Tá fáilte romhat arís! We begin our Fall 2020 semester looking to grow our understandings, horizons, and community. Let this year be a year to remember not only because of what has happened, but because of what we have done.

The Center for Irish Studies continues to host events that critically examine racial injustice. Our statement on anti-racism supports calls to make Villanova a more supportive campus for everyone. We enthusiastically support the new efforts of our student group, the Irish Cultural Society, as they engage with racism in Ireland.

Our podcast series (now on iTunes and Spotify) continues this year, with interviews coming from sean-nós singer and professor from NUI Galway, Lillis Ó Laoire, and Irish-Nigerian teacher, broadcaster, and model, Emer Foley O'Neill, and a favorite story from our own Jim Murphy.

We will offer more scholarships than ever before for study abroad trips in 2021, thanks to the Connelly Foundation and the Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. So, students, don’t let finances be the only barrier to seeing Ireland!

We begin next week with a trad music concert on the 25th! Reach out with questions and, please, stay safe for everyone’s sake!

Joseph Lennon, PhD, Emily C. Riley Director
Center for Irish Studies
irish.studies@villanova.edu

Villanova University | Center for Irish Studies

Irish Cultural Society Discussion Series: Race in Ireland

Join the Irish Cultural Society in partnership with the Center for Irish Studies for a student-led conversation on race, culture, & identity in contemporary Ireland. All students are welcome to take part in the discussion in any capacity. Come and celebrate the stories, films, & music of Irish POC. Meetings will occur monthly with a new author/artist & their works to discuss.

• September 2: This Hostel Life by Melatu Uche Okorie
• October 2: This Land by Zithelo Bobby Mthombeni
Irish Language Courses and Instruction

Welcome back to our Fulbright Irish Language Instructor from 2020, who continues on a one-year appointment, Alene O'Malley. Alene has remained in Philadelphia during the pandemic and will continue teaching Irish Language this year, both online and on campus for students.

Alene will also be teaching an online Irish Language course in the spring semester, more details to come! A later course will prepare students for the TEG (Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge), an Irish proficiency examination level A1.

Why study Irish? Here's a short video answer!

Irish Studies Podcasts: Seasons 1 & 2 on Spotify and iTunes

Ciara Ní É, Herself

Alene O'Malley talks with Ciara Ní É, a writer, editor, teacher, and broadcaster with a growing online following.

Ciara completed a B.A. in Modern Irish and English at TCD, and an MA in Irish at UCD where she was a tutor. She has since produced many videos, and created a video for the Center on reasons to study Irish!

Ciara taught Irish language courses at Villanova as a Fulbright FLTA in 2017-2018, and talked with Alene in July.

Click here to listen to the podcast

Teaching Irish to Yanks: Alene O'Malley, talks with Iseult O'Connor, Ellen Corbett, Deidre Murphy and Caroline Gallagher

What is it like to teach Irish in America? Alene O'Malley, and four other Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants--Iseult O'Connor, Ellen Corbett, Deidre Murphy and Caroline Gallagher--talk about their experiences teaching the Irish language in various parts of America this year (2019-2020).

Click here to listen to the podcast

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Fall 2020 Virtual Events
Tuesday, August 25: Live Trad Music!

Join a live Irish traditional music concert on FB!

7-7:25: **Colin Farrell** (fiddler from Lunasa and Grada) and **Dave Curley** (guitarist from One for the Foxes)

7:30-7:55: **Isaac Alderson** (uilleann pipes and flute), the first American to win three All-Ireland titles in one year, with **Jessie Langen**.

8:00-8:30: Caitlin Warbelow and Chris Ranney, musicians from the Tony Award winning Broadway musical **Come From Away**

**VU Irish Studies Facebook page**, at 7:00 p.m.

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Wednesday, September 2: Irish Cultural Society Event: Discussions of Race in Ireland w/ **This Hostel Life** by Melatu Uche Okorie

Join the Irish Cultural Society in partnership with the Center for Irish Studies for a student-led conversation on race, culture, & identity in contemporary Ireland. All students are welcome to take part in the discussion in any capacity. Come and celebrate the stories, films, & music of Irish POC. Meetings will occur monthly with a new author/artist & their works to discuss.

This session will include **This Hostel Life** by Melatu Uche Okorie.

Zoom discussion, at 7:30 p.m. moreill4@villanova.edu

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Thursday, September 10: Study Abroad Reunion

Come catch up with your Irish connections!
If you are a current Villanova student who has studied abroad in Ireland, or you are a current Villanova student registered to study abroad in Ireland this summer, you’re invited to our Irish Study Abroad Reunion!

**Via Zoom**, at 5:00 p.m.
Register in advance [here](#)

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Thursday, September 17: The Camino Voyage Film Screening

For all our Irish language enthusiasts, Alene O'Malley will be screening this Irish language film, with subtitles, about a recreation of prehistoric voyages from Ireland to Spain, along the same route taken thousands of years ago by Hibernian and Iberian sailors.

**Via Zoom**, at 6:00 p.m.
[Join the event here](#)
**Tuesday, September 22: Irish Knitting Event Series**

Led by Susan Kelly vonMedicus, Studio Art faculty, Irish knitting returns with a refined format to teach new knitters and challenge experienced knitters--and to teach the history of this handcraft as uniquely expressed in Ireland.

**Dates**
- September 22
- October 20
- November 23 (Irish Cultural Society students only)

2:30-3:30 new knitters' tutorials--knit and purl to make fingerless gloves!
3:30-4:00 history of knitting, lectures and videos
4:00-5:00 experienced knitters. Fall: stitch sampler; Spring: design panels for a vest.

**Location:** Fall session through Zoom, 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Registration required:** all are welcome with priority given to students. Spots limited to 9 in each group. To register, please contact: kiersten.ludy@villanova.edu

**Thursday, September 24: Lillis Ó Laoire Lecture**

**Lillis Ó Laoire** is a sean-nós singer and lecturer in Irish language, folklore and Celtic Civilization in the School of Languages, NUI Galway, and is also a strong advocate for the use of the Irish language in the community.

Lillis will be singing and discussing a seán-nos fairy song from Limerick, "A Bhean ud Thios," which you can read about in its first publication in 1855, titled there as "Seo hu Leo" or "An Irish Lullaby."

**To reserve a spot and get the zoom link to Dr. Lennon's class, 4:00 p.m., please write to irish.studies@villanova.edu.**

**Wednesday, October 21: Gender and the Northern Ireland Peace Process, Lecture**

A guest lecture and discussion with Bronagh Hinds, former member of the Northern Ireland Women’s
Wednesday, November 18: Border Issues: Constitutional Change in Europe, Discussion

A panel discussion about constitutional change in the UK, Ireland and Spain in light of Brexit and the Covid 19 pandemic, featuring experts including Dr. Daniel Cetrà, Research Fellow at the Centre on Constitutional Change, University of Edinburgh.

Via Zoom, at 9:15 a.m.

To reserve a spot and get the zoom link to Dr. Murtagh’s class, 9:15 a.m., please write to irish.studies@villanova.edu.

Study Abroad Returning in 2021

Summer Learning Communities Abroad Internship in Dublin

The Learning Communities Abroad Program (LCA) provides students the unique opportunity to explore and challenge their career assumptions through an intensive international experience in Dublin, Ireland. Participating students will:

- Increase awareness of academic interests, allowing for a more fulfilling selection of major at the beginning sophomore year.
- Build professional experiences into a more competitive resume for future employment, summer internships, research opportunities.
- Develop interest in further study abroad and international experiences
- Increase intercultural competencies valued by employers and academia
- Challenge pre-conceived notions through immersion in a foreign culture.

Contact:
Faculty Program Coordinator Dublin
Jennifer Joyce, PhD
Associate Director, Center for Irish Studies
Email: jennifer.joyce@villanova.edu

Villanova Summer Irish Studies in Galway

The Villanova Irish Studies Summer Program introduces students to Ireland's history, literature, society and archaeology through a 10-day Orientation in Dublin, and the Aran Islands, followed by one month of coursework at the National University of Ireland, Galway Summer School
in Irish Studies. Students will:

- Learn about Irish literature, history, contemporary society, economy, art and landscape through courses taught at the National University of Ireland, Galway;
- Challenge pre-conceived notions through immersion in Irish culture;
- Complete core curriculum requirements through Irish Studies classes;
- Learn through experience by attending plays, field trips, hiking on the Aran Islands and traveling across Ireland;
- Build community and new friendships through homestays with Irish families.

Contact:
Faculty Program Coordinator
Joseph Lennon, PhD
Associate Dean and Professor, English
Emily C. Riley Director, Center for Irish Studies
Email: joseph.lennon@villanova.edu

Villanova Summer Studio in Irish Theater

From the studio to the stage, students study the workings and history of the Abbey Theatre, Ireland's world-class national theatre, while developing their own theatre skills, knowledge, and practice. Students work alongside Irish students and are taught by practitioners and professors from the U.S. and Ireland. Student work culminates in a showing at the Lir, Ireland's National Academy of Dramatic Art, guided by Abbey Theatre professionals.

Who should apply?
Graduate students from Theatre, English, Communication, Liberal Studies and other relevant disciplines are encouraged to participate. A background in theatre and performance studies is recommended. Highly motivated undergraduates capable of following graduate level work may also be considered for the program.

Contact:
Faculty Program Coordinator
Michael Hollinger, B.M., M.A.
Professor of Theatre
Artistic Director of Villanova Theatre
Email: michael.hollinger@villanova.edu

Study Abroad Returning Summer 2021

Jackie Clarke Museum and Library Summer Internship

Thanks to the generosity of the Connelly Foundation and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, the Center for Irish Studies supports two summer interns at the Jackie Clarke Museum and Library in Ballina, County Mayo, Ireland for a
The internships provide exciting opportunities for professional development in Irish Studies while living and working abroad. Interns serve as Archives Assistants at the museum, which houses a unique and important collection of manuscripts, printed materials and artifacts relating to Irish history.

**Duties**
Interns work closely with museum staff in the day-to-day running of the archives and museum. Interns can expect to: conduct original research in the collections; assist in the design and construction of new exhibits; assist in the appraisal, cataloging and digitization of historical artifacts; assist members of the public with research queries; and undertake other essential administrative duties.

**Eligibility**
Villanova Irish Studies minors and majors, as well as graduate students with a research interest in Irish Studies, are eligible for the program. Villanova undergraduates must have completed at least their sophomore year and two Irish Studies courses and have a GPA of at least a 3.0. Graduating seniors will also be considered for the positions.

Contact:
Program Coordinator
Craig Bailey, PhD
Email: craig.bailey@villanova.edu

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### Fall Semester Dates at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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Irish Knitting

Via Zoom, 7:30 p.m. VU Students only. moreill4@villanova.edu

October 21

Gender and the Northern Ireland Peace Process, Lecture

Via Zoom, 3:30 p.m. 
Registration required: irish.studies@villanova.edu

November 4

Irish Cultural Society Event: Discussions of Race in Ireland w/ music by Boy W1DR, Kid V, Denise Chaila and Soulé

Via Zoom, 7:30 p.m. VU students only. moreill4@villanova.edu

November 18

Border Issues: Constitutional Change in Europe, Discussion

Via Zoom, 9:15 a.m. 
Registration required: irish.studies@villanova.edu

November 18

Irish Cultural Society Event: Discussions of Race in Ireland w/ film A Girl from Mogadishu directed by Mary McGuckian

Via Zoom, 7:30 p.m. VU students only. moreill4@villanova.edu

November 23

Irish Knitting

Via Zoom, 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. / priority spots given to ICS students. Registration required: kiersten.ludy@villanova.edu