Spring 2019

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

CENTER FOR IRISH STUDIES

Athbliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise dhaoibh! A happy new year to you!

We begin our new year welcoming our 2019 Heimbold Chair, Mike McCormack. Mike's latest novel, Solar Bones won many awards last year, and we are thrilled to have him here teaching, our 20th year hosting Irish writers as Heimbold Chairs.

We have a exciting semester of events. Come venture out!!

3 NEW & OPEN Irish Studies Courses this Semester!

Irish Politics,
Dr. Cera Murtagh
MWF, 12:30-1:20 p.m.
Driscoll 227

Irish Politics explores the contemporary politics of Ireland, north and south, critically analyzing Ireland’s political systems, conflict and

New Irish Prose,
Heimbold Chair, Mike McCormack
MW, 3:00-4:15 p.m.
Garey Hall 101A

The last decade has seen an upsurge in Irish writing. New voices and bold experiments

Irish Film, Dr. Rena Potok
MWF, 11:30-12:20 pm
Old Falvey 104

Fairies and selkies, Celtic heroes, warrior queens, lady pirates, occupation and rebellion, famine and
peace on the island, and international place over the last fifty years.

This course introduces some of those new voices from an Ireland that has undergone radical change. Emigration—these stories fill the films that Ireland has produced in the 20th and 21st centuries. The course focuses on both new and iconic films.

Thursday, January 24: Lecture on Ireland's Magdalene Laundries

Dr. James Smith, Boston College, will deliver a talk and lead a discussion on "Ireland’s Magdalene Laundries, Academic Advocacy, and Restorative Justice."

The author of the ground-breaking study, *Ireland's Magdalen Laundries and the Nation’s Architecture of Containment* (Univ. of Notre Dame Press) will discuss this troubled chapter of Ireland’s history and restorative justice.

St. Augustine Center, Room 300, at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 31: James Joyce Birthday Celebration

An Evening of Music, Readings & Dance celebrating the life and works of James Joyce, at Jack McShea’s, Ardmore, at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 13: Film screening & discussion by Fulbright teacher and scholar, Dr. Kerron Ó Luain

This 2018 Irish film was based on Irish-language short film *An Ranger*, and was directed by Lance Daly. It tells the story of an Irish soldier who deserts the British army to return home to Ireland during the grimmest year of the Famine.

Bryn Mawr Room, Connelly Center, at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6: Mick Moloney & Friends at the Kelly House

Dr. Mick Moloney (NYU) will discuss and perform Irish sheet music from Grace Kelly's personal collection at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco at the Kelly House in East Falls, Philadelphia.

The welcome reception begins at 6:00 p.m. Lecture and performance 7:00 p.m.

Registration Required: irish.studies@villanova.edu
**Tuesday, March 12: Musical Trad Sessions**

Join the Villanova student group, the Irish Cultural Society at this Irish traditional music session at Jack McShea's pub on Lancaster Ave in Ardmore, at 7:00 p.m.

[Irish Cultural Society](#)

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**Thursday, March 14: Irish Dance Team Showcase**

The Villanova Irish Dance Team will perform their annual genre-busting Annual Showcase in the Connelly Center Cinema at 6:30 p.m.

[Irish Dance Team Website](#)

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**Thursday, March 21: Mike McCormack reads in Villanova's Literary Festival**

Join us for the 20th Anniversary of the Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Chair for Irish Studies, with a reading from Mike McCormack, author of *Solar Bones*.

**Reception, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Reading, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Presidents' Lounge, Connelly Center**

*Solar Bones*, Longlisted for the 2017 Man Booker Prize; A Times (UK) Best Book of 2017; Winner, the Goldsmiths Prize; Winner, International DUBLIN Literary Award; Winner, Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year; An NPR Best Book of 2017; An Irish Times Book Club Choice; A Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2017.

"Wonderfully original, distinctly contemporary . . . Where modernism took a world that appeared to be whole and showed it to be broken, *Solar Bones* takes a world that can’t stop talking about how broken it is, and suggests it might possibly be whole."

—The New York Times Book Review

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**Monday, March 25: Cultural Studies Film Series**
Dr. Rena Potok will discuss the ground-breaking Irish film about disability with Daniel Day-Lewis in Connelly Cinema, at 7:00 p.m.

Lecture on Monday, but film screened both Sunday and Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Villanova’s Cultural Film Series Link

Tuesday, March 26: Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Exhibit

Celebrating Villanova's digitizing of the archive of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, a philanthropic and charitable organization founded in 1771. Dozens of Villanova students have received scholarships and travel aid to study abroad in Ireland through the generous help of the Friendly Sons and its members.

Speakers' Corner, Falvey Library, at 6:00 p.m.

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Digital Collection in Falvey Library

Thursday, April 4: Marco Biagi

"Britain, Ireland and Brexit: The View from Edinburgh"

Member of the Scottish National Party and former member of the Scottish Parliament, Marco Biagi, from a Scots-Italian family and is currently a PhD candidate at Yale University in Comparative Politics.

St. Augustine Center, Room 400, 6:00 p.m.

Dates at a Glance

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**Trad Music Sessions**
Jack McShea's in Ardmore, 7:00 PM

March 14

**Irish Dance Team Showcase**
Connelly Center Cinema, 6:30 PM

March 21

**Mike McCormack, Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. Chair of Irish Studies, Reading**
Reception, President's Lounge in Connelly Center, 6:00 PM
Reading, President's Lounge, 7:00 PM

March 25

**Cultural Studies Film Series, *My Left Foot*, introduced by Dr. Rena Potok**
Connelly Cinema, 7:00 PM

March 26

**Exhibit of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Opening Reception**
Speakers’ Corner in Falvey Library, 6:00 PM

April 4

**Marco Biagi Lecture: Britain, Ireland and Brexit: The view from Edinburgh**
Marco Biagi is the former Scottish Government Minister and Member of Scottish Parliament for the Scottish National Party.
St. Augustine Center, Room 400, 6:00 PM

April 11

**Conversation with Irish Studies 2019 Heimbold Chair, Mike McCormack, with Dr. Jennifer Joyce and Dr. James Murphy**
Speakers' Corner, Falvey Library, 2:30 PM

Please go to irishstudies.villanova.edu for changes and more information