LS43 Introduction to Irish economic and social history
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- **Module objectives:** Awareness of key issues and structures in the socio-economic life of Ireland, 1840-1940.

- **Module content:** The impact of the Great Famine; the context of emigration; poverty and money; the primary sources: the censuses and official publications.

**Assessment:** Total marks: 100%: Individual project 75%, Class test 25%

1. Introduction – 17th and 18th centuries + population trends over time
2. Pre-famine socio-economic conditions
3. Hungry 40’s (famine)
4. Emigration – pre and post famine trends
5. Land structure 1847-1914
6. ‘land war’ and beyond
7. Banking and financial development
8. The post office – a socio-economic institution – industrial developments
9. World war I – post 1900
10. Education- primary, secondary, tertiary, 1830s national schools (primary education) – 1967 ‘free education’ (secondary) – 1997 (free fees third level)
11. Economic war/emergency et al - conditions in the north v south
12. Conclusion – epilogue

**Core reading:**
Garvin, Tom, *Preventing the future: why was Ireland so poor for so long?* (Dublin, 2004).

**Supplementary reading:**
Crotty, Raymond D., *Irish agricultural production: its volume and structure* (Cork, 1966)
Dickson, David and Ó Gráda, Cormac (eds), *Refiguring Ireland: essays in honour of L. M. Cullen* (Dublin 2003).
1  Introduction – 17th and 18th centuries + population trends over time
Core reading:
Chapters 1-3 in Cullen, L. M., An economic history of Ireland since 1660 (Dublin, 1972).
Supplementary reading:
Chapter 1 in Crotty, Raymond D., Irish agricultural production: its volume and structure (Cork, 1966).
Allen, Robert C., ‘Why was the industrial revolution British?’ Oxonomics, 4, no. 1 (2009), pp 50-54

2 Pre-famine socio-economic conditions
O’Connor, James, The workhouses in Ireland: the fate of Ireland’s poor (Dublin, 1995).

3 Hungry 40’s (famine)
Core reading:
Supplementary reading:
Crotty, Raymond D., Irish agricultural production: its volume and structure (Cork, 1966).
Daly, Mary E., The Great Famine in Ireland (Dublin, 1986)
Daly, Mary E., Social and economic history of Ireland since 1800 (Dublin, 1981).
Kennedy, Liam and Solar, Peter M., Irish agriculture: a price history (Dublin, 2007).
Malthus, T. R., An Essay on the principle of population; or, a view of its past and present effects on human happiness with an inquiry into our prospects respecting the future removal or mitigation of the
Mokyr, Joel Why Ireland starved: a quantitative and analytical history of
O’Connor, John, The workhouses in Ireland: the fate of Ireland’s poor
(Dublin, 1995).
Ó Gráda, Cormac, Black’ 47 and beyond: the great Irish famine (New
Jersey, 1999).
Ó Gráda, Cormac, Ireland before and after the Famine: explorations in
Ó Gráda, Cormac, Ireland’s Great Famine: interdisciplinary perspectives
(Dublin, 2006).
O’Rourke, Kevin, ‘Did the Great Irish Famine matter?’ in The Journal of

4 Emigration – pre and post famine trends
Core reading:
Chapter 4 in Clear, Caitriona, Social change and everyday life in Ireland,
1850-1922 (Manchester, 2007).
Chapter 9 in Ó’Gráda, Cormac, Ireland: a new economic history 1780-

Supplementary reading:
Akenson, Donald Harman, The Irish Diaspora: a primer (Belfast, 1996).
Bielenberg, Andy (ed.) The Irish Diaspora (Essex, 2000).
Coughlan, Brian, Achill island tattie hokers in Scotland and the
Kirkintilloch tragedy, 1937 (Dublin, 2006).
Fitzpatrick, D., Irish emigration 1801-1921 (Dundalk, 1984).
Guinnane, Timothy W., The vanishing Irish: households, migration, and
the rural economy in Ireland 1850-1914 (New Jersey, 1997).
Hatton, Timothy J., Williamson, Jeffrey G. (eds.), Migration and the
international labor market (London, 1994).
Ó Gráda, Cormac, ‘Seasonal migration and post-famine adjustment in the
west of Ireland’ in Studia Hibernica, xiii, (1973), pp 48-76.
Ó Gráda, Cormac, ‘A note on nineteenth-century Irish emigration statistics’
Ó Gráda, Cormac, Ireland: a new economic history 1780-1939 (Oxford,
1994).
Magee, Gary B., and Thompson, Andrew S., ‘Lines of credit, debts of
obligation’: migrant remittances to Britain, c. 1875-1913’ in
Miller, Kerby, Emigrants and exiles: Ireland and the Irish exodus to North
America (Oxford, 1985).
Report of the Commission on Emigration and other population problems,
1848-1954 (Department of Social Welfare, Dublin 1954)
Schrier, Arnold, Ireland and the American emigration 1850-1900
(Minnesota, 1958, reprint 1997).
Thomas, Brinley, Migration and economic growth: A study of Great

5 Land structure 1847-1914
Core reading

Supplementary reading
Chapter 1 in Clear, Caitriona, *Social change and everyday life in Ireland, 1850-1922* (Manchester, 2007).
Turner, Michael *After the famine: Irish agriculture, 1850-1914* (Cambridge, 1996)
Turner, M.E., ‘Output and productivity in Irish agriculture from the Famine to the Great War’, *Irish Economic and Social History*, 17 (1990), 62-78

6 ‘land war’ and beyond
Core reading:
Supplementary reading:
Crotty, Raymond D., *Irish agricultural production: its volume and structure* (Cork, 1966)
Banking and financial development

Core Reading:

Supplementary reading:
Barrow, G. L., ‘Justice for Thomas Mooney’ in Dublin Historical Record, xxiv, 1 (1970), pp 173-188. #
Goldsmith, Raymond W., Financial structure and development (Yale, 1969). #
Ó’ Gráda, Cormac, ‘Moral hazard and quasi-central banking: Should the Munster Bank have been saved?’ in David Dickson and Cormac Ó Gráda (eds.), Refiguring Ireland, essays in honour of L. M. Cullen (Dublin, 2003), pp 316 -341.
O’Shea, James, Prince of swindlers: John Sadlier M.P. 1813-1856 (Dublin, 1999).

The post office – a socio-economic institution – industrial developments
Core reading:
Chapter 6 in Cullen, L. M., An economic history of Ireland since 1660 (Dublin, 1972).
Supplementary reading:

World war I – post 1900
Core reading:
Supplementary reading:

Birchall, Johnston, *The international co-operative movement* (Manchester, 1997).


Breathnach, Ciara, *The congested districts board of Ireland, 1891-1923* (Dublin, 2005).

Crotty, Raymond D., *Irish agricultural production: its volume and structure* (Cork, 1966)

Daly, Mary E., *The first department: a history of the Department of Agriculture* (Dublin, 2002).


Dooley, Terrence, ‘The land for the people’: the land question in independent Ireland (Dublin, 2004).


Education

Core Reading:


Supplementary reading:

A’Hearn, Baten, Jorg, and Crayen, Dorothee ‘Quantifying quantitative literacy: age heaping and the history of human capital’ in *the Journal of Economic History*, 69, no. 3 (September 2009), pp 783-808.


Daly, Mary E., *Social and economic history of Ireland since 1800* (Dublin, 1981).

Daly, Mary and Dickson, David (eds), *The origins of popular literacy in Ireland: language change and educational development 1700-1920* (Dublin, 1990).


Garvin, Tom, Preventing the future: why was Ireland so poor for so long? (Dublin, 2004).


Lindert, Peter H., Growing public: social spending and economic growth since the eighteenth century (Cambridge, 2004)


**11 Economic war/emergency et al - conditions in the north v south**


Ó Gráda, Cormac, *A rocky road: the Irish economy since the 1920s* (Manchester, 1997)

**12 Conclusion – epilogue**