

Media, History and Memory
2017
Eddie Brennan

This module will provide an overview of some of the complex ways that media, history and personal and collective memory are intertwined. The module will deal predominantly with the history of broadcasting in Ireland during the twentieth century, where there will be an emphasis on television. Theoretical ideas and research work will also be developed through reference to international examples.

The module will not just look at media history, it will also explore historiography, the question of how history comes to be written. It will ask, following E..H Carr, 'what is history'? The module will avoid a chronological, facts and figures approach. Contrary to views that history is a collection of facts, this module will constantly reflectively examine media and media history in a theoretical and research-informed context.

Resources

All the resources listed here can be located through the DIT library website. Journal articles can be accessed online through the library website. To access these from outside a DIT campus you will need a user name and PIN. Links, where provided, will bring you to the full-text of the article in question. Class resources will be made available through a shared Google folder. You will find additional articles and videos through www.eddiebrennan.com/teaching/. Webcourses will be used for assessment submissions and feedback.

Weekly Office Hour: Wednesday 12:00PM to 1:00PM. Please make an appointment by email at least two working days in advance.

Key Readings

All readings marked with *** are **required** readings for that week. They must be read before lectures, and will be used a basis for discussion in tutorials. These will also be useful starting points for essay writing. Additional readings are relevant but not

mandatory for class. They will, however, be very useful in preparing essays. You are also encouraged to go beyond the reading list in your essay research.

Tutorials will run on a fortnightly basis. Tutorials will commence in week 2. Tutorial groups will be published in Week 1.

Assessment: This module is assessed through a single 2,500 word essay. This work is to be submitted electronically, via Webcourses, and on paper to my office, room 3076. Essay titles will follow in Week 6.

Students MUST SUBMIT A PRINTED ESSAY AND AN ELECTRONIC COPY on or before the deadline. The electronic copy must be submitted via Webcourses. Files will only be accepted as .pdf or .doc files. Other file types will not be accepted. Files should be named using the following format: Surname, Name IMT.doc (or .pdf).

Electronic copies will serve only as a backup and proof of submission. They will not be accepted for grading purposes. Only printed essays will be read for assessment. Late essays will only be accepted when accompanied by a PC1, personal circumstances form and appropriate supporting documentation.

Week One

Introduction and Overview

Week Two

Media, Historiography & Competing narratives

*** Carr, E.H. 2001. 'The Historian and His Facts', pp. 1—24 in Carr, E.H. 2001. *What is History?*. Basingstoke: Palsgrave Macmillan.

*** Curran, J. 2009. 'Narratives of media history revisited', pp.1—21 in Bailey, M. (ed.) 2009. *Narrating Media History*. New York: Routledge.

Curran, J. 2002. 'Rival Narratives of Media History', pp. 3-55 in Curran, J. 2002. *Media and Power*. London: Routledge.

Week Three

The Origins of Irish Radio and Television Broadcasting

*** Savage, R.J. 1996. 'The Department of Finance, Radio Éireann, and the Origins of Irish Television', pp.1—30 in Savage, R.J. 1996. *Irish Television: The Political and Social Origins*. Cork: Cork University Press.

Williams, R. 1974. *Television*. London: Routledge (Chapter 1: The technology and the society)

Scannell, P. 2009. 'The Question of Technology', pp. 199-212 in Bailey, M. (ed.) 2009. *Narrating Media History*. New York: Routledge.

Morash, C. 2010. *A history of the media in Ireland*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 6: Windows on the World: 1961-1990)

Brennan, E. 2004. 'Locating Fair City Production: RTÉ Dominated Position in the Global Media Field' pp. 160—198 in Brennan, E. 2004. *The Fair City Production Line: An Examination of Soap Opera's potential contribution to the Public Sphere*. Dublin: University College Dublin.

Week Four

Television and Modernisation: Breaking the Silence

*** Brennan, E. 2004. 'Fair City's Abortion Storyline and Public Discussion', pp.14—40 in Brennan, E. 2004. *The Fair City Production Line: An Examination of Soap Opera's potential contribution to the Public Sphere*. Dublin: University College Dublin (Unpublished).

Petitt, L. 2000. 'The Circus in the Front Room: Popular Television in Ireland', pp. 162—184 in Petitt, L. 2000. *Screening Ireland: Film and Television Representation*. Oxford: Manchester University Press.

O'Toole, F. 1997. *The Lie of the Land*. London: Verso. (Chapter 'Gay Byrne', pp. 145-155)

Gibbons, L. 1996. 'From Kitchen Sink to Soap', pp.44—70 in *Transformations in Irish Culture*. Cork: Cork University Press (in Association with Field Day).

Holmes, S. 2009. "'Outrageously bad taste": the BBC and the controversy over This is Your Life in the 1950s', pp. 125-138 in Bailey, M. (ed.) 2009. *Narrating Media History*. New York: Routledge.

Week Five

The Limitations of the Dominant Narrative on Irish Broadcasting

*** Brennan, E. (2016) *Television in Ireland: A History from the Mediated Centre*. ICA Conference, Fukuoka, Japan. 13 June 2016.

Flynn, R. 2015. 'It is against the basic of Good Government to Subject Our People to Rosemary Clooney at the Public Expense': Imported Programming on Early Irish Television'. *Éire-Ireland*. 50: 1 & 2.

O'Sullivan, T. (1991) 'Television Memories and Cultures of Viewing, 1950-65', in Corner, J. (ed.) *Popular television in Britain: studies in cultural history*. London: BFI Publishing, pp. 159–81.

Penati, C. 2013. "Remembering Our First TV Set" Personal memories as a source for television audience history'. *VIEW: The Journal of Television History and Culture*. Vol. 2: No. 3. 4–12. [On- line:
<http://www.viewjournal.eu/index.php/view/article/view/jethc026/48>]

Week Six

The Gendered Historical Construction of Media Audiences and Technologies

*** Spigel, L. (1992) *Make room for TV: Television and the family ideal in postwar America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Chapter 3, 'Women's Work')

Wood, Helen. 2015. Television—The Housewife's Choice? The 1949 Mass Observation Television Directive, Reluctance and Revision'. *Media History*. Vol. 21, No. 3, 342–359.

Carvalho, R., Tomás, D. and S. Portovedo. 2016. Ritual Television: Religious beginnings for a female audience'. *Media History*. Vol. 21, No. 2, 150–161.

Collie, H, Irwin, M. Moseley, R, Wheatley, H and H. Wood. 'Researching the History of Television for Women in Britain, 1947 1989'. *Media History*, Vol. 19, No. 1, 107–117.

Week Seven

Remembering History Through Media

*** Ebbrecht, T. 2007. 'History, Public Memory and Media Event'. *Media History*. Vol. 13: 221–234.

*** Gibbons, L. 1997. 'Framing History. Neil Jordan's Michael Collins', pp.47-51 in *History Ireland*. Spring 1997.

Ebbrecht, T. "Migrating Images: Iconic Images of the Holocaust and the Representation of War in Popular Film." *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of*

Jewish Studies, vol. 28 no. 4, 2010, pp. 86-103. *Project MUSE*, doi:10.1353/sho.2010.0023.

Kligler-Vilenchik, N., Tsfati, Y and O. Meyers. 2014. 'Setting the collective memory agenda: Examining mainstream media influence on individuals' perceptions of the past' *Memory Studies*. Vol 7, Issue 4, pp. 484—499.

Morgan, E. 1998. 'Ireland's Lost Action Hero: "Michael Collins," a Secret History of Irish Masculinity'. *New Hibernia Review*. Vol.2 (1): 26-42.

Regan, J. 1995. 'Looking at Mick Again: Demilitarizing Michael Collins'. *History Ireland*. Vol.3(3): 17-22.

Week Eight

Broadcasting, Political Conflict and Censorship

*** Kelly, M. and B. Rolston. 1995. 'Broadcasting in Ireland: Issues of National Identity and Censorship', pp.563-592 in P. Clancy, S. Drudy, K. Lynch and L. O'Dowd (eds.), 1995. *Irish Society: Sociological Perspectives*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration.

Morash, C. 2010. *A history of the media in Ireland*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 5: Listening in: 1921-1960)

Horgan, J. 2004. 'Censors and sackings', pp.91—120 in Horgan, J. 2004. *Broadcasting and Public Life: RTÉ News and Current Affairs 1926-1997*. Dublin: Four Courts Press.

White, A. 2005. 'Section 31: ministerial orders and court challenges', pp.34—47 in Corcoran, M. and M. O'Brien (eds), 2005. *Political Censorship and the Democratic State: the Irish Broadcasting Ban*. Dublin: Four Courts Press.

Kelly, M. 1984. 'The Poor Aren't News: An Ian Hart Memorial Lecture', pp.6—11 in Simon Community. *The Poor Aren't News: Ian Hart Memorial Lectures*. Dublin: Simon Community.

Week Nine

Nation Building, International Media and National Sport

*** Boyle, R. 1992. 'From our Gaelic fields: radio, sport and nation in post-partition Ireland. *Media, Culture and Society*. Vol. 14. 623—636.

Crosson, S. and D. McAnallen. 'CROKE PARK GOES PLUMB CRAZY'. *Media History*. Vol.17. 159—174.

Crosson, S and P. Dine. 2011. 'SPORT AND THE MEDIA IN IRELAND'. *Media History*. Vol. 17. 109—116.

Cronin, M. 1999. 'Soccer', pp.117-142 in Cronin, M. 1999. *Sport and Nationalism in Ireland: Gaelic Games, Soccer and Irish Identity since 1884*. Dublin: Four Courts Press.

Inglis, T. 1998. 'A Religious Frenzy', pp.73-80 in Peillon, M and E. Slater (eds.), 1998. *Encounters with Modern Ireland: A Sociological Chronicle 1995-1996*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration.

McLoone, M. 1991. 'Inventions and Re-imaginings: Some Thoughts on Identity and Broadcasting in Ireland', pp. 2—29 in McLoone, M. (ed.), 1991. *Culture, Identity and Broadcasting in Ireland*. Belfast: The Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University, Belfast.

Week Ten

Explaining the relationship between Media and Social Change in Ireland?

*** Inglis, T. 2000. 'Irish Civil Society: from Church to Media Domination', pp. 49—67 in Inglis, T., Mach, Z. and R. Mazanek (eds), 2000. *Religion and Politics: East-West Contrasts from Contemporary Europe*. Dublin: University College Dublin Press.

*** O'Toole, F. 1996. 'Tony O'Reilly and the News from Nowhere', pp.25—56 in O'Toole, F. 1996. *The Ex-Isle of Erin: Images of a Global Ireland*. Dublin: New Island Books.

Bell, D. 1995. 'Communications, Corporatism, and Dependent Development in Ireland'. *Journal of Communication*. Vol 45(4): 70—88.

Morash, C. 2010. *A history of the media in Ireland*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 7: Since 1990: Digitised)

O'Tuathaigh, G. 1984. 'The Media and Irish Culture', pp.97—110 in B. Farrell (ed.), *Communications and Community in Ireland*. Dublin: Mercier Press.

Inglis, T. 2008. *Global Ireland: Same Difference*. New York: Routledge. (Chapter 5).
O'Brien, M. 2001. *De Valera, Fianna Fáil and the Irish Press*. Dublin: Irish Academic Press. (chapters 8 and 9).

Horgan, J. 2001. 'Crossing a Watershed, 1973-85', pp.104-133 in Horgan, J. 2000. *Irish Media: A Critical History*. London: Routledge.

Week Eleven

The Bishop, the Nightie and the Mediatiation of History

Waters, J. 'Gaybo the moderniser an emperor with no nightie' *The Irish Times*. 25 May 25, 1999.

Inglis, T. 1998. *Lessons in Irish Sexuality*. Dublin: University College Dublin Press.

Forristal, D. 'The Late Late Show' *The Furrow*. 21(10): 654—656.

Week Twelve

Audience Memories of Television and Everyday Life

*** Brennan, E. 2016. 'Television in Ireland before Irish Television: Nationalist Rhetoric and International Programming'. ECREA Conference, Prague. 11 November 2016

Bourdon, J. and Kligler-Vilenchik, N. (2011a) 'Together, nevertheless? Television memories in mainstream Jewish Israel', *European Journal of Communication*, 26(1), pp. 33—47.

O'Sullivan, T. (1991a) 'Television Memories and Cultures of Viewing', in Corner, J. (ed.) *Popular television in Britain: studies in cultural history*. London: British Film Institute Publishing, pp. 159–181.

Penati, C. (2013a) "'Remembering Our First TV Set" Personal memories as a source for television audience history', *VIEW: The Journal of Television History and Culture*, 1--3, p. www.viewjournal.eu/index.php/view/issue/current.