

Module Descriptor

Module Title	Gender and Society in Ireland since 1867
Module Code	HY 513
NFQ Level	9
Credits	10
Module Co-Ordinator	Dr Leeann Lane
Module Description	<p>This module examines shifting gender roles in Ireland through the lens of individual women’s lives. Using a variety of primary sources, the module will chart the trajectory of continuity and change in the construction of gender roles in Ireland from the period of first wave feminism, through second wave feminism; the module will conclude with a discussion of gender roles in the transitional society of the 1980s.</p> <p>The module will examine the manner in which women participated during the revolutionary period and how for many of these female activists the advent of independence proved a disillusioning experience. In the independent state established in 1922 not alone did women not achieve equality but legislation enacted indicated that rights already in place were in danger of being retracted. In this context, the question of the exceptionalism of Ireland will be critiqued.</p> <p>The module will engage with the manner in which the ideology of separate spheres determined constructions of gender roles in Ireland after 1922 making it very difficult for women to exist outside the dominant paradigm of domesticity. Moreover, the post-colonial state authored a new narrative of national identity based on Catholic sexual morality. In this context the burden of sexual responsibility was placed on women; the module will examine the treatment of women who were deemed to have transgressed the narrow definition of sexual morality which prevailed for much of the twentieth century.</p> <p>The module will the secularisation of Ireland in the later twentieth century with a focus on the growing demand for gender equality, clerical sex abuse, issues of divorce, access to contraception and the abortion issue. Outside influences on changing women’s lives will be considered.</p> <p>At all times in this module gender analysis will be informed with due attention to class.</p>

Learning Outcomes	<p><i>On successful completion of this module the learner will be able to:</i></p> <p>Engage with the methodologies of gender history and the methodologies of biography and memoir.</p> <p>Demonstrate an understanding of the manner in which gender roles were constructed in twentieth-century Ireland.</p> <p>Demonstrate an understanding of the manner in which gender history must be informed by class analysis.</p> <p>Compare the position and treatment of women in Ireland with that of women in other European countries in the period.</p> <p>Reflect on the changing nature of women's lives in twentieth century Ireland.</p> <p>Engage with the secondary sources in the area of gender and women's history with particular focus on late nineteenth-century and twentieth-century Ireland.</p> <p>Identify relevant primary sources for the study of the history of women in twentieth-century Ireland.</p> <p>Write a critically informed reading journal comprising both a review of primary and secondary sources.</p>		
Assessment Breakdown		%	
Continuous Assessment		100	
End of Semester Formal Examination		0	
Assessment	Type	% Contribution	Learning Outcomes
	Critical Reading Journal	100%	1,2,3,4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Student Workload	Description		Total Hours
	Lectures		12
	Seminars		12
	Independent study		100
	Assignment preparation		126
	<i>1ECTS ~ 25 hours of work</i>		<i>250</i>

Key Readings	Books/Book Chapters/Journal Articles/Online Resources
	Bourke, Angela et al, (eds.), <i>The Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing</i> vol. iv, vol. v (Cork, 2001).
	Bourke, Angela, <i>Maeve Brennan: Homesick at the New Yorker</i> (London, 2004).
	Clear, Caitriona, <i>Women of the House: Women's Household Work in Ireland, 1926-1961</i> (Dublin, 2000).
	Buckley, Sarah-Anne, <i>The Cruelty Man: Child Welfare, the NSPCC and the State in Ireland 1899-1956</i> (Manchester, 2013).
	Connolly, Linda, <i>The Irish Women's Movement: From Revolution to Devolution</i> (Dublin, 2003).
	Earner-Byrne, Lindsay, <i>Mother and Child: Maternity and Child Welfare in Dublin 1922-1960</i> (Manchester, 2007).
	Ferriter, Diarmaid, 'The Women's Movement in Ireland Since 1960', <i>Éire-Ireland</i> , Spring/Summer (2008).
	Inglis, Tom, <i>Truth, Power and Lies: Irish Society and the Case of the Kerry Babies</i> (Dublin, 2003).
	Inglis, Tom, <i>Moral Monopoly. The Catholic Church in Modern Irish Society</i> (Dublin, 1998 [second edition]).
	Lane, Leeann, <i>Rosamond Jacob. Third Person Singular</i> (Dublin, 2010)
	Luddy, Maria, <i>Prostitution and Irish Society 1800-1940</i> (Cambridge, 2007).
	Luddy, Maria, 'A "Sinister and Retrogressive Proposal": Irish Women's Opposition to the 1937 Draft Constitution', <i>Transactions of the Royal Historical Society</i> , vol. 15 (2005).
	McDiarmid, Lucy, <i>At Home in the Revolution. What Women Said and Did in 1916</i> (Dublin, 2015).
	Paseta, Senia, <i>Irish Nationalist Women, 1900-1918</i> (Cambridge, 2013).
	Rattigan, Cliona, <i>'What Else Could I Do?': Single Mothers and Infanticide, Ireland 1900-1950</i> (Dublin, 2012).
	Ryan, Louise, 'Leaving Home: Irish Press debates on female employment, domesticity and emigration to Britain in the 1930s', <i>Women's History Review</i> , vol. 12, no. 3 (2003).
	Ryan, Louise and Margaret Ward (eds.), <i>Irish Women and the Vote: Becoming Citizens</i> (Dublin, 2007).
	Scott, Joan, <i>Gender and the Politics of History</i> (New York,, 1999 [revised edition]).
	Smith, James M., <i>Ireland's Magdalen Asylums and the Nation's Architecture of Containment</i> (Manchester, 2007).
	www.militaryarchives.ie Journal, <i>Biography</i> Available through Project Muse

Indicative Content	Lecture Title	Brief Description
	First wave feminism	The students will examine first wave feminism both its constitutional and militant phases.
	Nationalist and socialist activism before 1916	The students will discuss the development of various forms of female activism in the period up to 1916 including socialist activism and the tensions between nationalist women and suffrage activists.
	Women in the revolutionary period 1916-1921	The students will explore the various roles of women between 1916 and 1921. This lecture will engage also with the manner in which male nationalists viewed female activists in the national cause.
	Civil war politics	The students will assess the roles of women during the Civil War and the republican opposition in the 1920 and 1930s.
	Women and family	The students will the manner in which women's lives in Irish Free State were defined by family and marital status. Restrictive legislative measures and the prevalence of the discourse of separate spheres which accorded women a domestic role within the home will be examined.
	Women and sexuality	The students will consider the new narrative of national identity constructed by the post-colonial state after 1922. Central to this topic will be the manner in which the burden of sexual propriety was placed on women.
	Women and work	The students will assess opportunities for women to engage in paid labour in the period up to the 1960s.
	Emigration	The students will consider the treatment of female emigration in the Irish Free State, assess reasons why women left Ireland and experiences in the adoptive homelands.
	Second wave feminism	The students will engage with manifestations of second wave feminism in Ireland and assess the influence of the Irish Women's Liberation Movement on women's lives.
	Sexuality in the 1980s	The students will examine the treatment of single mothers in the transitional society of the early 1980s.
	Late twentieth-century gender roles	The students will consider gender roles in the later twentieth century with a focus on changing attitudes to sexuality and demands for abortion and contraception and the responses to such.

Other programme(s) to which module will be delivered in 2016-2017		
Programme Code	Programme Title	

