

Irish Folklore

BA (Hons) [NFQ Level 8]



BA Degree (Joint Honours) **BAU1**

Length of Course 3 Years

Guideline Entry Requirements

(please note, successful candidates generally present with grades well in excess of the minimum grades indicated below)

IB - International Baccalaureate Diploma IB Total 26
A high level of English language competency is normally required

Cambridge A Level (+ GCSE O Level) BCC
A high level of English language competency is normally required

Other Examinations For country specific information see page 157

UCD International Foundation Year No



St John's Eve bonfire, Sruth Fada Con/Sruwaddocon Bay, Erris, Co. Mayo
Photo by Noreen Barron, 2001 (National Folklore Collection/Cnuasach Bhéaloideas Éireann)

Why is this subject for me?

The study of folklore looks at the role of tradition in popular culture, in the past and in the present. We inherit folklore from our own community and almost everyone possesses folklore of some kind, whether in the form of a proverb, a story, a piece of music or a game. Customs associated with particular times of the year, or important occasions in people's lives, are part of folklore, as are aspects of material culture such as vernacular architecture. The study of folklore looks at the nature of popular tradition and the way in which it is transmitted, usually outside of official channels and often across vast distances of time and space. The UCD course investigates Irish folklore as a local expression of international cultural phenomena, making the subject particularly suitable for international students.

What will I study?

First Year

In first year, modules allow you to explore the nature and context of folklore, and provide you with a general introduction to the wide range of topics involved. You will be introduced to key texts on Irish folklore, and to some of the principal sources of information on the subject.

Modules include:

Introduction to Folklore • Folklore & the Imagination

Second & Third Year

You will examine specific areas of folklore in greater detail and see how folklore functions as part of our collective culture.

Modules include:

Healers & Healing • Folk Religion & Belief • Collectors of Song & Music

Irish Folklore is taught in lectures, with additional tutorials in several modules. Classes are in English. However, students with a knowledge of Irish will find this of help in certain areas of the subject.

Assessment in all modules involves a combination of semester assignment work and an end-of-semester exam.

Career & Graduate Study Opportunities

A degree in Irish Folklore is relevant to anyone interested in popular culture, tradition and society, and their interconnections. It provides an excellent basis for careers in:

- Heritage bodies and institutions, community organisations and local development initiatives
- The media
- Teaching
- Areas related to Irish studies, local studies and ethnic studies

You can also pursue MLitt and PhD graduate studies in Irish Folklore in UCD, specialising in one of the many areas of the subject.

International Study Opportunities

There are opportunities for students to spend a year studying abroad while pursuing their BA in Irish Folklore. Possibilities include Europe, Canada and the United States.



Bairbre Ní Fhloinn
LECTURER

I teach courses in Irish Folklore at all levels of the BA degree and I'm the student officer for the School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore & Linguistics. I studied Irish Folklore at UCD, before undertaking graduate study in Finland and in Sardinia. I have worked on aspects of contemporary occupational lore and on Irish Traveller traditions, among other subjects, and I contribute regularly to television and radio programmes. Irish Folklore provides a particularly valuable interface between the University and the wider community, and I believe that a study of the subject can enrich your life both at university and also long after you leave.

Find out more

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[facebook.com/UCDInternational](https://www.facebook.com/UCDInternational)

Undergraduate Office

UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore & Linguistics

Room B201, Newman Building, Belfield, Dublin 4

Other courses of interest

Celtic Civilization →42

History →49

Archaeology →40

Sociology →61