**TERM**: Spring 2024

**COURSE TITLE**: History of Literature, Media, and Culture: British and Irish Literature, 1945-Present

**COURSE NUMBER**: 2300.02

**SECTION TIMES/DAYS**: Tuesday/Thursday, 9:55-11:35

**INSTRUCTOR**: Dermot Ryan

**COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS**

This course will introduce students to literary and cultural history by focusing on Irish and British literature and culture from 1945 to the present. These were years of profound cultural and political change in both countries and we will consider the role of literature and culture in turbulent times that witnessed the shrinking of the British Empire; the transition of Britain to a multicultural welfare state; and Ireland’s transition from a country that was largely Catholic and rural to a country whose identity is increasingly secular and urban. Much of the course will explore the two nations’ complex and changing relationship, expressed most tragically in the armed conflict in Northern Ireland.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

* Students will recognize interpretative practices and how they are historically determined.
* Students will recognize how literature, media, and culture produces, maintains, questions, and transforms society
* Students will explore the historically specific character of the literature, media, and culture covered in the course.
* Students will understand how the literature, culture, and media in any given period draws on and modifies its literary, media, and cultural antecedents.

**PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND**

N/A

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Nell Dunn, *Poor Cow*

Andrea Levy, *Small Island*

Sam Selvon, *The Housing Lark*

Eoin McNamee, *Resurrection Man*

**COURSE WORK / EXPECTATIONS**

* In-class participation: 10%
* A historical analysis of a cultural event/practice (750-1000 words): 15%
* 1 short analysis (1-2 pages): 10%
* Information Literacy Exercise: 10%
* Bibliography (5 sources) and discussion of your topic (2-3 pages): 15%
* A research presentation (12-15 minutes): 25%
* Final exam: 15%

**This course fulfills the following undergraduate English Major requirement:**

**Note: LD denotes a lower-division course and UD denotes an upper-division course.**

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| **OLD CURRICULUM** | **CHECK** | **NEW CURRICULUM** | **CHECK** |
| Genres (LD) |  | Disciplinary Research (LD) |  |
| Histories (LD) | **X** | History of Literature, Media, and Culture (LD) | **X** |
| Authors (UD) |  | Reading and Writing Genres (LD) |  |
| Critical/Theoretical (UD) |  | Theory, Power, and Rhetoric (LD) |  |
| Comparative (UD) |  | Pre-1800 (UD) |  |
| Creative/Artistry (UD) |  | Creative/Artistry (UD) |  |
|  |  | Race, Intersectionality, and Power (UD) |  |
|  |  | 5000-Level Seminar (UD) |  |