DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to examine the origins and key events of the Northern Ireland conflict up until the Peace Process and the beginnings of the transition to a Post-Conflict society. Given the nature of the conflict and its aftermath, the interpretation of many of these events remains contested between the different protagonists. This course, therefore, will look at the conflict and its relevance from different viewpoints — Republican, Nationalist, Loyalist, Unionist, the British and Irish governments. The course content also charts the changes that have taken place in competing political/ethno-nationalist discourses, paving the way for the Peace Process and the Good Friday Agreement.

The course will also offer a special focus on issues and challenges that face Northern Ireland in a post-conflict context, including the experience of women, the growing problem of racism, as well as issues around education, culture, class and politics.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Lecture
- Student discussion

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Mid-term essay - 40%
- Final paper - 30%
- Class presentation - 15%
- Class contribution and participation in discussions - 15%

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:
- Understand the origins and key events of the Northern Ireland conflict, the Peace Process and the transition to a Post-Conflict society.
- Understand different mindsets and viewpoints and the complexity of conflicted societies.
- Understand the degree of issues, divisions and problems that typically beset a post-conflict society such as Northern Ireland.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
IES Abroad Dublin courses are designed to take advantage of the unique contribution of the instruction and the lecture/discussion format, regular class attendance is mandatory. Any missed class, without a legitimate reason will be reflected in the final grade. A legitimate reason would include a documented illness or family bereavement. Travel, (including travel delays) is not a legitimate reason.

CONTENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Course/ Broad Historical Context</td>
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<td>Brief overview of the course. This is followed by an outline of the historical events that led</td>
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to the emergence of different ‘traditions’ on the island of Ireland. Please note that there are no set readings for this introductory lecture.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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</table>
• Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*. Chap 4  
|         |                                                              | Additional readings:                                                                               |
| Weeks 3 & 4 | The Outbreak of the Troubles, the fall of Stormont, the Failure of Power Sharing and life under Direct Rule | • Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*. Chap 8  
• Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*, Chap 8  
• Coulter, C. 1999. *Contemporary Northern Ireland: An Introduction* chap 4 |
|         |                                                              | Additional readings:                                                                               |
• Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*. Chap 9  
|         |                                                              | For more general reading:                                                                          |
### Week 6
#### The Peace Process and the Good Friday Agreement
- Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*. Chap 11

**Additional readings:**
- Bric, M and Coakley, J. (eds.). 2004. *From political violence to negotiated settlement*. [See chapters by Jackson, Dixon & De Chastelain in particular]

### Week 7
#### The Experience of Women – during and after the conflict
- Dowler, L. 1998. “And they think I’m just a nice old lady.” Women and war in Belfast, Northern Ireland’ in *Gender, Place and Culture*. 5: 2 : 159-176
- O’Keefe, T. 2012. ‘Sometimes it would be nice to be a man’: negotiating gender identities after the Good Friday Agreement’ in *Everyday life after the conflict: The impact of devolution and North-South cooperation*. Manchester University Press, Manchester – chapter 6

### Week 8
#### Know the difference – Education and Sport
### Week 9
**The Globalising of Northern Ireland society – the issue of Racism**


### Week 10 & 11
**Community, class and identity – Loyalism and Republicanism**

- Feeney, B. 2002. *Sinn Fein: 100 Turbulent Years*. [chap 8]

### Week 12
**Political futures : ongoing issues in a divided society.**

REQUIRED READINGS:


WEBSITES OF INTEREST

- UK Government Site – [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)
- UK Government Northern Ireland Office – [www.nio.gov.uk](http://www.nio.gov.uk). This site contains links to the Northern Ireland Executive, the Northern Ireland Assembly and the political parties.
- Irish Government Site – [www.irlgov.ie](http://www.irlgov.ie). See particularly the Dept. of Foreign Affairs site. Also contains links to political parties.
- CAIN – Conflict Archive on the InterNet - [http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/](http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/). This site contains a vast array of resources, reports, pictures and information related to the Northern Ireland conflict and the peace process. It is hosted by the University of Ulster.
- Island Publications – The [Farsset Community Think Tanks Project](http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/islandpublications/index.html)