

DR. CLAIRE COLLINS

13 Newhaven Bay, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin · 085 146 5747

Collinsc@ucd.ie · <https://ucd.academia.edu/ClaireCollins> · [@ClaireGCollins](#)

My research is currently focused on the Christian treatment of non-Christian aspects of early Irish society. Drawing on the flexibility I have developed by conducting a historical survey over the course of multiple centuries, my results are derived from interweaving interdisciplinary methodologies. My goal is to employ my geography skills to supplement my historical research with the aim of adequately tracing differences in the development of local traditions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2018-

LECTURER, UCD ACCESS & LIFELONG LEARNING

Worked closely with the Access department to devise a course on 'Digital Literacy' geared towards students returning to education. Delivered multiple weekly workshops that aimed to improve students' abilities in the following areas: downloading and using appropriate software required for higher education, navigating UCD systems effectively, accessing resources to supplement learning, creating and uploading multimedia content, delivering effective presentations and using social media to improve peer engagement. Designed and marked corresponding assessment to an agreed criteria. Developed skills in using the Brightspace virtual learning environment.

2012-2020

TEACHING ASSISTANT, UCD SCHOOL OF HISTORY; SCHOOL OF IRISH, CELTIC STUDIES & FOLKLORE

Taught on the following range of undergraduate modules in History: Rome to Renaissance, Modern Europe, Early Medieval Ireland, French Revolution, British Empire, Islam & Christianity. Taught on the following modules in Irish, Celtic Studies & Folklore: Celtic Civilisation, Pagan Celtic Ireland, British Celts. Responsibilities included developing teaching materials within an established programme, facilitating student learning through seminar activities and feedback and marking assessment to an agreed criteria. Developed skills in using the Blackboard and Brightspace virtual learning environments.

2018

LECTURER, UCD SCHOOL OF HISTORY

Designed, coordinated and taught own 10 credit, Stage 3 history module entitled 'Patrick: From Slave to Saint'. The module focused on textual analysis of primary source evidence, providing background context and engaging with modern academic debate. Learning outcomes included an understanding of the historical development of the legendary Saint Patrick, an in-depth awareness of Patrician hagiography and thorough knowledge of the historiographical debate surrounding Patrick's career. Responsibilities included developing and delivering an appropriately high-quality module, creating and marking accompanying assessment and continuing to engage in professional research and academic dissemination.

EDUCATION

2012-2017

PHD, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, SCHOOL OF HISTORY

Thesis title: 'On the Origins and Development of Crom Dubh', supervised by Dr. Elva Johnston. Conducted an interdisciplinary survey encompassing history, archaeology and folklore on changing attitudes towards Crom Dubh from the medieval era to the modern day. Textual analysis incorporated the medieval Lives of Saint Patrick, the later *Dindsenchas* and Book of Magauran, as well as the seventeenth century Annals of the Four Masters. Concluded with an examination of how perceptions of Crom Dubh have changed with the folklore surrounding Crom Dubh's Sunday. Graduated September 2017.

2010-2011

MA IN EARLY IRISH HISTORY, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, SCHOOL OF HISTORY

Produced a thesis entitled 'St. Patrick vs. Cenn Cruaich: An Evolving Confrontation'. As part of the 'taught' aspect of the program, developed skills in Old Irish and palaeography. Awarded a bursary for highest incoming GPA.

2005-2010

BA IN EUROPEAN HISTORY, BS IN CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

During the first two years of study, awarded a place in the College Park Scholars program. Participated in one semester of study abroad at the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) in Rathmines, Dublin (2007). Concluded a research internship for the 'Kingship and Sacrifice' exhibit at the National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street during the summer of 2009 under the supervision of Dr. Eamonn Kelly. Developed skills in research and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Received Patricia Mielke Citizenship Award. GPA 3.4/4.0.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK REVIEW (2015)

'THE ORIGIN OF IRELAND'S HOLY WELLS BY CELESTE RAY', BÉALOIDEAS 83

BOOK REVIEW (2015)

'JACQUELINE BORSJE, THE CELTIC EVIL EYE AND RELATED MYTHOLOGICAL MOTIFS IN MEDIEVAL IRELAND', PERITIA 26

BOOK REVIEW (2017)

'NOEL KISSANE, SAINT BRIGID OF KILDARE: LIFE, LEGEND AND CULT', JRSAI 146

ARTICLE (FORTHCOMING)

'THE MANY DEATHS OF TIGERNMAS', CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, DIAS

ARTICLE (FORTHCOMING)

'THE FUNCTION OF THE HOLY WELL IN THE TRIPARTITE LIFE OF PATRICK: CONVERSION OF PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPE', AN TOBAR