

MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Dissertation

THES08009

Mandatory

The contents of this document are intended for information only and shall not be deemed to constitute a contract, or the terms thereof, between the Institute and an applicant or any third party. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, GMIT reserves the right to amend, delete, change details at any time without notice. All courses and electives are offered subject to viable numbers.

Please contact GIHS@gmit.ie to confirm the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, availability or completeness of any information pertaining to this document. Contents of this document are copyright of Galway Mayo Institute of Technology.

Full Title	Dissertation		
Status	Uploaded to Banner	Start Term	2018
NFQ Level	08	ECTS Credits	10
Module Code	THES08009	Duration	Stage - (26 Weeks)
Grading Mode	Numeric	Department	Heritage & Tourism
Module Author	Mark McCarthy		

Module Description

On completion of this module students should have an understanding of a specialist topic within a selected field of heritage studies that they have chosen for the purposes of compiling a 10,000-word long dissertation based on original research.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module the learner will/should be able to:

1.
 - (a) Acquire a detailed knowledge and understanding of a research topic within a specialised area of heritage studies.
 - (b) Possess the kind of knowledge required to design, execute and complete an independent written piece of heritage studies research using both primary and secondary sources.
 - (c) Demonstrate an ability to use a complex and specialised range of research skills (e.g. archives, fieldwork, surveying, interviews, questionnaires, quantitative techniques).
 - (d) Examine and review literature across the various disciplines concerned with their heritage studies research topic.
 - (e) Apply both descriptive and analytical techniques to their written narratives, and comprehend many practical and organisational problems associated with conducting independent work.
 - (f) Exercise appropriate judgement in a number of complex planning and design functions related to their heritage studies research topic.
 - (g) Act effectively under guidance in a peer relationship with their dissertation supervisor.
 - (h) Act in variable and unfamiliar locations that may have to be visited during the course of their dissertation research. Furthermore, they should be able to display precision, structure and clarity in their communications.
 - (i) Defend their research objectives and findings in two oral examinations. This will provide them with an intellectual opportunity to verbally and graphically explain the rationale behind their choice of dissertation topic, the methodologies of their investigation, their key research findings, and the validity of their conclusions and recommendations. Oral discussion of the work will also facilitate evaluation of the student's overall grasp of the issues raised in the dissertation, and highlight any limitations with the nature and scope of the research undertaken.

Indicative Syllabus

Presentation of the Dissertation

- (a) The font used should be Times New Roman.
- (b) 1.5 or double spacing should be used.
- (c) The text should be in 12 pt.
- (d) For page layout allow 1.5 inches for the left hand margin (vital for binding purposes) and 1 inch for the other margins.
- (e) Text should appear on one side of the page only.
- (f) A4 sized paper should be used (90 or 100 gram bonded paper is recommended).
- (g) Text within chapters should be justified.
- (h) Long quotations should be indented.
- (i) Chapter numbers and titles should appear on a separate page, centered, in bold and in 16 pt.
- (j) Section headings within chapters should be in bold and should be left justified. If you use sub-section headings, these should be in italics.

Deadlines & Number of Copies

In order to receive feedback, one soft bound draft copy of your complete dissertation needs to be submitted directly to your supervisor four weeks before the deadline. For the purposes of formal examination, one hard bound final copy (2 soft bound copies) of your dissertation must be submitted to the Head of the Department of Heritage & Tourism, Office FC464, College of Tourism & Arts. These will remain the property of Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology and will not be returned to the student. If the work is deemed to be of sufficient quality, the hard bound copy will eventually be placed in the Institute's library. Students may find it useful to produce an additional copy of their dissertation for their own future use and reference. Your submitted dissertation will account for 75% of the total marks available for the dissertation. **It is imperative that you submit the final copies of your dissertation on time.**

Register

When submitting the final copies of dissertations, students will be required to sign a register in the Department of Heritage & Tourism Office and to indicate the time of submission. Dissertations will not be accepted unless students have signed the written declaration on their title page (see class handout). Under no circumstances are dissertations to be submitted directly to your lecturer.

The Viva

The Viva is an opportunity for you to make a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on the key research findings of your Dissertation (strongly emphasising what you have learnt and any new findings you may have produced). This will be followed by a questions and answers session, so as to enable a panel (consisting of your supervisor and a second reader) to evaluate your overall grasp of the issues raised in the Dissertation and to gauge the quality of the research findings. If a member of the panel asks a question which you have difficulty in answering, do not pretend to know more than you do. It is far better to offer some ideas about how you could determine the answer or what you could do to try and improve your research. Remember that the panel is not simply testing what you actually know about your own specialist topic in Heritage Studies, but also interested in assessing how you can think, conduct research, solve problems, and engage in critical thinking skills. **Please note that the Viva is a compulsory component of the Dissertation module**

Requesting an Extension

A student may request an extension for their dissertation if he/she is ill, or due to some other extenuating circumstances which rendered him/her unable to meet the submission date. For further details, please contact the Programme Chair. **Please note that the Programme Board reserves the right to refuse a student's application for an extension.**

Repeat Deadline & Number of Copies

One hard bound final copy (2 soft bound copies) of your dissertation must be submitted to the Programme Chair (Office 235A) Repeat Vivas will be held in early September.

Soft Binding your Dissertation

A binding service is available from the Students Union and many other outlets in Galway city (e.g. Prontoprint in the Liosbaun Industrial Estate or Jaycee Quickprint at 34 Upper Abbeygate Street).

Hard Binding your Dissertation

A binding (and printing) service is available from:

Kenny's Bindery,

13-18 Kilkerrin Park, Liosbaun Industrial Estate, Tuam Road, Galway.

Phone: 091 709350 (Landline); 087 1300656 (Mobile).

E-Mail: bindery@kennys.ie

Internet: www.kennysbindery.ie (Please note that order specifications can be submitted online in advance of submitting your printed pages. However, if doing so, you will need to furnish the binder with a fairly accurate estimate of the number of pages contained within your work and also indicate the weight of the paper used. This will speed up the binding of your dissertation).

Hours of Opening: 9:00 am–5:00 pm (Monday-Friday).

Cost of binding at time of writing: €35 per copy (hardback with lettering).

Cost of printing at time of writing: 15 cents per page; 55 cents per colour page.

Another binding service is available from:

JFK Bookbinders, Unit 12B, Sandy Road Centre, Galway.

Phone: 091 773311.

Email: jfkbookbinders@hotmail.com

Cover

The following information should appear on your dissertation's covers, and should be centered:

- (a) Full title of the dissertation (24 pt.).
- (b) Author's name (18 pt.).
- (c) The following words: B.A. (Hons) in Heritage Studies (18 pt.).
- (d) The following words: Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology at Galway (18 pt.).
- (e) Year of completion (18 pt.).

Spine

The following information should appear on the spine of the hard bound covers (all in 18 pt.):

- (a) The following words: B.A. (Hons) in Heritage Studies.
- (b) Author's name.
- (c) Year of completion.

Title Page

Each dissertation must contain a title page outlining the following information (centered):

- (a) Full title of the dissertation (24 pt., Bold).
- (b) Author's name (18 pt.).
- (c) The following statement: *This dissertation was submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Heritage Studies, School of Humanities, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology at Galway* (18 pt., Italics).
- (d) Name of the supervisor of research (14 pt.).
- (e) Year of completion (18 pt.).
- (f) The following words: I hereby declare that this dissertation is my own work (14 pt.).

Below this declaration please leave an underlined space to allow for insertion of your handwritten signature.

Preliminary Pages

When you submit your typed dissertation, a set of preliminary pages (with page numbers in Roman numerals) should follow the title page and appear as follows:

- (a) Table of Contents (showing corresponding page numbers).
- (b) Acknowledgments.
- (c) List of Figures (e.g. maps, photographs, diagrams – with corresponding page numbers).
- (d) List of Tables (with corresponding page numbers).
- (e) List of Appendices (with corresponding page numbers).
- (f) List of Abbreviations (if needed).
- (g) Notes (if you need to explain terminology).
- (h) Abstract (a summary of the dissertation, maximum length = 200 words).

N.B. Throughout the different chapters of your dissertation, figures, tables and appendices should be numbered sequentially, in accordance with chapter numbers that they appear in;

e.g. Figure 4.1, Figure 4.2, Table 4.1, Figure 4.3, Table 4.2, Appendix 4.1, Figure 4.4.

e.g. Figure 5.1, Figure 5.2, Figure 5.3, Appendix 5.1, Figure 5.4, Figure 5.5, Table 5.1.

What should the Main Body of the Dissertation look like when Submitted?

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION (a short chapter which gives an outline to the reader of the aims and objectives of the study and an overview of what is to follow in subsequent chapters).

CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW (sets the study in the context of existing works in the chosen area of research). This will establish the framework of the research to be conducted. A fundamental aspect of carrying out research in the field of heritage studies, and the humanities in general, is to be competent at carrying out original work. However, no work is really complete unless one's research findings are set within the broader context of other people's research findings. Therefore, it is important to have a grasp of a wide range of the secondary literature that may be available. Such literature can be extremely varied and can exist in a variety of forms, including books, collections of essays,

articles in local journals, articles in peer-reviewed academic journals (national and international), newspaper reports, development plans of city and county councils, local authority heritage plans, reports of rural development agencies, etc.

CHAPTER 3. METHODOLOGY (concerns the key sources of data and the methods used to obtain such data). This chapter consists of a discussion of the methodologies and data sources to be used for tackling the key research question(s) of your dissertation. These can include fieldwork, questionnaire surveys, interviews, participant observation, archives, oral recollections, national census material, census material (i.e. for electoral divisions, small areas), maps, newspapers, sampling procedures, laboratory experiments, computer packages, statistics, and secondary source material (books, articles, official reports, etc.). Additional sources such as poetry, paintings, music, and television footage can also be discussed in this chapter. In the event that you have conducted a questionnaire survey, it is essential to indicate the size of your sample ('n = sample size') should be used for all figures generated from your data) and to point out which sampling technique you used.

CHAPTERS 4 & 5 (or 4, 5 & 6). KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS (Dissertations of a historical nature will typically contain three core chapters which could be structured either chronologically by date or thematically by subject matter. By contrast, dissertations concerned with more contemporary matters, and which rely on interviews and/or questionnaire surveys as the main source of primary information, sometimes only have two core chapters. In such cases the first core chapter can be quite empirical, in the sense that it describes the research findings in the form of facts and figures. Following on from this, the second core chapter can be of a more analytical nature, relating the research findings to the wider theoretical/conceptual literature, whilst at the same time utilising comparative viewpoints and the like).

CHAPTER 6 (or 7): CONCLUSION (summarises the main findings of your dissertation, and can perhaps suggest gaps in the research which still need to be tackled).

APPENDICES (typically contains long tables of data or full transcripts of interviews which are too long to be included in the main body of the dissertation).

BIBLIOGRAPHY (of primary source material such as manuscripts and maps, and secondary material such as undergraduate projects/dissertations, Masters and PhD Theses, unpublished works, website information, and published secondary works. The latter may include books, edited collections of essays and articles in local, national and international journals).

Your completed bibliography should conform to the following conventions:

JOURNAL ARTICLE: Harvey, D. C. (December, 2001), 'Heritage Pasts and Heritage Presents: Temporality, Meaning and the Scope of Heritage Studies', *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, Vol. 7, No. 4, pp. 319-38.

WEBSITE: www.irishtimes.com. Accessed on 9 March 2014.

MANUSCRIPT: Seán MacEntee to Captain Jack O'Carroll, 28 April 1976, University College Dublin Archives, MS. P.176/262/4, Archives of the Fianna Fáil Party, Captain Jack O'Carroll Papers.

BOOK CHAPTER: Nolan, W. (2000), 'Historical/Cultural Geography', in Buttimer, N., Rynne, C. and Guerin, H. (Eds.), *The Heritage of Ireland* (The Collins Press, Cork), pp. 137-45.

UNDERGRADUATE DISSERTATION: Maguire, E. (2009), *Urban Development and Conservation in Galway's Medieval Heart: Past and Present Perspectives* (Unpublished B.A. Dissertation, School of Humanities, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology).

PHD THESIS: Towler, J. (2011), *The Transformation of Galway 1600-1700: An Urban History of a Port Town* (Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis, School of Humanities, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology).

BOOK: Prunty, J. (1997), *Dublin Slums, 1800-1925* (Irish Academic Press, Dublin).

MA THESIS: Daly, B. (2013), *Constitutional Politics and Elections in the Constituencies of Galway Borough and Galway North: Historical Perspectives on the Irish Parliamentary Party, 1900-1918* (Unpublished MA Thesis, College of Tourism & Arts, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology).

Teaching and Learning Strategy

Dissertation Bridging Studies Week, One-to-One Supervision, Group Seminars.

Assessment Strategy

Project: Dissertation (75%); Continuous Assessment: Proposal, Progress Report & Viva (25%).

Repeat Assessment Strategies

Dissertation & Viva.

Indicative Coursework and Continuous Assessment:		100 %		
Form	Title	Percent	Week (Indicative)	Learning Outcomes
Assignment	Proposal	10 %	TBA	1
Assessment	Progress Report	5 %	TBA	1

Assignment	Dissertation (10,000 words)	75 %	TBA	1
Oral Exam	Viva	10 %	TBA	1

Full Time Delivery Mode Average Weekly Workload:			2.00 Hours		
Type	Description	Location	Hours	Frequency	Weekly Avg
Supervision	Supervision	Not Specified	2	Weekly	2.00

Literary Resources

Bibliography (***) = KEY READINGS)

Abbott, M. (Ed.), *History Skills: A Student's Handbook*, 2nd Edition (Routledge, London, 2009).

Benjamin, J. R., *A Student's Guide to History* 10th Edition, (Bedford/St. Martin's, Boston, 2007).

Berger, S., Feldner, H. and Passmore, K. (Eds.), *Writing History: Theory and Practice* (Hodder Arnold, London, 2003)

Black, J. and MacRaid, D. M., *Studying History*, 2nd Edition (Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2000).

Bell, J., *Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-Time Researchers in Education and Social Science* (Open University Press, Buckingham, 1999).

Curthoys, A. and McGrath, A., *How to Write History that People Want to Read* (Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke, 2011).

Donnelly, M. and Norton, C., *Doing History* (Routledge, London, 2011).

Flowerdew, R. and Martin, D., *Methods in Human Geography: A Guide for Students Doing a Research Project* (Longman, Essex, 1997).

Goudie, A., Atkinson, B.W., Gregory, K.J., Simmons, I.G., Stoddart, D.R. and Sugden, D. (Eds.), *The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Physical Geography* Second Edition, (Basil Blackwell Ltd, Oxford, 1994).

Johnston, R.J., Gregory, D., Pratt, G. and Watts, M., *The Dictionary of Human Geography* Fourth Edition, (Blackwell Publishers Ltd., Oxford, 2000).

Kane, E., *Doing Your Own Research: Basic Descriptive Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities* (Boyers, London, 1985).

Kitchin, R. and Tate, N. J., *Conducting Research into Human Geography* (Pearson Education Ltd., Harlow, 2000).

Lindsay, J.M., *Techniques in Human Geography* (Routledge, London, 1997).

McNeill, P., *Research Methods* (Routledge, London, 1990).

Mabbett, I. W., *Writing History Essays: A Student's Guide* (Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2007).

Marwick, A., *The New Nature of History: Knowledge, Evidence, Language* (Palgrave Macmillan, London, 2001).

O'Shea, F., *Up With Which I Will Not Put: Writing Skills for Students* (UCC Department of History, Cork, 2004).

*** Parsons, T. and Knight, P.G., *How to do your Dissertation in Geography and Related Disciplines* (Chapman and Hall, London, 1998).

Patten, M., *Qualitative Evaluation and Research Methods* (Sage, Newbury, 1990).

Robinson, G.M., *Methods and Techniques in Human Geography* (John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 1998).

*** Swetnam, D. and Swetnam, R., *Writing your Dissertation: The Bestselling Guide to Planning, Preparing and Presenting First-Class Work*, 3rd Edition (How To Books Ltd., Oxford, 2009).

Temple, M., *Grammar Book* (John Murray Publishers Ltd., London, 1997).

Tosh, J. and Lang, S., *The Pursuit of History*, 4th Edition (Pearson Education Ltd., Harlow, 2006).

Tosh, J. (Ed.), *Historians on History*, 2nd Edition, (Pearson Education Ltd., Harlow, 2009).

Veal, A. J., *Research Methods for Leisure and Tourism: A Practical Guide* (Longman, London, 1992).

Walliman, N. S. R., *Your Undergraduate Dissertation: The Essential Guide for Success* (Sage, London, 2005).

Programme Membership

GA_HHERG_H08 201500 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Heritage Studies