



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

School of Histories and Humanities

Evening & Short Courses Programme

Michaelmas Term 2026-27



A programme of part-time study for adult learners.

Explore a diverse range of courses in the Arts and Humanities, designed to provide intellectual stimulation in a flexible and accessible format. All courses are delivered by experienced academics and subject specialists within The School of Histories and Humanities, Trinity College Dublin.

Further information and online application:

<https://histories-humanities.tcd.ie/shortcourses/>

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INFORMATION

ENROLMENTS

Michaelmas Term: Enrolments open Thursday 13 August and will close at 5pm Thursday 6 September.

Teaching term begins Monday 14 September 2026. Some courses start on Monday 21 and Monday 28 September, please see relevant dates below.

Hilary Term: Enrolments open Thursday 3 December until Monday 14 December and will reopen from Thursday 7 January until 5pm Thursday 14 January 2027.

Teaching term begins Monday 18 January 2027.

N.B. Many courses have a limited number of places available and will be offered on a first-come- first-served basis. **Enrolments will close when a course is fully booked.**

HOW TO APPLY

ONLINE:

You may apply and pay by credit/debit card online* at <http://www.histories-humanities.tcd.ie/shortcourses>

*NB: Payments are through PayPal – you do not need a PayPal account just click on the ‘pay by card’ option. Do not click on the ‘save details to create account’ as this will not allow you to pay by card. Make sure this option is not ticked.

BY PHONE: Please text ‘Book a course’ to 087 257 2015 to request a call back. Please note that the phone will be very busy during the application period so there may be a delay in replying to your call. We thank you for your patience and understanding during the busy period.

BY POST: Please send the application form (page 35 below) with a cheque/PO made payable to TCD no 1 a/c to:

School of Histories and Humanities Evening and Short Courses Programme
Room 3141 Arts Building

Trinity College

Dublin 2 D02 XH97

N.B. If you are applying by post, please make sure to have your application into us as soon as possible.

IN PERSON: You may book in-person at the following dates and times at our NEW pop-up desk in the Arts Building foyer:

FRIDAY 14 AUGUST

11.00 am - 13.00 pm & 14.00 - 16.00

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST

11.00 am - 13.00 pm & 14.00 - 16.00

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

11.00 am - 13.00 pm & 14.00 - 16.00

THURSDAY 14 JANUARY

11.00 am - 13.00 pm & 14.00 - 16.00



Visit our Pop-Up Information Desk

Do drop in for a friendly chat and learn more about our programmes and services. Trish and Alberto will be available to answer your questions on
6th & 7th August 11:00am – 1:00pm & 2:00pm – 4:00pm

CONCESSIONS

The concession rate is now available to all those who are retired, over 65 years of age and unwaged.

LECTURES

Unless otherwise stated, all courses are lecture-only and do not have any follow-up seminars or assessments. When lectures fall on bank holidays or when undergraduate examinations take place during a scheduled lecture, subject matter is generally integrated into other lectures rather than a replacement lecture taking place. **In these cases, no refunds will be given.**

LECTURE NOTES, BLACKBOARD AND LIBRARY ACCESS

As our Evening and Short-Courses lectures are audit only and do not carry any academic credit, people enrolled on our evening and short courses **DO NOT** have access to lecture notes nor to Blackboard. Library access is limited to undergraduate and postgraduate students.

AUDIO/VISUAL RECORDINGS AND MOBILE PHONES

Please note that recording lectures or taking photos is not permitted. This includes using mobile phones for photos or recordings. We kindly ask that you don't approach the lecturer about this, as it's part of College policy. Thank you for helping us maintain a respectful and focused learning environment

TIMETABLES

Timetables are subject to change up to the start of term. Confirmation of times and venues will be emailed to attendees in the week before teaching starts on the course. In the unlikely event that a new lecture time does not suit you, your fee will be refunded.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL RECEIVE A VENUE FOR YOUR LECTURE AFTER YOU HAVE REGISTERED FOR YOUR COURSE



Arts Building attendant, Darren Thompson with Short Courses student, Mary Murphy



Extramural students enjoy the same lectures as undergraduates

TERM DATES

Michaelmas Term

N.B. (*In Michaelmas Term (semester 1), evening courses, apart from language classes, have a later start date – see relevant course information below)

Teaching starts: 14 September 2026 – First year courses start 21 September

Reading week: 26 – 30 October

Teaching ends: 11 December 2026

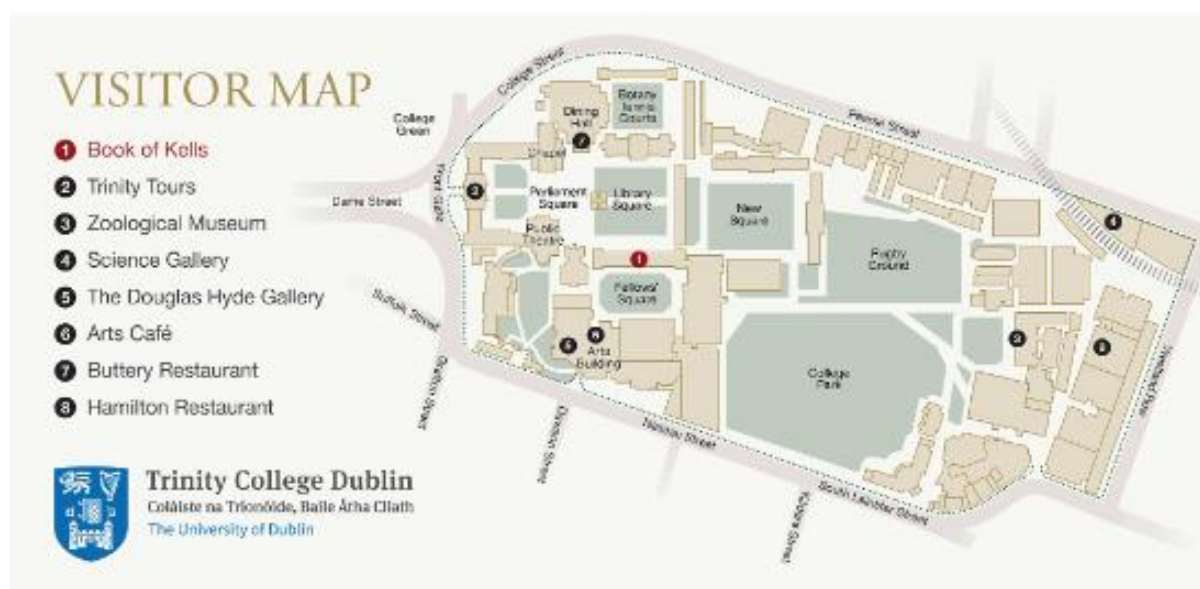
Hilary Term

Teaching starts: 18 January 2027

Reading Week: 1 - 5 March 2027

Teaching ends: 9 April 2027

Bank holidays: Monday 2 February 2027
Monday 17 March 2027
Good Friday 25 March 2027
Easter Monday 29 March 2027



<https://www.tcd.ie/Maps/map.php>

CLASSICS

SC01 Introduction to Greek Art and Architecture

This module offers an introductory survey of the development and major artistic and artistic achievements of Greek architecture, sculpture and painting from the Greek Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period. The module places art



and architecture in its social, political and cultural context. It explores themes such as the representation of the human form, the use of narrative and mythology in art, urbanisation, and the development of architectural forms such as temples and theatres.

Lecturer: Dr Giorgos Papantoniou

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Time: LECTURE 1: Wednesdays 10am
LECTURE 2: Thursdays 2pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Wednesday 23 September 2026.

SC02 Introduction to Greek History

This course provides an introductory survey of the history of the Greek world, from the Greek Archaic age to the Hellenistic period. The main trends and issues of this period will be explored through major themes such as colonisation, imperialism, war, the Athenian invention of democracy, and the rise of Alexander.

Lecturer: Dr Shane Wallace

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.



Lecture time: Day-time course:

LECTURES 1 & 2: Tuesdays 9 – 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Tuesday 22 September 2026.

SC03 Greek and Roman Mythology and Religion Part I

What is myth? How do myths deal with fundamental human concerns about who we are and the world we live in? This module is an introduction to the major myths of the classical world using the full range of primary source material: literary, artistic and archaeological. It explores the functions of myth within society and the various theories of myth. The key themes of the module will include creation myths in the wider context of Near Eastern mythology, the character of the Olympian gods, heroes and their monstrous opponents, divine-human relations, and the major mythic cycles of the Trojan war, and the Atreus and Theban sagas.



Lecturer: Dr Suzanne O'Neill

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Wednesdays
3pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Wednesday 23 September 2026

SC06 Beginners Modern Greek Language

This evening course will run subject to sufficient numbers enrolling – there will be a limited number of places available.

This module is designed for students with no previous knowledge of modern Greek.

You will develop a basic knowledge of Greek vocabulary and grammar, and develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing at a basic level. Students will also be introduced to some key features of Greek culture. The course is taught by a Greek native-speaker.

The module is taught in small groups through one weekly class across an academic year. Attendance, homework assignments and preparation for each class are compulsory.

Α Β Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν
Ξ Ο Π Ρ Σ Τ Υ Φ Χ Ψ Ω
α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν
ξ ο π ρ ς σ τ υ φ χ ψ ω

Fee: (You must sign up for the full year to secure a place on this course). €275 for the course *the concession rate is €150 *The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 6 – 7.30 pm

Your class venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This course comprises of one 1½ hour class per week over two terms commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026 and recommencing 19 January 2027.

SC07 Ancient Greek Language and Culture- Beginners

This evening course will run subject to sufficient numbers enrolling – there will be a limited number of places available

This course offers a comprehensive appraisal of the language of ancient Greece. It also explores some central features of Ancient Greek literature. In this course we aim to examine the cultural context surrounding classical Greek and its successors. In the first term, those who have knowledge of Greek grammar will be able to review it at a leisurely pace while people with little or no knowledge will have an opportunity to learn the basics of the Greek grammar. Aspects such as the origins of the language and the dialects will also be considered in the first term. The second term will be devoted to a careful study of the Ancient Greek literary language through samplings of Greek authors, in both poetry and prose, ranging from the archaic to Hellenistic times. We will also consider the relevance of the past in the present and there will be time to explore some favourite topics in more depth through inclusive but leisurely class discussion.



Fee: (You must sign up for the full year to secure a place on this course).
€275 for the course *the concession rate is €150 *The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Wednesdays 6 - 7.30

Your class venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This course comprises of one 1½ hour class per week over two terms commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026 and recommencing 19 January 2027.

SC15 Modern Greek – Post beginners

This evening course will run subject to sufficient numbers enrolling.

This module is designed for students with a basic knowledge of modern Greek.

This post-beginners' Modern Greek course deepens students' language skills while introducing them to more complex grammar and everyday conversation. Alongside language acquisition, the course explores key elements of Greek history and culture.

The module is taught in small groups through one weekly 1½ hour class across an academic year. Attendance, homework assignments and preparation for each class are compulsory.

Fee: (You must sign up for the full year to secure a place on this course). €275 for the course *the concession rate is €150

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.



Lecture time: Tuesdays 6 – 7.30 pm

Your class venue will be provided after you have registered for the course

Duration: This course comprises of one 1½ hour class per week over two terms commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026 and recommencing 20 January 2027.

SC05 Latin Language and Culture - Beginners

This course is for those wishing to learn Latin grammar, whether you are a complete beginner or you have some prior experience and would like to revise at a leisurely pace. It offers a comprehensive appraisal of the language of ancient Rome and some of the central features of its literature. In this course we aim to examine the cultural context surrounding classical Latin and its successors.

Fee: (You must sign up for the full year to secure a place on this course). €275 for the course. *The concession rate is €150.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 6 – 7:30 pm This course will be taught in the classroom (limited places available) as well as live streamed. Classes will not be recorded.

Your class venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This course comprises of one 1 ½ hour class per week over two terms commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026 and recommencing Tuesday 19 January 2027.

SC17 Latin Language and Culture: Intermediate

An intermediate reading course in Latin is combined with an exploration of Roman life and literature. Starting with a swift review of the basics of Latin grammar, we will aim to begin reading unadapted works of Roman literature by the end of the course.

Fee: (You must sign up for the full year to secure a place on this course). €275 for the course. *The concession rate is €150.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.00 This course will be taught in the classroom (limited places available) as well as live streamed. Classes will not be recorded.

Your class venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This course comprises of one 1 ½ hour class per week over two terms commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026 and recommencing Tuesday 19 January 2027.

HISTORY OF ART

SA01 Introduction to the History of Art 1

This module offers a survey of art up to the end of seventeenth century, with a focus primarily, although not exclusively, on the Western world. It provides an introduction to the critical analysis of artworks, including painting, mosaic, fine metalwork, manuscripts, and sculpture. The module considers such matters as the iconography of major religious and mythological subjects, issues of style, the functions of works of art, as well as the range of technical methods employed by artists. Art works are considered in the context of in-



fluential factors such as historical period, geographic location, inter-cultural influences and the prevailing social, political and religious environments.

Lecturers: Academic staff from the Department of Art and Architecture

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: LECTURE 1: Mondays 3 pm

LECTURE 2: Tuesdays 4 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Monday 21 September 2026.

SA02 Introduction to the History of Architecture 1

This module offers a survey of architecture up to the end of seventeenth century, with a focus primarily, although not exclusively, on the Western world. It introduces the critical analysis of buildings and the spaces that they occupy considering issues of style, function and technical innovation. Architecture is considered in the context of influential factors such as historical period, geographic location, inter-cultural influences and the prevailing social, political and religious environments.

Lecturers: Academic staff from the department of History of Art and Architecture

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Tuesday 22 September 2026.



SA03 Themes in Irish Art 1

This course presents a thematic introduction to Irish art, architecture and design in its broader international context. Subjects will be connected across periods and styles – the focus not on presenting individualised summarized



histories but rather considering how aspects of Irish visual history are connected and have evolved over time. Lectures will include the identification of key works from Irish art and architecture, addressing fine, applied and pop-

ular artforms. Throughout the course, Irish visual history will be discussed within its artistic, social and cultural contexts and will be cognisant of its place within a broader European perspective.

Lecturer: Academic staff from the department of History of Art and Architecture

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 12 noon

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026.

SA04 Cultural Intersections in the History of Art 1

This module presents a thematic series of the global intersections and relationships of Western visual and material culture across a range of historically located examples. Topics are explored in this module under the broad themes of knowledge and discovery and empire building. Through these lenses lectures will explore topics as diverse as the *Wunderkammer*, Islamic Iberia and the space race and what they reveal about cultural transmission through the ages.

Lecturer: Dr Rachel Moss

Fee: €85 for the course.

*The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.



Lecture time: Mondays 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Monday 14 September 2026.

SA05 Arts of Japan

This module will examine cultural highpoints in the arts of Japan from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Artefacts in all media - painting, ceramics, lacquer and textiles - will be examined in the context of the influence of China on Japan, the creation of the Shogun Court, the rise of the merchant classes and the establishment of the pleasure districts in burgeoning Tokyo. Particular attention will be paid to lacquer ware created for the domestic and European market; the arts associated with the tea ceremony and traditional Japanese theatre. Themes of Japonisme will be explored, particularly in nineteenth century Ireland as Japan emerged after 250 years of self-imposed isolation from the outside world



Lecturer:

Ms. Ruth Starr

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Mondays 5 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Monday 14 September 2026.

SA08 Arts of Astrology: Science and Belief from the Thirteenth to the Seventeenth Century

This module examines images of astrology found in illuminated manuscripts, astrological charts and talismans, playing cards, prints, maps, paintings and tapestries, as well as in architecture in the broad global early modern world to explore their political, medical, divinatory, and magical use. Considering the early modern Western astrology as the result of the intercultural exchanges from Greece, Babylon and India to the rest of the world via images and texts that translated diverse ideas on natural philosophy, the students will learn key concepts from Renaissance Neoplatonism and Hermeticism to discuss the reception of astrological knowledge in a variety of everyday objects. Students will also reflect on the role of astrological images in the trans-



mission of Western knowledge (deemed magical or scientific) via colonisation, as well as on the influence that early modern celestial observations taken forth by cutting-edge artifacts and novel circumnavigations around the world had on the global shaping of astrological imagery.

Lecturer: Dr Vanessa Portugal

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: LECTURE 1: Monday 10 pm
LECTURE 2: Tuesday 3 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Monday 14 September 2026.

SA13 Islamic Art & Architecture of the Medieval Mediterranean

This module considers objects and places from the medieval world that have accumulated multiple meanings over time. Challenging the narrative of a 'clash of civilisations' between Islam and Christianity, it focuses on the entangled histories of art and architecture in the medieval Mediterranean, examining through case studies the mediatory role of art, material culture and architecture from the 10th to 15th centuries.

Lecturer: Dr Anna McSweeney

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time:

LECTURE 1: Tuesdays 2 pm

LECTURE 2: Wednesdays 4 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Tuesday 15 September.



SA20 Ireland's Painters: At Home and Abroad, 1750 - 1950

This module traces the history of Ireland's painters from the mid-eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Over the course of this period, the work of artists in Ireland was shaped by myriad art historical, socio-economic and cultural contexts: politics, religion and class are interwoven through the lives of artists who found themselves in Ireland, and artists born on the island who travelled beyond its shores to further their careers. Beginning with artists active in Italy as part of the Grand Tour, travelling through the vicissitudes of the nineteenth century, and emerging into a changed Ireland in the early twentieth century, themes of colonialism, education, nationalism and exhibition cultures will also be explored. As part of this module, students will engage with art and library collections in TCD and neighbouring institutions, such as the National Gallery of Ireland, National Library of Ireland, and the Royal Irish Academy.



Lecturer: Dr Kathryn Milligan

Fee: €170 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €90.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time:

LECTURE 1: Monday 1 pm

Lecture 2: Wednesdays 5 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of two lectures per week over one term commencing Monday 14 September 2026.

HISTORY

SHH02 American Dreams: Culture in the US, 1840-present

This module provides an of some of the major developments in American culture since 1840. It will introduce students to the basic methods of cultural history and teach them how to place cultural developments within broader economic, political, and social contexts. Some of the themes that might be discussed in the module include: the way culture has shaped racial, gender, and lecture conflicts and identities; the role of popular music in American life; the growth of advertising and consumer culture; the role of culture in debates over immigration and multiculturalism; and how the conquest of the American West was registered in American culture.



Lecturer: Professor Dan Geary

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Tuesday 15 September2026

SHH03 Europe Divided, c. 1480-1620



This module explores the history of Europe during the sixteenth century. It assesses the era of Europe's Renaissance and Reformation, and considers efforts to revive European culture, religious life, politics, and society. It examines the impact of re-

form movements, analysing how cultural divisions and competition for power led to conflict within European societies and between European states. It covers a long sixteenth century, taking the 1492 defeat of the last emir of Granada as a point of departure and the second defenestration of Prague in 1618 as a moment of culmination and conclusion. The module covers all of Europe's major states from the Ottoman empire to Tudor England and considers European engagement with the rest of the world. Lectures and tutorials will focus on key moments to reflect on the wider changes that shaped the sixteenth century from 31 October 1517 in Wittenberg to 24/25 August 1572 in Paris. Lectures and tutorials will highlight important authors (including Niccolò Machiavelli and Desiderius Erasmus) and key historiographical texts to allow for discussion of political and cultural change across the sixteenth century in Europe.

Lecturer: Professor Graeme Murdock

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Wednesdays 2pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Wednesday 23 September 2026

SHH04 Humans and the Environment in Modern History

In contrast to the modern myth of mankind's liberation from nature, human interactions with the nonhuman world got more – and not less – intense in the past 200 years, creating some of the most severe environmental problems that we are facing today. In this module, we will take an environmental perspective on European imperialism, the Industrial Revolution, modern farming practices and international conflict to explore the relationship between social and ecological change in the modern world. At the same time, we will trace the rise of nature protection and environmental policies as responses to modernity's unintended by-products, such as pollution, the loss of wildlife, nuclear accidents and climate change. This module will introduce key approaches to the exciting study of historical human-nature relations, and combine local and transnational case studies that exemplify how the environment has mattered in modern history.



Lecturer: Dr Katja Bruisch

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Fridays 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Friday 18 September 2026

SHH05 Modern Eastern Europe, 1890-1990



This module offers an introduction to the history of modern Eastern Europe, with a focus on the region's politics, society, and culture, from the late 19th century to the present. It traces the collapse of the Ottoman, Habsburg, and Russian empires; the rise of nationalism and creation of nation-states; the impact of the world wars; the establishment and evolution of communist regimes; and the region's transition to democracy after the fall of communism in 1989. Through engagement with primary sources, memoirs, literature, artistic works, and major historiographical debates, it will explore how the countries of the region continue to grapple with the questions of identity, memory, power, and belonging raised during Europe's tumultuous twentieth century.

Lecturer: Dr Molly Pucci

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Mondays 3 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Monday 14 September 2026

SHH06 Saints and Sinners in Medieval Europe

The institutional church never had the kind of control over the populace of medieval Europe that modern people think it did. This module explores the multiplicity of types of belief and practice amongst those who lived in accordance with the church's teaching—monks and nuns, wandering preachers, pious families—and the varieties of resistance among those who did not—Jews, Muslims, and heretics, social revolutionaries, sexual nonconformists, practitioners of the occult, student wastrels. We will discuss the kinds of sources that tell us about these groups, including saints' lives, chronicles, Inquisition registers, letters, and poetry. People in the Middle Ages were no more credulous than we are today, but they had different sources of information. This module will help students appreciate how people in the past operated much as people do today, but in a very different world with a different set of assumptions. Continuous emphasis will be placed on the geographical and cultural diversity of medieval Europe and the Mediterranean, and the decentralized and multi-vocal nature of medieval religion.



Lecturer: Professor David Ditchburn

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Thursdays 1 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Thursday 24 September 2026

SHH07 The Sexual Politics of Modern Ireland



How important was sex to people's understanding of power, politics and policy in twentieth-century Ireland? This module explores the role of powerbrokers and stakeholders in the shaping of the sexual politics of modern Ireland. It asks questions about how power was mediated and framed in modern Ireland and why ideas of sex and morality were important. It examines the role of key players, such as the state, the law, the churches/voluntary organisations, campaigners and the media. Central questions considered are: How did

concepts regarding sex inform ideas of citizenship in Ireland? How did legislation shape people's sexual relationships and sexual lives? What role did the churches play in the contemporary framing of sexual relationships? How did ideas about sex inform health and welfare policies? How did the law reinforce certain beliefs about sex and sexuality? How and why did a particular narrative about Irish sexual culture as pathological and harmful emerge? Can we identify key moments of change in the sexual politics of twentieth-century Ireland?

Lecturer: Professor Lyndsey Earner-Byrne

Fee: €85 for the course. *The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Wednesdays 11 am

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Wednesday 23 September 2026

SHH17 The World Wars, 1914-1945

World War I and World War II were the key events in twentieth-century history, shaping our contemporary world. Societies mobilized for “total war” and aimed for unconditional victory, sacrificing unprecedented amounts of blood and treasure. Through lectures using primary and secondary sources encompassing the latest scholarly perspectives, this module analyses these formative events. Through these wars, our contemporary world came into being, and this module helps to understand the wars as interrelated processes of social transformation.



Lecturer: Professor Patrick Houlihan

Fee: €85 for the course. The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture times: Monday 12 noon

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing 21 September 2026

SHH18 Early Christian Ireland, 400-800 AD

This module deals with what has traditionally been known as Ireland's 'Golden Age.' After a brief introduction to prehistoric Ireland and the wider 'late antique' world, it covers in more detail the period from the arrival of Christianity in the fifth century up to the eve of the first Viking attacks at the end of the eighth. The focus is wide-ranging, from early Irish politics and the emergence of a high-kingship to St Patrick and the impact of Christianization, from Brehon law and the bonds of society to the study of landscape and settlement and early Irish farming, and from Hiberno-Latin and Gaelic literature to the visual art that culminated in the creation of the greatest masterpiece of the period, the Book of Kells.

Lecturer: Professor Immo Warntjes

Fee: €85 for the course. The concession rate for the course is €60.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.



Lecture times: Monday 2 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing 21 September 2026

SHH19 History in the Present

History confronts us in many ways, not just in books or lecture theatres. This module will involve looking at how events, people, places and objects from the past have taken on a 'history' and at how we encounter it in the present day. This will include looking at how a particular incident has been remembered or commemorated, perhaps in a painting, a monument, a ceremony or even a song, and the kinds of meaning attributed to it over time. It could also mean looking at how a particular location has become a site where the past is encountered, perhaps through exhibitions (including virtual ones), or at objects which are taken to represent past experiences. It may also involve considering how specific events or individuals might be made use of to advance present political claims, whether over contested territory or for the inclusion of excluded communities. The module will make use of case-studies selected from different periods and places. It will also involve looking at how we might understand the multiple ways in which the past can be conveyed and presented to, or participated in by, different audiences.

Lecturer: Professor Robert Armstrong

Fee: €85 for the course. The concession rate for the course is €60.

Lecture times: Thursday 10 am



Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Thursday 24 September 2026

SHH20 Imagining History

Most people, most of the time, never encounter the past through academic history books. Instead, the past confronts them in images and interpretations that appear everywhere from museums to advertisements, movies to monuments. The imagining of history is such a prominent trend in popular culture that students need to be equipped to deconstruct representations of the past and to interrogate their own working assumptions about history



imbibed from film and literature. This module explores three examples of how historical events and themes have been imagined in the world outside of professional historical scholarship. Students will examine how these subjects have been 'brought to life' in film and literature. Students will also have the opportunity

to consider wider questions and problems which link together the three subjects addressed in the module. This is not a module designed to test the accuracy, in a narrow sense, of 'historical fiction' in literature and film. The aim is rather to enable students to examine the ways in which the past has been presented, interpreted and re-interpreted in various genres; to uncover the assumptions or agendas that shaped creative decisions and the responses of audiences to genuinely popular representations of the past; and to reflect critically upon the qualities that make for a great work of historical imagination or reconstruction, qualities which cannot easily be replicated by the conventional methods of historical inquiry.

Lecturer: Professor Ciarán O'Neill

Fee: €85 for the course. The concession rate for the course is €60.

Lecture time: Friday 12 noon

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Friday 25 September 2026

SHH21 Thinking About Thought: Ideas in History

How might we understand how people thought in past centuries? About the natural world, or the supernatural? About ways to do politics? About their own past? This module offers an introduction to 'intellectual history' or the 'history of ideas', ways of doing history which attempt to answer these kinds of questions. The module will focus on case-studies from three fields in particular: the history of political thought; questions about understanding the natural world; scholarly and popular approaches to history. Examples of topics could include: what did 'Republicanism' mean for early modern people? How did 'scientists' understand the 'supernatural'? How was western 'liberalism' appropriated or rejected by people living under colonial rule? In what ways were responses to Darwin's ideas on evolution shaped by existing ideas and values in different societies? 'Thinking about thought' aims to investigate the kinds of assumptions, and the intellectual resources, which people brought to the task of thinking about questions of importance to them. It also seeks to open up questions about how we might go about examining and understanding the ideas of other societies, in light of our own limitation.



Lecturer: Professor Robert Armstrong

Fee: €85 for the course. The concession rate for the course is €60.

Lecture times: Tuesdays 4 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week over one term commencing Tuesday 15 September 2026

EVENING LECTURES

SCH101 Architects of Empire: Imperial Aggressors from Antiquity to the Present



This sixteen-lecture series explores the people, ideas, and institutions behind imperial expansion, from ancient Greece and Rome to today's global powers. Blending history, classics, and art history, it brings to life those who imagined, justified, and pursued conquest, examining how ambition, violence, and strategy shaped world orders. The course also investigates the cultural tools of empire—citizenship, law, architecture, and urban design—as instruments of power and control. Through focused case studies, it

traces the lasting legacies of empire, exploring how they continue to shape the modern world and how they are remembered, reinterpreted, and challenged through art and other media.

Fee: €180 for the full course or €99 per term/Concession €100 for the full course or €60 per term.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Mondays 7 – 8 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course.

This course will take place in-person on campus and will also be live streamed. Lectures will not be recorded.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week for eight weeks over two terms (16 lectures in total) commencing Monday 28 September 2026 and recommencing Monday 19 January 2026.

S002 Introduction to Irish Family History



Family History isn't just about the past: learning about our origins allows people to get down to the granular details of our ancestors' lives. It enables people to construct their own family narrative and their personal identity. This lecture-only module is taught through a series of eight lectures per term

over two terms by Fiona Fitzsimons & Brian Donovan of the Irish Family History Centre (Eneclann). The course covers a broad sweep of Irish history (1650s to 1950s) and is deeply rooted in the sources. The focus is on the records generated by churches, central and local government, enterprises, families and individuals; exploring what section of the Irish population is documented in these records, and how to interpret the evidence. Where record collections were destroyed, do any collateral records survive that contain relevant information? The fee includes archival visits and free access to the largest Irish collection online, www.Findmypast.ie. It will also provide support for all participants to construct a simple family history portfolio over sixteen weeks, including creating a family profile; research to collect documentary evidence; building a family tree; and writing a simple report.

Lecturer: Fiona Fitzsimons, *Eneclann*

Fee: €275 for the full year or €150 per term/ Concession €150 for the full year or €90 per term.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Mondays 6 – 7 pm

Your lecture venue will be provided after you have registered for the course. These lectures will also be live streamed. Lectures will not be recorded.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week for eight weeks over two terms (16 lectures in total) commencing Monday 28 September 2026 and recommencing Monday 19 January 2026.

S003 Irish Family History: Intermediate Level

(You must have completed S001- the introduction module - to enrol on this course)



Building on the theoretical foundations of the first year, we begin to move into experiential learning with the option of project work in term 2. We explore the Irish diaspora in all its aspects (military, mercantile, civilian, political and criminal exiles and convicts, adventurers, orphans) anywhere they went, and where sources survive, in Irish and overseas archives. In term two we will turn a spotlight on demographic groups that are more challenging to trace: finding women in the sources; researching Irish Travellers before 1950; and children in care 1840s to 1952. There will be a con-

tinuing emphasis on the appropriate methodology to use in family and social history, for a successful research outcome.

Please note: This is a lecture-only course and does not include access to computers on campus. Participants must have access to their own computers at home for follow up clinics and research.

Lecturer: Fiona Fitzsimons, *Eneclann*

Fee: €275 for the full year or €150 per term/ Concession €150 for the full year or €90 per term.

*The concession rate is now available to all those retired, over 65s and to the unwaged, including students.

Lecture time: Tuesdays 6 – 7 pm

This course will be taught live on Zoom; classes will not be recorded.

Duration: This lecture-only module comprises of one lecture per week for eight weeks over two terms (16 lectures in total) commencing Tuesday 29 September 2026 and recommencing Tuesday 19 January 2027.

POSTAL APPLICATION FORM

Post this application form to Evening and Short Courses Programme, Room 3141 Arts Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2. Make cheques payable to TCD no. 1 a/c. Please fill in a separate form for each course choice.

SCHOOL OF HISTORIES AND HUMANITIES EVENING AND SHORT COURSES

POSTAL APPLICATION FORM 2026-27

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email address: (Please print) _____

Phone no: _____

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Course Title: _____

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