



EC 390 IRELAND AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

IES Abroad Dublin

DESCRIPTION: A study of the evolution of the Irish economy and the impact of Ireland's membership of the European Union (EU). The course explores the economic and political background to Ireland's decision to join the EU, the main institutions and policies of the EU, and Ireland's experience of EU membership. The reasons for Ireland's economic boom in the 1990s and early 2000s, the causes and consequences of Ireland's economic crisis of 2008, and Ireland's economic recovery and challenges are analyzed in the context of wider EU developments and challenges.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures
- Class discussions
- Documentaries
- Student presentations
- Course-related trips

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Active class participation (including news story briefings and presentations): 30%; 2 Quizzes: 30% (15% per quiz); final paper: 40%.

- **News review and presentations:** At the start of each class, students will brief the rest of the class on an assigned Irish or European news story. Students may also be asked to research and present on specific topics.
- **Quizzes:** Students will complete 2 multi-choice quizzes based on Topic 1 – Introduction to Ireland, Irish Politics and the Irish Economy and Topic 2 – The European Union
- **Paper:** Students will submit a paper in the final class.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Describe Ireland's political institutions and current economic indicators
- Discuss the main institutions and policies of the EU
- Understand the political and economic background to Ireland's application to join the EEC (now the EU)
- Evaluate how EU membership has changed Ireland
- Understand the reasons for Ireland's economic boom in the 1990s and early 2000s
- Analyze Ireland's economic crisis, recovery and challenges in a wider EU context

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

CONTENT:

Class	Content	Readings
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Class 1:	Course introduction and a political and economic profile of Ireland today	• O'Malley, Chapter 4 "Government and Policy Making", Pp 87-105 in <u>Contemporary Ireland</u>. • O'Malley, Chapter 5 "Politics and Civil Society", Pp 110-133 in <u>Contemporary Ireland</u>.
Class 2:	The EU – a history of European Integration	• El-Agraa, Chapter 1 "The EU within Regional Integration Worldwide", Pp 9-36 in <u>The European Union Illuminated</u>. • El-Agraa, Chapter 2 "The Passage to the EU", Pp 36-69 in <u>The European Union Illuminated</u>.
Class 3:	The EU – key institutions	• El-Agraa, Chapter 3 "Decision-making in the EU", Pp 70-99 in <u>The European Union Illuminated</u>. • http://europa.eu/about-eu/institutions-bodies/index_en.htm
Class 4:	The EU – key policies: the Single Market and the Euro	• El-Agraa, Chapter 4 "EU Policies", Pp 100-149 in <u>The European Union Illuminated</u>. • National Board of Trade, "Economic Effects of the European Single Market" May 2015 • Vetter, Stefan, "The Single European Market: 20 years on", DB Research (2013) • Clarke and Daly, "The Eurozone Crisis", CIVITAS Institute for the Study of Civil Society (2010) • http://europa.eu/pol/singl/index_en.htm • http://europa.eu/pol/emu/index_en.htm
Class 5:	Irish economic policy and performance from the 1920s to the 1980s and reasons for joining the EU	• O'Hagan, Chapter 1 "Historical Background", Pp 14-27 in <u>The Economy of Ireland</u>. • Laffan and O'Mahony, Chapter 1 "Becoming a Member State, Pp 6-28, in <u>Ireland and the European Union</u>.
Class 6:	Ireland's EU Experience and the Celtic Tiger years	• Halligan, B, "A Small State in a Large Union: The Irish Experience", paper presented to the Europa Institute, University of Edinburgh (Sept 2014) (http://www.iiea.com/publications) • Laffan and O'Mahony, Chapter 2 "Ireland's EU Experience" in <u>Ireland and the European Union</u>. • Laffan and O'Mahony, Chapter 10 "Ireland as a Model?" Pp in <u>Ireland and the European Union</u>
Class 7:	The Celtic Tiger years, continued	• Sweeney, Chapter 9 "Analysis of the Reasons for the Irish Economic Success", Pp 107-153 in <u>Ireland's Economic Success</u>.

		Sweeney, Chapter 10 “The Hard Facts on the Irish Economic Success”, Pp 153-173 in <u>Ireland’s Economic Success</u>.
Class 8:	Ireland’s economic crisis – The end of the domestic boom and the re-emergence of unemployment	Honohan, Patrick “What went wrong in Ireland?” Paper for World Bank, published on http://www.tcd.ie/Economics/staff/phonohan
Class 9:	Ireland’s banking crisis and the Irish bank guarantee	Whelan, Karl, “Ireland’s Economic Crisis: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”, paper for UCD (2013) http://www.karlwhelan.com/Papers/Whelan-IrelandPaper-June2013.pdf
Class 10:	Ireland’s deficit crisis, the IMF/EU bailout and the Eurozone crisis	Barrett, “The EU/IMF Rescue Programme For Ireland: 2010–13” in <u>Economic Affairs</u>, June 2011 published on www.iea.org.uk.
Class 11:	Ireland’s economic recovery and challenges	- Roche et al, Chapter 4 “Irish Business”, Pp 62-84 in <u>Austerity and Recovery in Ireland</u>. - Reports on Ireland’s Competitiveness published on www.competitiveness.ie/
Class 12:	FINAL CLASS – submit paper	

REQUIRED READINGS:

- El-Agraa, A. The European Union Illuminated. Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2015.
- Honohan, Patrick, “What went wrong in Ireland?” Paper for World Bank (May 2009).
- Kinsella, Stephen (ed). Understanding Ireland’s Economic Crisis: Prospects for Recovery, Blackhall Publishing, 2010
- Laffan, B., and O’Mahony, J., Ireland and the European Union, Palgrave MacMillan, 2008
- O’Hagan, John and Newman, Carol (eds). The Economy of Ireland, Gill and McMillan, 2011
- O’Malley, Eoin, Contemporary Ireland, Palgrave MacMillan, 2011
- O’Sullivan, Michael and Miller, Rory (eds). What Did We Do Right? Global Perspectives on Ireland’s Miracle, Blackhall Publishing, 2010
- Roche, William K, O’Connell Philip J, and Prothero, Andrea (eds). Austerity and Recovery in Ireland, Oxford University Press, 2016

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Couper, Matt, Who Really Runs Ireland? The Story of the Elite Who Led Ireland from Bust to Boom ... and Back Again, Penguin, 2009
- McWilliams, David, Follow the Money, Gill & Macmillan, Dublin, 2009.
- O’Grada, Cormac, The Irish Economy since Independence, Manchester University Press, Manchester, 1997.
- O’Toole, Fintan, How Stupidity and Corruption Killed the Celtic Tiger, Faber and Faber, 2009

USEFUL INTERNET WEBSITES:

<http://www.irishtimes.com>
<http://www.rte.ie/news/>
http://europa.eu/about-eu/institutions-bodies/index_en.htm
http://europa.eu/pol/singl/index_en.htm
http://europa.eu/pol/emu/index_en.htm
<http://www.economist.com/>



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<http://www.ft.com/home/europe>
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