Ireland Uncovered
(formerly Irish Presence in America, FA2020)

Catalogue Description:
This course examines the influence of the Irish diaspora in America and examines the impact of the American Irish communities. It will assess the social and political influence of American Irish communities in the rebellions, revolts, and revolutions that led to the establishment of independent Ireland. The overreaching idea is the strong ties between Ireland and the United States throughout history.

Aims: (What Will I Learn?)
• Describe the causes and effects of the potato famine from an objective and humanitarian perspective
• Understand the implications of cultural memory from exile within a person and a community
• Analyse (Irish) immigrant’s individual and collective identity as a result of diaspora and the contribution of that identity towards their origin
• Explain the political, cultural, and ideological ties between America and Ireland
• Describe the complexities of Irish history and struggle over independence
• Imply the influence of immigrants’ identity around the globe and the political and sociological limitations (if time allows)

What Will I Learn:
Topics include the potato famine, cultural memory, Irish communities in America, the Young Ireland Movement, the Fenian Brotherhood and the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and the Easter Rising of 1916. If time allows, the course will address the cultural significance of St. Patrick's Day and late generation Irish identity in America.

Prerequisites:
None.

Rationale:
The course emphasizes on the big picture instead of specific events and individuals and aims to make connections across events and ideologies.