

SU401 REPRESENTING IRELAND: LITERATURE AND FILM (3 Credits)

COURSE OBJECTIVE: The aim of this course is to analyze the varied ways in which 'Ireland' and 'Irishness' have been represented in a range of English-language media, including fiction, poetry, drama and film. The course will be structured around particular themes such as the representation of 'The West', the contrast between city and country, the politics of theatre, gender identity, and the meaning of Irish nationality. We will be reading some of the major works by Irish writers such as W.B. Yeats and James Joyce, but we will also look at important figures like Liam O'Flaherty and Eavan Boland. We will also view and discuss a number of films from both American and Irish filmmakers.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week 1	Induction Introductory Lecture W.B. Yeats I Irish Theatre I
Week 2	Irish Theatre II Irish Theatre III W.B. Yeats II SEMINAR: Representing the Aran Islands Ireland and Cinema I
Week 3	SEMINAR: Women and the Irish Poetic Tradition James Joyce I Ireland and Cinema II
Week 4	James Joyce II Contemporary Irish Poetry Contemporary Fiction: <u>The Butcher Boy</u> Ireland and Cinema III
Week 5	Review

COURSE TEXTS:

1. J. Harrington (ed.): Modern Irish Drama (Norton paperbacks)
2. J. Joyce: Dubliners (Penguin paperbacks)
3. W.B. Yeats: Selected Poetry (Penguin)
4. Patrick McCabe: The Butcher Boy

Additional material will be supplied as handouts. Films will be available for viewing in the University Library. Films to be viewed will include *The Quiet Man* (1952), *The Butcher Boy* (1992), *The Magdalene Sisters* (2002) and *Adam and Paul* (2004).

REQUIREMENTS FOR CREDITS:

1. Attendance and participation in all regularly scheduled lectures and seminars.
2. One essay of 1,500 words on a subject assigned by the Course Director in Representing Ireland: Literature and Film.
3. Written examination of material covered in Representing Ireland: Literature and Film.

COURSE PROFESSORS:

Sean Ryder, M.A., Ph.D

Sean Ryder was born in the United States and received his PhD from University College Dublin. He has taught in Dublin and Galway and his current research field is nineteenth-century Irish writing. He has published *James Clarence Mangan: Selected Writings* (2004), and published numerous articles on the culture of Irish nationalism. He also teaches in the Huston School of Film and Digital Media at NUI, Galway and has written on Irish cinema.

Lionel Pilkington, M.A., Ph.D

Lionel Pilkington was educated at University of Toronto. He has taught as senior Lecturer in Drama at Sheffield City Polytechnic and at NUI, Galway. His research interests include theatre and political conflict in Ireland, critical theory and the cultural impact of colonialism. His book *Theatre and the State in 20th Century Ireland: Cultivating the People* was published by Routledge in 2001.

Fiona Bateman, M.A., Ph.D

Fiona Bateman is a graduate of University College Dublin and NUI, Galway. She teaches courses on Irish cinema, cinema and colonialism, and African writing at NUI, Galway. She has co-edited three volumes of essays, including *Irish-Australian Studies* (2002).

Mary O'Malley

Mary O'Malley is one of Ireland's leading poets. She was born in Connemara and educated at NUI, Galway, and has lectured in several universities in Europe and the United States. She has published six volumes of poetry, including *The Boning Hall* (2002) and *A Perfect V* (2006). Mary was elected to Aosdána, the honorary affiliation of Irish artists in 2001, and her work has been translated into several languages.