COURSE SYLLABUS

University of St. Thomas
Spring 2015

IRST 1332-A (Course Number 1259)
Elementary Irish Language and Culture II

CLASS MEETS Tue and Thurs 11AM-12:15PM
UST Building #57 on UST Map

Room: William J. Flynn Center for Irish Studies
4206 Yoakum Blvd., Upstairs Library/Reading Room

This syllabus is subject to change.

Office: William J. Flynn Center for Irish Studies
4206 Yoakum Blvd., Room 201
Telephone: Direct Dial: 713-525-3882
Main Number for Flynn Center for Irish Studies: 713-525-3592
E-mail: kellehe@stthom.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-11AM. Please make an appointment to visit me in or out of office hours.

COURSE OUTLINE

This course follows Elementary Irish I: IRST 1331, providing a continued introduction to the Irish Language and Culture. The core material of the course will be based on five thematic units, which are as follows:

Topic 5: Pastimes
Topic 6: The Home
Topic 7: Food and Drink
Topic 8: Work and Workplace
Topic 9: Vacation and Travel
Much of the material for these units is from *Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge/The European Certificate in Irish*. For more information about this certificate, including a full syllabus, see [www.teg.ie](http://www.teg.ie).

Additional material from the course handbook and class handouts will be used to supplement these thematic units.

As with Elementary Irish I, students will be given the opportunity to explore aspects of Irish culture, including history, folklore, music, song and dance.

**PREREQUISITES**

Admission to University of St. Thomas for credit or audit. Completion of IRST 1331: Elementary Irish I or approved placement test.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

On completion of this course, students should have acquired the following skills at a basic level:

1. **Pronunciation**: Students should be familiar with the sounds of the Irish language, particularly those not found in the English language.

2. **Speaking**: Students should be able to use simple vocabulary, phrases and sentence structures relating to everyday life and the topics they have covered.

3. **Listening**: Students should be able to understand simple speech that is delivered in a slow, careful and articulated manner.

4. **Reading**: Students should be able to understand short, simple texts relating to the topics they have studied, with the aid of a dictionary.

5. **Writing**: Students should be able to write simple words and sentences, with the aid of a dictionary.

6. Students should become more aware of language-learning strategies suited to their own individual learning style, and begin to develop as autonomous learners.

7. Students should also develop a socio-cultural awareness of the Irish language and the cultural context in which it is spoken.
**INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD**

The Instructor will adopt the communicative approach in the classroom. Therefore, tasks in classes will be centered mainly on pair and/or group work. Irish/Gaeilge will be the language used as much as possible. The thematic approach will be central to the course when dealing with content. *Grammar will be introduced only in context to the material being covered.* Due to the nature of the course, participation in the class is vital. It is the heart of learning any new language. Five percent (5%) of the total marks for this module will therefore go towards participation in class.

Requests for excused absences must be made in advance by e-mail: kellehe@stthom.edu. Repeated absences will incur grading penalties. See Attendance Policy below.

**PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES**

All students must choose at least **ONE** of the following options:

**A– Independent Practice.**
Students must listen to/watch 30 minutes of Irish-language radio or television weekly, and complete report sheets accordingly. Ten reports to be submitted in total. (Radio and television stations are available online. Report sheets and a list of relevant links and programs are provided in the course handbook and on Blackboard.)

**OR**

**B- Rosetta Stone.**
The Center has been fortunate to acquire the Rosetta Stone for Gaeilge. Students have the option of taking one lesson a week and must write a report (ten in total) on their progress and make note of anything new they have learned. Audio files that accompany this software are available on Blackboard.

*You do not have to stick to one option. You can pick one option each week.*

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENT**

Students will be expected to attend/participate in at least 5 cultural events/activities organized by the Flynn Center for Irish Studies or the Irish Club during the semester, and to submit a one-page report on each of these events/activities. Students who cannot attend at least 5 events may make alternative arrangements for the fulfillment of this component of the course. Please consult the Instructor for further details.
**ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

**Participation** (5%): Students will be graded according to attendance, active participation in class and completion of all homework assignments.

**Cultural Enrichment** (5%): See details above.

**Quizzes** (15%): Students will be given short quizzes in class each week or two, as notified by the Instructor.

**Guided/Independent Practice** (10%): See details above.

**Midterm exam** (20%): This exam will be held on Tuesday, March 17th, and will cover all material studied to that date.

**Oral exams** (15%): Will be scheduled in the last week of class.

**Final exam** (30%): Reading, writing, and aural comprehension skills will be assessed in a final comprehensive exam.

**GRADE SCALE**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Based upon the University Policy on Academic Dishonesty, every offense against academic honesty seriously undermines the teaching-learning process for which the University exists, and such offenses will be dealt with expeditiously according to the following criteria:

**Definition**

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:
1. Cheating on an examination or test; for example, by copying from another’s paper or using unauthorized materials before or during the test;
2. Plagiarism, which represents as one’s own the work of another, whether published or not, without acknowledging the precise source;
3. Knowing participation in the academic dishonesty of another student, even though one’s own work is not directly affected; and/or
4. Any conduct which reasonable persons in similar circumstances would recognize as dishonest in an academic setting.

**Penalty**

The penalty for an incident of academic dishonesty is, at the discretion of the faculty member, either a mark of zero for the work in question or the grade of “F” for the course.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**Note:** Attendance of each class period is required. If a student is unable to attend class, he/she should telephone/e-mail the professor before the class period or as soon as possible after class. It is the student’s responsibility to catch up on any material missed before the next class period.

**Three absences** without good reason will result in the final grade being lowered by a letter grade. The overall final grade will be lowered by one percent for each subsequent absence. Two tardies (will include leaving early from class) will equal one absence.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT**

Please do not use beepers, cellular telephones or Blackberries in class and turn them off or on vibrate upon arrival. If an outside emergency arises, please have outside parties contact campus security at (713) 525-3888 and security will contact us in class. Please do not use email or the internet during class (including Palm Pilots, Blackberries or other similar devices). Eating in class is not permitted unless special arrangements have been made with the Instructor. Chewing gum is strictly prohibited.

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to speak with the Instructor as early as possible. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities also need to contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at (713) 525-2169 or 6953.

**REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS: Provided by the Flynn Center for Irish Studies**

Course handbook: Bunchúrsa Gaeilge agus Cultúir (Provided by Instructor)

An Gúm: *An Foclóir Póca.* (An Roinn Oideachais, Dublin: 1986)

Briathra na Gaeilge – Glancecard
Audio, video and other supplementary materials available on Blackboard.

Additional books and resources available on request from the Flynn Center for Irish Studies – ask Instructor for details

FINAL EXAMINATION

Date: . Venue: William J. Flynn Center for Irish Studies.

REPORTS/ ASSIGNMENTS DUE

1. Five Independent/ Guided Practice Reports due- Thurs 5th March.

2. Five Independent/ Guided Practice Reports due- Thurs 30th April.

3. Five Cultural Enrichment Reports due the day of the Final Exam Tues May 5th, 12-2:30PM

4. Final Exam: Tues May 5th, 12-2:30PM.

*** These reports must be typed and e-mailed to me at kellehe@stthom.edu only. I will not accept written reports.
**COURSE CALENDAR – subject to change**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tue 13(^{th}) Jan&lt;br&gt;Thurs 15(^{th}) Jan</td>
<td>Introduction&lt;br&gt;Unit 5: Pastimes</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Tue 20(^{th}) Jan&lt;br&gt;Thurs 22(^{nd}) Jan</td>
<td>Unit 5: Pastimes&lt;br&gt;Unit 5: Pastimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tue 27(^{th}) Jan&lt;br&gt;Thurs 29(^{th}) Jan</td>
<td>Unit 5: Pastimes&lt;br&gt;<strong>Unit 5: Review Test</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tue 3(^{rd}) Feb&lt;br&gt;Thurs 5(^{th}) Feb</td>
<td>Unit 6: The Home&lt;br&gt;Unit 6: The Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tue 10(^{th}) Feb&lt;br&gt;Thurs 12(^{th}) Feb</td>
<td>Unit 6: The Home&lt;br&gt;Unit 6: The Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tue 17(^{th}) Feb&lt;br&gt;Thurs 19(^{th}) Feb</td>
<td>Unit 6: Review Test&lt;br&gt;Unit 7; Food and Drink</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tue 24(^{th}) Feb&lt;br&gt;Thurs 26(^{th}) Feb</td>
<td>Unit 7: Food and Drink&lt;br&gt;Unit 7: Food and Drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tue 3(^{rd}) Mar&lt;br&gt;Thurs 5(^{th}) Mar</td>
<td>Unit 7: Food and Drink&lt;br&gt;<strong>Unit 7: Review Test</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tue 10(^{th}) Mar&lt;br&gt;Thurs 12(^{th}) Mar</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES - MIDTERM BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tue 17(^{th}) Mar&lt;br&gt;Thurs 19(^{th}) Mar</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM EXAM (Units 5-7)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Unit 8; Work and Workplace</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tue 24(^{th}) Mar&lt;br&gt;Thurs 26(^{th}) Mar</td>
<td>Unit 8: Work and Workplace&lt;br&gt;Unit 8: Work and Workplace</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tue 31(^{st}) Mar&lt;br&gt;Thurs 2(^{nd}) Apr</td>
<td>Unit 8: Work and Workplace&lt;br&gt;<strong>NO CLASSES - EASTER BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tue 7(^{th}) Apr&lt;br&gt;Thurs 9(^{th}) Apr</td>
<td>Unit 8: Review Test&lt;br&gt;Unit 9: Vacation and Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tue 14(^{th}) Apr&lt;br&gt;Thurs 16(^{th}) Apr</td>
<td>Unit 9: Vacation and Travel&lt;br&gt;Unit 9: Vacation and Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Tue 21(^{st}) Apr&lt;br&gt;Thurs 23(^{rd}) Apr</td>
<td>Unit 9: Vacation and Travel&lt;br&gt;<strong>Unit 9: Review Test</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Tue 28(^{th}) Apr&lt;br&gt;Thurs 30(^{th}) Apr</td>
<td><strong>ORAL EXAMINATIONS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Final Exam Review</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Tues 5(^{th}) May</td>
<td><strong>FIVE INDEPENDENT REPORTS DUE</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Final Exam: 12-2:30PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cultural Enrichment Reports due</td>
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### Cultural Outreach Events
(outhern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina. *Irish Catholic Southerners, Becoming American: A Literary Odyssey.*  
When: 7:00 pm  
Where: Cullen Hall  
Free and open to the public

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| **Wednesday, February 4th, 2015** | Dr. Brian Giemza, Director of the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina.  
*Irish Catholic Southerners, Becoming American: A Literary Odyssey.*  
When: 7:00 pm  
Where: Cullen Hall  
Free and open to the public | Cullen Hall | Extra Credit given to students who attend the lecture in February and the concert in April. Contact Instructor for more details. |
| **Tuesday, March 17th, 2015** | Annual St. Patrick’s Day Celebration  
Mass Celebrated by Fr. Brendan Cahill  
When: 10:30 am  
Where: Chapel of St. Basil  
Brunch following Mass:  
Jerabeck Gymnasium (Scanlan Room)  
Free but must RSVP  
**RSVP requested for Breakfast**  
by Friday, March 6th, 2015  
to 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu | Chapel of St. Basil | Free and open to the public |
| **Wednesday, April 15th, 2015** | Patrick Ball, Celtic Harper and Dramatist  
*O’Carolan’s Farewell to Music*  
When: 7:00 pm  
Where: Cullen Hall  
Adults: $15; seniors: $10; UST faculty, staff and students free. | Cullen Hall | |