# PSCI 3700 Area Studies: Ireland: Past, Present, and Future

HNRS 4000 Global Perspectives

University College Dublin: Summer 2025 5WK1 – June 1-21

Prof. Rafael Major

Course Description: a comparison between the U.S. and Republic of Ireland political systems (and parliamentary governments generally), for a deeper understanding different governmental constraints and responses with regard to contemporary issues. The course would include a brief historical component of both countries, and an in depth analysis on the negotiation of the Good Friday Agreement in order to understand how the history of Irish politics continues to effect national and international events.

## Course Objectives:

* Gain an understanding of political issues in the Republic of Ireland in order appreciate current global issues and how different government systems approach them.
* Develop a deeper appreciation of historical events and their continuing relevance today.
* Enhance understanding on the relevance of historical developments in the U.S. and Ireland and their effect on contemporary government actions.

## Course Assessment:

* Grades will be assessed in a weighted combination of
	+ 40% Short Written assignments over course readings.
		- In Class Exams
		- Modest Proposal Writing Assignment
		- In-Class writing assignments
	+ 35% Historical Re-enactment and Debate Participation
	+ 20% - In-Class Speeches
	+ 5% - Victory Conditions in final “Good Friday” Agreement.

## Required Texts

* [Modern Ireland: A Very Short Introduction](https://www.amazon.com/Modern-Ireland-Very-Short-Introduction/dp/0192801678/ref%3Dsr_1_fkmr1_1?crid=2V4BEE33UFY04&keywords=A+Very+Brief+introduction+Ireland&qid=1664292678&qu=eyJxc2MiOiIwLjY4IiwicXNhIjoiMC4wMCIsInFzcCI6IjAuMDAifQ%3D%3D&sprefix=a+very+brief+introduction+ireland%2Caps%2C69&sr=8-1-fkmr1) by Senia Pašeta. Oxford University Press; 1st edition (June 19, 2003)
* Jonathan Swift, “A Modest Proposal” (Handout)
* John M. Burney and Andrew J. Auge, *Ending the Troubles, Religion, Nationalism, and the Search for Peace and Democracy in Northern Ireland* (Handout)

## Class Schedule

* Class attendance is mandatory.
* We will have at off-Campus excursions during our course. Exact dates may change. If this causes a disruption with assignments accommodations will be made.

1 Sunday Campus Tour

2 Monday - Dublin Walking Tour

3 Tuesday - Modest Proposal Introduction

4 Wednesday – Historical Background Lecture – RTTP Character Roles assignments /1 p.m. Houth

5 Thursday - 9 a.m. Gaelic Games

6 Friday – 1916 Easter Rising Lecture (Dublin)/Dáil Excursion (Kildare St. 2:30)

9 Monday – Irish History Quiz

10 Tuesday – Troubles Lecture/12:30 p.m. GPO

11 Wednesday – Northern Ireland Constitutional Issues

12 Thursday - Troubles Quiz/ RTTP Game Set-Up

13 Friday - 9 a.m. Private Bus Belfast

16 Monday (Blooms Day Optional Activity)

* RTTP Session1: Decommissioning
* RTTP Session 2: Constitutional Issues

17 Tuesday

* RTTP Session 3: Strand 1 Political Structure
* RTTP Session 4: Strand 2 Issues
* 1 p.m. Glendalough?

18 Wednesday -

* RTTP Session 5: Full Constitutional Draft Presentation
* RTTP Session 6: Debate and Vote on Final Agreement

19 Thursday

* RTTP Session 7: Public Referendum on Good Friday Agreement
* RTTP Session 8: Debrief (What really happened?)

20 Friday - Final Exam

21 Saturday - Bus to Airport (allow plenty of time)

## Assignments

* The due dates for assignments will vary depending on your role in the Game. Pay special attention to the game agenda as set forth by Senator Mitchell (and the Gamemaster).
* Each of you will have two “Ending the Troubles” speech Outlines (3-4 pages). These papers will be from the perspective of your character and **MUST** include 3-4 primary sources from your text book **with page numbers**.
* Each of you will have 1-2 major in-class speech during our debates. Identify which issue is of most importance to your character. Plan on a speech of 2-3 minutes. You can use notes, but try not to read your speech. The more you rehearse your remarks before class, the better you will do.
* A large part of your grade will be determined by **your participation during the game**. If you have engaged with your required readings you will be able interact with other players and contribute to in-class debates. If you are prepared the game will be much more enjoyable.

## UNT Policies

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

### ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website https://disability.unt.edu/](https://disability.unt.edu/).

### Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

### Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

## Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)