

AHSS ANNUAL POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE



Dáin, Daonnachtaí agus
Eolaíochtaí Sóisialta
Arts, Humanities and
Social Sciences



UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

7 MAY 2019

#AHSSPGconf

AHSS POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE 2019

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

9.30 – 10.10	<p>Introduction and Welcome to the AHSS Postgraduate Conference</p> <p>Foundation Building, University of Limerick, FG-042</p> <p>Opening Address: Prof. Helen Kelly Holmes, Dean, Faculty of AHSS Prof. Niamh Hourigan, Vice Principle, Academic Affairs, Mary Immaculate Colleg,Limerick</p>
10.10 - 10.30	Tea and coffee break with Poster Session in the Foyer
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 1</p> <p>FG-042</p> <p>10.30-12.10</p>	<p>Panel theme - Gendered Spaces in Irish Literature 1890-2013</p> <p>10.30-10.50 Alena Kiel - The Skeleton at the Feast: <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>, Fin de Siècle Symbolist Art, and the Queer Future. Supervisor: Dr. Tina O’Toole, Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick</p> <p>10.50-11.10 Tara Giddens- Gendered spaces in Kathleen Coleman’s writing (Supervisor: Dr. Tina O’Toole, Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick</p> <p>11.10-11.30 Tracy McAvinue - Paper Title: A Place in the Mind: The Construction of the Home Space in Maeve Brennan’s Fiction. Supervisor: Dr. Tina O’Toole, Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick</p> <p>11.30-11.50 Paula McGrath - <i>A Girl is a Half-formed Thing</i>: Reading and Writing Trauma (Supervisors: Prof. Joseph O’Connor/Dr. Tina O’Toole, Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick</p> <p>11.50-12.10 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Jessica Brown</p>
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 2</p> <p>FB-028</p> <p>10.30-12.10</p>	<p>10.30-10.50 Beth Duane - An Assessment into the Causes and Extent of Violence in Irish Prisons Supervisors: Dr. Susan Leahy/Dr. Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly. Affiliation: School of Law, University of Limerick</p> <p>10.50-11.10 Muhammad Irfan - Political communication of extremist group ISIS (Supervisors: Dr. Henry Silke/Dr. Elaine Vaughan. Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication/ School of Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics, University of Limerick</p> <p>11.10-11.30 Michael Carmody - A Just War for the 21st Century: Is it now Time for a new Paradigm? Affiliation: School of Law, University of Limerick</p>

	<p>11.30-11.50 Cian Kearns - Bad Neighbourhoods: How external factors can influence the risk of genocide. Supervisors: Dr. Scott Fitzsimmons/Prof. Tom Lodge, Affiliation: Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Limerick</p> <p>11.50-12.10 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Sean Whitney</p>
12.10 - 12.40	Lunch Break (provided - served in the Allegro) Poster Session in Foyer
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 3</p> <p>FG-042</p> <p>12.40-14.20</p>	<p>12.40-13.00 Emily-Anne Renninson - Ról na mothachtála in eispéiris fhoghlama mhúinteoirí Gaeilge faoi oiliúint le linn a dtréimhsí oiliúna / The role of affect in pre-service teachers' learning experiences with the Irish language during initial teacher education. Supervisors: Dr. Deirdre Ní Loingsigh/Dr. T.J. Ó Ceallaigh. Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick/ Coláiste Mhuire Gan Smál.</p> <p>13.00-13.20 Michelle Daly - An investigation into the perceptions and experiences of Irish teachers working in the Gulf EFL context in relation to intercultural awareness and training. Supervisors: Dr. Mairead Moriarty/Dr. Angela O'Farrell. Affiliation: School of Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics, University of Limerick</p> <p>13.20-13.40 Michelle Starr - Parent choice of primary school: What the parents are saying. Supervisors: Dr. Breda Gray/Dr. Aoife Neary. Affiliation: Department of Sociology/School of Education, University of Limerick</p> <p>13.40-14.00 Deborah Tobin - A Critical Discourse Analysis of Self-Perceptions of Teachers within the Private English-Language School Sector in the Republic of Ireland. Supervisors: Dr. Joan O'Sullivan/Dr. Brian Clancy. Affiliation: Applied Linguistics, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.</p> <p>14.00-14.20 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Sean O'Connell</p>
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 4</p> <p>FB-028</p> <p>12.40-14.20</p>	<p>12.40-13.00 Jessica Brown - Greeness, Keyness, Secrecy: Narrative Analysis and Affective Mapping of <i>The Secret Garden</i>. Supervisor: Dr. David Coughlan. Affiliation: School of English, Irish and Communication, University of Limerick</p> <p>13.00-13.20 Lynda Phelan - A Post-Jungian Critique of Cartoon Saloon's Animated Feature Films Supervisors: Dr. Matthew Mather/Dr. Caitriona Ní Chasaide. Affiliation: Limerick School of Art & Design</p> <p>13.20-13.40 Rachel Clifford - The Silenced Child: Silence and Trauma in Children's Literature. Supervisor: Dr. Eoin Flannery. Affiliation: Department of English, Language & Literature, Mary Immaculate College Limerick</p>

	<p>13.40-14.00 Elaine Dinan - Living with the Dead – the effects of legislation on burial in Ireland Supervisors: Dr. Helene Bradley-Davies/Dr. Clodagh Tait. Affiliation: Department of Geography, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick</p> <p>14.00-14.20 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Franz Amin</p>
14.20 - 14.40	Tea and coffee break Poster Session in the Foyer
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 5</p> <p>FG-042</p> <p>14.40-16.20</p>	<p>14.40-15.00 Mateus Miranda -. Learning grammar is learning lexis and vice-versa: A lexico-grammatical corpus study on learner English. Supervisors: Dr. Anne O’Keeffe/ Prof. Michael McCarthy. Affiliation: Mary Immaculate College, Limerick</p> <p>15.00-15.20 Drew Murphy - Negotiating Double Trouble: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Identity Negotiation amongst Gay and Bi-Sexual Men in Ireland Supervisor: Dr. Lisa O’Rourke Scott. Affiliation: Department of Applied Social Science, Limerick Institute of Technology</p> <p>15.20-15.40 Hannah Santino - (F)Ailing Mothers and the Quest for Redemption: A Study of Post-Natal Depression Recovery Blogs. Supervisors: Prof. Lee Monaghan/Dr. Breda Gray. Affiliation: Department of Sociology/School of Education, University of Limerick</p> <p>15.40-16.00 Joseph Haugh - An exploration of the experiences of Young People in Youth Residential Care Settings in Ireland and Germany. Supervisor: Geraldine Maughan. Affiliation: Department of Applied Social Sciences, Limerick Institute of Technology</p> <p>16.00-16.20 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Steven Byrne</p>
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 6</p> <p>FB-028</p> <p>14.40 - 16.20</p>	<p>14.40-15.00 Sean Donal O’Shea - Some Dance to Remember: Exploring the psychosocial effects of the introduction of an adaptive Irish Céilí Dance group activity with people living with dementia and their carers. Supervisors: Jennifer Moran Stritch/Carmel McKenna. Affiliation: Department of Applied Social Sciences, Limerick Institute of Technology</p> <p>15.00-15.20 Evelyn Hill - Dealing with loss: young people's experiences of grief support services for issues related to grief and loss. Supervisor: Dr. Michele O’Flanagan. Affiliation: Department of Applied Social Science, Limerick Institute of Technology</p> <p>15.20-15.40 Louise Ryan - “Hello my strong strong friends!” examining the role of social media influencers in the construction of health and fitness authorities. Supervisor: Dr. Carmen Kuhling. Affiliation: Department of Sociology, University of Limerick</p> <p>15.40-16.00 Audrey Galvin - Good family men”, media perceptions of murder-suicide in Ireland. Supervisors: Dr. Fergal Quinn/Dr. Yvonne Cleary. Affiliation: School of English, Irish</p>

	<p>Communication, University of Limerick.</p> <p>16.00-16.20 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Cian Kearns</p>
16.20-16.30	Short Break
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 7</p> <p>FG-042</p> <p>16.30-17.50</p>	<p>16.30-16.50 Ellen Reid - Tensions on our Turf?: An exploration of the prevalence of TERF ideologies, transphobia and/or trans exclusion in Irish LGBT+ social movements. Supervisors: Dr. Carmen Kuhling/Dr. Jennifer Schweppe. Affiliation: Department of Sociology/School of Law, University of Limerick</p> <p>16.50-17.10 Sean O'Connell -. A case study to investigate a speech therapy informed approach to pronunciation teaching in the English Language Teaching Classroom. Supervisors: Dr. Mairead Moriarty/Dr. Cinta Ramblado Affiliation: School of Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics, University of Limerick</p> <p>17.10-17.30 Gianna Tomasso - Transdisciplinarity and Creative Collaboration : Mapping Contemporary and Cross Institutional Creative Practice as a model for Pedagogical Transdisciplinarity. Supervisor: Fiona Woods. Affiliation: School of Art & Design, Limerick.</p> <p>17.30-17.50 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Chris Fitzgerald</p>
<p>(parallel session)</p> <p>Panel 8</p> <p>FB-028</p> <p>16.30-17.50</p>	<p>16.30-16.50 Gerard Greaney -. Who are you calling a Luddite? Law and Society in a world of innovation Supervisors: Prof. Ray Friel/Dr. Eimear Spain. Affiliation: School of Law, University of Limerick.</p> <p>16.50-17.10 Stephen Healy - Regime change in personal injury law: overreaction or necessary evil. Supervisor: Eoin Quill. Affiliation: School of Law, University of Limerick</p> <p>17.10-17.30 Alicia Maher - Current Licensing Issues for Medical Cannabis in Ireland. Supervisors: Dr. John Lombard/Prof. Ray Friel. Affiliation: School of Law, University of Limerick</p> <p>17.30-17.50 Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Tara Giddens</p>

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

POSTER #	Student	Department/School	TITLE
POSTER 1	Ana Camillo	IWAMD, University of Limerick	Maypole Dancing and Other Body Movements in a Neo-Pagan Bealtaine Ritual in Ireland
POSTER 2	Niamh Dillon	Department of Sociology, University of Limerick	Strategies for Reception: Unpacking the Irish approach to the reception of asylum seekers from 1999 to 2019.
POSTER 3	Christopher Fitzgerald	School of Modern Languages & Applied Linguistics, University of Limerick	An Investigation into Telling Rights in Historical Recollections
POSTER 4	Agata Lynch	Department of Sociology/Department of Physics, University of Limerick	Irish Schoolgirls and Physics; Gender and Transitioning from Junior to Senior Cycle.
POSTER 5	Louise McNeil	School of Law, University of Limerick	Investigating the changing dynamics of Surveillance
POSTER 6	Lynda Phelan	Limerick School of Art & Design,	A Post-Jungian Critique of Cartoon Saloon's Animated Feature Films
Poster 7	Shane Reynolds	Department of Politics & Public Administration, University of Limerick	Impact of Referenda on party competition and unity
Poster 8	Marina Selnitsyna	Department of Politics & Public Administration, University of Limerick	The problem of fragmentation of the Russian non systemic opposition.

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STUDENT: JESSICA BROWN, SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, IRISH & COMMUNICATION, UL

SUPERVISOR: DR. DAVID COUGHLAN

Paper Title: Greenness, Keynes, Secrecy: Narrative Analysis and Affective Mapping of *The Secret Garden*

ABSTRACT:

In his essay “What Children Say,” the philosopher and theorist Gilles Deleuze posits the creation of an alternative map: as one might trace the actual steps a child made around his town, one could also overlay a second map, this one marking the movements with an entirely different set of coordinates—“thresholds and enclosures,” “trajectories and becomings,” lines and clouds “of intensity, of density” and of “links and valences.” In other words, this map progressively unfolds the “affective constellation” of experience. In my paper, I will experiment with this alternative mapping within the literary narrative *The Secret Garden* by Francis Hodgson Burnett with the aim of finding a way to discuss those very affective constellations that are at work within the novel, with particular attention to moods, atmospheres, and attunements among the characters, nonhuman and inorganic alike. Some atmospheres are *gray-greenness*, *secrecy*, and *humming*; three moods are *curiosity*, *being hungry-becoming full*, and *expanse*; and two attunements are between *girl-and-robin* and *girl-and-key*. After establishing the theoretical framework of this alternative map and practicing it within several close-readings from the book, this paper will then consider what this alternative mapping means for narrative analysis.

Paper Title: 'Good family men', media perceptions of murder-suicide in Ireland

ABSTRACT:

This study uses a framing analysis of news reporting of three cases of murder suicide in Ireland. This paper presents the findings of the framing analysis conducted on the episodic nature of the reportage of three cases of murder-suicide in Ireland by the Irish Independent, The Irish Times, the Irish Daily Star and the Irish Daily Mirror and focuses specifically on the three frames identified in this research.

The first and dominant frame identified across all three cases of murder-suicide involved the media putting forward causal reasons as to why the murder-suicide occurred. Causal frames appeared in 45% of the 150 articles examined. The dominant causal reasons put forward were identified as mental health, financial distress or debt, and a possible forthcoming fall from grace. This frame also includes an 'out of the blue' explanation, although not directly linked to causal reasons as a frame in its entirety, there is a link between the two as the 'out of the blue' frame represents how murder-suicides can be inexplicable.

Findings show that reporting often omits a wider social context of the act of murder suicide that is an act of extreme violence. By employing causal reasoning, the news media can serve to shift the blame in ways that do not increase public understanding of the nature murder suicide. This paper also puts forward suggested areas that the media can work to improve upon their reportage of such events.

STUDENT: MUHAMMAD IRFAN, SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, IRISH & COMMUNICATION, UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. HENRY SILKE/DR. ELAINE VAUGHAN

Paper Title: Political communication of extremist group ISIS

ABSTRACT:

The rise of radicalization within Islam has spawned a new era of global terror. The battlefield successes of ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) are fuelled by an ideological war waged, largely and successfully, in the media arena. This research will review literature that how Islamic extremist group ISIS are using populist narratives. They seemingly reconfigured their narrative by introducing populist 'hooks,' astutely portraying the Muslim populous as oppressed and exploited by unjust, corrupt autocratic regimes and Western power structures. Within this crucible of real and perceived oppression, hundreds of thousands of the most desperate, vulnerable and abused migrants in Muslim countries left their homelands, risking their lives in the hope of finding peace, justice and prosperity in Europe. Instead, many encountered social stigmatization, detention and/or discrimination for being illegal migrants, for lacking resources and for simply being Muslim. This review of different available literature will examine how Islamic extremist groups are trying to exploit the disenfranchisement of these migrant populations through populist political Islam to influence them towards violent extremism. Expected outcomes can be: identification of factors which influence vulnerability towards violent extremism; an early-warning detection framework; predictive analysis models; and de-radicalization frameworks. This review will aim to provide valuable tools (practical and policy level) for European governments, security stakeholders, communities, policy-makers and educators; it is anticipated to contribute to a de-escalation of Islamic extremism globally.

STUDENT: EMILY-ANNE RENNINSON, SCHOOL ENGLISH, IRISH & COMMUNICATION, UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. DEIRDRE NÍ LOINGSIGH

Paper Title: Ról na mothachtála in eispéiris fhoghlama mhúinteoirí Gaeilge faoi oiliúint le linn a dtréimhsí oiliúna / The role of affect in pre-service teachers' learning experiences with the Irish language during initial teacher education.

ABSTRACT:

Where the teaching and learning of Irish is concerned, there is an urgent need for research on learners' motivation, confidence and learner strategies similar to what has been carried out in other languages (Nic Eoin, 2016). Where student teachers' relationship with the Irish language is concerned, it is not just a question of what students 'can do' linguistically when they enter a programme but also who they are, what they believe, what inspires them and what they aspire to (Korthagen, 2011). Past research has focused on practicing teachers' needs (see, for example, Harris, 2007) but this research project aims to investigate pre-service teachers' needs in relation to the Irish language and the effect affective factors have on their learning journey. A mixed methods approach will be taken with Q Methodology as the main method of data collection and analysis. This is a highly original research method that can paint an emotional and cognitive landscape of a particular context by connecting the core feelings and thinking of individuals about a complex subject matter (Irie, 2014). Participants will also complete a questionnaire, take part in focus groups and attend individual language counselling sessions. This study explores the use of a language support framework to facilitate pre-service teachers in developing cognitive and affective linguistic competences as learners and teachers. Drawing on international language counselling models, practical ways to support pre-service teachers in developing their relationship with Irish will be examined with the aim to help them reach their full potential. This research will have an impact on initial teacher education and Irish language classrooms around the country as it will give pre-service teachers the opportunity to voice their thoughts and their concerns in relation to their linguistic journey from basic entry requirements to professional competency thus highlighting any issues that need addressing. This will have a direct impact on language planning and the teaching and learning of Irish at all levels of education in Ireland.

Panel Theme: Gendered Spaces in Irish Literature 1890-2013

ABSTRACT:

Bringing together the work of four doctoral students in English, our panel draws on the field of gender and sexuality studies to interrogate diverse literary and social spaces. Where patriarchal structures seek to control and “normalise” gendered power relations, our panel explores narratives that instead offer counter-hegemonic constructions of space.

Our research ranges from 1890s writing by New Woman journalists and Oscar Wilde, to twentieth-century and contemporary literature by Maeve Brennan and Eimear McBride. Our panel asks questions such as: how can the character’s gender and sexuality in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* be analysed using queer theory; how does Irish-Canadian journalist Kathleen Coleman contradict and experiment with gendered spaces; how does the construction of home spaces in Brennan’s fiction depict the confinement and rejection of women; and what strategies are used to represent trauma in the novel and stage adaptation of *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing*?

Paper Title: Gendered spaces in Kathleen Coleman's writing

ABSTRACT:

Carl Ackerman, the Dean of the Columbia University School of Journalism, said in 1949, "The inside of a newspaper should be like the inside of a home". The women's section of many newspapers at the end of the nineteenth century underlined this sense of being "housed" within the walls of a paper and set apart from major headlines and world issues. This confinement of women's columns or domestic spaces in periodicals can be seen in Irish-Canadian journalist Kathleen Coleman's (1856-1915) own column and writing.

Using the androgynous penname "Kit", Coleman covered numerous subjects and events in her weekly column "Woman's Kingdom" (1889 to 1911) for *The Toronto Daily Mail* (later *The Daily Mail and Empire*). However, Coleman refused to be contained by the strict confines of women journalists of her time. Rather than discussing "proper" topics, Coleman preferred to instead discuss politics and debate transnational issues with her readers. Furthermore, Coleman opened up new avenues for women as professional journalists, especially when she became the first accredited female war correspondent during the Spanish-American War (1898). Just as she played with gender roles in her column, Coleman experimented with gendered spaces in her short story, "A Pair of Gray Gloves" (1903). The story, printed in *The Canadian Magazine*, tells of a women journalist who is confined to the top of a newspaper building. Comparing the gendered space of Coleman's column with her fictional writing and representation of women journalists, allows us to understand and analyse the constraints and hardships of many women journalists at the end of the 19th century and early 20th century.

Paper Title: The Skeleton at the Feast: *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Fin de Siècle Symbolist Art, and the Queer Future

ABSTRACT:

Drawing from the ideas Susan J. Navarette first addressed in her book *The Shape of Fear: Horror and the Fin de Siècle Culture of Decadence* (1998), this essay will delve further into the connections between Symbolist art and Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890), and how those connections contribute to a queer reading of the novel. This is a section of a chapter-in-progress as part of my doctoral thesis, and as such will rely heavily on pre-established theoretical frameworks, especially my use of Julia Kristeva's (1980) theory of abjection, and Rosi Braidotti's conceptualization of the nomadic subject. In short, I argue that these theoretical concepts, when used together with existing modes and tropes of Gothic literature, create the analytical space necessary for performing a specifically queer reading of, in particular, characters' gender identities and sexualities. This essay begins with a summary of Navarette's arguments, which analyse both Victor Hugo's *Dentelles* series of art-pieces (1853-6), and James Ensor's series of skeletal self-portraits (roughly 1885-1899), in the context of fin de siècle decadence and Symbolism, including Navarette's argument that these artistic movements/moments feature heavily in Wilde's *Dorian Gray*. Using a variety of queer theoretical texts, including Jack Halberstam's *Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and the Technology of Monsters* (1995), *In A Queer Time and Place* (2005) and *The Queer Art of Failure* (2011); Lee Edelman's *No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive* (2004); and Riki Lane's 2009 article "Trans as Bodily Becoming: Rethinking the Biological as Diversity, Not Dichotomy;" this essay interprets the specific queer potentiality of Dorian Gray through Wilde's portrayal of the character's gender identity, gender performance, and sexuality. Dorian Gray and his portrait exist as queer doubles wherein Dorian's own dissidences and deviances, sexual and otherwise, are literally ascribed, not upon his own body, but upon the portrait.

Paper Title: A Place in the Mind: The Construction of the Home Space in Maeve Brennan's Fiction.

ABSTRACT:

Maeve Brennan was born into the Irish revolutionary period in 1917, with her early years spent in the midst of the fighting that was to secure an independent Ireland, and her formative years coloured by the building of the Free State. The succession of legislative measures copper-fastened in the 1937 Constitution that looked to deprive women of rights and position them in the domestic space meant that for many activists, including Brennan's parents, "home" became a term associated with confinement and contention. Brennan's *The Visitor*, written in the 1940s but not published until 2000, evinces this disillusionment with the gendered inequality of Free State Ireland, and is a tale about a returned exile to a country that is unwelcoming, with houses that confine or reject the women who inhabit them. The geographical separation caused by her family's relocation to the United States in 1934 created little literary distance from her country of origin, with much of her writing firmly rooted in Ireland and the Dublin houses of her childhood, the structures, walls, doors and windows of which are used to depict stifling spaces or create isolating boundaries. Building on key work by Angela Bourke, this paper takes an interdisciplinary approach by drawing on perspectives from architectural theory to examine the ways in which Brennan designed the internal and external spaces of the home to construct a novel that explores, and indeed dismantles, the traditional notion of woman's place as solely positioned within the domestic sphere.

Paper Title: *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing*: Reading and Writing Trauma

ABSTRACT:

My research project on representations of trauma in prose fiction has its origins in my novel writing practice, when the strategy I was using to describe a rape scene, of fracturing the narrative to represent my protagonist's fracturing consciousness, suddenly seemed hackneyed, a default means of representing trauma.

Traditional trauma studies, based on Cathy Caruth's reading of Freud within the context of PTSD, saw trauma as necessarily belated, unspeakable, and therefore unrepresentable (Caruth, Whitehead). Aligning literature with this model, the novelist resorts to strategies associated with literary modernism such as stream of consciousness and fractured syntax. However, with changing psychological definitions of trauma, and new approaches to semiotic, rhetorical, and social concerns, literary trauma theory necessarily evolved beyond its psychoanalytic origins towards a more pluralistic approach (Balaev).

My project contrasts modernist strategies used by Eimear McBride to represent trauma in her novel, *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing* with those used in Annie Ryan's stage adaptation of the text, and analyses both approaches within the context of current literary trauma theory. Although Ryan's adaptation uses McBride's words, the space of the stage requires the embodiment of interior thought and, uttered aloud, syntactical and other modernist strategies are effectively neutralised. Using a combination of methods, including textual analysis, interview, field-work and practice-based research, my findings show that the contemporary Irish novel has trauma options beyond Modernism, and reveal that the intersection between theatre and the novel is fertile ground for the novelist.

Paper Title: A Just War for the 21st Century: Is it now Time for a new Paradigm?

ABSTRACT:

From Augustine to Rawls, the just war tradition is one of the oldest and most enduring concepts within moral philosophy. At its heart it aims to reduce both the incidence and the effects of warfare. It endeavours to do so through its three distinct sub-branches; *jus ad bellum*, or justice in going to war, *jus in bello*, or just conduct during warfare and the embryonic sub-branch *jus post bellum*, or justice after war. The dynamic of warfare has constantly evolved through the ages and the tradition has consistently adapted to such changes. However contemporary developments in warfare including; asymmetrical warfare, the exponential growth in designating armed groups as terrorist organisations, the advent of social media and the burgeoning phenomenon of cyber warfare, all pose novel and unprecedented threats to the tradition. In light of these developments, this paper poses the question as to whether it is now time to develop a whole new paradigm. It answers the question by investigating both the history and the theory underpinning the tradition, and by examining case studies such as the most recent Iraq War and existing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It concludes by asserting that a radical re-think is neither necessary nor useful, but that a dedicated restatement of the tradition is needed in order to successfully combat such challenges.

Paper Title: An Assessment into the Causes and Extent of Violence in Irish Prisons

ABSTRACT:

This paper is focused on the complex and multifaceted issue of violence in prisons - and in particular how such an issue can manifest itself in a multiplicity of behaviours which can equally result in physical, mental and emotional harm for both inmates and prison staff. However, prison violence is not solely limited to physical harm and assault. It is comprised of a wide spectrum of behaviours ranging from verbal aggression, extortion and threats to assaults, torture, and death.

While the physical and psychological impacts of prison violence have been well documented in jurisdictions such as England and Wales (Edgar, O'Donnell, and Martin, 2002), and Scotland (Cooke, 2010), research into the extent that this occurs in Irish prisons is limited. The Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment has stated that prison violence in Ireland 'remains far too high and continues to be fuelled by a number of factors' (2014). There are several potential causes for the rising levels of violence in Irish prisons. For instance, 70% of the prison population have drug dependency issues, 46% of prisoners are cell-sharing, and a high percentage of inmates suffer from a mental illness (Progress in the Penal System Report, 2017). This paper will examine the impact that prison violence has had on the Irish prison population by analysing violent incidents, including deaths and suicides to address the impact that it has on the prison community. Additionally, there will be an exploration into how the Irish Prison Service has responded to the rising levels of prison violence with a view to informing future penal policies by enforcing safe custody strategies.

Paper Title: Who are you calling a Luddite? Law and Society in a world of innovation

ABSTRACT:

The world is facing revolution. The so-called Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) is progressing at an exponential rate, bringing a seemingly unlimited potential for innovation, scientific development and economic prosperity while yet exacerbating a deep-rooted sense of inequality for many, especially in the displaced labour population, fearful of a world of robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

So, what exactly is a Luddite? Colloquially, it is a disparaging name often applied to those considered to be technologically challenged, or those who obstinately object to progress and innovation. Luddites are more often considered to be unable or unwilling to appreciate the bigger picture and generally, to be narrow minded in focus or stubborn in disposition. At the criminal end of the spectrum, there is suspicion of sabotage, Industrial Espionage, and Intellectual Property Piracy.

But two hundred years ago, the so-called **Luddite Revolution** created a violent social upheaval across the British Midland counties in response to the fall out of the First Industrial Revolution, bringing with it the installation of new textile looms and steam powered machinery, ushering an end to traditional craft skills and the demise of what had been a traditional way of life for centuries.

This paper examines the growing sense of unease in today's world of innovation, through the lens of the Law and assesses its contribution to facilitating the drive for Innovation and Equity, balancing the future technology needs of society with the rights of workers and the fair distribution of societal wealth.

It asks what lessons can be learned from the Luddite Revolution. From surgical robots to driverless cars and AI legal researchers, what needs to be done to bring society to view the potential of automation rather than the threat of unemployment.

Paper Title: Regime change in personal injury law: overreaction or necessary evil?

ABSTRACT:

The Irish personal injuries regime is yet again in the spotlight. In recent years the cost of insurance premiums has increased for many drivers and continues to be a source of discussion in both political and legal circles. The business community have cited rising insurance premiums arising from spurious claims as a real threat to the viability of future businesses. The recent Cost of Insurance Working Group Report¹ and reports of the Personal Injuries Commission² is set to lead to another significant overhaul of Irish Personal injuries law. This paper considers key impacts of the last overhaul of the personal injuries regime in Ireland with the introduction of Personal Injuries Assessment Board (“PIAB”) through the Personal Injuries Board Assessment Act, 2003 (the “2003 Act”) and the Civil Liability and Courts Act, 2004 (the “2004 Act”).

The paper then considers some of the proposals arising from the Personal Injuries Commission final report recommendations. For example, the proposed introduction of a Judicial Council tasked with setting damages, the proposed enhanced fraud detection obligations for the insurance industry, the introduction of a specialised Garda fraud investigations unit for suspicious claims and fraudulently staged accidents, the Personal Injuries Commission rejection of a ‘care not cash’ system available in other jurisdictions, the proposed introduction of mandatory medical reports where cases are settled early, proposed research leading to enhanced treatment for soft tissue injuries resulting in better outcomes for claimants thus reducing the costs of these claims, the requirement for prompt notification of any potential claim³. This area of the law is very topical at the moment and the paper aims to bring participants up to date on these market developments and provide some interesting analysis.

¹ The Cost of Insurance Working Group Report (January, 2018).

² The First Report of the Personal Injuries Commission November, 2017. The Second and Final Report of the Personal Injuries Commission, July 2018.

³ Recently introduced through the Central Bank (National Claims Information Database) Act, 2018, commenced via S.I. No. 2 of 2019.

Paper Title: Current licensing issues for medical cannabis in Ireland.

ABSTRACT:

The stigma surrounding medical cannabis is changing. In January 2019, the World Health Organisation recommended that cannabis and associated substances be rescheduled in the international drug control framework to facilitate the trade of cannabis for medical and scientific purposes. This follows the general trend whereby access to medical cannabis has increased significantly in recent years with cannabis legalised for medical purposes in 33 states in the United States, Canada, Australia, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Israel, Thailand, among others. With Ireland moving in a similar direction the Minister for Health called for a review on Ireland's policy on medicinal cannabis in 2016. The Health Products Regulatory Authority's review found moderate benefit for cannabis in a number of medical conditions. As a result an expert group was established by the Minister for Health to advise on the development of a Medical Cannabis Access programme with interim access to medical cannabis available by way of Ministerial license under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2017. Under the regulations it is open to the Minister for Health to consider granting a licence to an Irish-registered medical practitioner for medical cannabis for a named patient. However, access to medical cannabis in Ireland remains extremely limited.

This presentation details the licensing process for obtaining medical cannabis in Ireland under the current legal framework focusing on qualifying criteria and access. Using models from other jurisdictions, the presentation will propose recommendations for reform of the licencing process in Ireland.

STUDENT: MICHELLE DALY, SCHOOL MODERN LANGUAGES & APPLIED LINGUISTICS, UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. MAIREAD MORIARTY/DR. ANGELA FARRELL

Paper Title: An investigation into the perceptions and experiences of Irish teachers working the Gulf EFL context in relation to intercultural awareness and training.

ABSTRACT:

Against the backdrop of globalisation and internationalisation, there is a pressing need to develop the ability to move sensitively and intelligently from one cultural context to another as global citizens. This Ph.D. research study broadly addresses the call made by cultural linguistics to help improve intercultural understanding in today's modern society. More specifically, this thesis conducts an 'investigation into the perceptions and experiences of Irish teachers working in the Gulf English Foreign Language (EFL) context in relation to intercultural awareness and training'. Incorporating a triangulated, mixed methods approach using both quantitative (questionnaires) and qualitative (interviews/case study) data collection tools, this study investigates the intercultural relationships between both school managers from the local community in the Gulf region and Irish EFL teachers working in this context. The anticipated findings from this study can potentially provide useful contemporary insights into the perceptions of intercultural awareness and the effectiveness of current teacher and management training programmes. Similarly, findings can contribute to informing teacher education programmes, namely undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the local context (University of Limerick and Mary Immaculate College). These expected outcomes also have a wider application to the intercultural training of other professional groups. With Irish exports to Arab markets expected to exceed €9 billion by 2040, such current trends suggest the importance of developing intercultural awareness between communities to enhance international relations.

STUDENT: SEAN O'CONNELL, SCHOOL MODERN LANGUAGES & APPLIED LINGUISTICS
UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. MAIREAD MORIARTY/DR. CINTA RAMBLADO

Paper Title: A case study to investigate a speech therapy informed approach to pronunciation teaching in the English Language Teaching Classroom

ABSTRACT:

Recent surveys of teachers' attitudes and practice suggest that teachers find pronunciation a difficult, if important, area of English Language teaching. (Murphy 2011, Foote et al. 2012, Henderson et al. 2012). Additionally the number of empirical studies on pronunciation learning is small. (Derwing and Munro 2005, 2015). This research explores and develops the area of English pronunciation teaching in the context of English as a second language set in the English Language Teaching classroom. It develops a model of pronunciation teaching rooted in clinical practice in speech and language therapy utilising a phonological approach (Grunwell 1977, Hodson 2007), and adapting it for the classroom

The PhD research describes a case study of a group of seven Spanish learners of English over a twelve-week period. A novice EFL teacher using a model of pronunciation teaching devised by the presenter taught the six specialised classes, which followed a control phase period of 'normal' teaching of six classes. The model drew on L1 interference factors from the literature and was implemented using some techniques that originate in speech therapy practice. Specific targeted segmental features were isolated and tested before and after the programme and summary findings from the study are presented. Innovative features of the project include phonological assessment as an alternative to rater scales to monitor progress. Some implications for teaching pronunciation will be discussed.

Paper Title: Bad Neighbourhoods: How external factors can influence the risk of genocide

ABSTRACT:

Genocide studies boasts little published research examining external influences and the spread of genocide across borders. The field has remained almost exclusively focused on individual, country-level analysis. This is peculiar. Even a cursory examination of genocides since 1955 reveals clusters in certain regions.

Central Africa has suffered a multitude of genocidal events. The Middle-East, centred on Iraq, and South East Asia also show apparent genocide clusters. Even in regions where countries endured one-off incidents, the victims were often neighbours: Chile and Argentina in South America; El Salvador and Guatemala in Central America.

Do these genocidal clusters exist purely due to shared political and social values and constructs that make them naturally more prone to genocidal violence? Or is there another explanation? Do certain macro-level, international factors play a role?

Through statistical analysis, this research suggests that certain factors, external to the characteristic set of individual countries, play a role in determining a country's risk of genocidal violence. This paper will seek to highlight some of these factors.

Paper Title: Tensions on our Turf?: An exploration of the prevalence of TERF ideologies, transphobia and/or trans exclusion in Irish LGBT+ social movements.

ABSTRACT:

This paper will focus on the exclusion of trans narratives and experiences through a tracing of Irish campaigns for LGBT+ liberation, beginning with the campaign to decriminalize homosexuality in the 1980s, to the introduction of marriage equality and the Gender Recognition Act in 2015.

The erasure of women from social movements is not a new practice, yet the actions of many feminist groups has yielded positive results, promoting inclusion and space for women in social movements, communities and groups. Conversely, the establishment of “(cis) women-only” spaces, and the publication and re-emergent popularity of anti-trans and transmisogynistic writings by Janice Raymond (1979), Germaine Greer (1994) and Sheila Jeffreys (2014) has contributed to exclusion and hostility towards trans individuals across societies, yet is particularly evident in the U.K. and the U.S. These particular groups of ‘feminists’ are often referred to as TERFs (trans-exclusionary radical feminists) (Hines 2019). However, it should be noted that anti-trans rhetoric is specific to feminism - rather, many of those who are supportive of transphobic ideologies often self-identify as ‘feminists’.

While outsider anti-trans groups have made attempts to organise in Ireland, they have never been able to sufficiently mobilise, receiving widespread condemnation from Irish academic, feminist and LGBT+ communities (Redmond for Feminist Ire 2018). While this retaliation against TERF ideologies highlights positive inter-community solidarity, mainstream Irish LGB social movements have not been as readily inclusive in the past. This paper will highlight the problematic elisions and silences surrounding trans narratives and experiences within these socio-political campaigns.

Ultimately, this paper will highlight that, unlike the situation in Britain, TERF ideologies have not influenced trans exclusion in Irish-based LGB social movements. Rather, these campaigns deployed a moderate, essentialist collective identity for the sake of political expediency, and in the process have further marginalised trans and gender non-conforming individuals. This paper will highlight that the “nation of equals” (Sheehan and Healy 2015), forged by the actions of many cis lesbian, bisexual and gay activists, fundamentally eliminated, and continues to eliminate the ‘T’ in LGBT.

STUDENT: LOUISE RYAN, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, UL

SUPERVISOR: DR. CARMEN KUHLING

Paper Title: “Hello my strong strong friends!” examining the role of social media influencers in the construction of health & fitness authorities

ABSTRACT:

This research examines fitness Influencers on Instagram, a photo-sharing platform with 1 billion monthly users (Constine 2018). Social Media influencers (SMIs) in the fitness industry publish content focused on the physical body. SMIs are individuals whose knowledge of social media platforms marries with a vocation to moderate their celebrity status to the scale of commercial and professional success (Abidin 2018). Fitness influencers employ Instagram to promote products or share their 8-minute core workout- they trade on their authenticity.

I study Instagram following two lines of inquiry into a visual platform dominated by algorithms: how users believe the algorithm operates and how influencer marketing incorporates perceptions of an algorithmic value system (Bucher 2017: 31).

The research examines the relationship between Instagram influencers, the platform and their followers. Specifically, I examine how influencers construct themselves and their brand as authorities on health and fitness. This involves three stages: interviews with influencers concerning the various practices they use to construct their ‘brand’, investigation of Instagram as a platform through ‘walk-throughs’ of Instagram use among followers in order to identify how knowledgeable they are about the ways in which their actions structure the Instagram content that they receive; and how their practices produce (variation in) the content that they receive.

This paper discusses preliminary research findings. Exploring emerging themes from interviews with Instagram users relating to how/why people choose to follow influencers, whether/why followers deem influencers to be authorities on issues of health and fitness, and the implications of influencer content for issues of affect, well-being and behaviour, including consumer behaviour. I consider these themes utilising theories of post-feminism and neoliberalism with an attentiveness to aesthetic entrepreneurship as an approach to emerging labour practices; one which utilizes platform affordances to conceptualise the material and social life of new health and fitness authorities.

Paper Title: (F)Ailing Mothers and the Quest for Redemption: A Study of Post-Natal Depression Recovery Blogs

ABSTRACT:

Motherhood is an emotionally charged and ideologically loaded construct, identity and relationship in Western culture. Maternal distress, medicalised as postnatal depression, provides a microcosm for exploring the socially embedded complexities and emotional vicissitudes of motherhood. Furthermore, the 'medicalisation of cyberspace' (Miah and Rich, 2008) presents numerous opportunities for people to publicly reflect upon, discuss, confide, and seek to alleviate their problems with a virtual community of like-minded individuals. This paper draws from Burke's (1984) theory of redemption cycles along with Schilling's (2008) 'ailing' bodies, in the context of habit, crisis, and creativity, to make sense of postnatal depression recovery blogs. Using data generated from nine Anglophone blogs, this paper offers a theoretically informed reading to understand how women who have been deemed 'failing', by behaving outside of expected cultural norms, attempt to redeem themselves in the public arena. This paper explores the process of (1) admitting guilt, (2) seeking purification and (3) achieving redemption. These online narratives provide insight into the public re-presentation and negotiation of medicalised maternal distress whilst also showing culturally mediated ways of potentially restoring the relational, gendered self to a respectable identity.

Paper Title: Parent choice of primary school: What the parents are saying.

ABSTRACT:

School choice is an increasingly used mechanism in education policy internationally. The central tenet of choice is that it raises standards, makes schools more responsive to the demands of parents, and creates more equitable school systems (Chubb and Moe 1990; Moe 1994). Conversely, a large body of scholarship challenges school choice and point to influencing factors in parents' identity and school competition that enhances the creation/continuance of a stratified school system (Ball 1993; 2003; Whitty 2001; OECD 1994; Bloomfield Cucchiara & McNamara Horvat 2014).

Parent choice is a contemporary practice in Irish education policy for reforming the primary school patronage system. The present denominational primary school system is 90 per cent Catholic patronage and is recognised as requiring reform to meet the needs of a more diverse Irish society. Choice and diversity discourses facilitate the use of parent choice practice in reforming the primary school patronage system. The policy framing of parent choice focuses school ethos as its object and presents a unique study for using choice as a lens to examine the entanglement of religious and secular discourses in relation to diversity.

This study explores parents' decision-making process of their child's primary school. The empirical focus is on research sites identified from the Department of Education (2013) national parent survey that has informed policies to date. I will present the initial findings from parents' interviews which suggests that location is central to how parents frame their relationships to and processes of selecting a school.

Paper Title: A Post-Jungian Critique of Cartoon Saloon's Animated Feature Films

ABSTRACT:

This presentation will look in detail at Cartoon Saloon's second animated feature film: *Song of the Sea* (2014) along with a brief overview of *The Secret of Kells* (2009) and *Wolfwalkers* (2020) – all stemming from the creative mind of Cartoon Saloon's co-founder and director, Tomm Moore. Thanks to Ireland's leading animation studio, the Irish age-old tradition of story-telling as admixture of fact and fiction has been successfully projected onto the world screen of visual narrative acclaim and substantiated as such by three Oscar nominations to date. Cartoon Saloon's house-style combines traditional 2D animation techniques with that of digital means, mirroring their story-telling as an amalgamation of old and new, myth and history. The feature films in question also point toward a mission statement, or manifesto, if you will; each film seems to be charged with reanimating the symbolic, in turn drawing upon our Irish historical and mythological roots, as once was charged the seanchaí of old. How does a Jungian symbolic model differ from that of other theoretical approaches when seeking to uncover deeper layers of meaning in film? Perhaps Jungian psychology is more appropriate for 21st century film analysis, particularly for films with a mythopoetic sensibility such as Tomm Moore's triptych. Using *Song of the Sea* (2014) as a case study, I will apply classical Jungian concepts and also consider key post-Jungian developments revealing not only the 'conscious construction' of the auteurs intentions, but also unconscious dimensions that touch on aspects such as cultural complexes and the transpersonal psyche. This will allow for a critical mirror (to include its shadow and problematic aspects) of a contemporary Irish culture in crisis and identify symbolic dimensions that intimate potential regeneration and resolution.

Paper Title: An exploration of the experiences of Young People in Youth Residential Care Settings in Ireland and Germany

ABSTRACT:

The researcher carried out 6 interviews with young people who had spent time in youth residential care settings in both Ireland and Germany. The research was carried out in order to identify strengths and weaknesses in both the Irish and German youth residential care settings. EPIC (Empowering People in Care) and the KJHV (Kinder Jugend und Soziale Hilfen) supported the research project by sourcing participants and providing material supports. The researcher will detail the contents of the interviews carried out and contrast them to the existing literature. International comparison of policy and practice can challenge existing ideologies and provide innovative solutions to social problems. Findings from the research include the value of supportive, nurturing relationships to the young people. The majority of participants identified a clear preference for a 'High Nurture – Low Control' model of care.

Key Messages:

- Listening to the voices of Young People in order to improve experiences and outcomes for Young People in residential care
- Identifying positives and negatives in the Irish and German youth residential care systems
- Reconceptualization of Young People in residential care as experts in their own lives
- Identification of talents and interests of young people in order to promote positive outcomes for Young People
- The value of nurturing, supportive relationships between the Young People in residential care and the adults who work there
- The need for Young People to be placed in suitable placements and not to be exposed to violence or aggression

Paper Title: Dealing with loss: young people's experiences of grief support services for issues related to grief and loss.

ABSTRACT:

The structure of Irish families has changed over the last 20 years with more parental separation and divorce than previous years. The 2016 Census shows that there are 1.22 million families in Ireland of which 218,817 are headed by one parent, the majority of whom (86.4%) are one parent mothers and, 68,378 of these are one parent mothers following separation or divorce. This changing demographic signals a change for young people who have experienced the loss of a parent through changing family structures. Previous research suggests that while most children adapt well to loss, others struggle in their adaptation and require additional support.

This study examines how grief support services use creative mediums to help young people explore their feelings in relation to familial separation, grief and loss. It will assess what creative mediums help young people develop coping strategies and briefly explore young people's experiences of the separation event and loss.

The sample group is 5 family units comprising of a custodial parent and their son/daughter. The son/daughter will have accessed support from a grief support service from the age of 12 years and are presently aged between 18 and 21 years. Using purposeful sampling methods the data will be collected using semi-structured interviews and will be thematically analysed.

The potential research outcomes include; to create further knowledge and understanding of the needs of children and young people who are effected by loss through death, separation or divorce; to inform and shape the services offered by a grief support agency which may lead to the replication of their services to other areas in Ireland; to contribute to political and social change in how policy and policy-makers make provision to help children, young people and families who experience loss and grief.

Paper Title: Negotiating Double Trouble: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Identity Negotiation amongst Gay and Bi-Sexual Men in Ireland

ABSTRACT:

Connell's (1995) seminal work on masculinities has informed much of the scholarship regarding the performance of masculine identities for the last two decades. Specifically, the study of hegemonic masculinities (those forms of masculine performance which are related to extreme or hyper masculinity) has been recurrent in research into masculinities. A key component of the performance of men striving to achieve the pinnacle of hegemony is the appearance of heterosexuality. The notion of assumed heterosexuality is so ingrained in society that a dilemma arises for gay and bisexual men to form a masculine identity free of this conflict. Negotiation of this can result in a number of different identity performance strategies. Most research suggests that the results of this place gay or bisexual men as either complicit to, or marginalised by hegemonic masculine pressures. This paper will discuss the results of a research programme that explores the ways in which Gay and Bi-Sexual men in Ireland interpret masculine stereotypes, and the influence this has on the overall formation of an identity. Data analysed using methods informed by critical discursive psychology and collected from 12 semi-structured interviews with men aged 18 to 41 has identified a number of performative features that indicate some complicity to masculine stereotypes, but also that suggest that being confined to these stereotypes can be isolating and can therefore influence resistance to these discourses. Discussion in this paper will address the notion of passing (or, the 'Straight Acting' gay man), hyper masculinity within the Gay and Bisexual community and the liberation or isolation that comes with not conforming to masculine stereotypes.

Paper Title: Some Dance to Remember: Exploring the psychosocial effects of the introduction of an adaptive Irish Céilí Dance group activity with people living with dementia and their carers

ABSTRACT:

The Alzheimer Society estimates that there are approximately 55,000 people living with dementia (PLWD) currently in Ireland and predict that this figure is set to increase by 40% by 2021, and to triple by 2041.

To date, the dominant approach to treating an individual who has been diagnosed with dementia has been of a biomedical nature. This approach tends to focus on the limitations of the individual, rather than the person as a whole. More recently, however, there has been an increased emphasis on non-pharmacological person-centred interventions using, for example, arts-based activities aimed at improving the quality of life of PLWD. As a result, there is an increased need for evidence-based research to identify the benefits of these activities, if any, for PLWD and their carers.

“Some Dance to Remember” is one such arts-based social science research project. It aims to explore, in the context of the psychosocial effects of dance and movement, the experiences of PLWD and their carers arising from their participation in a newly-developed adaptive Irish Céilí dance programme. The programme, which is complemented by brief audio-recorded interviews with participants at regular intervals, will be adapted to allow for a range of abilities that reflect participants’ levels of mobility, focus, cognitive skills and interest.

This project poses an interesting ethical dilemma to be negotiated in relation to, for example, the power dynamics between the researcher and research community, pseudonymisation of data, and obtaining ongoing consent from research participants. This research paper briefly explores how such issues were addressed in the context of obtaining ethical approval at Limerick Institute of Technology.

Paper Title: Transdisciplinarity and Creative Collaboration : Mapping Contemporary and Cross Institutional Creative Practice as a model for Pedagogical Transdisciplinarity

ABSTRACT:

Across the Institution: Creative Collaboration and Transdisciplinarity Creative practitioners who traverse and transcend disciplinary boundaries develop transdisciplinary methodologies which may have wider pedagogical applications. This has particular significance in the context of the developing trend of research clusters, cross institutional consortiums and the drive for institutional engagement with the wider community as highlighted in National Strategy for Higher Education 2030. By developing, charting and contextualising collaborative creative practice that seeks to be transdisciplinary, cross institutional and multi-level my research looks to add new knowledge to the area of educational and creative innovation, positioning the A in STE(A)M as forefront to future pedagogical and HE institutional concerns. Transdisciplinarity and creative collaboration are primary considerations in contemporary, cultural and educational context today. Never more so with the changing landscape of HEI and IoTs, and even more so in a local context with LSAD/LIT and the Shannon Consortium. The requirement to develop creative transdisciplinary methodologies within this local Higher Education landscape and foster community engagement at all levels has never been more pressing. Such methodologies require engaged research practice within and across disciplines, at undergraduate and postgraduate level. However collaborative creative practice is fraught with challenges and requires commitment at every level. This engaged research is supported with a New Foundations Irish Research Council Award which will commence on May 2019, and will consider the formation and potential of Creative Collaboration Limerick (CCL), a multi disciplinary cross institutional collaborative group spanning three institutions (UL, LIT, MI) and community/lay people/groups. This presentation will look at the underlying theory of transdisciplinarity in HE and consider the creative 'borderwork' conducted as a starting point for durational collaboration across disciplines, levels and institutions.

STUDENT: RACHEL CLIFFORD, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, LANGUAGE & LITERATURE,
MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE, LIMERICK

SUPERVISOR: DR. EOIN FLANNERY

Paper Title: The Silenced Child: Silence and Trauma in Children's Literature

ABSTRACT:

Through the lens of trauma literary theory, this paper studies the acknowledgment or lack thereof, of childhood grief in children's literature. The paper draws on the theoretical frameworks of literary trauma theorists Cathy Caruth and Michelle Balaev. Caruth's model of trauma theory asserts traumatic events are registered rather than experienced, bypass perception and consciousness, and repressed into the unconscious. However, Balaev challenges this Caruthian model, maintaining extreme experiences cultivate multiple responses. Balaev emphasises the possibility for both indirect and direct knowledge of traumatic events and believes what remains unspoken in a trauma narrative can be the result of cultural values, not just neurobiological function.

As children's literature reflects the culture and society in which it is written, it is an excellent source to study societal attitudes to concepts such as childhood grief. While childhood bereavement is well recognised today, early twentieth century society believed children to be too emotionally immature to experience grief. With that in mind, through the analysis of two children's texts published a century apart - Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden* (1911) and Patrick Ness' *A Monster Calls* (2011), this paper argues that cultural attitudes to childhood grief determine whether the bereaved child is silenced or acknowledged in children's literature. It concludes that as societal acceptance of children's grief develops, this acknowledgement is echoed in the discourse of children's literature.

STUDENT: ELAINE DINAN, MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE, LIMERICK

SUPERVISOR: DR. EOIN FLANNERY

Paper Title: Living with the Dead – the effects of legislation on burial in Ireland

ABSTRACT:

Prior to the reform acts of the nineteenth century, legislation regarding burial was primarily driven by religious authorities, in the case of Ireland, this meant the Established Church. Over the nineteenth-century, the authority of the Established Church on burial matters was eroded and replaced by the state, through its local representatives such as Municipal Councils, Burial Boards and Public Health Authorities. In addition, the passing of the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1829 allowed the newly resurgent Catholic Church to take an increased role in matters relating to burial. This paper will examine some of the effects this new legislation had on the changing burial landscape, with a focus on the counties of Limerick and Cork. Topics will include the Burial Grounds Act (Ireland) 1856, which led to the closure of some overcrowded churchyards and the opening of new municipal cemeteries. This geographical movement of burial sites away from population centres and into the peripheral areas of towns and cities broke the traditional familial link with certain burial landscapes, which in turn drove the rise of new ancillary services such as undertakers. The increased municipal involvement in health and sanitation issues, removed death and dying from the domestic sphere into the public and medical arenas. Traditional practices in and around death such as wakes were actively discouraged by both church and state, resulting in an experience more akin to modern funeral practice.

STUDENT: MATEUS MIRANDA, MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE, LIMERICK

SUPERVISORS: DR. ANNE O'KEEFFE/PROF. MICHAEL MCCARTHY

Paper Title: Learning grammar is learning lexis and vice-versa: A lexico-grammatical corpus study on learner English

ABSTRACT:

Corpus linguistics techniques allow for determining common and uncommon choices and seeing patterns that reveal what is typical or atypical in particular contexts (Conrad 2010: 228). Drawing on studies developed by Hornby (1954), Francis et al. (1996 and 1998), Biber et al. (1999), Hunston and Francis (2000) and Römer et al. (2015) on pattern grammar, this study investigates pattern grammar to describe L2 learner language. As a descriptive study, the present work aims to empirically describe *-ing vs. to* patterns with these structures lexical exponents within the *Brazilian International Corpus of Learner English* (Br-ICLE) (Sardinha et al. 2017), a subcorpus of the *International Corpus of Learner English* (ICLE) (Granger et al. 2009) and the *Louvain Corpus of Native English Essays* (LOCNESS) (Granger, Sanders, Connor 2014) and a comparison to the findings of the same patterns in the *English Grammar Profile* (EGP) (O'Keeffe and Mark 2017). The study addresses the following research questions: (1) How are verb patterns with *-ing vs. to* used in Br-ICLE and LOCNESS? and (2) How does this use compare with the findings in the EGP? Br-ICLE and LOCNESS were uploaded to Sketch Engine software (Kilgarrif et al. 2014), where constructed corpus query language (CLQ) searches for the patterns were carried out. In order to determine the correlation between the corpora, correlation graphs were developed in R (R Core Team 2014) software and the Pearson correlation (r) was calculated. Afterwards, the results in Br-ICLE were compared to the *can-do* statements of the same patterns in the EGP. The results show that there are significant differences in the patterns used by the learners in Br-ICLE. The comparison with the EGP shows that learners meet the majority of the *can-do* statements for B1 to C1 levels.

STUDENT: DEBORAH TOBIN, MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE, LIMERICK

SUPERVISORS: DR. JOAN O'SULLIVAN/DR. BRIAN CLANCY

Paper Title: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Self-Perceptions of Teachers within the Private English-Language School Sector in the Republic of Ireland

ABSTRACT:

The global expansion of English has led to an increased international demand for qualified, experienced English-language teachers amongst non-native speakers (Phillipson 1992, Kelly-Holmes and Wallen 2006, McCrum 2010, Murphy 2011) placing Ireland, being one of two remaining EU English-speaking countries post-Brexit, in a favourable position for learners seeking English-language instruction (O'Brien 2016: 9, Hassey 2017). However, the Irish media have recently highlighted precarious work conditions for teachers within Ireland's private-ELT sector such as low pay, job insecurity and lack of benefits (Ní Aodha 2017, Hassey 2017, Pollack 2018), in truth issues of local and international concern for a number of years (*Centre for British Teachers* 1989, Phillipson 1992, O'Keeffe 2001). The ELT industry is lucrative. The previous Minister for Education pledged to grow its value by 33% to €2.1 billion by the year 2020 (Bruton in *Department of Skills and Education 2016*), yet teachers do not reap financial rewards on an equitable scale (Hassey 2017). Nevertheless, employers demand postgraduate qualifications, participation in Continuous Professional Development, measurement of professional credentials against a range of descriptors (North, Maleva and Rossner 2007) and adherence to standards of excellence in the workplace (Hassey 2017, Edwards 2017).

Methodology: A mixed-methods' approach using a questionnaire survey and face-to-face interviews (Leedy and Ormrod 2015, Dornyei 2007).

Expected Outcomes: This study seeks to gain insight into factors within the Irish private-ELT sector influencing self-perceptions held by ELT teachers and relevant stakeholders towards them.

Conclusion: Applied Linguistics concerns the analysis of discourse to address specific, language related, real-world problems (Brumfit 1995), hence is an appropriate medium to investigate self-perceptions of ELT teachers in Ireland as part of a community of practice (Vaughan 2007).

Poster Title: Maypole Dancing and Other Body Movements in a Neo-Pagan Bealtaine Ritual in Ireland

ABSTRACT:

My research examines the role of dance and body movements within a specific Neo-Pagan ritual in present day Ireland, namely Bealtaine. The Gaelic word Bealtaine translates as May. Hence, Lá Bealtaine would translate as May Day – the other term commonly used for this festival. Bealtaine celebrates fertility and the coming of summer. The purpose of my research is threefold: to identify the kinds of dances and body movements incorporated into this ritual; to question how participants – the Tipperary Pagans group – perceive these dances and body movements in their ritual; and to analyse the importance and meaning of body movements in the Tipperary Pagans Bealtaine ritual for the participants of this ritual.

As a researcher my position is negotiated in the field: occasionally as insider and other times as outsider – as a foreigner Pagan and Druidry practitioner. The research methodologies are drawn from the field of Ethnochoreology. I undertook fieldwork and conducted ethnographic interviews, attended and participated in the Bealtaine ritual at Saint Berriherth's Kyle, Co. Tipperary, where the method of participant observation was extensively used. Bibliographic sources were also examined (Appadurai, Barber, Bell, Danaher, Featherstone, Grau, Grimes, Hobsbawm, Turner).

In conclusion, this study analyses and reveals that Maypole Dancing, Puck Hunt, and Jumping the Bonfire were incorporated into the Tipperary Pagans' Bealtaine ritual. Participants perceived the dance and body movements in their ritual as enjoyable and as a means to connect with ancestors and the earth. The dance and body movements functioned as homeopathic magic and to connect with the divine. This research shows that the Tipperary Pagans engaged in the fertility ritual of Bealtaine in order to acknowledge human dependence on fertility and to connect with nature and ancestors.

Keywords

Dance; Rituals; Neo-Paganism; Globalisation; Celtic Festivals

Poster Title: Strategies for Reception: Unpacking the Irish approach to the reception of asylum seekers from 1999 to 2019.

ABSTRACT:

Background: The system of Direct Provision (DP) was initially introduced as a temporary measure to accommodate the increasing number of people seeking asylum in Ireland. The scheme was piloted in Dublin under the Directorate for Asylum Support Services. It was intended that this system would provide individuals with adequate accommodation on a full board basis which would include provisions related to all their basic needs (Free Legal Advice Centre 2009).

Research Question: This project seeks to explore the evolution of Ireland's policy of Direct Provision from the decision-making process behind its design in 1999 to its current operation. Using multiple qualitative research methods, I will explore the factors which led to the design of the policy and assess any changes that have been made to the system since it was developed.

Methods: Qualitative research methods afford a representation of the different perspectives of all participants involved in a study (Yin 2016). Therefore, for my data collection, I will interview NGO representatives and civil society activists that advocate for the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees. Based on the data collected from the first set of interviews, I will design an interview guide and conduct semi-structured interviews with actors involved in the decision-making process, design and implementation of the system of Direct Provision and those that currently or have previously worked in the area.

Theoretical Framework: The theories which I intend to apply to my research are Foucault's neoliberal governmentality and Bourdieu's field theory. Governmentality refers to the organisation, management and control of a population according to specific political rationalities using targeted governmental technologies and as such is relevant to my research (Dean 2010). Field theory is also a useful concept as it outlines how the social field position a policy maker occupies can shape the outcome of the policy in question. Furthermore, it offers an insight into how hierarchical administrative structures operate and how this influences the decision-making process (Dubois 2012).

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STUDENT: CHRISTOPHER FITZGERALD, SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS, UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. ELAINE VAUGHAN/DR. MAIREAD MORIARTY

Poster Title: An Investigation into Telling Rights in Historical Recollections

ABSTRACT:

Drawing on the oral history testimonies collected by the Irish Bureau of Military History, this poster presents the factors that influence one's ability to tell what occurred in historically significant events. By linguistically analysing the statements in the IBMH, which archives 1,773 statements by witnesses and participants in the Irish struggle for independence, this study investigates what social factors influence the degree to which one may claim the right to tell their version of historical events and how these are linguistically manifested.

The methods employed in this study stem from the linguistic fields of Corpus Linguistics and Discourse Analysis. A one-million-word, representative corpus was first designed to understand which linguistic features are prevalent in the Military Archive. This revealed that features of narrative construction and memory expression are comparatively common. From there, a Discourse Analytical approach was taken to analyse individual events from the perspectives of different witnesses to determine the social factors which influence their right to tell events and how these are expressed linguistically.

This analysis shows that factors such as power, memory as well as social and political rank play major roles in determining one's ability to tell events. Though personal narrative implies an emphasis on first person narrative reflection, there may also be a degree of vicarious narrative expressed through third person structures as explored by Norrick (2013). In events which depict the victimization of people, the right to tell such events may fall on those who may not have had any part to play in the events themselves, but were closely related to the victims and were thus deemed worthy of a degree of ownership of the narrative.

Norrick, N.R., 2013. Narratives of vicarious experience in conversation. *Language in Society*, 42(4), pp.385-406.

STUDENT: AGATA LYNCH, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/PHYSICS, UL

SUPERVISORS: DR. AMANDA HAYNES/DR. IAN CLANCY

Poster Title: Irish Schoolgirls and Physics; Gender and Transitioning from Junior to Senior Cycle.

ABSTRACT:

Leaving Certificate (LC) Physics is characterised by the largest gender disparity across all science subjects. In 2018, 28.0% of students studying for the Physics LC exam in the Senior Cycle across Ireland were female, whereas 55.7% of Chemistry students and 59.4% of Biology students were girls (Central Statistics Office nd.). That year, 27.5% of students sitting the Physics LC exam were female, when 55.5% of students who sat LC Chemistry and 60.1% of those who sat LC Biology were girls (State Examinations Commission nd.). My research project aims to explore and clarify the relative influence and potential interconnections between macro, meso and micro level variables that influence students' choices for LC Science subjects. It will examine gender theorised both as sex differences in the educational system (Howe and Scottish Council for Research in Education 1997; Matthews 2007; Murphy and Whitelegg 2006) and as social structure (Connell 2010; Risman 2004). This poster will outline my proposed PhD research structure/question and my related initial findings from reviewing the literature. Published studies analyse various aspects of the process of subject choice. Some highlight the role of **pupil-related (i.e. individual)** and **home factors**, some focus on the **school context** (which includes elements such as the **syllabus**, the **pedagogy**, the school **organisation** and **subject provision**) and others investigate the **costs** of "doing physics": emotional as well as strictly mercantile (does it pay-off to study physics?). An overview of the main factors recognised in international literature will be presented in the context of Gender and Transitioning from Junior to Senior Cycle.

STUDENT: LOUISE MCNEIL, SCHOOL OF LAW, UL

SUPERVISORS: PROF. SHANE KILCOMMINS/DR. ALAN CUSACK

Poster Title: Investigating the changing dynamics of Surveillance

ABSTRACT:

An exploration of historical changes in surveillance and how technological advancements have radically altered surveillance techniques, which are now far removed from the traditional view of state-led disciplinary surveillance. The extent of the tangled web capturing every aspect of twenty-first century living, is only just being uncovered, revealing a dichotomy: privacy rights are unknowingly abandoned, in the name of either security or acquisition of the full scope of consumeristic liberties. The shifting power dynamics are migrating towards new types of pervasive social controls, impacting social identities, societal structures and generating legal conundrums.

This research poster takes us on a visual journey through time, looking at key moments that had a significant impact the use of surveillance techniques. The research unveils how historically situated moments changed the way surveillance was used, allowing it to become a normalised aspect of living. Surveillance has become ingrained into our social fabric to such an extent that we have barely noticed its transition to a powerful pervasive machine, where every aspect of 21st Century living is being tracked and traced. Without knowing, we have stepped into a new world where we are all a commodity, every action, transaction and social media reaction is being absorbed, analysed and sold, in ways we can no longer see or control.

Poster Title: A Post-Jungian Critique of Cartoon Saloon's Animated Feature Films

ABSTRACT:

Thanks to Ireland's leading animation studio, the Irish age-old tradition of storytelling as a mixture of fact and fiction has been successfully projected onto the world screen of visual narrative acclaim and substantiated as such by three Oscar nominations to date. Cartoon Saloon's house-style combines traditional 2D animation techniques with that of digital means, mirroring their story-telling as an amalgamation of old and new, myth/folklore and history. The feature films in question: *The Secret of Kells* (2009), *Song of the Sea* (2014) & *Wolfwalkers* (2020) also point toward a mission statement, or manifesto, if you will; each film seems to be charged with re-animating the symbolic, in turn drawing upon our Irish historical and mythological roots, as once was charged the seanchaí of old. By way of a post-Jungian critique, I hope to demonstrate how Jungian psychology is more appropriate for 21st century film analysis, particularly for films with a mythopoetic sensibility such as Tomm Moore's triptych. By applying classical Jungian concepts and considering key post-Jungian developments, I hope to show the conscious construction of the creatives involved as against the films' unconscious dimensions. I will focus primarily on the unconscious elements that intimate a rise in the feminine, which, in turn, will allow for a critical mirror of sorts to be held up to a contemporary Irish culture in crisis and identify symbolic expressions denoting a new mythos for our time.

Poster Title: Impact of Referenda on party competition and unity

ABSTRACT:

Mair (2013) explores the decline of Party Democracy since the end of the cold war which coincides with a rise in the usage of referenda, particularly in Europe, as identified by Qvortrup (2018).

My research is exploring the interaction between these two issues, to understand the impact of referenda on party competition and unity. It is built upon the research of Meguid (2005) into how the tactical positioning of mainstream parties impacts niche party success and Steiner & Mader's (2017) analysis of party heterogeneity.

The methodology involves a Europe wide cross national comparison into the impact of referenda on party unity using the aforementioned heterogeneity model and testing of the impact of direct democracy on electoral volatility and the stability of party systems.

I anticipate that the developing findings on this will be mixed, in line with existing case studies of De Vries (2009) who linked the Netherlands 2005 EU constitutional treaty referendum to a greater politicisation around European issues in the following year's general election, which is in direct contrast to McGraw's (2015) findings that carefully managed Irish referenda tend to mitigate the electoral impact of contentious issues.

Building upon the findings in this paper the research will develop to examine which variables from areas including referenda type, subject. Levels of party involvement and management lead to contrasting outcomes for party competition and unity, creating a unique contribution to a field currently lacking in comparative research.

Poster Title: The problem of fragmentation of the Russian nonsystemic opposition

ABSTRACT:

My research aims to analyse fragmentation of the Russian opposition movement during the period between 2011 and 2018 in order to discover the major causes of this phenomenon. The scope of my research is limited to fully independent opposition forces - extra-parliamentary parties, unregistered parties, political organizations, movements and nonpartisan politicians that support democratisation of the country and oppose the current regime and its leadership.

I argue that fragmentation is a significant problem for the Russian opposition since it reduces what are already slim chances to challenge “the party of power”, United Russia. None of the groups that form the opposition present a force significant enough to pose a threat to the regime on their own. Nevertheless, attempts to merge small opposition parties or to create an opposition coalition have been largely unsuccessful. This study will help to understand why, despite obvious benefits of consolidation, opposition groups in Russia fail to unite their forces.

Various explanations of divisions within the democratic movement can be found in the literature on the Russian political process during *Perestroika* and Yeltsin’s presidencies. However, the causes of the contemporary fragmentation remain understudied.

The process of fragmentation takes place at different levels: 1) within independent political groups, 2) between parties with similar ideological basis and 3) within the broad opposition movement. For this reason, I study 3 categories of cases: party splits, failed party mergers and unsuccessful attempts to create an anti-government electoral coalition. In order to gain a deeper understanding of reasons for these divisions I interviewed Moscow opposition activists from different opposition parties and movements – they were asked about their attitudes towards cooperation with other opposition forces and their opinions regarding the divisions that happened during the last decade.

Though my research has not been completed yet, I have finished the data collection and analysis, and a part of the case study, which allowed me to outline a set of factors that influence divisions within the Russian opposition. This research is funded by the Irish Research Council.

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