

**HISTORY 410/510:  
MODERN IRELAND**  
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This course is designed to familiarize students with the social, cultural, economic, political, and religious history of Ireland between the Act of Union in 1801 and the signing of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998.

Nineteenth-century Ireland was the least industrialized area of the United Kingdom. The Great Famine of 1845 to 1851 not only killed more than a million Irish men, women, and children, but also sparked decades of mass emigration. Despite the social and political turbulence of the period, however, Ireland was in the midst of a major cultural and intellectual renaissance by the first decade of the twentieth century. We will analyze this cultural revival and its affect on Irish nationalism at length.

We will also delve into the nature of religion in Ireland, whose inhabitants have long been overwhelmingly Roman Catholic while including a recalcitrant minority united by its shared Protestant identity.

The British ruled Ireland for most of this period, and much of our story will focus on the struggle for Catholic Emancipation and later Home Rule between the 1820s and the 1920s. We will also explore the history of Northern Ireland before and during the Troubles of the late 1960s and 1970s. This will include an in-depth analysis of the IRA and its terror campaigns as well as the British government's responses up until the late 1990s.

### **READINGS**

Every week I will assign a digital article (occasionally two) for the class to read. These articles will consist of both primary and secondary sources. We will discuss these readings in class weekly.

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Five quizzes (100 points each)  
Attendance and participation (150 points)  
Final paper (350 points)

The final paper will be a 10-to-12-page synthesis of both primary and secondary sources, due during finals week.

### **GRADUATE WORK**

Graduate students are required to attend lectures and participate in discussions, but are not required to take exams. The course assignment for graduate students is to write a 20-to-25-page paper on a topic in modern Irish history of their choice (after consultation with the instructor), due during finals week.