ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF IRELAND
HIST 4443: Topics in European History

Fall Semester 2018
Lectures:
Tuesday & Thursday
9:30 – 10:45

Instructor
Dr. Justin Dolan
STOVER
stovjust@isu.edu

Office Hours
TR 12 – 1 p.m.
or by appointment

Course Description
Ireland’s environment has influenced its cultural, social, and political development. This course explores Irish environmental history from the approximately the sixteenth to the twenty-first century, detailing its natural history with special focus turned toward issues of human settlement and displacement, agriculture, crime and rebellion, food, health and disease, urban growth, the impact of modernization and globalization, and the efficacy of environmental protest. Students are assessed through periodic comprehension quizzes, critical essays, one exam, continuous reading and discussion of Tim Robinson’s work, and a collaborative project examining the environmental impact of the global Irish Diaspora.

See Course Appendix below for further clarification on assignments

Assessments
Quiz 1 25 pts. 7 Sept.
Critical Essay 1 50 pts. 16 Sept.
Quiz 2 25 pts. 28 Sept.
Quiz 3 25 pts. 16 Nov.
Critical Essay 3 100 pts. 19 Nov.
Extra Credit* 25 pts. 1 Dec.
Digital Project 100 pts. 1 Dec.
Final Exam 100 pts. 13 Dec.

Submit Quizzes & Essays via Moodle.
LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
* For extra credit, students may synthesize & review one of the following films, citing its environmental issue, plot & presentation: The Pipe, Atlantic, Community Power, '71. Feel free to suggest others!

Required Course Materials
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2015)

Tim Robinson, Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara & Other Writings (Dublin: Lilliput Press, 1997)

All other materials will be provided via Moodle

Required readings equate to approximately 100 pages per week.
## Tentative Course Schedule

### Ireland’s Geography, Natural History, Flora & Fauna

**Week 1: Lecture Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tim Robinson, <em>Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara</em>, ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Excerpts from Gerard Boate, <em>Ireland’s Natural History</em> (1652)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### (Re)-shaping the Land: Plantation, Enclosure, and Improvement

**Week 2: Lecture Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Everett, <em>Woods</em>, chs. 2-4: “Planting and good husbandry, 1590-1603;” “Planters and preservers;” and “The king’s woods, 1603-40”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tim Robinson, <em>Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara</em>, ch. 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Displacement & Dispossession: 17th century Ireland

**Week 3: Lecture Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assessments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4, 6 September</td>
<td>- Everett, <em>Woods</em>, ch. 5: “Destruction and devastation, 1641-60”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tim Robinson, <em>Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara</em>, ch. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- QUIZ 1 DUE 7 SEPTEMBER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cultivating Ireland: Agriculture, Trade, & Industry

11, 13 September

- Everett, Woods, chs. 6, 7, 8: “The propagation of timber,” “Reclaiming Ireland, 1700-60,” and “Hostile nations, 1760-1800”
- J. Lee, “Money and Beer in Ireland, 1790-1875,” in *Economic History Review*
- Andy Bielenberg, *Ireland and the Industrial Revolution*, ch. 6 “The mining and engineering industries”
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 4
- CRITICAL ESSAY DUE 16 SEPTEMBER

Food, Drink, & Famine

18, 20 September

- P.M. Austin Bourke, “The use of the potato crop in pre-famine Ireland,” in *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*
- Christopher Hamlin, “Environment and Disease in Ireland,” in *Environment, Health and History*
- Ian Miller, “Nutritional Decline in post-Famine Ireland, c. 1851-1922,” in *Food and Drink in Ireland*
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 5

Political Ecology & Cultural Conflicts: Nationalism & Unionism on the Land

25, 27 September

- Everett, Woods, chs. 9-10, “Fair Freedom’s Tree,” and “Demesne portraits”
- Guy Felhmann, “An Historical Survey,” in *The Big House in Ireland*
- Gearoid Ó Tuathaigh, “Languages and Identities,” in *The Cambridge Social History of Modern Ireland*
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 6
- QUIZ 2 DUE 28 SEPTEMBER
The Irish Revolution’s Environmental Impact

Week 7: Lecture Dates

Readings

- Daithí Ó Corráin, “‘They blew up the best portion of our city and ... it is their duty to replace it’: compensation and reconstruction in the aftermath of the 1916 Rising,” in *Irish Historical Studies*
- Selection of Witness Statements from the Bureau of Military History
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 7

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY:** American Conference for Irish Studies, Western Regional Conference. October 12-13, Jackson Hole, WY. Contact Dr. Stover if you would like to attend and we will coordinate.

Lecture Overflow & Catch-up Week

Week 8: Lecture Dates

One-day lecture catch-up and discussion, Tuesday.

**No class Thursday, 11 October**

**CRITICAL ESSAY 2 DUE 14 OCTOBER**
In a New State: Afforestation, Electrification, Turf, and Tourism

Week 9: Lecture Dates
16, 18 October

Readings

• “Mining, power, wind and water,” in Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape
• Nuala C. Johnson, “Framing the past: time, space and the politics of heritage tourism in Ireland,” in Political Geography, 18:2 (1999), p 187-207
• Terence Dooley and Tony McCarthy, “The 1923 Land Act: Some New Perspectives,” in A Formative Decade: Ireland in the 1920s, p. 132-156
• Tim Robinson, Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara, ch. 8

NO LECTURES THIS WEEK

Week 10: Dates
23, 25 October

Dr. Stover will be in London & Washington, D.C. for conferences. Submit souvenir requests in class.

Irish Literary Landscapes

Week 11: Lecture Dates
30 October, 1 November

Readings

• Patrick J. Duffy, “Writing Landscapes,” in Exploring the History and Heritage of Irish Landscapes
• Derek Gladwin, “The Protean Nature of Bogs,” in Contentious Terrains: Boglands, Ireland, Postcolonial Gothic, 28-54
• Tim Robinson, Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara, ch. 9
### Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: Transport & Landscape Transformation

**Week 12: Lecture Dates**

6, 8 November

**Readings**

- “Dublin Bus routes redesign is for the ‘city of the future’,” *Irish Times*, 3 July 2018
- “Santry residents object to extra night flights at Dublin airport,” *Irish Times*, 8 July 2016
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 10

---

### The Environmental Cost of the Troubles

**Week 14: Lecture Dates**

13, 15 November

**Readings**

- Ciaran Mackel, “The Impact of the Conflict on Public Space and Architecture”
- Tim Robinson, *Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara*, ch. 11
- **QUIZ 3 DUE 16 NOVEMBER**
- **CRITICAL ESSAY 3 DUE 19 NOVEMBER**

---

**FALL RECESS: NO LECTURES**

**Week 13**

19-25 November
Environmental Protest in Ireland

Week 13: Lecture Dates

Readings

27, 29 November

- Liam Leonard, “Irish Environmental Activism: From Woodquay to the ‘Celtic Tiger’”
- “Shell to Sea protest: Lorry stuck at crossroads after intense stand-off” in Irish Independent (31 July 2012)
- “Ireland’s Woodstock: the anti-nuclear protests at Carnsore Point” from www.headstuff.org
- “Opposition to Nuclear Power in Ireland 1978” from RTÉ Archives
- “Dublin water protest: thousands call for abolition of charges” in Irish Times (17 Sept. 2016)
- Tim Robinson, Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara, ch. 12

CLOSED WEEK: NO LECTURES

Week 16

Office consultations available upon request.

Digital Class Project: The Global Irish Diaspora – DUE 1 DEC.

Extra Credit – DUE 1 DEC.

FINALS WEEK

Week 17

THURSDAY, 13 DECEMBER

Final Exam

Students will sit one final and cumulative exam. A study guide outlining the exam’s format with sample questions will be available before fall recess.

7:30 – 9:30 a.m. in your respective locations
Appendix to Course Assessments

**Comprehension Quizzes**

Several quizzes will assess students’ comprehension of the subject material. Quiz format will vary and may feature geography exercises, multiple choice, and short answer essay responses. Quizzes will be delivered online via Moodle.

**Critical Essays**

Students will write several critical essays that respond to questions presented in the lectures and readings. Papers will demonstrate a student’s understanding of the period and subject and will present historically responsible arguments backed by outside reading and source evidence. Critical essays are not personal responses. Essays must be between four and six pages in length, exclusive of title page and works cited page; main text will be twelve-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins, 1.5 spaced; footnotes will be single-spaced at ten-point font and cited using Chicago style (Turabian) citation. Essays will receive greater scrutiny as the semester progresses and should reflect students’ evolving comprehension and skill set.

**Tim Robinson, Setting Foot on the Shores of Connemara**

Connemara preserves what many see as traditional Ireland – rural, Gaelic, ecologically diverse, and historically preserved. Tim Robinson’s work will help us to experience the region, its people, landscapes, and culture. Read one chapter a week; we’ll begin each Thursday class with an exploration of a chapter’s themes, highlights, and observations. Graduate students are expected to lead discussions, or establish talking points for the class.

**Digital Class Project: The Global Irish Diaspora**

Students may work individually or in groups of 2-3 to research and develop an environmental aspect of Ireland’s diaspora experience since the nineteenth century. These may reflect a variety of research foci and methods, but should work to examine the impacts of Irish emigration, settlement, labor, consumption, and cultural and intellectual contributions on foreign lands in an environmental context. Student contributions will inform a collective class project, which the instructor which organize and present through a distinct platform. Topics must be approved by the instructor. Some models include:

- Irish intellectual environments in Paris
- Sea traffic, consumption, and settlement in the nineteenth century
- Irish immigrants and their labor in Philadelphia
- Celtic Tiger emigrants

**Final Exam**

Students will sit one final and cumulative exam. A study guide outlining the exam’s format with sample questions will be available before the autumn holiday break.