

# IRISH DRAMA

University of Iowa - Creative Writing in Dublin

**Lecturer: Gavin Kostick**

**Class: Tuesdays, 1:30pm – 3:30pm**

**Reading** (Must read throughout course)

- JM Synge - *Riders to the Sea*  
(Any edition)
- Sean O'Casey - *Juno and the Paycock*  
(Three Dublin Plays - Shadow of a Gunman, Juno & The Paycock, Plough & the Stars)
- Brian Friel - *Translations*  
(Translations: A Play (Faber Paperbacks) - or as part of collected plays)
- Marina Carr - *Woman and Scarecrow*  
(Marina Carr: Plays: v. 2: On Raftery's Hill; Ariel; Woman and Scarecrow; the Cordelia Dream; Marble)
- Enda Walsh - *Ballyturk*  
(Enda Walsh Plays: Two)
- Eva O'Connor - *Maz and Bricks*

Also

- Samuel Beckett - *Come and Go*
- Fishamble Theatre, *Tiny Plays for Ireland*

## **Theatre visits:**

This course will include four theatre visits. Names of the plays to be confirmed.

## **Assessment**

40% General class contribution and each student will be asked to make a 5 minute presentation during the course.

60% End of term assessment which will be one of:

- \* A short essay on the plays
- \* A report from a theatre outing
- \* A short piece of dramatic writing.

These will be properly set from week four and I will provide students with more detail.

# IRISH POETRY

University of Iowa Irish Writing Programme

Lecturer Nell Regan

Wednesdays 1.30-3.30 pm

Week		Section/Topic	
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1		Lecture: Introduction and background: the dual language tradition. The Celtic revival & early WB Yeats.	
2		Lecture: WB Yeats: his poetry, his contemporaries & his influence. <i>Student presentations (3)</i>	
3		Lecture: Branching out - Patrick Kavanagh, 'local rows' and more. <i>Student presentations (5)</i>	
4		Lecture: , Seamus Heaney and the 'Northern poets' <i>Student presentations (5)</i>	
5		Lecture: New magnetic poles, Irish language poetry and women's voices. <i>Student presentations (5) &amp; submit essays</i>	
		<i>Field trip – UCD Special Poetry Collection (?)</i>	

## **Core texts**

Wes Davies *An Anthology of Modern Irish Poetry*, Harvard University Press, 2013

*WB Yeats: Poems selected by Seamus Heaney*, Faber and Faber, 2004

## **Student coursework & assessment**

a) Students keep a weekly reflection journal and reading log.

b) Students make a 5 min oral presentation on an individual poet or landmark poem in preparation for submitting a 2,000 word essay on same by July 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **Selected Further Reading**

(more to follow by week )

### **Session 1**

*The Finest Music: An Anthology of Early Irish Lyrics*, Ed Maurice Riordan, Faber & Faber, 2014

### **Session 2**

*Poetry Ireland Review A WB Yeats Special Issue*, Ed by Vona Groarke, 2015

*Watching the River Flow: A Century in Irish Poetry*, Eds Noel Duffy & Theo Dorgan, Poetry Ireland, 1999

### **Session 3**

Patrick Kavanagh *Selected Poems*, Ed Antoinette Quinn, Penguin, 1996

### **Session 4**

*Stepping Stones: Interviews with Seamus Heaney*, Dennis O'Driscoll, Faber and Faber, 2008

Derek Mahon, *New Selected Poems*, Gallery Press/Faber and Faber, 2016

## **Session 5**

*Leabhar na hÁthgabhála, Poems of Repossession*, bilingual anthology of modern Irish poetry, Ed Louis de Paor, Bloodaxe & Cló Iar Connachta, 2016

*The Wake Forest Book of Irish Women's Poetry*, Ed. Peggy O'Brien, Wake Forest University Press, 2011.

Summer 2023

University of Iowa - Irish Writing Program

*EL 3520 Literature & Culture of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*

Stephen McMahon

Short Fiction Course Outline

### **Session 1: Storytelling and Ireland's Dual Linguistic Heritage**

Primary Reading:

Chapter 1: 'The Pillow Talk and Its Outcome' pp 1 – 9 in Carson, Ciaran. *The Táin: A New Translation of the Táin Bó Cúailnge*. London: Penguin Classics, 2008.

Introduction: pp 1 – 14 in Ingman, Heather. *A History of the Irish Short Story*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

### **Session 2: The Truth of Life as He Saw It: Joyce's 'Dubliners'**

Primary Reading:

'Araby' & 'Eveline' pp 22 – 35, in Joyce, James. *Dubliners*. London: Penguin Books, 1992.

'The Dead' pp 175 – 225, in Joyce, James. *Dubliners*. London: Penguin Books, 1992.

### **Session 3: Nationalism, Society and the Irish Short Story**

Primary Reading:

'Sarah' by Mary Lavin pp 392 – 400 in Trevor, William, ed. *The Oxford Book of Irish Short Stories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

'Guests of the Nation' by Frank O'Connor pp 342 – 353 in Trevor, William (ed.). *The Oxford Book of Irish Short Stories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

## **Session 4: Representations of Emigration and Immigration**

Primary Reading:

'City of Glass' by Molly McCloskey pp 243 – 264 in Barry, Kevin (ed.). Town and Country: New Irish Short Stories. London: Faber & Faber, 2014.

'The Country Funeral' pp 374 – 408 in McGahern, John. Creatures of the Earth: New and Selected Stories. London: Faber & Faber, 2006.

## **Session 5: Contemporary Ireland and the Short Story**

Primary Reading:

Chapter 8: '1980 to the Present: Changing Identities' pp 225 – 266 in Ingman, Heather. A History of the Irish Short Story. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

'Night of the Quicken Trees' pp 121 – 160 in Keegan, Claire. Walk the Blue Fields. London: Faber & Faber, 2007.

## **Assessment:**

Written Assignment: Reflecting on Reading & Writing (60%)

Creative Exercise: Short Fiction Forms (40%)