- 1790** First Federal census: 44,000 Irish born people
150,000 ex 3 million claim ancestry
35,000 Catholics
- 1800's** (early) First Catholic Church in Boston. Worked as artisans.
As cities expand, worked as labourers.
Av. wage for a 15 hour day: 50 cents.
Some left the Atlantic seaboard for the railroad lines.
- 1817** Erie Canal: Irish labourers.
- 1845-** Famine in Ireland: 1.5 million die (20% of pop.) from typhus, cholera,
1851 dysentery and starvation. 30% emigrated by 1855: 2.5 million.
Coffin ships: 6-12 week trips on unregulated ships, c. 250,000 die en route. 1827 37,000 arrive in Boston. Saloons become the new meeting point for a rural people. Labourers. "No Irish Need Apply."
Racial profiling: Irish poverty and illiteracy were due to themselves
Fear of loyalty to the pope.
In New York, 30 to 40 ships per day. Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank.
- 1855** The Native American Party or Know Nothings: new Penal Laws.
176,000 immigrants from Ireland in NYC; 1/5 of voters.
- 1840's-** Catholic Church transformed: parochial education system.
1850's
- 1861-** 200,000 Irish immigrants fought in the Civil War. The fighting '69th..
- 1865** Conflict over slavery and jobs. Draft riots.

- 1868** NYC-Tammany Hall/Democratic Party political machine: naturalization, police, firemen, gas workers etc.
- 1877** Ten Molly Maguires were hung in Pennsylvania.
- 1880** Six million Irish Catholics/ 1840 four million.
- 1880's** Knights of Labour: Irish join in thousands. Rise of a middle class.
- 1880's-** Irish Democratic "bosses": "Big Tim" Sullivan and Al Smith of
1900's New York. John Coughlin of Chicago. John Fitzgerald of Boston. The Prendergasts of Kansas City.
- 1890** US Census: 1,872,000 Irish born; 2% in agriculture; New York, Boston (majority), Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco. Chain immigration.
- 1891** Ellis Island opens, first immigrant was Annie Moore.
- 1900's** (early) Irish: 35% white collar, 50% skilled, 15% unskilled. Making progress.
- 1914-** World War 1. Played part. Father Duffy in Times' Square.
1918
- 1920-** Irish immigration dwindled as Congress legislates with the 1965
1960's Immigration Act.
- 1960** John Fitzgerald elected president.
- 1928** Al Smith defeated by Republican Hoover but carries all 12 cities for the first time.
- 1939-** World War II. Audie Murphy. Most decorated. Congressional medals
1945 of Honour.
- 1960's-** Irish become part of the melting pot or salad bowl, 7 million
2005 emigrated. Forty million claim ancestry.

Appendix 4

LEH 301 The Tain: to the American city and beyond. January 30th., 2006.

Interview Question guidelines:

1. Be courteous, respectful and sensitive.
2. Speak English and have a NY address
3. Provide address and telephone number
4. Be over 60
- 5 Use your initiative to 'run' with a question.

Paper:

Standard 12 font, times new Roman, double-spaced, cover page. It is expected that your paper will be 3-5 pages in length. Add anecdotal questions, what food did you like/dislike most etc.? Marriage, children ...?

Questions:

1. When did you first come to the US?
2. Why did you come?
3. How did you feel leaving your family or did they come before you or after you or were you alone?
4. How did you travel here?
5. What were your ideas of the US before you came?
6. What was your first experience here?
7. Where did you settle?
8. Why?
9. How did you feel when you were here for the first year?
10. How did you adjust to the culture?
11. Were people friendly?
12. What changes did you see over the time you have been here?
13. How did you make a living?
14. Did you change your diet?
15. Did you change your dress?
16. Did you make the right decision coming here?
17. Would you recommend the US to others?
18. What was your happiest memory?
19. What was your saddest memory?
20. Did you apply for citizenship if you qualified? Why?
21. Would you go through the whole experience again?

Appendix 5

Reading Assignment: Irish-America.

Written assignment and Presentation #5

Write a review of your reading circle book. You can plan and work both in class and at home. Write a three page paper following the standard 12 font, Times New Roman, cover page format. Include the following:

Emotional response:

1. Did you like the book or not? Would you recommend it? Why? Why not?

Academic writing:

1. Genre.
2. Plot
3. Point of view.
2. Characterization
3. Themes.

Due date: #5

Appendix 6 Irish-History Time Line