HISTORY

Ireland since Partition: 1922 to the Present
Edward Towne MA MST PGCE
4 weeks 10.30 – 12.30
Wednesdays 9, 16, 23, 30 October
Course code: 19TON396 Course fee: £62

This course considers the dramatic changes in the two parts of Ireland from 1922, and how the two parts reacted differently to the Second World War. Other areas to be discussed include the post-1968 “Troubles” in the North, the deployment of British troops and “Bloody Sunday” in January 1972, and the Good Friday Agreement of 1998.

This course considers the differences between the two parts of Ireland, and how differently they reacted to the Second World War. After 1968 attention was focused on the North – the “Troubles” – until 1998. British Troops were deployed (most notoriously in “Bloody Sunday” in January 1972), until the Good Friday Agreement of 1998.

Week 1. After partition the south (the “Irish Free State”) remained a largely agricultural country, heavily influenced by the Roman Catholic Church. The North, by contrast, entrenched Protestant domination. And both parts took different roles in the Second World War. So how stable did partition look from the perspective of 1945?

Week 2. 1968 saw increasing demands from the North’s Catholic minority for redress of grievances, leading to some reforms. But British troops were sent in 1969, welcomed at first in Catholic areas, but thereafter challenged by a resurgent IRA. “Bloody Sunday” in January 1972 marked a low point, when British paratroopers killed 14 unarmed civilians. Was there an obvious solution to the crisis?

Week 3. A “Power-Sharing Executive” seemed one solution, reinforced by the Sunningdale Agreement of 1973. However the new coalition foundered as a Loyalist strike took effect. Meanwhile the violence continued: the murders of Airey Neave and Lord Mountbatten, the hunger strikes and much more. So what were the precise obstacles to an agreement?

Week 4. The 1985 Anglo-Irish Agreement offered some hope, but it was controversial and paramilitary violence persisted. The Downing Street Declaration of 1993 marked a further step forward, crowned by the Good Friday Agreement of 1998. This deal was facilitated by the leadership of Nobel Laureates David Trimble and John Hume, President Clinton, Senator Mitchell, Prime Minister Blair and the Taoiseach Bertie Aherne. We look back over the past 20 years, and discuss what has been achieved, and what more needs to be done.
Suggested reading

Additional information
This course is suitable for all: some prior knowledge would be useful but is not essential. The course allows you to spend time exploring a subject for interest, among like-minded people, without formal assessment. There will be discussion opportunities during the course.

Intended learning outcomes
(a) An understanding of the various interest groups throughout Ireland: Unionists, Nationalists, Republicans, etc.
(b) A grasp of the deficiencies of the Northern Irish state from 1922.
(c) A knowledge of the various attempts to resolve issues, especially in the North from 1968.
(d) The ability to account for the apparent success of the 1998 agreement, when so many previous attempts had failed.

About the tutor
Edward Towne graduated in European Studies from the University of East Anglia, and later achieved a PGCE from Cambridge, an MA in Early Modern English History from the University of London, and MSt in Twentieth Century British History from the University of Oxford. His professional career was spent teaching History in state and independent Secondary Schools, finally as Head of the History Department. Currently, Edward lectures independently to adults in a variety of organisations, and acts as a reviewer and tour leader on historical topics.
Short Course Programme
General information, terms & conditions

How to book a place
These courses are usually very popular so you are advised to apply as soon as possible. Places cannot be held without payment of the course fee.
- Online Booking is preferred. Please visit www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge
- By post to us at the address below, using the application form in the programme booklet. Please note that you will not receive an acknowledgment of your paper application; your payment will usually be processed when the course becomes financially viable, otherwise we will notify you of cancellation approximately seven days prior to the course. A paper application affirms acceptance of our terms & conditions.

Course cancellation
As these short courses are self-financing, each course can only proceed if there are sufficient enrolments. Therefore, if a course is cancelled due to insufficient enrolments we aim to notify applicants approximately one week before the course start date; if there is no suitable alternative course, we will refund the appropriate course fee in full. The University of Kent reserves the right to cancel a course for this or any other reason in which case the relevant course fee will be refunded in full. We advise that you do not buy books or other course materials until that particular course is confirmed as taking place: please contact us if you are unsure.

If you find it necessary to cancel your place on a course, please let us know as soon as possible. Refund requests, including the reason, should be made by email or in writing to us at the address below. We reserve the right to retain all or part of the course fee if you request a refund after 14 days of your online booking being made or paper application being received. Discretionary, partial refunds may be made, after the deduction of an administrative handling fee as follows:
- a course fee of up to and including £42 will incur an administrative handling fee of £10.00
- a course fee of £43 and over will incur an administrative handling fee of £12.50.

The University reserves the right to:
   a) exclude any student if the student’s presence is making it difficult for the class to function properly
   b) cancel or amend the length of any course if the circumstances so warrant.

Neither the University of Kent, nor its staff, can be held responsible for any damage, loss or injury, however sustained, suffered by participants attending courses. Insurance is the student’s responsibility.

University Centre Tonbridge
For details of our other courses, news, events and location visit www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge.
- Parking. There is plenty of public pay and display car parking locally, but please note that only selected car parks permit parking in excess of four hours; detailed information is available from www.tmbc.gov.uk. No parking is available here on site.
- Refreshments are not provided; food and drink can be purchased from any of the nearby café outlets - we are closely situated to the High Street and town centre. A hot drink vending machine is usually available on the ground floor of this building.

Mailing List and data protection
Those attending our courses are automatically added to our database and kept informed about new courses. This information is not released to outside organisations. Please write to us if you do not wish your details to be kept on our database.

Please contact us if you have any queries or would like to register your email address to receive our course information updates. We look forward to welcoming you here soon.

University of Kent Tonbridge Centre
Avebury Avenue
Tonbridge  TN9 1TG
01732 352316
www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge  tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk  facebook.com/tonbridgecentre