



DBLN LITR/THTR 3320

Storytelling: Writing Irish Cultural Narratives

CAPA DUBLIN PROGRAM

Course Description

This course will examine the role of storytelling in Irish culture and the way in which 'story' is used to create a narrative of Irish culture. It will provide an introduction to traditional oral folk traditions, modernist documentations in the Irish short story, theatrical performance, filmic narratives, and the contemporary iteration of cultural change on the streets of its capital city. Students will have an opportunity to practice immersive research and to engage in a variety of different modes of storytelling.

Course Aims

Through exploring the tradition of storytelling in Ireland, from conservation to subversion and from folk tale to street art, students will discover in and out of the classroom how this embedded feature of Irish culture allows and obstructs how to present and represent a nation to itself and others and how the students too can create a story.

Requirements and Prerequisites

The course is suitable for any student with an interest in stories, storytelling and the structures, processes and tools for creating narratives.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course:

- a. Students will have encountered a range of narrative forms expressed through a variety of media.
- b. Students will have analyzed the role of the narrative in ideas of nation-building and nationhood.
- c. Students will have learned the structural tools of narrative and used them to create their own story.
- d. Students will have used a range of research methods as part of an immersive storytelling project.

Developmental Outcomes

Students should demonstrate: responsibility and accountability; independence and interdependence, goal orientation, self-confidence, resilience, appreciation of differences.

Class Methodology

The course will be taught in individual theme-based seminars. There will be a lead lecturer, with visiting speakers as appropriate. Student participation through presentation and class discussion will be essential. Attendance on field trips is mandatory.

Field Components

Two writing workshops

Assessment

Assessment/Grading Policy

Descriptor	Alpha	UK	US	GPA
Excellent	A	75+	93+	4.0
	A-	70-74	90-92	3.7
Good	B+	66-69	87-89	3.3
	B	63-65	83-86	3.0
	B-	60-62	80-82	2.7
Average	C+	56-59	77-79	2.3
	C	53-55	73-76	2.0
Below Average / Poor	C-	50-52	70-72	1.7
	D+	46-49	67-69	1.3
	D	40-45	60-66	0.7
Fail	F	<40	<60	0

Grade Breakdown and Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Assessment Task	Grade %	Learning Outcomes	Due Date
Class participation	10%	a,b,c,d	TBD
Research Project #1	25%	c,d	TBD
Research Project #2	25%	c,d	TBD
Story/Telling Performance/Presentation	40%	a,b,d	TBD

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL REQUIRED COMPONENTS FOR EACH COURSE BY THE ESTABLISHED DEADLINES. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN A GRADE OF 'F' (FAIL) FOR THE COURSE IN QUESTION.

Dress Code

The instructor will give students advance notice if any special considerations regarding dress code are necessary, e.g. comfortable clothing for workshop session etc.

Course Materials

Reading List

J. M. Synge, The Playboy of the Western World

James Joyce, An Encounter Edna O'Brien, Selected Stories
Samuel Beckett, Krapps Last Tape/All That Fall
Eric Cross, The Tailor and Ansty
Tom Murphy, Bailegangaire
Brian Friel, Faith Healer
Conor McPherson, This Lime Tree Bower
Mark O'Rowe, Howie the Rookie
Frank McCourt, Angela's Ashes
Nuala O'Faolan, Are You Somebody?
Michael Harding, Staring at Lakes
Sinead Gleeson, Blue Hills and Chalk Bones in Granta: New Writing From Ireland 2016
Emer O'Toole, Girls Will be Girls Ciaran Cassidy, The Boys of Foley Street Secondary
Declan Kiberd, Inventing Ireland, Chapter 7. The national longing for form
J. M. Synge, The Aran Islands
Robert Flaherty, Man of Aran
Nicholas Grene, The Politics of Irish Drama: From Boucicault to Friel, Chapter 2. Strangers in the House
Eric Cross, The Tailor and Antsy
Fintan Walsh (ed.), Theatres of Testimony in That Was Us: Contemporary Irish Theatre and Performance
Aoife Kelleher, One Million Dubliners
Fintan Walsh (ed.), Theatres of Testimony in That Was Us: Contemporary Irish Theatre and Performance

Weekly Course Schedule

Class One: Introduction: Telling Stories/ Storytelling

Class Two: Folk Tales and Fantasies: The gap between the story and the gallous deed

J M Synge, The Playboy of the Western World (play); Man of Aran (film)

Class Three: Filth and Fantasy

James Joyce, An Encounter/Edna O'Brien, The Country Girls

Class Four: Mastering the Telling/The Master Storyteller

Eric Cross, The Tailor and Ansty. A guest speaker (TBD) will visit this class

Class Five: Truth and Lies: Storytelling as Theatre

Brian Friel, Faith Healer; Tom Murphy, Bailegangaire.

Class Six: Writing Workshop with Fighting Words

Class Seven: Glamorous Poverty

Frank McCourt, Angela's Ashes/Peter Lennon, The Rocky Road to Dublin (documentary)

Class Eight: The Writing on the Wall: Political Graffiti

Class Nine: Have I No Mouth?

Staging Oral Histories (ANU Theatre and Brokentaklers)

Class Ten: Telling It Like It Is:

Storytelling Workshop with Stephen James Smith (poet); Class Visit to Milk and Cookies Storytelling Event

Class Eleven: Queering the Nation One Tweet at a Time

Emer O'Toole, Girls Will be Girls/ Conor Horgan, The Queen of Ireland

Class Twelve: Real Life as Literary Form: The Confessional Essay and telling your own story

Sinead Gleeson, Blue Hills and Chalk Bones/Michael Harding, Staring at Lakes

Class Thirteen: Final storytelling performance/presentation

Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

Attendance: CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class. Unless otherwise expressed by your instructor, the first time a student has an unexcused absence for a class, their grade will not be impacted. The second time a student has an unexcused absence in that class, it will result in a 3 percent reduction of the final grade (for example: an A- [92] will become a B+ [89]). The student will be placed on academic probation at this time. Three unexcused absences per class will result in failure of the course. A pattern of three absences in more than one course will result in dismissal from the program.

Excused Absences: Absences are only excused for medical reasons, for a family emergency or for a religious holiday. To request an excused absence, students must contact the Academic Director ahead of time and provide evidence (e.g. a doctor's note) of the reason for their absence, otherwise the absence will not be excused. Even if the student knows the absence will not be excused, the student should still contact CAPA to inform CAPA they will not be in class.

In addition to contacting the Academic Director, it is the responsibility of the student to contact their instructor and make up any missed assignments.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assignments BEFORE the class, and come in on time. Participation is a vital part of your grade: students are expected to participate orally in seminars and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others in the class will not be tolerated.

Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability should contact the instructor and/or the director of academic affairs privately to discuss your specific needs.

Academic Integrity: A high level of responsibility and academic honesty is expected. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work and class behavior. Plagiarism, self-plagiarism and cheating can result in dismissal from the program.

Self-plagiarism, copying an assignment entirely or partially to submit to a different class in an attempt to receive credit twice for one piece of work is unacceptable and considered cheating by duplication. Students risk receiving an "O" for any assignments in which they have duplicated their own work.

All substantial writing assignments (typically anything worth 20% or more of the final course grade) will be run through the plagiarism checking software Turnitin when submitted via CANVAS. See CAPA's Academic Standards and Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

Sexual Misconduct, Required Reporting, and Title IX: CAPA The Global Education Network is committed to encouraging a safe and healthy environment at our seven CAPA centers. This commitment includes the understanding of, and applicable adherence to, the guidelines outlined in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX necessitates that US universities provide equity in all educational programs and activities without sex discrimination.

CAPA understands the implications of Title IX compliance for our institutional partners and thus endeavors to support this compliance as a vital aspect of partnership. The safety and security of all students during a program is a matter of crucial importance to CAPA. To facilitate this, CAPA encourages students to openly disclose any and all information that is Title IX relevant so that CAPA staff can provide support and connect students with appropriate resources. Because students may not understand the implications of Title IX abroad, CAPA will work to advise students about the resources available through Title IX and explain the importance of compliance in Title IX reporting. CAPA will work to build student confidence in CAPA's status as a mandated reporter by outlining the advantage of disclosure for the student, reassuring them that any information disclosed will not be used in an inappropriate manner, and stressing that individuals will only be informed on a need-to-know basis.

Use of electronic equipment in class: All devices such as laptops, i-pods, i-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are **NOT** allowed unless you have express permission from the faculty or you have been instructed to do so. If you require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, inform the Associate Director of Academic Affairs at the beginning of Term.

Use of Electronic Translators: In Language courses students are NOT allowed to use electronic translators for writing texts in the target language: those submitting compositions and texts of whatever kind translated in such a fashion will receive a final F grade for the course.

Late Submission: Late submission of papers, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request for an extension must be made to the relevant faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a 3 percent per day deduction of the final grade. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of "O" will be given for the assessment.

Behaviour during Examinations: During examinations, you must do your own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, nor may you compare papers,

copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.