

FAQs.

EXTRAMURAL TEACHING IN THE SCHOOL OF HISTORIES AND HUMANITIES

(1). Q. What is the School of Histories and Humanities?

A. Formed in 2005 the School of Histories and Humanities comprises the Departments of Classics, History, History of Art and the Centre for Gender and Women's Studies. The School enjoys an international research profile in a remarkable range of disciplines and subject areas, including archaeology, philosophy, Latin and Greek language and literature, classical, medieval and modern history, history of art and architecture and gender and women's studies. The school is directly associated with eight of Trinity's leading humanistic research centres and offers many opportunities for both undergraduate and postgraduate study, including study programmes ranging from one term to one year for visiting international students. **The school also has an exciting and diverse programme of extramural courses.**

(2) Q. What is meant by 'extramural' courses?

A. Extramural courses are non-degree courses devised for a general audience. For the most part, extramural students attend the same lectures as undergraduates but do not have follow-on tutorials, course work or examination commitments. The majority of lecture-only courses are run through the day and language classes take place in the evenings. There are also evening lectures which are devised purely for extramural students and these are followed by a questions and answers session.

(3) Q. What type of courses does the School offer?

A. The School of Histories and Humanities offers a varied and exciting range of extramural courses in Classical Studies and Ancient Language, History of Art and Architecture and in History.

(4) Q. Are the same courses offered every year?

A. Some day-time courses run every year while others are rotated and run every second year with alternate courses offered in their place. Evening courses are stand-alone one-off series of lectures (in the near future we hope to revisit the more popular of these). We aim to produce a range of new topics every year and thus ensure that the programme appeals to as wide an audience as possible.

(5) Q. How long do the courses run for?

A. Extramural courses in Classics and History of Art generally take place over the full academic year and comprise two twelve-week semesters with a one week break in each. These consist of either one or two lectures per week. In History, lectures generally run for one semester of twelve-weeks and consist of two lectures per week. We also offer evening lectures which consist of one lecture per week over eight weeks each as well as one evening lecture series which runs for sixteen weeks over two terms.

(6) Q. If the course is run over the full academic year, can I enrol for one term only?

A. Yes. Some people do not wish to commit themselves to a full year and re-enrol for the second semester if they find themselves in a position to do so.

(7) Q. Can I enrol for more than one course?

A. Yes. Over the past couple of years, there were over 600 enrolments in each year - around one-third of these were people who attended two or more courses.

(8) Q. Are there limited places on the courses?

A. More than half our courses do not have any restrictions on numbers. However, as many of the lectures are shared with undergraduates, some courses have a limited number of places due to restricted space. We recommend you apply early to avoid disappointment.

(9) Q. Are courses ever cancelled?

A. Yes. The **evening and language courses** must have sufficient numbers enrolled to ensure viability. The earlier people apply the more likely that the course will run. If you have paid for a course that is cancelled you will receive a full refund. **Day-time lectures** are rarely cancelled but if they are, it is generally common practice to integrate the subject matter into subsequent lectures rather than run replacement lectures. In these cases there are no refunds for missed lectures. If lectures are re-scheduled or cancelled you will be notified by phone or by email as early as possible.

(10) Q. Who teaches on extramural courses?

A. Day-time lectures are given by members of the academic staff or, occasionally, senior postgraduate students from the School of Histories and Humanities or guest lecturers. The evening short-lecture courses are generally run by postgraduate students from the School with some lectures given by senior members of academic staff or guest lecturers.

(11) Q. Are there any academic credits offered for attending extramural courses?

A. No. These are purely non-degree courses and do not carry any academic credits.

(12) Q. If there are no academic credits, what are the benefits of attending extramural classes?

A. Extramural courses offer members of the general public the opportunity to access the same standard of lectures as undergraduates. They are informative, entertaining and an essential part of everyone's life-long learning and education without the associated stresses and pressures of full time study. Many people benefit from meeting like-minded people and return again and again to our courses. Others use extramural as a 'taster' or first step in accessing further diploma and degree programmes.

(13) Q. Who attends extramural courses and what is the general age group?

A. Extramural courses run by the School of Histories and Humanities appeal to people from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds as well as to a broad age group. In general, extramural students reside in or around Dublin, but we do have people who travel from Limerick, Galway and Wexford on a weekly basis to attend the lectures or language classes. Many people who attend our courses (particularly during the day) are retired but they also prove popular with students from other disciplines in Trinity as well as from other universities. We have a number of lunch-time and tea-time lectures which appeal greatly to people who work in the vicinity of Trinity College. During the current difficult economic climate, extramural courses also have a great appeal to the unemployed and many find it a great way to keep informed, entertained and productively occupied whilst enhancing their general areas of interest for their C.Vs.

(14) Q. Do you offer concessions?

A. Yes. We offer generous concessions to full time students and people whose PRIMARY source of income is Social Welfare, Health board or government-sponsored employment schemes.

(15) Q. Where can I find out about what courses are ongoing?

A. The first place to look is on our website www.histories-humanities.tcd.ie/extramural.php where you will find a full list of current courses, details on the lectures, fees and information on how to apply. This is updated annually around mid-July. You can also email extramural.hh@tcd.ie to request information or phone the office at 01 896 8589. We also send our School brochure out to an extensive mailing list in early August. Just contact the office if you want to be included on this list.

(16) Q. How do I register for a course and what methods of payment do you accept?

A. There are a number of ways to register and pay your fee.

- (1) The easiest way to apply is to register online at www.histories-humanities.tcd.ie/extramural (Please note that if using this method you must apply for each course separately). Once you have applied online you will receive a confirmation email within a day or so – you should print this email and retain it as your receipt/admission slip.
- (2) You can download a registration form from our website and send it with a cheque or money order made payable to **Trinity College number one account** to: The Extramural Administrator, Room 3028, Arts Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2 (for security purposes please do not send cash in the post). You will receive a receipt in the post.
- (3) You can request a registration form and send it in the post as (2) above.
- (4) You can simply call into the office and fill in a registration form there and then and make payment either by cheque or laser/credit card.
- (5) There is an annual registration day (usually in the second week in September) where you can apply in person. Check our website for dates and times.

- (6) On some courses you may register before the first lecture. Please note, however, that many of our courses have restricted numbers and if the course is full you may be disappointed if you leave it until the last minute. We recommend that you apply by the date given on current literature to avoid disappointment.

Further information:

Extramural administrator: Dr. Patricia Stapleton
Address: Room 3028, Arts Building, Trinity College, Dublin 2
Email address: extramural.hh@tcd.ie
Web address: www.histories-humanities.tcd.ie/extramural