



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Celtic Studies Program



What Is Celtic Studies?

Celtic Studies is a multidisciplinary field encompassing the history and culture of those peoples who presently inhabit the northwestern perimeter of Europe, including Ireland (both north and south), Scotland, Wales, Brittany, and the Isle of Man. Since peoples speaking Celtic languages once occupied a much larger geographical area than this, Celtic Studies also addresses the prehistory and early history of continental Europe. The chief Celtic languages spoken today are Irish, Scots Gaelic, and Welsh, each boasting a major literature dating back to the Middle Ages. Celtic folklore and mythology have long attracted attention and admiration. In addition, artists, writers, and musicians living in various parts of the world have drawn inspiration from Celtic sources or have defined their identity with relation to traditionally Celtic lands.



Emigration from Ireland and other traditionally Celtic lands, along with the integration of those emigrants into new

societies elsewhere, is another topic addressed by Celtic Studies.

The Celtic Studies Program facilitates the integrated examination of these various fields and topics. The program offers an undergraduate Certificate in Celtic Studies. It is also possible to major in Celtic Studies under the provisions of the individual-major program.

Basic Requirements of the Undergraduate Certificate:

The Certificate in Celtic Studies is available to students working for a baccalaureate degree in any UW-Madison school or college, as well as to special students. The program is housed in the History Department. The Certificate requires at least 18 credits with a grade-point average of at least 2.0. With the permission of the Celtic Studies Advisor, up to 12 of those credits may be earned in the UW-Madison study-abroad programs at Trinity



College Dublin and at the National University of Ireland-Galway, or through other approved programs of study abroad. These may include intensive summer language courses in Ireland, Wales, or Scotland, or the summer Arts Study Abroad program offered through Continuing Studies. Students planning to pursue the Certificate should register their names with Celtic Studies Advisor and consult with him or her about appropriate courses and their availability.





Options Available at UW-Madison:

Students pursuing the Certificate in Celtic Studies have a range of options. Here in Madison there are various course offerings in English, History, Anthropology, Folklore, and Music that can be taken to satisfy the requirements of the Certificate. The particular mix of courses will change from semester to semester and from year to year. Students are therefore advised to consult the Web site of the Celtic Studies Program

www.celticmadison.org

for a list of the courses that will be offered in the fall and spring semesters each year.



Summer-School Program at Trinity College Dublin:

Established in 1993, this attractive program is the largest of the summer-school study-abroad programs operated by UW-Madison. Students who enroll in this seven-week program pursue "Irish Studies" and earn 6 credits. Usually, participants take a 3-credit course in modern Irish history or in modern Irish literature or drama, in conjunction with three of the following six 1-credit modules: modern Irish literature, theatre in Ireland, modern history, Gaelic literature, visual culture, and critical contemporary issues. Alternatively, students may choose to take all six of the 1-credit modules. Located in the heart of Dublin, Trinity College offers superb accommodations and ready access to the cultural riches of a great European metropolis.



Semester or Academic-Year Program in Galway:

Participants in our program at the National University of Ireland-Galway are not restricted to Celtic Studies, but this area of knowledge is one of the great strengths of the distinguished faculty teaching there. The abundant course offerings at Galway relating to Celtic Studies can be seen by consulting the university Web site at

www.ucg.ie

A city with a rich medieval heritage, Galway is today one of the leading Irish centers of technology-based industry and a beehive of cultural activity. Both the city and the university are closely engaged with the western Gaeltachts, or Irish-speaking areas.

Related Organizations:

For many years now, the Celtic Music Association of Madison has been bringing the best of Irish and Celtic musicians to Madison for public performances on campus and in the local community. Also serving the Celtic interests of students and members of the local community is the Celtic Cultural Center (CCC) of Madison.



Among the recurrent activities of the CCC are its annual Irish Language Weekend, Children's Language Workshops, Celtic Film Festival, and St. Patrick's Day Eve Festival. The CCC also sponsors regular classes in the Irish language and has staged numerous special cultural events since 1995. In collaboration with the Celtic Music Association (CMA), the CCC maintains a Web site at

www.celticmadison.org

For more information, please contact

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