



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHÉ
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Foghlaim & Forbairt
Ghairmiúil d'Aosaigh
Adult Learning &
Professional Development

Short Courses 2023

Commencing week of 6th February 2023



University
of Galway.ie

The Centre for Adult Learning & Professional Development continues to offer its Short Courses Series commencing the week of February 6th 2023. Courses will be delivered on campus or online via Zoom and consist of 8 weeks of lectures in a number of general interest areas including Irish Literature, Irish History, Languages, and Archaeology.

These courses are particularly suitable for candidates who have never had an opportunity to study a particular subject area before and wish to gain a deeper insight into a discipline that already interests them. Whatever your motivation, you are sure to find out more about your subject area and also experience the world of lifelong learning.

You are encouraged to browse through the short courses on offer and to contact the Centre for Adult Learning & Professional Development if you require any further details.

Short Course List 2023

Tuesday

- Can Rebellious Arts Change us
- From Border to Brexit: A History of Northern Ireland
- Decoding Irish Place-names

Wednesday

- Refresh and Improve your Irish
- Brush up your French
- Irish Literature - From Yeats to McKeon

Thursday

- From 'Labour's Way' to 'Breaking the Mould': Political parties in 20th Century Ireland
- The Artefacts and Archaeology of Prehistoric Ireland
- The Philosophy of Poetry

Friday

- Brush up your German

Saturday

- An Introduction to The Alexander Technique

Course Fee: €145 per course

Duration: Each short course runs for 8 weeks from 7- 9.00pm (classroom) and from 7- 8.30pm (online) each evening, starting the week of 6th February 2023

How to Apply: Visit the weblink below and select the BOOK NOW button to make your application. Closing date: 1st February 2023.

www.universityofgalway.ie/shortcourses



Course Details

CONTACT:

odonovant@universityofgalway.ie

Course Delivery

The courses will be delivered on campus at the University of Galway, room venues will be provided on course registration.

A small selection of courses will be delivered online via ZOOM through a combination of:

- Live, online classes and an opportunity to engage with your lecturer and fellow students.
- Access links will be emailed to course participants before the course start date.

Cancellations/ Refunds

Our courses require a minimum number of enrolments. Courses that do not reach this quota will be cancelled. Applicants will be offered an alternative course or will be refunded the course fee.

To avoid not being able to enrol on a course through oversubscription or cancellation, please apply as early as possible.

Refunds are only available if we have to cancel a course. It is in this regard that you are required to inform yourself of the course content before enrolment.

History

From the Border to Brexit: A History of Northern Ireland

Tuesday: Dr Séan Ó Duibhir

On Campus

The intricacies of Northern Irish politics and history have long been a source of fascination – and confusion – for southern audiences. Have you ever admitted to a friend that you are not really sure why partition occurred? Have you ever listened to the news and wondered if you really understood the differences between the DUP and the UUP, or the UFF and the UVF, or the OIRA and the PIRA? Why were there a number of 'Sinn Féins', but only one Social Democratic and Labour Party? What finally brought Paisley and Adams together?

What ultimately drove Martin McGuinness and Arlene Foster apart? And what impact is the 'Brexit' process having upon politics in Northern Ireland today? In this course we shall address these questions, and more, as we review political developments in Northern Ireland from the early 20th Century up to the present day.

From 'Labour'sWay' to 'Breaking the Mould': Political parties in 20th Century Ireland

Thursday: Dr Séan Ó Duibhir

On Campus

For most commentators, it is a truism to describe 20th Century Irish politics as a 'two-and-a-half' party system; one dominated – or 'divvied up' – by Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, and the Labour Party. Though accurate in some respects, this does not tell the full story. In this course we shall address the evolution of the 'big three', and consider their adaptations to changing societal circumstances, electoral successes, and political failures. Why did Fianna Fáil appear to move from 'small farmers' to 'big business'? Was Fine Gael ultimately the party of the 'Young Tigers' or the 'Mongrel Foxes'? And how did Labour adapt when the 'seventies' were not 'socialist'? However, we shall also consider the impacts and legacies of other political parties, such as the Irish Parliamentary Party, Sinn Féin, anti-Treaty Sinn Féin/The Workers' Party, Clann na Poblachta, and the Progressive Democrats.



Languages

Cuir snas ar do chuid Gaeilge - Refresh/Improve your Irish

Wednesday: Daithi O'Madain

Online

Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge is offering a refresher Irish-language course comprising of eight 90-minute online classes 7-8.30PM on Wednesdays. This course is aimed at adult learners who sat the Irish Leaving Cert at some stage and want to refresh/improve their comprehension and spoken skills. It is an ideal course for those who may require some Irish language skills for everyday or for parents who wish to support their children at home with the Irish school curriculum.

Brush up your German

Friday: Natalie Nevin

Online

This informal course taught by a native tutor is for you if you have an advanced beginner/intermediate level (A2/B1) German and if you want to improve your communicative skills, expand your vocabulary and if you want to learn and talk about the German-speaking countries' lifestyle, culture, history, politics, literature, art or music. Each week will focus on a different topic that you will prepare beforehand. A variety of tasks will be employed to revise and consolidate your prior knowledge of the language and each lesson incorporates sufficient time for feedback on grammar and pronunciation.

Brush up your French

Wednesday: Marie Biscio

On Campus

Brush up your French is a course taught by a native tutor, aimed at intermediate and advanced levels (B1 to C1). If you want to improve your communicative skills, expand your vocabulary, and want to learn and talk about the country's lifestyle, culture, history, politics, literature, art or music, this is the course for you. Each week will focus on a different topic of your choice. If you are looking for a space to practice your everyday French, whether it is for work, for a holiday in a Francophone country or just to be able to converse about a film or a book with friends, this class is a chance to speak, speak and speak some more in a friendly atmosphere! A variety of tasks will be employed to revise and consolidate your prior knowledge and each lesson incorporates sufficient time for feedback on grammar and pronunciation.

For information on language levels, check out the following guide:

Common European Framework of Reference for languages
(<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/level-descriptions>)



Literature & Arts

Can Rebellious Arts Change Us

Tuesday: Ludmila Snigireva

On Campus

This short course will take a look at Rebellious Arts, Cinema and Theatre, Music and Literature in Russia and the former USSR in the 20th and 21st centuries. It will look back with admiration and sadness and ask key questions such as: Who were these rebels? Were there many? What was their role?

The course will discuss key characters such as Bunin, Platonov, Shalamov, Meyerhold, Gubaidulina, Rostropovich, Neizvestny, Tselkov. It will give participants an opportunity to appreciate some of the most famous works of outstanding writers and poets, theatre directors and artists, composers and musicians, whose ideas of life and art differed from the mainstream concept of those times.

Irish Literature: From Yeats to McKeon

Wednesday: Dr Martin Keaveney

Online

This course is a general introduction to critically reading some of Ireland's best literature with reflection on the poetic technique in poetry and in prose.

We will begin early in the 20th century with W.B Yeats, progress to Patrick Kavanagh, Molly Keane and Maeve Brennan. The second half of the course discusses more recent writers: Colm Toibin, Naoise Dolan, Belinda McKeon and concluding with a selection of contemporary Irish Poetry.

By the end of the course participants will have read and discussed a number of Ireland's authors and critically analysed their themes. Irish Literature: From Yeats to McKeon - this is an exciting and highly enjoyable new course which would be ideal for the literary enthusiast or anyone preparing to study English at third level. Limited places.



Philosophy

The Philosophy of Poetry

Thursday: Dr. Rachel Coventry

On Campus

This eight-week course aims to give students an understanding of the philosophy of poetry. It situates poetry within the Western philosophical tradition, beginning with Plato's banishment of the poet from the ideal city in the Republic and culminating in a philosophical account of contemporary poetry. We will employ case studies to investigate critical questions. We will examine the German philosopher Martin Heidegger's account of poetry in terms of metaphysics and apply it to movements in poetry, such as eco-poetry and digital poetry. This course is suitable for readers and practitioners of poetry who want to deepen their understanding of the art. No prior knowledge of philosophy is required.

BOOK NOW:

universityofgalway.ie/shortcourses

Place Names

Decoding Irish Place-names

Tuesday: Liam Ó hAisibéil

On Campus

This short course provides an introduction to the study and interpretation of Irish place-names, focusing on the origins, functions, meanings and linguistic development of place-names on this island. The course will outline the various social and cultural influences that can be evidenced by names and naming patterns, in both historical and contemporary contexts. The aim of this course is to encourage participants to engage with the onomastic heritage of their own local area, and to enable them to decode the meaning and structure of names from their anglicised forms. The course also seeks to develop the research skills of participants, presenting information on historical sources, mapping, and field-work, while engaging with major scholarly works on names and naming practices which have been published over the past 150 years. A visit to the Special Collections Reading Room at James Hardiman Library will feature as part of the course.

BOOK NOW:

universityofgalway.ie/shortcourses



Health & Wellbeing

An Introduction to The Alexander Technique

Saturday: Richard Brennan

On Campus

The Alexander Technique is a method of self-awareness on many levels. It is very simple and can be understood by anyone, yet at the same time it is very profound; It is a way of improving balance, posture and co-ordination.

Many people think that the Alexander Technique involves improving posture by 'sitting up straight'. Nothing could be further from the truth. It involves being aware and releasing the unconscious tension from our body allowing us to move through life with greater ease. It can dramatically help prevent or alleviate backache, neck pain, arthritis, insomnia, depression as well as a whole range of physical aches and pains that are so common in our society today.

Many people find that the Alexander Technique helps to improve their confidence self-esteem and spontaneity, leading to greater contentment and happiness.

The workshop will cover the needs of the group, but the following topics are usually covered

- Easing Back and neck pain
- Improving posture without effort
- Improving breathing
- Reducing Stress
- Sitting, standing and walking with ease
- Mind/body/emotional unity

BOOK NOW:

universityofgalway.ie/shortcourses

Archaeology

The Artefacts and Archaeology of Prehistoric Ireland

Thursday: Dr Noel McCarthy

On Campus

Spanning the millennia from c.8000 BC to AD 500, this course will identify and discuss the developments in society and technology that occurred through the prehistoric period of Ireland's past.

Using the artefacts and archaeology of the time, a range of subjects will be discussed. The course will begin with the arrival of people into Ireland after the last Ice Age and their use of early stone tools, through to the construction and use of megalithic monuments such as Poul Nabrone and Newgrange, toward the end of the Stone Age.

The subsequent appearance of metal will be viewed with regard to the use of these new materials, the development of particular artefact styles, as well as the changing role of objects and individuals in society. The masterworks of the Bronze Age goldsmiths will be viewed in light of their form and function, as will the monuments constructed during the period.

Changes in society throughout prehistory will also be analysed; particularly regarding attitudes toward the physical landscape, the construction of spectacular ritual monuments and the rise of powerful elites.

