



St Mary's
University College
Belfast

A College of Queen's University



INTERNATIONAL

SUMMER SCHOOL



smucb.ac.uk

7 - 11 AUGUST 2023

St Mary's University College International Summer School 2023

A College of Queen's University Belfast

St Mary's University College is a small and specialist institution of higher education in the world-wide Catholic tradition. It offers programmes of study at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels in a partnership of collaborative provision with Queen's University Belfast.

Our fields of specialism are in Teacher Education, Liberal Arts, Irish-medium Education, Religious Education and Physical Education. In delivering these programmes our academic community works within a framework of religious, academic, civic and professional values and seeks to facilitate the integration of Christian faith and learning.

St Mary's is deeply committed to community engagement and associated service learning for its students. Our university college works in partnership with many community groups for the wellbeing of citizens, society and economy. We also have a very strong international outreach programme which facilitates intercultural education. Each year we welcome international students to our campus and offer them both excellent learning opportunities and the highest standard of care.



Féile an Phobail is Ireland's Biggest Community Arts Festival and Summer School. Formed in 1988, as a direct response to the conflict in the North at the time, Féile now welcomes in excess of 100,000 people to Belfast on an annual basis, delivering 3 festivals and over 300 eclectic world class arts and cultural events. St Mary's is a key partner with Féile on the delivery of their Debates and Discussions.



The Summer School Programme is based on lectures hosted in St Mary's University College Belfast as part of our partnership with Féile Phobail the festival of the people.



After the Summer School launch takes place we will supply you with lecture options for the 2023 program.



Monday 7th August

- 10.00 am Welcome to St Mary's from Dr Gerard McCann Head of International programmes & John Brolly Head of International Office
- 10.15 am Breakfast in Dining Hall
- 11.00 am Programme Overview – St Mary's, Belfast City & Summer School Féile
- 12.00 am Tour of the campus
- 12.30 am Irish Economic History lecture, Dr Gerard McCann

THE VIOLENT BIRTH OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND

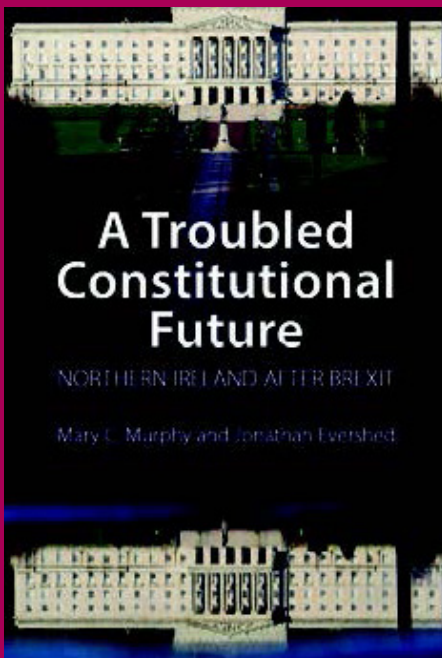
In March 1922 Owen McMahon and his sons were shot dead in North Belfast. Events like this led many to refer to 'pogroms', a word previously used to refer to attacks on Jews in Russia and Central Europe. 453 people, disproportionately Catholics, died in the bloody birth of the Northern Ireland state. The panel, historians Jim McDermott and Myrtle Hill, will examine these events with chair **Fergus O'Hare**.

Organised by Féile's Debate and Discussions Committee





Tuesday 8th August



BREXIT AND THE NORTH

Mary Murphy (holder of a Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration, UCC) and Jonathan Evershed (a Newman Fellow in Constitutional Futures at UCD) will discuss with Allison Morris, their book “A Troubled Constitutional Future: Northern Ireland After Brexit” published March 2022. Topics explored will be the fallout from Brexit, the Protocol and the constitutional implications for both the north, and the whole island.

Organised by Féile’s Debate and Discussions Committee

PREPARING FOR A NEW IRELAND

The constitutional debate about Ireland’s political future is continuously developing momentum. Meetings across the country have attracted large audiences keen to debate the key issues: a date for the referendum, reunification and political structures, the role and place of unionists and their concerns, the economy, the health service, the Irish language and the impact of Brexit. Leading political figures will discuss the preparations required for a “New Ireland”.

Seanadóir Erin McGreehan Fianna Fáil, Louise O’ Reilly Sinn Féin TD, Seanadóir Marie Sherlock Labour Party and a Fine Gael representative.

Organised by Féile’s Debates and Discussion Committee.



Wednesday 9th August

THE FIRST PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ON A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR A NEW IRELAND

As this island journeys towards referendums anticipated in the 1998 Agreement, calls have gone out for an all-island Citizens' Assembly. The Constitutional Conversations Group is organising the First People's Assembly on the island of Ireland to consider priorities for a New Ireland. The audience will form the Assembly and consider:

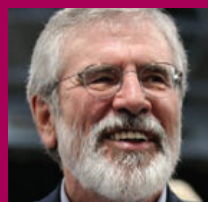
What might a New Ireland look like? How will the protection of British unionist rights be guaranteed? What preparation is needed?

Chair: Claire Hackett. **Panel:** Mark Bassett, John Gormley, Colin Harvey, Paddy Kelly & Eilish Rooney. **Returning Officer:** Geraldine Telford

UNITED NATION – THE CASE FOR INTEGRATING IRELAND BY FRANK CONNOLLY. PANEL DISCUSSION

One hundred years after the Anglo-Irish Treaty and partition, after 30 years of Troubles, the Good Friday Agreement and Brexit, the debate on Irish unity has intensified. But what could a united Ireland look like, and what would it mean for those both north and south of the border? United Nation takes a timely look at the possibility of an integrated Ireland.

Speakers: Frank Connolly, Gerry Adams and Denzil McDaniel. **Chair** Eilish Rooney.



Organised by Feile's Debates and Discussion Committee. No booking required.

Thursday 10th

LET'S TALK POLITICS

Leading Political commentators David McCann, Amanda Ferguson, Alex Kane and Freya McClements will discuss the political issues of the day.



A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVERSATION WITHOUT FEAR

Andrée Murphy and Martina Devlin will argue for the need to create a strong climate of respect and tolerance around the debate on a future referendum. The harmful and sometimes lethal consequences of campaigns of vilification are part of our history. The speakers in this panel will examine the long shadow cast by events of the past and explore what can be done to challenge the culture of intimidation that hangs over the constitutional conversation.



Friday 11th

TESTIMONIES & REMEMBRANCE

Allison Morris (Belfast Telegraph) & Ciaran Barnes (Sunday Life) weren't even born when the conflict erupted. But in their professional lives they have covered the tortuous path and setbacks to peace and progress from a post Good Friday Agreement perspective. They are among the contributors to the second volume of the acclaimed Reporting the Troubles 2, compiled by veteran journalists Deric Henderson & Ivan Little. In conversation with writer & commentator Danny Morrison.



No centenary event can hope to satisfactorily unravel the deep complexity of 1922-23 in Ireland, when partition began to bite deep and much of the country was ravaged by political violence. Dublin born historian, author and University of Limerick lecturer, Ruan O'Donnell, explores some of the most significant canards and untruths of the period and their lasting impact on Ireland.

Organised by Féile's Debate and Discussions



St Mary's International Summer School

August 2023

St Mary's International Summer School as part of partnership with Féile 3rd to 11th August 2023

Sunday 6th	Monday 7th	Tuesday 8th	Wednesday 9th	Thursday 10th	Friday 11th	Saturday 12th
Arrive at Dublin airport – Aircoach to Belfast	Elms Village coach pick-up/ Arrive at St Mary's	Elms Village coach pick-up/ Arrive at St Mary's	Elms Village coach pick-up/ Arrive at St Mary's	Elms Village coach pick-up/ Arrive at St Mary's	Elms Village coach pick-up/ Arrive at St Mary's	Giants Causeway visit & Visitor Centre
Taxi to Elms Village	College Welcome & introduction	Introduction to Irish language	Lecture*	Lecture*	Lecture*	
	Campus tour	Lecture*	College Lunch	College Lunch	College Lunch	
	Lecture*	College Lunch	Lecture*	Lecture*	Titanic Belfast exhibition tour & maritime walk	
	College Lunch	Lecture*	Lecture – West Belfast Talks Back	Introduction to Gaelic Games		
	Lecture*	Lecture*	Pizza Night at St Mary's	Visit to James Connolly Centre		
	Traditional music trail	Walking tour of Belfast City Centre			Music night at Falls Park as part of Féile	

*Lecture topics will range across several subject areas such as history, politics, economics, the environment etc which students will be able to select based on their interest and area of study. Lecture subject areas which were part of the 2022 Debates and Discussions line-up:

- **The Violent Birth of the Northern Ireland State**
- **Brexit and The North**
- **Preparing for a New Ireland**
- **Nature Talks Back**
- **Rewriting the Troubles**
- **How Ukraine Impacts on All of our Futures**
- **The African American Irish Diaspora Network**
- **Let's Talk Politics**

All the above is flexible in that any element of the schedule can be adjusted based on your preferred focus.



“Education can change the world”

