Celtic Civilisation 1A: The Ancient Celts

Celtic-speaking peoples in the Iron Age and Roman periods (1000BC–400AD)

In this period Celtic languages were spoken throughout the British Isles and extensively in Continental Europe (parts of France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Turkey.)

We explore the history of the Celts (contact with the Mediterranean world, migration, conquest by Rome); their religion and society; and what being ‘Celtic’ meant in this period.

Our sources include Greek and Latin ethnographic accounts; archaeology; art; language.

**Classes:** 2 lectures and 1 tutorial per week.

**Assignments:** 2 worksheets, 1 essay, and a final exam.

### Sample Lecture Schedule

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<td>Celtic Art and the Emergence of Celtic Identity Visual Culture: Britain and Ireland</td>
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Celtic Civilisation 1B: Celtic Peoples in the Medieval World

Medieval Celtic peoples from c.400–1066 AD

- the art and literature of the Celts
- movements and developments in Britain and Ireland after 400AD which led to the establishment of the historical Celtic kingdoms.

Classes: 2 lectures and 1 tutorial per week.
Assignments: 2 worksheets, 1 essay, and a final exam.

Sample Lecture Schedule

Part I: Peoples, Kingdoms and Languages

Week 1  The Post-Roman World  Making the Early Middle Ages
         Multicultural Britain
Week 2  Transformation  Southern Britain: From Britain to Cymry
         'Men of the North': The Northern Britons
Week 3  Northern Mosaic  The Picts
         The Gaels of Dál Riata
Week 4  Conversions  Ireland …
         … and beyond
Week 5  A New World  Literacy and its Implications
         How to approach Early Medieval literature

Part II: Society and Culture

Week 7  Christianity  Monasteries in and out of the world
         The cult of saints
Week 8  Cultural Encounters  Sacred and secular
         Tales of the ‘Otherworld’
Week 9  Transformations  Vikings
         The 10th and 11th centuries
Week 10  Art  The art of display: art in secular society
         The work of angels: art and the Church
Week 11  Heroes  Heroic Sagas
         An evolving hero: Arthur