

## COURSE CONVENOR BACKGROUND



Peter Gray took his undergraduate and doctoral degrees at the University of Cambridge before holding research fellowships at the Institute of Irish Studies at Queen's, and at Downing College, Cambridge. He taught Irish and British history at the University of Southampton 1996-2005, before returning to Belfast to take up the position of Professor of Modern Irish History. In 2004 Professor Gray was the Burns Library Visiting Professor in Irish Studies at Boston College, Massachusetts, and was Fredrik and Catherine Eaton Visiting Fellow at the University of New Brunswick in 2015. He was chair of the Royal Irish Academy's National Committee for Historical Sciences 2007-10, and was Head of the School of History and Anthropology at Queen's in 2010-15. He is a member and former president of the Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies. He was elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2013.

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INSTITUTE OF  
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## MA IRISH STUDIES

EXPLORE  
IRELAND'S  
CULTURE AND  
SOCIETY

SHAPING  
A BETTER  
WORLD  
SINCE 1845

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IRISH STUDIES

# MA IRISH STUDIES

The MA in Irish Studies at Queen's provides students with an unrivalled opportunity to examine Ireland in its global contexts. With options from Literature, History, Politics, Archaeology, Anthropology, and Sociology the MA allows students to pursue challenging cross-disciplinary themes such as heritage

and identities, language and arts, peace and conflict, reflecting the rich cultural legacy of Ireland across the world. Students will explore the possibilities and opportunities in interdisciplinary work in one of the world's leading centres of Irish Studies research.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The MA features a new interdisciplinary core course on 'Belfast: Place, Identity and Memory', which explores the contested and rich histories, identities and cultures of the second city of the island of Ireland and capital of Northern Ireland.

Students will take 5 other courses, including a course on research methods, and a range of option courses with Irish Studies content.

The final dissertation involving original research will be supervised by Institute of Irish Studies staff or other specialists from our academic disciplines.

### Assessment

Apart from the dissertation, all the modules are assessed by a mixture of essays, written projects and class contributions.

### Discover more

For further information on the range of Irish Studies options available through our MA, visit our webpages at: [www.qub.ac.uk/irishstudies](http://www.qub.ac.uk/irishstudies)

# SPECIAL FEATURES

- Our Institute of Irish Studies founded in 1965, is the longest established centre for Irish Studies in the world.
- The MA in Irish Studies is unique in the world in offering a broad range of options in the social sciences as well as the humanities, making our course truly interdisciplinary.
- Based in Belfast, we have unrivalled access to the people that were part of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland.
- English QUB has been home to the writers Seamus Heaney, Ciaran Carson, Glenn Patterson, and Sinead Morrissey.
- The Public History Internship module gives students an opportunity to work alongside heritage and public history professionals on a range of practical projects.
- Many of our graduates have gone on to PhD programmes both here at Queen's as well as at some of the best universities in the world. Our students have also found employment in the media, in the heritage sector and tourism, in business and in university administration, particularly study abroad.

**“When I chose to pursue an MA in Irish Studies at QUB, I felt the interdisciplinary focus of the program would best suit my interests in history, anthropology, politics, and art. I chose to study at the Institute because of its reputation as a leading research centre in the UK. What made the experience most valuable was the incredible support from the staff and faculty at the Institute, who have helped me throughout my time at Queens. As a part of the Institute of Irish Studies I have developed wonderful relationships with a great cohort of past and present students, lecturers, and research fellows. This supportive and engaging environment is the main reason I returned to QUB and the Institute to undertake a doctoral degree.”**



**Erin Hinson  
(Colorado, USA)**  
MA and PhD Irish Studies

