

OPEN LEARNING

TERM 1: AUTUMN

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2012



What is Contemporary Art?

AUTUMN AN145

Emma Mahony

This course addresses the question of what 'contemporary art' is, and how it differs from modern art. Key concepts in contemporary art will be explored through the examination of artworks produced since 1975. The course will combine evening seminars with three Saturday morning visits to a variety of Dublin galleries, where the participants will be encouraged to draw on material covered in class. The seminars will comprise a mix of Powerpoint presentations, videos, and lively class discussions and debates. Participation is welcomed and no previous knowledge of Art History is required.

Belfield

7 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12

3 Saturdays 11.00am - 1.00pm

Oct 6, 20, Nov 10

No Class Oct 27-29

FEE €190

'From Wedgewood to the Post Modernism'. Design history from 18th century to present day

AUTUMN AN149

Moya Corcoran



This is a fun and informative course that introduces students to design history and the relationship between objects and the world in which they are produced. Objects are examined in the context of who created them, the society for which they were created and how they express historical and political conditions. The course will also explore the growth in consumerism and how this has impacted the design of everything over the last 150 years. Students will reflect on how the evolution of design and how products are marketed impacts their own purchases. The material will come to life on a field trip to the National Museum.

Blackrock

10 Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

Revolutionary States: Home Rule & Modern Ireland

NEW

AUTUMN AN153

Jessica O'Donnell, Curator of Education & Research, and staff of Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane

Taking as its starting point themes explored in the exhibition *Revolutionary States: Home Rule and Modern Ireland* this lecture series will discuss significant artistic, social and political movements in Ireland during the period 1900-1914. 2012 is the centenary of the introduction of the third Home Rule Bill to the British Parliament. Although passed, Home Rule was never implemented due to the outbreak of World War I. The Hugh Lane Gallery is uniquely placed to tell the visual story of this turbulent and complex period in Irish history. The Gallery was central to discussions on national identity as citizens from different religious and political backgrounds gathered in support of the establishment of the Gallery of Modern Art for Dublin. The resurgent Irish cultural scene stimulated debates on the emerging modernist movements in Europe and the place of Irish cultural traditions.

Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane

8 Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15

FEE €155

An Introduction to Impressionism

AUTUMN AN151

Jessica Fahy



Impressionism was a fascinating and important art movement which began in 19th century France. The development, responses to and influence of this distinctive style of painting is the focus of this course. Each week a different aspect will be examined with detailed analysis of individual responses of different artists to the theories of the movement. The main artists to be discussed are Cézanne, Degas, Manet, Monet and Renoir. An essential element is a visit to the Hugh Lane Gallery to explore the wonderful collection of French Impressionist works there as well as tracing the style in Irish art.

Blackrock

10 Fridays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Sep 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

FEE €190

The Renaissance in Florence, Rome and Venice: An Introduction

AUTUMN AN131

Philip Cottrell and Karina O'Neill

This course serves as an introduction to the art and architecture of the Italian Renaissance (1300-1600) with a particular focus on Florence, Rome and Venice. Students will have the opportunity to engage with each city's distinct visual culture and will be introduced to the work of key artists such as Giotto, Michelangelo and Titian. The course also seeks to engender an understanding of cultural circumstances, style and patronage. We shall also refer to other important centres of production such as Padua, Siena and the Italian courts.

Blackrock

10 Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm
Sep 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, Nov 3, 10, 17, 24, Dec 1, 8
No class Oct 27

FEE €190

Discovering Dublin

AUTUMN AN146

*Gabriel Cooney and
Stephen Harrison*



The formal origins of the city of Dublin go back to the Viking settlement but people have been living in the Dublin area for the last 10,000 years. As the city has expanded and changed the material remains of earlier activity are often encountered. The results of archaeological excavations provide us with the exciting opportunities to tell the stories of the lives of these people. The lectures will be given by archaeologists who have worked on the ground and will take us from the early fish-traps of hunter-gatherers found in the Docklands to considering how archaeology can help us understand the origins and development of the city.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

The Roman Empire and the Northern Barbarians

AUTUMN JN107
Grant Couper



We often think of the Roman Empire as surrounded by faceless, violent barbarian hordes bent on the destruction of civilization. The reality was less simple: the Empire interacted with its neighbours peacefully as well as militarily, and barbarians were as keen to profit from Rome as Rome was to exploit them. Ranging from warfare to geopolitics to art and religion, this course will focus on relations between Romans and non-Romans in Europe from the mid-1st century BC to the fall of Rome in AD 476.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27
FEE €190

Conflict Resolution Skills: Module 1

AUTUMN SN101
Geoffrey Corry

Whether in work, community or home situations, people need to be more comfortable in managing and resolving everyday disputes. This module helps you understand the positive value of conflict and its predictable dynamics so as not to avoid it. You will discover more about your preferred style of handling conflict and how to harness other styles. Through interactive discussion and role-play, you will learn practical skills for reflective listening, being assertive, negotiating and problem solving. You will be better able to handle hot emotion and to shift stubborn positions. A further course on Mediation Skills is offered in Spring.

Belfield

7 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12
1 Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm
Sept 29
No Class Oct 29
FEE €190

A History of Irish Theatre in Ten Scandals

AUTUMN DN102
Lisa Coen



The recent history of Irish theatre has been characterised by controversy and vigorous public debate. Plays like JM Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World* and Séan O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars* caused riots and outrage, but are now a valued part of Irish literary history. More recently productions like Sebastian Barry's *Hinterland* and Ramon Maria del Valle-Inclán's *The Barbaric Comedies* have shown that theatre is still a volatile forum in Ireland. This course aims to familiarise students with some major texts in Irish drama of the last century, to show how these have shaped, or responded to, theatre in Ireland and contributed to the narrative of national identity, through controversy, rioting and scandal. It will include an emphasis on production histories, such as that of the Abbey Theatre, The Gate Theatre, and the Dublin Theatre Festival to contextualise the nature of each scandal. The course will include a class theatre visit (Ticket not included).

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
No class Oct 29
FEE €190

Introduction to Drama

AUTUMN DN101

Sarah-Jayne Reid

If you've ever wanted to 'give it a go' but never known how, this enjoyable course has been designed for you. You will be introduced to many practical aspects of drama skills. A strong emphasis will be placed on experiential involvement, where each student will be expected to participate in many varied exercises through individual, paired and group work. Over the duration of the course there will be opportunity to explore improvisation, mime, non-verbal communication, characterisation, working from given lines, using props, voice production and projection. There will be a short performance on the last night where students will perform a short piece of their own choice. There is no need to have any previous experience only the desire to join in and have lots of fun.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

The Freshwater Detective

AUTUMN HN102

Ken Whelan

Fresh water is fundamental to our very existence. Ireland has a rich abundance of rivers and lakes and this course will cover the sources of this unique resource and how water in all of its forms is assimilated into the landscape. We will learn how the underlying geology and topography of the landscape defines the animal and plant communities present in these waters. The course will teach the students the basics of becoming a Freshwater Detective and how the presence or absence of specific insects and crustacea can be used to tell the quality of the water. The students will learn how to read a river corridor or lake shore and the basics of river side conservation and management. We will cover the fish species present in our rivers and lakes and look at the history of invasions and transplantations of non-native fish species and the impact this is having on our native flora and fauna. The course will comprise six talks with slides and video clips and four field visits to locations in Dublin and Wicklow. The approach is conversational and relaxed. No previous knowledge is required.

Belfield

6 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Oct 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26

4 Saturdays 10.00am - 12.00pm
 Oct 20, Nov 3, 10, 17

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Irish Birds

AUTUMN HN105

Richard Collins

Ireland is rich in birds and this course will help you identify them; ten talks (with slides and recordings of birdsong) and half-day field outings (at weekends) to the best bird-watching haunts near Dublin. We examine how birds live, feed, breed and migrate, their psychology, society, behaviour, history and folklore. The approach is informal and relaxed. No previous knowledge is required.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 8.30pm
 Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Plus separate field trips

FEE €190

What the Media does, and Why

AUTUMN CN106

Paul Murray

This course will examine the myriad factors that go into making a media product such as a newspaper, television/radio programme or New Media production. It will examine various media outlets and how culture, politics, ownership and economics have a huge bearing on what we consume. It will outline how print media is written and edited, and the construction of headlines and press releases. It will tackle whether the media gives a true reflection of society, if indeed that is its job.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

American Cinema

AUTUMN FN102

Eric Egan

This course sets out to examine the changes and developments that have occurred in American Cinema since its humble beginnings as a carnival side show novelty to its domination of the world's cinema screens. From silent films to sci-fi, B movies to blockbusters, *Taxi Driver* to *Top Gun*, the course will critically engage with the main themes, different forms and styles of filmmaking, and the work of major directors in presenting a detailed picture of a diverse, complex and highly influential body of cinema.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

Folklore: The Supernatural World

AUTUMN FN111

Peter McGuire

The supernatural looms large in our day-to-day lives. Legends, myths and beliefs about gods and monsters, ghosts and poltergeists, witches and demons, fairies, banshees, and mermaids, guardian angels and apparitions, and extraterrestrial beings, remain at the centre of every society.

Using sources from oral tradition, literature, film, the internet, and the contemporary media, students on this course will be presented with a broad – and critical – introduction to the study of traditional and contemporary supernatural legends and myths, and their relationship with ancient and contemporary religions. Who tells them? Why are they told? How have they persisted? How do they impact our behaviour and traditions? Why are they believed and disbelieved? What is their association with religion? And how have they made a surprising contribution to scientific advancement? Students will be actively encouraged to participate and share their own stories.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Introduction to Genealogy/Family History

AUTUMN GN102

Sean Murphy

This course aims to provide students with basic guidance in tracing ancestors and learning more about our families in the past. A range of records will be examined, many of them now conveniently searchable online, including census, birth, marriage, death and valuation records, church registers, wills, memorial inscriptions, newspapers and directories. Participants will be encouraged to compile a portfolio of copy records and notes to share with their families and to compare findings with fellow students.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

The Modern American Presidency: From FDR to Obama

AUTUMN HN164

Sarah Feehan



This course is a study of the American Presidency in the twentieth century from Franklin D. Roosevelt to Barack Obama incorporating the 2012 presidential election. Taking a thematic approach the course will examine the presidents of the period and the challenges that they each faced during their time in office. A third of the course will be dedicated to presidential elections. We will consider previous presidential election campaigns and their outcomes as well as looking forward to the 2012 presidential election. Finally it will evaluate the modern presidency and assess the challenges that face the newly elected president.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Heroes and Villains of Twentieth Century Ireland

AUTUMN HN154

Ciara Meehan

This course takes a broad look at twentieth century Ireland through the eyes of those who helped shape the country's development. The ten figures explored have each provoked intense feeling, ranging from loyalty to loathing – often simultaneously. These history makers will be examined from varying perspectives, considering also the impact that the passage of time has had on their reputations. Ultimately, the course will consider how each individual played two seemingly contradictory roles, that of hero and of villain.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Colonial and Imperial Dublin: History, Buildings, and Afterlife

AUTUMN HN149

John Gibney

How much can you learn about Dublin? And how much do you already know? The first of two interactive courses on the history of Dublin will help students to indulge their curiosity about the city and its past, and to build on their own knowledge and experience of Dublin by using aspects of its history to encourage a fresh engagement with its past, and hopefully its present. This course will look at the history of Dublin by examining the city in terms of its colonial and imperial past, from its Viking origins, through its role as a medieval trading centre and its emergence as the 'second city' of the British Empire, its decline within the United Kingdom, its significance on the eve of Irish independence, and the legacy of its past in the decades after independence.

Belfield

6 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

4 Saturdays 11.00am - 1.00pm

Sep 29, Oct 13, 20, Nov 3

FEE €190

Our Games, Our History: Sport and Irish Society

AUTUMN HN172

Richard McElligott



Ireland is rightly considered a sports mad country. Why then has sport rarely been utilised to understand Irish history? Through a combination of class lectures and a field trip to Croke Park, this course will examine the role of sport in modern Irish history. It will trace the emergence and development of Irish sporting bodies and the processes which brought them about. The course will offer a detailed study of the political, social, cultural and economic context and relevance of sporting organisations. Essentially, the course will use sport as a window through which the modern history of Ireland can be viewed.

Belfield

9 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 25, Oct 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

1 Saturday Oct 6 2.00pm - 4.00pm

FEE €190

Uncovering 1916

AUTUMN HN122

Úna Newell

Hosted by the National Library of Ireland and benefiting from the use of its collections, this course will explore the events surrounding the 1916 Rising. Lectures will reveal the context, course and aftermath of the rebellion as well as issues surrounding its interpretation and commemoration. Manuscript material, newspapers, ephemera and the Library's photographic collection will elucidate the subject for participants. The course will conclude with a field trip to the Pearse Museum in St. Enda's Park, Rathfarnham.

National Library

8 Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.30pm

Oct 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €195

From Hitler to Gaddafi: Modern World Dictators

AUTUMN HN168

Stephen Kelly



This course introduces students to ideas and themes related to modern world dictators. From the totalitarian dictatorship of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in Germany during the mid-20th century to the recent autocratic reign of Muammar Gaddafi in Libya, students are encouraged to explore political, social, religious, cultural and ideological questions in relation to modern dictatorship. How do we define a modern dictator? Are there certain characteristics that we can identify? The lectures will be delivered via a series of case-studies, which will examine modern world dictators. Besides the above two mentioned historical figures, the course asks whether Eamon de Valera may be classified as a 'democratic dictator'? A field trip around Dublin city forms part of the course where students will consider the reign and legacy of Eamon de Valera. The course will also analyse the respective dictatorships of Joseph Stalin (Soviet Russia), Kim Jong-il, (North Korea) and Robert Mugabe (Zimbabwe).

Belfield

9 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21

1 Saturday Oct 12 11.00am - 1.00pm

FEE €190

The First World War 1914 - 1918

AUTUMN HN161

Michael Doran



The horror and tragedy of the First World War is well documented. For many people, the focus of the war has been on the great battles of the Western Front. This course aims to consider the war in a global context and also examine aspects of the war that often receive less attention. The main military, political and social developments of the war in Europe will be analysed but also the war's wider impact on areas such as the Middle East, Asia, Africa and the USA.

Blackrock

10 Wednesdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Magic, Heresy & Witchcraft

AUTUMN HN114

Gillian Kenny



This course will look at the development of ideas about magic, demonology, heresy and witchcraft initially from ancient times but concentrating on their development in the Middle Ages, particularly with regard to the witchcraft trials that affected Europe in the later medieval/early modern period. This is a multi-disciplinary course that will examine ancient rituals, religions, philosophies and writings and will use evidence from both written sources, folklore and artefacts. Students will be given the opportunity to examine, assess and discuss the development of the witchcraft idea and the various moves to destroy it by the Catholic (and later Protestant) Churches in the 15th - 17th centuries in particular. The enormous social, political, cultural and economic effects of these developments on European history and the European psyche will be examined. This course will use original documents and eye-witness accounts to try to understand what life was like for accuser, accused and witnesses in one of the most devastating campaigns waged against ordinary people in the history of Europe. The course will include a trip to sites of interest in Dublin concerning the history of witchcraft in Ireland.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

From Plantations to Peace Process: A History of Ireland, 1534 - 1998

AUTUMN HN121

Irial Glynn and John Cronin

This course will address all the major events in Irish history, from the beginning of the Tudor conquest to the opening of the peace process in Northern Ireland. The first four classes will focus on Irish history between 1500-1750, covering the Tudor conquest, the plantations and wars of the early-modern period and the penal era. We will then look at developments in Irish nationalism from the United Irishmen and the 1798 Rebellion to the men and women of the 1916 Rising, whilst also taking into account the devastating effects of the Famine and emigration. Finally, we will consider the development of the Irish Free State, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, through discussion of the major developments in Irish politics and society since the 1920s.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

A History of Dublin through Walks and Talks

AUTUMN HN115

Áinnle O'Neill

This course highlights Dublin as an historical city, whose many highways, byways, large buildings, houses, etc., help to tell the story of how Dublin grew from a small trading post in the 9th century, to become the second city of the British Empire in the 19th. The Thursday talks present the background historical details, which are fleshed out and placed in context during the relevant Saturday walks.

Belfield

5 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25

5 Saturdays 10.00am - 12 noon
Sep 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

Digital and Social Media: An Introduction

AUTUMN IN101

Keith Feighery

This two-day workshop course will demonstrate to users how best to use key web based digital and social media tools and platforms that are changing the way we source, communicate and distribute information online today. Content covered will include how to create personal and professional profiles on social networking sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. It will also cover setting up and using blogs as well as capturing and sharing video and photographic content through sites such as YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest and Flickr.

Belfield

2 Saturdays 10.00am - 5.00pm
Oct 13, 20

FEE €135

Exploring International Development: Key Issues and Challenges

AUTUMN TN107

Vincent Durac and Andy Storey

This course is designed to provide participants with a better understanding of key issues in international development, including a focus on the roles played by Ireland and other Western countries. Topics covered include the Millennium Development Goals; poverty; human rights; the roles of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and World Trade Organisation; overseas aid and the impact of the global financial crisis on developing countries. Opportunities for group discussion will be integrated throughout the course.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

The Israeli - Palestinian Conflict and the 'Arab Spring'

AUTUMN TN110

Mary Fakher-Eldin

The 'two state solution' is already under threat from changing demographics on the ground and stagnation in the peace process, while the wave of protests known as the 'Arab Spring' is rapidly changing the dynamic of the region. In light of these changing circumstances we will trace the evolution of this fascinating, complex and seemingly intractable conflict from its origins in the 1880s. We will then consider the likely impact of current events on the future of the conflict.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Improving Your Conversational Irish: 1

AUTUMN UN103

Deirdre Moran

This course will use RTÉ's highly popular multimedia Irish language course, Turas Teanga, as its basis for improving your conversational Irish. The emphasis will be on developing speaking and listening skills that will be useful and reflect everyday usage. Each class will involve a mixture of listening, reading and oral exercises with the main emphasis being on speaking the language in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere. Grammar will be touched on but in the context of the spoken language. It is intended for those who studied Irish at school, but may have had few opportunities to use it in recent years. Some of the topics covered in Module 1 will include Family, Pastimes, Culture, Health and Travel.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Irish Family Law

AUTUMN BN109

Paul Ward

The object of this course is to consider the fundamental principles governing family law. The course content will be current, thorough and comprehensive and will trace the development of family law providing an understanding of the remedies available when marriages break down. Family law is comprised of Constitutional, Public and Private law. The course will examine these various influences and provide an understanding and appreciation of this interesting and complex area of the law.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
 No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Effective Stress Management for Modern Living

AUTUMN PN127

Martin Kelly

This course will apply a holistic and dynamic approach to managing the stress of modern daily life, both at home and in the workplace, whereby participants can create a practical and personal stress management system. Working from a psychological overview of the nature of acute and chronic stress, guidance will be provided in self-assessment, identifying the signs and sources of stress and developing an individual stress profile. Throughout the course, core concepts and strategies will be grounded in the learning and practice of relevant adaptive techniques such as anchoring, progressive relaxation, and creative visualisation.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

Living Well, Living Mindfully

AUTUMN PN111

Fidelma Farley

While many of us want to live and experience our lives in a meaningful way, we find it hard to slow down, to take the time to look below the surface busyness of our lives to find who we really are and what we really want and value. These two workshops will introduce you to Mindfulness, which provides a set of skills and helpful techniques that enable us to become more aware of ourselves and our experience. By developing this awareness in a non-judgemental way, we enhance our quality of life, and our ability to care for ourselves.

Belfield

2 Saturdays 10.00am - 4.00pm
 Nov 3, 10

FEE €120

Contemporary American Fiction

AUTUMN LN160

Louise Walsh

In the period following World War II, as the United States rose to power and prominence on the global stage, the American novel likewise attained a pre-eminence that it continues to hold today. This course will consider some masterworks of the post-war American canon, by major writers including Ralph Ellison, John Updike, Philip Roth, Toni Morrison, Don DeLillo, Marilynne Robinson, Cormac McCarthy and Paul Auster, alongside recent prize-winning novels by Dana Spiotta and Jennifer Egan. Throughout the course, the focus will be on the ways in which writers from a range of ethnic backgrounds have portrayed the multiplicity and diversity of the American experience through a variety of literary forms. Each class will include broad discussion, close reading, and a look at each novel in the context of the American literary tradition.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Reading in the National Library

AUTUMN LN159

Alan Graham

This course will explore the work of some of Ireland's most important authors in the surroundings of the nation's library. The work of literary icons such as Joyce, O'Casey and Beckett and the contemporary writings of Conor McPherson and Anne Enright will be examined, especially in terms of a relationship with Ireland. Through its setting and its texts, this course will assert the centrality of the literary tradition to the life of the nation.

All new texts for the 2012 course.

National Library

8 Tuesdays 10.00am - 12.30pm

Oct 9, 16, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27, Dec 4

No class Oct 23

FEE €195

Popular Literature

AUTUMN LN162

Lori Comerford



Agatha Christie is estimated to have sold the same amount of books as William Shakespeare. This always sounds surprising, but it is one of the few times that a popular author is rivalled in sales by an author who is critically revered. The difference between the books that become best-sellers and the books that are studied is a complex and paradoxical aspect of our literary culture. While books such as the Harry Potter or Millennium series attract huge numbers of readers, they are seldom chosen for major literary awards and receive little critical attention. What makes a book popular and why is the popularity of a text often seen in a negative light? Why is there a difference between best-sellers and cultural value placed on literary fiction? This seminar will introduce students to the academic debate that surrounds popular fiction and to some of the defining genres this literature encompasses. Throughout the course we will discuss the cultural worth and place, if any, of these texts and in so doing establish a full picture of how our literary landscape is created.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

Modern Literature

AUTUMN LN167

Liam Lanigan



At the turn of the twentieth century there was an explosion in literary experimentation as writers sought out ways of coming to terms with the extraordinary technological and social changes that were making the world both a more exciting and more challenging place to live. Examining a range of poetry and fiction from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, this course will consider how writers have taken up Ezra Pound's challenge to "make it new". While writers such as D.H. Lawrence and Ernest Hemingway seek refuge from modern urban life, others such as T.S. Eliot, Joseph Conrad, Baudelaire, and W.B. Yeats challenge conventional ways of representing a world that has been changed utterly by war and social upheaval. The scope of the course will be global, exploring how writers from very different social and cultural worlds responded to the rapid, often cataclysmic changes of modernity to generate new and exciting literatures. The Spring course will deal with a different set of texts and is open to both new and continuing students.

Blackrock

10 Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.00pm
 Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28
FEE €190

Reading Literature: The Basics

AUTUMN LN116

Garrett Fagan

This is intended as a very basic introduction to enjoying literature at a deeper level than the casual reader. No prior knowledge will be required only an enthusiasm for the written word. Students will be introduced to genre and form and basic methods of literary analysis. The material chosen is purposefully broad in terms of period, cultural background and style to give as wide an experience as possible. On completion students will be well equipped to profit more deeply from other literature courses and will have had their own recreational reading enriched.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28
FEE €190

Reading for Your Life

AUTUMN LN109

Peter Labanyi

We are living in a volatile world that overwhelms our capacities to make sense of it and of our own precarious existence. It is here that classic modernist fiction can provide psychological mirroring and inspiration. This course thus focuses on how key European novelists – Kafka, Proust, Thomas Mann, Camus – can help us with our struggles: to create values, meaning and a coherent self. Our approach – a master-class in active reading – will deepen literary interpretation into personal exploration. We will develop the positive potentials – dreams, visions, moments of intensity and wholeness – to be found in these texts and, not least, in ourselves.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
FEE €190

Contemporary Czech Literature and Film

AUTUMN LN164

Jana Fischerova



This course addresses works of Czech writers and filmmakers of the post-Communist era – 1990 to the present. The programme covers books and films authored by artists from the older generations who continued to create after the Velvet Revolution, as well as books and films by newly-emergent authors. How these writers and filmmakers reflect and define this new era in their country's history will be among the topics discussed.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €100

(The fee for this course is subsidised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic)

Literary Classics

AUTUMN LN141

Barbara Hughes, Liam Lanigan and Wendy Ward

This course, which is held in Pobalscoil Neasáin in Baldoyle, will explore a variety of literary classics from Yeats to Cormac McCarthy. Other texts to be covered in Autumn include works by Seumas O' Sullivan, James Stephens, Hugo Hamilton, TS Eliot, Ernest Hemingway and Sylvia Plath. The spring module, which will deal with a different set of classic texts, is open to both new and continuing students.

Baldoyle

10 Fridays 10.00am-12.00pm
Sep 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

FEE €190

Sound Advice: Enjoying Classical Music



AUTUMN MN108

Michelle Sludds-Hickey

This course offers a guide to enjoying Classical Music, an approach to perceptive listening and an introduction to musical elements, form and stylistic periods from chant to Chopin to Copland. It assumes little or no musical background and is for those who would like to broaden their musical horizons in a friendly atmosphere. The course includes interactive discussions of composers' lives and their works. We will examine musical characteristics from medieval, baroque, classical, romantic, impressionistic and 20th century eras. We will listen to how music communicates to us and the relationship between composer, performer and listener. Through participation in class, the basics of music ingredients and notation will be explained, with practical exercises in rhythm, melody and listening. Bring a sense of humour, pencil and paper and be prepared to sing and clap! The course includes 2 visits to live concerts (Tickets not included).

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Critical Thinking

AUTUMN QN108

Angelo Bottone

Well-being starts with a clear mind. The aim of this course is to enable students to think critically and argue coherently. You will learn to analyse the structure of an argument, to distinguish logical from psychological reasons and to identify the most common errors in reasoning. The different forms of justification of knowledge (deduction, induction, statistical evidence) will be examined, together with the concepts of truth and validity of arguments.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3

No class Oct 29

FEE €190

Philosophical Discourses and Dialogues

AUTUMN QN126

Patrick Quinn

This course will explore the following topics as discussed by the following thinkers: John Locke on truth and error, Wittgenstein on lying, Albert Camus on the unbeliever and Christians, Hannah Arendt on Plato's answer and its echoes, Stephen MacKenna and Paul Ricoeur on translation, Pierre Hadot on Philosophical Discourse, Mary Midgley on women, animals and other awkward cases and Richard Sorabji on how we might survive our own death. No prior knowledge of philosophy is necessary and students are encouraged to contribute to class discussions. Relevant handouts will be given in class as necessary.

Blackrock

10 Wednesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

Establishing a University: from John Henry Newman to UCD

AUTUMN EN106

Angelo Bottone

In the magnificent surroundings of Newman House, former home of the Catholic University of Ireland, we will explore the fascinating story of John Henry Newman's educational project. We will trace the progress of the university that later became UCD, through Newman's writings and tours of the actual buildings. Newman's concept of liberal education will be put in its historical context and we will discuss its relevance for today.

Newman House

8 Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.00pm

Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14

FEE €155

Philosophy, Happiness and the Good Life (Part 1)

AUTUMN QN128

Patrick Quinn



This course will examine what some philosophers have thought about happiness and the good life. These include Aristotle on friendship and happiness, Boethius on the consolation that philosophy can offer in times of difficulty, Gilbert Ryle on pleasure as well-being, Wittgenstein on religious faith as being superior to wisdom, Hannah Arendt on becoming human, Pierre Hadot on the present alone as our happiness, Bernard Williams on the foundations of well-being, Herbert McCabe OP on the good life and Anthony Kenny on happiness as a state of contentment. No prior knowledge of philosophy is necessary and class participants will be encouraged to contribute to discussions, if they so wish. Relevant short handouts will be given.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

What Does it All Mean?

AUTUMN QN123

Sandra Bonetto



Why should we be moral? What is the relation between our minds and our brains? Do we really have free will? Is there life after death? How should we feel about death? Does anything we do with our life really matter? And does it matter if it doesn't matter? What does it all mean? These are perennial questions we ask about ourselves. In this course, students will learn how to think clearly about them and how to tackle the problems of philosophy. Students will be encouraged to ask questions, to try out ideas and raise possible objections to them. In so doing, the course will demonstrate that, far from being an 'empty study', philosophy is an indispensable key to understanding our lives. As such, this course itself is an introduction to the subject of philosophy and aims to show how we can become philosophers ourselves.

Belfield

10 Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

FEE €190

Why Political Parties Fail

AUTUMN FN115

Conor Mulvagh



Elections usually witness either a confirmation of the status quo or a changing of the guard. However, on rare occasions parties suffer electoral annihilation: where a political party is all but wiped off the electoral map and from which recovery is either slow or impossible. Historically, there are several ways in which this process has occurred. This course intends to examine these, using both Irish and international precedents. In an era of political instability, a study such as this is timely, and will provide informed debate on events that are likely to occur in various European states. While political parties, both large and small, have suffered major electoral shocks in recent elections, this is by no means a new phenomenon. Two major case studies will be the collapse of the Irish Parliamentary Party in the wake of Sinn Féin in the 1918 General Election and the gradual replacement of the British Liberal party by the ascending Labour party in the 1920s. In addition, other case studies in collapse will be examined, including the failure of junior coalition partners in Ireland, from Clann na Poblachta to the more recent demise of the Progressive Democrats and the Green party.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
No class Oct 29

FEE €190

The Politics of Food

AUTUMN HN157
Frank Armstrong



With human population standing at 7 billion the challenge of feeding so many has never been greater: global warming, loss of biodiversity and the imminence of peak oil endanger the sustainability of agriculture. Yet we confront a global obesity epidemic driven by over-consumption, as well other diet-related health problems. Meanwhile in the Third World malnutrition and even starvation continue. This course will examine the state and corporate actors that control the global production and supply of food. We will also explore the important cultural role that food plays in forging bonds between families, communities and nations.

Belfield

10 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
No class Oct 29
FEE €190

Gender and Politics – Critical Issues

AUTUMN FN114
Clara Fischer

There is a growing recognition of the fact that political institutions and systems are structured by assumptions of gender, that is, of norms related to what it means to be a woman or a man. The effects of these assumptions are evinced by the historic underrepresentation of women in parliaments, for example, or by the purported correlation between masculinity and soldiering, and femininity and pacifism. The objective of this course lies in teasing out these assumptions, and in assessing the impact they have on us as citizens, and on the political structures and processes that shape our lives. The course will appeal to anybody with an interest in politics, gender studies, and social justice issues. Field trips to Kilmainham Gaol (Ticket not included) and to the Oireachtas will also provide a hands-on experience of the issues explored in the classroom.

Belfield

8 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21
1 Wednesday Oct 17, Oireachtas Tour 4.00pm
1 Saturday Oct 13, Kilmainham Gaol 12.00pm
FEE €190

Psychology of Happiness

AUTUMN PN108
Nicky O'Leary

Ever wondered what makes you happy? Psychologists are now becoming clearer on what makes people happy. Using a mixture of theory and experiential learning this course will explore the psychological study of happiness. Whether you are searching for a pleasant life, the good life, or a meaningful life this course will inform you about the ideas, the attitudes and the behaviours that underlie and create happiness in everyday life.

Blackrock

10 Tuesdays 10.00am - 12.00pm
Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27
FEE €190

Introduction to Psychology

AUTUMN PN125: BELFIELD
 AUTUMN PN122: BLACKROCK
 AUTUMN PN123: RATHMINES
Martina Carroll

This course introduces developments in Psychology through the 20th Century to the present day. It will be delivered in a very practical and fun way, making it accessible to anyone who has an interest in finding out more either personally or professionally. It will clarify the different traditions of psychology, mental health and therapy e.g. Counselling and Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry, and Psychotherapy. The core topics will introduce you to the wonders of the human mind. There will be lectures followed by class activities and discussion about human behaviour including individual behaviour, the behaviour of social groups and what's often considered abnormal or deviant behaviour. All of the topics have implications for understanding mental health and psychological wellbeing. These are all topics that would be studied in a Psychology degree.

Belfield PN125

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 20, 27, Dec 4
 No class Nov 13
FEE €190

Blackrock PN122

10 Mondays 10.00am - 12.00pm
 Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
 No class Oct 29
FEE €190

Rathmines College PN123

10 Mondays 7.00pm - 9.00pm
 Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3
 No class Oct 29
FEE €190

Please enrol through Rathmines Senior College. Tel: (01) 497 5334

Enrolment Dates: Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th September and Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th September, 2012, 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Understanding Autism and Asperger's Syndrome in the 21st Century



AUTUMN PN132
Martina Carroll

This is a course about Autism Spectrum Disorders or ASD which is the term now used to include Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related conditions. The aims of the course are to provide up-to-date information about ASD and opportunities to explore ways of living with Autism, supporting family members with Autism and/or working with those on the spectrum. The course will include a series of lectures and activities presented in three workshops, each of one day duration.

Belfield

3 Saturdays Oct 6, 13, 20 10.30am - 4.30pm
FEE €175

Career Path Planning

AUTUMN PN130

Nicky O' Leary

Effective career planning in today's recessionary times can make all the difference between success and failure. This course will assist you in making the right career decisions for you. It will facilitate you to explore your communication style, your personality and to conduct a personal appraisal of your career strengths. Learn the top ten steps for career planning and the skills to achieve your career goals. A wide range of individuals will find this particular course invaluable including unemployed individuals who are considering returning to the work force and those already employed who want to progress or change their career path.

Belfield

3 Saturdays 10.00am - 4.00pm
Sept 22, Oct 6, 20

FEE €175

The Creative Step: Creative Writing For Beginners

AUTUMN WN106

Mark Granier

To write creatively is to think creatively, and thinking creatively can help us make sense of our lives. Sometimes all it takes is one small but decisive step. This course is designed to help people take that step; people who are keen to begin writing but remain intimidated by the blank page. Rather than critiquing students' older work, emphasis will be on producing something new: crafting effective and imaginative sentences, learning how to be attentive to words and finding ways to surprise readers (including ourselves). As one former student put it, 'the variety of literary forms really helped to stretch me and brought out different people's strengths.' A selection of short stories, poems and various ice-breaking and triggering exercises will offer ways for exploring language and distilling experience. Group discussion will play an important part in these classes.

Belfield

8 Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19
No class Oct 29

FEE €155

Exploring Creative Non Fiction

AUTUMN WN131

Maureen Levy

NEW

Creative Non-Fiction is also known as Literary Journalism: It is the art of telling a true story as if it were fiction. Nonfiction subjects can be dull and challenging if not fleshed out and written with a personal touch, using scenes, dialogue and a variety of viewpoints. This course will focus on a range of non-fiction genres: Food/cookery, Travel, Memoir and Lifestyle and reference texts by contemporary writers. Trigger exercises will serve as a starting point and encourage students to experiment with their own literary voice. This course is suitable for complete beginners and anyone who would like to make their written work more engaging and lively.

Belfield

10 Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

FEE €190

Anatomy of Writing Successful Fiction (1): Plotting and Planning

AUTUMN WN132

Patricia O'Reilly



The aim of this course is to assist writers to find and use their skills of plotting and planning to realise their writing dreams of creating successful fiction. The ten sessions of this course are tailor-made for beginners through to experienced writers. This course focuses on optimum ways of sourcing dynamic plotting sequences and facilitates best methods of structural planning. Areas covered include: various genres of novels, short stories and radio and stage plays. Sessions are arranged to allow time for writing and constructive, individual and group analysis of participant's work. This course is complemented by *Anatomy of Writing Successful Fiction (2): People and Places*.

Blackrock

10 Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.00pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €220

Fiction Workshop: Breaking the Rules

AUTUMN WN130

Susan Knight



This new course will bring participants on a journey down a road less travelled. With reference to various more experimental authors, the endless exciting possibilities of literary creativity will be examined. Class exercises will play with genre, point of view, language, character and plot, or plotlessness. Group writing will be explored. Rules and conventions will be looked at, broken or redesigned. Part of the course will include a visit to a play during the Dublin theatre festival in October, to a production that breaks the rules of conventional drama (ticket not included in course fee). This will provide a discussion point for the following class. Any writing handed in will be read and critiqued by the tutor. Participants will be encouraged to present their work to the group for discussion. Both new and more experienced writers are welcome.

Belfield

10 Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sep 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28

FEE €190

