



EARLY IRISH & CELTIC STUDIES MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP

Terms and Conditions 2020

Following major successes in offering doctoral and postdoctoral research opportunities through European Research Council and Irish Research Council awards, the Department of Early Irish at Maynooth University is furthering its reputation for research and teaching excellence by offering full financial support to an outstanding individual wishing to pursue the taught MA in Medieval Irish Studies. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to begin or to continue their study of Old Irish (offered at beginners, intermediate or advanced level) while also pursuing optional courses in Middle Welsh, Palaeography, Textual Criticism, Medieval Irish Literature and Cultural History.

Eligibility

Applicants must intend to pursue a full-time Taught Master's degree in Medieval Irish at Maynooth University in the academic year 2019-20 and meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Applicants are required to complete and submit the scholarship application form to the Department of Early Irish at Maynooth University by 5pm on Friday 20th March 2020.
2. An honours bachelor's degree or Taught Master's degree in Medieval Irish or a cognate discipline is required.
3. Applicants will need to demonstrate through the provision of official academic transcripts that they have achieved (or will achieve in summer 2020):
 - a minimum 1st class undergraduate honours degree
 - **OR** a 2.1 upper 2nd class honours degree with a 1st in the undergraduate dissertation or in one of their final degree subjects (incl. major/minor)
 - **OR** a 2.1 upper 2nd class honours Taught Master's degree
4. Applications will be accepted from EU and non-EU candidates that can satisfy the eligibility criteria. Graduates from Maynooth University and other universities (both national and international) are welcome to apply, including applicants from the BA/MA graduating class of 2020. Alumni of the university who are unaware of their degree result should contact the Maynooth University Student Records office: records.office@mu.ie to request official transcript information.

Ineligibility

Graduates or current students of PhD or Research Master's programmes are not eligible to apply. Prospective students interested in research programmes should apply instead for the Maynooth University John and Pat Hume Doctoral Research Awards.

Value of the Scholarship

The total value of the scholarship will be €18,000 stipend plus fees (whether EU or non-EU) for 1 year of full-time Taught Master's studies in Medieval Irish at Maynooth University.

Scholarship assessment

An initial eligibility check will be undertaken by the Department of Early Irish at Maynooth University to ensure that applications have met the eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will be reviewed by an academic panel consisting of a representative of the Dean of Faculty, the Head of the School of Celtic Studies and the Head of the Department of Early Irish at Maynooth University. The panel will rank the applications using the following marking scheme:

1. Academic attainment – 10%
2. Previous awards – 10%
3. Personal statement – 30%
4. Master's thesis proposal – 40%
5. References – 10%

Application Process

Application forms should be downloaded in word format from the Departmental website: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/early-irish-sean-ghaeilge and then submitted by the closing date to: earlyirish@mu.ie. Academic reference letters must be submitted via email directly from the referee to earlyirish@mu.ie by the closing date. Please do not provide the reference letters with your application form.

Miscellaneous

The successful applicant will be required to make an application for the MA programme through the PAC system (www.pac.ie) – the application fee will be refunded retrospectively.

If an awardee does not take up a place or accept the scholarship the award may be made to the next ranked candidate. The scholarship may not be deferred.

The recipient may be required to undertake some light departmental duties, such as representing the department at University Open Days or assisting at conferences, at the discretion of the Head of Department.

Closing Date

Completed applications should be submitted via email by the closing date of the **20th of March 2020**. Applications may be submitted any time before the closing date. Late applications will not be accepted.

Enquiries

Enquiries regarding the MA in Medieval Irish Studies or the application process may be submitted by email to the Early Irish postgraduate co-ordinator, Dr Deborah Hayden: deborah.hayden@mu.ie.