

4 WEEKS SESSION June 17- July 14

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester 3 Year 85

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
365	Revolution and Nationalism in Ireland, 1780 to the present	Mr. Donnelly

COURSE DESCRIPTION

"Life springs from death," cried a famous Irish rebel in 1915, "and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations." The British, he continued, "have left us our Fenian dead, and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." Since the 1790s Irish revolutionary nationalism has drawn much of its strength from this cult of the dead celebrated by Patrick Pearse in 1915. The Irish revolutionary tradition, however, was long denied its goal. Time after time, revolutionary republicanism either failed to arouse mass support, as in 1848, 1867, and 1916, or having done so, as in 1798, was crushed nevertheless. One of our objectives in this course will be to understand the reasons for these repeated defeats. But it was a central aspect of Irish nationalism that even the so-called constitutional nationalists, who rejected violence as the means of overthrowing British rule, were not without sympathy for the revolutionary tradition. We shall therefore be concerned to examine the succession of constitutional nationalist movements not only in their own right but also with an eye to the influence which the revolutionary tradition exercised over them. Finally, we will explore why it was that southern Ireland owed the degree of independence which it achieved in 1921-22 not to the constitutional variety of nationalism, dominant as it usually was, but rather to the violent revolutionary tradition. No doubt the triumph of 1921-22 was incomplete, but it was still substantial. The lesson of this triumph after repeated defeat is one of the things that gives such desperate courage to the Provisional I.R.A. today. History, as they interpret it, teaches them to soldier on, to endure, to suffer -- indeed to court suffering -- in the unalterable conviction that some day victory will be theirs, theirs again.

LECTURES 10:20-11:35 MTWR

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

mid-term and final; no paper

GRADING SYSTEM

A-F

REQUIRED READINGS

Bowman, John-Devalera and the Ulster Question 1917-73.
Brown, Malcolm - The Politics of Irish Literature
Laffan, Michael - The Partition of Ireland, 1911-1925
McCaffrey, Lawrence - Ireland: From Colony to Nation State
O'Malley, Pdraig - The Uncivil Wars
O Tauthaigh, Geaidoid - Ireland Before the Famine 1798-1848