This course will explore the history of the Irish nation from 1780 to the present day. Special emphasis will be placed on the evolution of Irish nationalism and Anglo-Irish relations. We will examine how and why Ireland was incorporated into the United Kingdom, the long struggle by Irish nationalists to dissolve that Union, and its enduring legacy in present-day Northern Ireland. In addition to the political background, we will also investigate the social and cultural roots of Irish separatism and Anglo-Irish conflict. We will focus especially on the issue of identity—how the Irish and British people saw themselves and each other. Major topics to be covered include the Great Famine, the Irish Home Rule movement, cultural revival, revolutionary republicanism, and Northern Ireland and "The Troubles" since 1968. In addition to lectures, the course will incorporate traditional and contemporary Irish music, political cartoons, and several films.

Class participation is an integral part of this class. Read the complete assignment before arriving and be prepared to discuss it in class.

Your grade in this course will be based on two exams (40%), four book reviews (40%), and class participation (20%). Exam and paper due dates are noted below. Late papers will not be accepted.

**Class Website/WebCT:** The CourseDen page for this course is accessed via the link on the UWG homepage. There you can access the syllabus, download assignments and exam review sheets, and find additional assigned readings. Students must consult the instructor and receive approval before using any online sources other than the assigned documents in the written assignments.

**Research Paper:** You must finalize your research topic with me by Sept. 19. Anyone who has not done so by this date will receive a 0 for their paper. No exceptions. The introduction of your paper (3 pages) is due on Oct. 29. The final version of your paper is due Dec. 3.

Your paper should adhere to the Chicago Manual of Style for citations, style, and grammar.

Please note that anyone committing plagiarism in any written assignment will earn an F for the course and may face further disciplinary action. Plagiarism is defined in the University of West
Required Reading:

Karen Sonnelitter (ed.), *The Great Irish Famine: A History in Documents*
Michael de Nie, *The Eternal Paddy*
Paul Townend, *The Road to Home Rule: Anti-Imperialism and the Irish national Movement*
Jason Knirck, *Afterimage of the Revolution: Cumann na nGaedheal and Irish Politics, 1922-1932*
Eamon Collins, *Killing Rage*
Padraig O’Malley, *Biting at the Grave: The Irish Hunger Strikes and the Politics of Despair*

Readings on CourseDen

Course Schedule and Assignments:

**Week 1** (Aug. 15)  Introduction: Ireland and the Uses of History, Ireland to 1780

**Week 2** (Aug. 20-22)  The 1798 Rebellion and the Act of Union
Reading: de Nie, 3-81

**Week 3** (Aug. 27-29)  “The Great Liberator” and the Masses: Emancipation, Repeal, and Rural Unrest

**Week 4** (Sept. 3-5)  The Great Famine
Reading: Sonnelitter; de Nie, 82-143

**Week 5** (Sept. 10-12)  Legacies of the Famine: Immigration, Memory, and Politics

**Week 6** (Sept. 17-19)  
Film – *Out of Ireland*

Reading: de Nie (17 Sept.)  
**Book Review Due (19 Sept.)**

**Week 7** (Sept. 24-26)  
Gladstone, Land, and the Fenians

**Week 8** (Oct. 1)

**Mid-Term Exam Oct. 1**

**Week 9** (Oct. 8-10)  
Parnellism, the Land War, and Home Rule

Reading: Townend (8 Oct.)  
**Book Review Due (10 Oct.)**

**Week 10** (Oct. 15-17)  
Identities: Unionism, Irish Ireland, and Invented Traditions

**Week 11** (Oct. 22-24)  
The Home Rule Crisis and the Revolutionary Decade

**Week 12** (Oct. 29-31)  
Constructing Irelands, 1922-present

Reading: Knirck (29 Oct.)  
**Book Review Due (31 Oct.)**

**Week 13** (Nov. 5-7)  
Destructing Irelands: The Troubles

Reading on CourseDen: Tony Parker, *May the Lord in Mercy be Kind to Belfast*, 1-29

**Week 14** (Nov. 12-14)  
Destructing Irelands: The Troubles

Reading: Collins

**Week 15** (Nov. 19-21)  
Movie: *Bloody Sunday*
Reading: O’Malley                                Book Review Due (21 Nov.)

Thanksgiving Break Nov. 26-28

Week 16 (Dec. 3-5)                               Conclusions/Review

Final Exam – Thursday, Dec. 5 in class