

PO4013 Government and Politics of Ireland

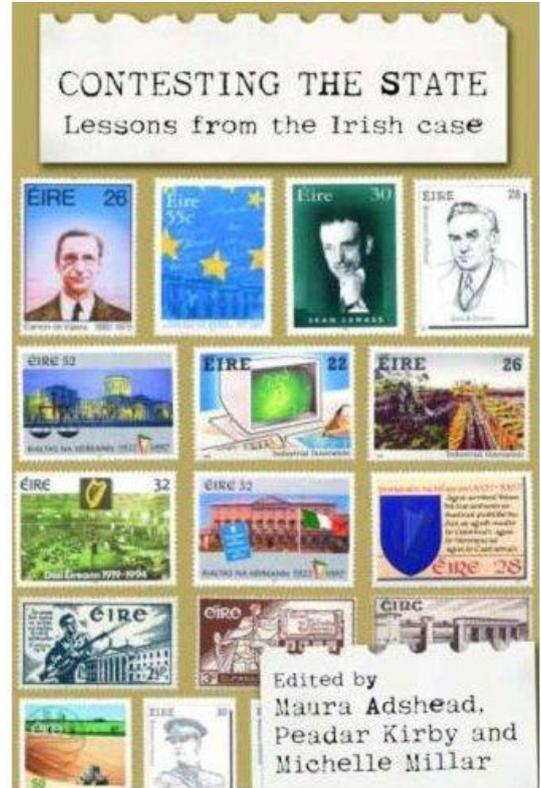
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Aims and Objectives

This course is designed to build on and develop knowledge gained in earlier politics modules examining the politics and society of a single country in more depth. The course will apply a range of alternative analytical perspectives from political science and sub-disciplines of political economy, political sociology, public administration and public policy, to the study of the government and politics of Ireland.

At a practical level, this course aims to:

- introduce students to the government and politics of Ireland
- develop analytic and evaluative skills for examining the processes of government and politics
- understand the historical and political development of the Irish state, and be able to identify key influences in that development;
- Be familiar with key institutions and their workings;



Contents

This module reviews the developmental trajectory of the Irish state, from its historical foundations and the legacies of colonialism, to contemporary politics and the collapse of the Celtic Tiger. Throughout the module an attempt will be made to outline key political, economic, institutional and cultural traits which may be described and explained as essentially Irish patterns of politics and policy making.

Core Readings

Adshead, M., Kirby, P. and Millar, M. (2008) *Contesting the State: lessons from the Irish case*, Manchester: Manchester University Press

Gallagher, Michael and Coakley, John (eds) (2005) *Government and Politics in the Republic of Ireland*, 4th edn, London: Routledge, 2005

Kissane (2002) *Explaining Irish Democracy*, Dublin: UCD Press

McGrath, Conor and O'Malley, Eoin (eds) (2007) *Irish Political Studies Reader*, London: Routledge

A detailed reading list will be made available in the module outline