



## Griffith College Dublin

### **Irish Culture & Society**

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge of social and cultural aspects of contemporary Irish society. Emphasis is placed on four key themes of Irish life: emigration immigration, religion and its decline, socio-economic inequality, and national identity. The modules primary objective is to provide students with a clearer understanding of the influences that have shaped and formed a dominant socio-cultural system in today's Ireland.

#### ***Readings***

Tovey, Hilary. & Perry Share. (2000) *A Sociology of Ireland*: Gill & Macmillan: Dublin

McLaughlin, J. Ed (1997) *Location and Dislocation in Contemporary Irish Society*: Cork University Press: Cork

Kearney, Richard. (1997) *Postnationalist Ireland: Politics, Culture, and Philosophy*: Routledge: London

Paseta, Senia. (1999) *Before The Revolution: Nationalism, Social Change and Ireland's catholic Elite 1879 – 1922*: Cork University Press: Cork

#### ***Topics***

##### **Population and Migration**

Migration has been a constant theme in the development of socio/cultural values in Irish society. This module explores the impact of emigration on rural and urban Ireland and examines its economic and social legacy.

##### **The Role of Religion**

The influence of the Roman Catholic Church in the social, political, and cultural life of Irish society cannot be underestimated. This discussion examines the circumstances that gave rise to this phenomenon and questions the negative aspects of that situation.

##### **Class, Inequality & Poverty**

This module deals with the issue of class and inequality in contemporary Ireland. Two questions are raised. What place, if any, does class occupy in the self-understanding of Irish society and how has class impacted on the socio/cultural value system?

##### **Nation and Identity**

In this module aspects of Irish cultural and national identity are explored. Questions in respect of the construction of Irish identity are raised and examined.