

SBS Community Classroom

The History of Ireland



Rock of Cashel

Course Times and Location

Tuesdays, March 26, April 2, 9, 16, and 30

10-11:30

St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church, Room 9

4440 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85718

About the Instructor

Ute Lotz-Heumann is Director of the Division for Late Medieval and Reformation Studies and Heiko A. Oberman Professor of Late Medieval and Reformation History in the Division for Late Medieval and Reformation Studies and the Department of History at the University of Arizona. She is the author of a monograph on religious and political conflict in early modern Ireland, and she has co-authored or co-edited eight volumes in Reformation and early modern history.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of Irish history from prehistoric times until Brexit. We will proceed chronologically because this is the only way to make sense of the fascinating history of *Éire* which is heroic and tragic in equal measure. The course will explore the different influences on Ireland and its people – from Christian missionaries to English settlers. Starting with prehistoric Ireland, we will move on to the medieval period and the Norman conquest. Next, we will discuss early modern Ireland (1600-1800) which was probably the period of greatest upheaval in the history of the island. The consequences of the early modern period were felt all throughout the nineteenth century which saw Catholic emancipation, famine, and the Home Rule movement. This ultimately led to the Two Irelands of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and the current Brexit complications.

Course Outline

Week 1, March 26:

Introduction *and* Prehistoric Ireland: People and Monuments

Week 2, April 2:

Ireland in the Middle Ages and the Norman Conquest

Week 3, April 9:

Early Modern Ireland: The Great Upheaval

Week 4: April 16:

The Long Nineteenth Century: Emancipation, Famine, and Home Rule

Week 5, April 30:

The Two Irelands *and* Conclusion

Introductory Reading (for a taste of Irish history)

Martin Wallace, *A Little History of Ireland*, Belfast: Appletree Press, 1994 (and other editions).

Available as a used book from multiple booksellers on Amazon.