

Course Outline for: ENGW 2900 Topics: Their Troubles, Our Troubles: Re-Seeing America Through the Lens of Northern Ireland

A. Course Description:

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: None

This course focuses on study of public and private artistic responses, and the stories they tell, about Northern Ireland's thirty-year conflict, the Troubles. Students will use what they learn about the Troubles and its art as a lens via which to see divisions in the US, for which they will create their own artistic responses. This course culminates in a faculty-led short-term study abroad experience in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: November 2022

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

1. History of the Troubles of Northern Ireland
2. Contemporary areas/issues of polarity and violence in the US
3. Artistic responses to the Troubles in Northern Ireland from 1969-present
4. Multifaceted state of resolution of the Troubles in Northern Ireland

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze and contextualize artistic responses to Northern Ireland's Troubles in literature, film, music and visual arts
2. Identify and research divisions in the US, each student specializing and developing expertise in a specific division
3. Apply an understanding of the divisions in Northern Ireland to the divisions in the US, articulating a new understanding.
4. Draft, workshop, and revise a paper describing and interpreting the specific US division each student has selected.
5. Create, workshop, and revise an artistic response in literature, film, music or the visual arts to the specific US division each student has selected
6. Develop and articulate guiding/prompt questions that focus and frame the issues and matters that arise from the course comparison and contrast of cultural divisions, igniting open-ended discussion.
7. Assess and refine understandings, responses, and questions via cross-cultural immersion in the culture of Northern Ireland

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Assessment methods may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Discussions
2. Guiding questions
3. Analytic and reflective paper
4. Artistic responses
5. Presentations

F. Special Information:

None