Heritage Studies

Galway Campus

www.gmit.ie
What is Heritage?

Traditionally, heritage was concerned with the preservation of ancient monuments and buildings of architectural merit.

Nowadays, it also involves the use of the past in the present - in commemorations, museum exhibitions, tourist attractions, etc.

Heritage includes almost anything that one generation hands down to the next, or anything from the past that people identify with.

Heritage Studies at GMIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>CAO Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA (Honours) in Heritage Studies</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>GA282</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA (Honours) in Heritage Studies – Add On</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Add-On</td>
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Areas of study include:

- Built, Cultural, Natural & Digital Heritage
- History (Local, National & International)
- Geography (Human & Physical)
- Archaeology
- Tourism
- Genealogy
- Museum Studies
- Field Studies
- Folklore
- Literature
- Planning
- Computing & GIS
- Communications
- Research Methods
- Event Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Languages (Gaeilge, Spanish, French, German)

Heritage Studies students in GMIT can also:

- Do a work experience module.
- Study abroad for one or two semesters.

Students learn through a combination of lectures, tutorials, active learning, class discussions, film viewings, practical learning in computer and language labs, and online learning.

There is a strong emphasis on off-site teaching, with fieldtrips to heritage sites, museums and interpretative centres.

For a full list of modules, and additional insights into students’ GMIT Experience, see [www.gmit.ie](http://www.gmit.ie)
Why Study Heritage at GMIT?

Our courses are taught at GMIT’s Galway campus, close to the medieval heart of Galway city.

Galway city and the surrounding region offer a great student life, and an abundance of arts and culture for those interested in heritage.

Students can also join the GMIT Heritage Society, which organises a range of activities, including guest lectures, fieldtrips, table quizzes, historical re-enactments and parties.

Career Opportunities

- Archaeology
- Archives & Libraries
- Business
- Charities & NGOs
- Civic Trusts
- Civil Service
- Community Development
- Conservation & Restoration
- Creative Digital Media
- Environmental Consultancies
- Heritage
- Genealogy
- Journalism
- Local Authorities
- Museums
- Planning
- Start-up Enterprises
- Teaching & Lecturing
- Tourism

For a full list, see [www.gmit.ie](http://www.gmit.ie)
Careers in Teaching
Graduates of the Honours degree can apply for the Professional Master of Education, to teach in primary or secondary schools.

Postgraduate Opportunities
Graduates of the Honours degree can:
• Apply for entry to GMIT’s Level 9 MA in Heritage Studies (by research)
• Progress to a Level 10 PhD in Heritage Studies in GMIT (by research)
• Undertake a wide range of postgraduate courses worldwide
For a full list of postgraduate opportunities, see www.gmit.ie

Lecturer Profiles
Our lecturers have many years of experience working in third-level education and the heritage industry. Key personnel include:
• Mr Paul Gosling (archaeology, built heritage)
• Mr Cian Marnell (folklore, literature, Gaeilge)
• Dr Mark McCarthy (modern history, local history, genealogy, geography, cultural heritage & memory)
• Dr Suzanne O’Shea (art & aesthetics, creative practices & cultural industries, curatorial practices)
• Mr Tony Patrickson (digital heritage)
• Dr Cilian Roden (natural heritage, conservation)
• Mr Declan Sheridan (literature, cinematic history)
• Mr John Tunney (medieval history, heritage tourism, museum studies, linguistic traditions, Irish music)

Did you know?
Today, the historic environment sector supports 40,000 jobs in Ireland and accounts for €1.5 billion revenue annually.
Student Stories

As a mature student returning to education I was naturally apprehensive, but it wasn’t long before I discovered what a truly remarkable course of study I had embarked upon.

Sheila Keane,
BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies

The lecturers have a genuine ambition to see students achieve their personal best. In the summer holidays I got a job as a warden in Buckingham Palace, guiding visitors and guarding its treasures. The knowledge I gained from Heritage Studies ensured that I got a job I really enjoy.

Andrew Lewis,
BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies

Heritage Studies at GMIT exceeded my expectations. I enjoyed each module and the lecturers were enthusiastic, engaging and encouraging. I wish I could start the course all over again.

Verena Roe, BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies

I made the choice to study Heritage Studies based on my interest in history, geography and archaeology. My post-GMIT work experience benefited greatly from studying additional modules like communications and multimedia. As well as this, the social and campus life of GMIT is incredibly active. There is something that will suit everyone.

Sarah Jane McCrann,
BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies
In GMIT, I found the one-on-one attention from our lecturers to be a massive help. I became President of the Heritage Society and was awarded a scholarship for the promotion of heritage in the college. After working in archaeology, I succeeded in getting a permanent teaching post. I attribute my ability to teach in a Gaelscoil solely to the outstanding level of Gaeilge I received in Heritage Studies. I loved every minute of my time on the course.

Ben Small, BA (Hons) Heritage Studies, 2005 – Teacher, Gaelscoil Philib Barún, Co. Waterford

My position involves securing and overseeing projects on behalf of Dúchas na Gaillimhe – Galway Civic Trust. These can range from the restoration of landmark buildings through to publishing historical and promotional materials on Galway city. Studying at GMIT gave me the perfect springboard to professionally pursue my passions for heritage and community development.

Michael Quinn, BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies, 2003 and MA in Heritage Studies, 2006 – Development Officer, Dúchas na Gaillimhe – Galway Civic Trust

I graduated from GMIT in 2002 with a BA in Heritage Studies, after which I undertook an MA (by research) in Heritage Studies. The undergraduate course was varied and interesting. Importantly, it was practical, with a lot of project work and off-site learning. I feel lucky to have done a course that I enjoyed throughout and which allowed me to develop a career doing what I love.

Brendan McGowan, BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies, 2002 and MA in Heritage Studies, 2004 – Acting Museum Director/ Education and Outreach Officer, Galway City Museum

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