Total Credit Requirement
To complete this programme, students must earn 90 credits, consisting of the following components:

- 30 cr edited supervised research dissertation.
- Three 10 credit core modules.
- 30 credits made up from option modules chosen with the advice of a staff mentor from a wide range of relevant 5-10 credit modules provided by the contributing Schools, including Sociology, Politics, History, English, Archaeology, Irish, History of Art, and Music.

For more information about the MA programme in Irish Studies, contact the Programme Director:
Dr Marc Caball, UCD School of History and Archives
marc.caball@ucd.ie

www.ucd.ie/historyarchives/graduateandprofessionalprogrammes/maprogrammes/
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About the Programme
How did the Irish come to be the way they are? To what extent are the Irish different from other nations? Are there different varieties of Irishness? How has Ireland and Irish identity changed over time? These are some of the questions about Irish society and culture that we explore as part of UCD’s innovative new MA programme in Irish Studies. At a time of unprecedented change in Ireland, this interdisciplinary MA programme introduces students to a wide range of issues and debates relating to the historical, material, cultural, social and political experiences of the peoples who have inhabited the island of Ireland from the earliest period through to today.

The umbrella of Irish Studies enables students to design a degree programme to suit their specific interests. Students participate in two thematic Irish Studies seminars which serve as an intellectual and developmental hub for the programme. Alongside a further core module in contemporary Irish culture, students then choose option modules from a wide range on offer in politics, Irish history, literary studies both in the English and Irish languages, folklore, drama, archaeology, material and visual cultures, and sociology. Teaching is carried out through small group seminars, research-driven learning, peer interaction, seminar presentations and discussion, and written assignments. Each student also undertakes a 10,000-word supervised research dissertation.

What makes Irish Studies at UCD so special?
As Ireland’s largest university, UCD is uniquely positioned to assemble a wide-ranging group of leading experts in the humanities and human sciences to offer diverse insights and perspectives on Ireland’s cultures and societies, both in the past and the present. Thus, our students benefit from a nationally and internationally unrivalled concentration of expertise in Irish Studies. We not only offer an enticing range of option modules, but also provide the small group teaching and personalised supervision that students need at the postgraduate level. And, because of UCD’s location in Dublin, students have ready access to many of Ireland’s key cultural resources and libraries. Where better to pursue an MA programme in Irish Studies?

Not only that, UCD’s MA in Irish Studies can be done on either a full-time (1 year) or a part-time (2 years) basis. Acceptance to the programme is based on a combination of G.P.A., undergraduate grades, academic references and a writing sample, with no graduate entrance exam.

Career Training Opportunities
Irish Studies MA students are trained not only to acquire, manage and communicate detailed knowledge in a creative, productive and supportive environment, but also to compare and contrast differing sources of information derived from archival, printed, visual and electronic formats. The programme enables students to hone their skills in research, critical thinking, oral and written communication, and the use of relevant computer software packages, such as Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. This degree is ideally suited to students seeking to deepen their knowledge of Irish Studies and to enhance their employment-relevant skills, while also providing a pathway for further specialisation in a relevant area or topic at doctoral level. Potential careers might include journalism, heritage and tourism, or academia.
MA in Irish Studies, UCD

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