



Career opportunities

In completing the MA in Irish History, you will develop research and communication skills that are valued in a range of employment contexts. These include:

- teaching and education;
- journalism;
- the civil service;
- the diplomatic service;
- arts administration;
- the heritage sector;
- public relations;
- archival and curatorial work.

The programme can provide a stepping-stone to further postgraduate research and a career in academia.



Entry requirements

Students who have an honours degree with a 1:1, a 2:1 or high 2:2 grade in History will be offered a place. Other applications will be considered depending on available spaces. Applicants must have a recognised primary degree which is considered equivalent to Irish university primary degree level.

Key details

- Apply online: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/how-apply/postgraduate-applicants>
- Codes: MHP68/MHP69 (part-time)
- Closing date: 30 June 2025
- Qualification: Master of Arts Degree
- Award type and NFQ level: Taught Masters (9)
- Commences: September 2025
- Course duration: 1 year full-time/2 years part-time

Further Information

For more information on the Programme, please contact the Programme Director, Professor Roisin Higgins:

- Roisin.Higgins@mu.ie
- +353 (0) 1 708 3664
- <http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/history>
- Department of History, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare



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MA in Irish History

The Department of History, Maynooth University
Celebrating 70 years of Excellence in Teaching,
Research and Publication 1953-2023

MA in Irish History

MA in Irish History

The Department of History's MA in Irish History is a successful and long-running programme that enables students to examine and research the rich subject area of Irish history from the earliest times to the present day, and to assess the major events which led to the emergence of modern Ireland.

Students enrolled in the programme take a range of compulsory and optional modules.

Compulsory modules provide students with an in-depth knowledge of the sources and resources available to historians of Ireland, and foster their ability to assess and understand the major debates and controversies that have engaged historians in writing Irish history.

Optional modules are drawn both from the MA in Irish History and other MA programmes within the department, and provide an opportunity to explore key issues and debates in a range of areas. These vary from year to year, but may include social, political, military or economic history; historic houses and

landed estates; and local history.

In addition, students complete a 15-20,000 word thesis. While the thesis will be based on your independent research, a supervisor will be appointed in the first semester to guide you as you develop your research project.

Why Maynooth?

The Department of History at Maynooth University is an ideal place in which to study and research Irish History. A vibrant centre of teaching and research, the department boasts wide-ranging expertise in Irish history from the medieval era to the modern age, with particular research specialisms including historic Irish houses, art and material culture, Irish migration in early modern Europe, medical history, women's history, social history, religious history and Ireland's relationship with empire. Our staff have extensive experience in supervising MA level research and Maynooth University's library and special collections offer on-campus access to a range of important archival collections.

Moreover, we are located close to Dublin, where a range of further archival repositories are located, including the National Archives of Ireland and the National Library of Ireland.

Testimonials

'The MA in Irish history was a fantastic experience. It gives students the freedom and scope to explore any number of questions and topics of interest to them. Practical support and essential resources are on hand to ensure students get the most out of their research.'

**Barney Doherty, Political Organiser,
People Before Profit**

'My thesis on Women in North Monaghan during the revolutionary period 1912 to 1923 has opened up several other areas of research. The MA in Irish History has served as a catalyst for my change of career direction into Irish Probate Genealogy so I highly recommend it.'

Maeve Mullin, Genealogist

