

ROBERT J. SAVAGE

Boston College
Department of History
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill MA 02467
savager@bc.edu

Robert J. Savage is Professor of the Practice of History at Boston College where he teaches Modern European, Irish and British history. His most recent monograph, published in 2015, is *The BBC's Irish Troubles: Television, Conflict and Northern Ireland*. He is also the author of *A Loss of Innocence? Television and Irish Society 1960-1972*, (2010, winner of the James S. Donnelly, Sr. Prize for Best Book in History and Social Sciences from the American Conference for Irish Studies), *Sean Lemass: a biography* (1999, revised and expanded 2014), *Irish Television: the Political and Social Origins* (1996) and *Ireland in the New Century, Politics, Identity and Culture* (editor and contributing author, 2003). He is currently writing a chapter on broadcasting for the four-volume *Cambridge History of Modern Ireland*.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

Master of Arts, University College, Dublin, Ireland.

Bachelor of Arts, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of the Practice of History, May 2015 to the present.

Adjunct Associate Professor, 2003 to 2015.

Co-Director, Irish Studies Program, 2003 to 2010.

Associate Director, Irish Studies Program, 1995-2003.

Queen's University, Belfast Visiting Professor, May 2014.

Moore Institute Fellow, National University of Ireland, Galway, May 2013.

Long Room Hub Visiting Fellow, Trinity College Dublin, fall semester 2012.

Leverhulme Visiting Professor, University of Edinburgh spring semester 2007.

Irish-American Cultural Institute Visiting Fellow, National University of Ireland, Galway spring semester 2004.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

The BBC's Irish Troubles, television, conflict and Northern Ireland (Manchester University Press/Oxford University Press USA, 2015).

Seán Lemass (University College Dublin Press, 2014, revised and expanded version of the 1999 biography).

A Loss of Innocence? Television and Irish Society, 1960-1972 (Manchester University Press/Oxford University Press USA, 2010), paperback edition published January 2016.

Ireland in the New Century: Politics, Culture and Identity, editor and contributing author (Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2003).

Seán Lemass (Historical Association of Ireland, Dublin, 1999).

Irish Television: The Political and Social Origins (Cork University Press, 1996).

Chapters/articles:

‘Broadcasting on the Island of Ireland, 1916-2016’, *The Cambridge History of Modern Ireland, vol. 4*, Thomas Bartlett ed. (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2016).

Co-Editor and contributing author (with Christopher Morash, Trinity College, Dublin) special edition of *Éire/Ireland*, an interdisciplinary journal of Irish Studies, (Spring/Summer 2015, vol. 50 nos. 1 & 2).

‘Film, broadcast media and modern Ireland’ *Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, Alvin Jackson ed. (Oxford University Press, 2014).

‘Capturing Change and Creating Controversy in 1960s Ireland’ *Associação Brasileira de Estudos Irlandeses (The Journal of Irish Studies in Brazil, 2013)*.

‘Sean Lemass and the Advent of Irish Television’ in *The Age of Seán Lemass: Ireland 1945-1973* edited by Brian Girvin and Gary Murphy (University College Dublin Press, 2005).

Constructing/deconstructing the Image of Seán Lemass' *Ireland, in Ireland in the New Century: Politics, Culture and Identity* edited by Robert J Savage (Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2003).

Miscellaneous publications:

John Bowman interview in a special edition of the Irish Studies journal *Éire/Ireland* co-edited by Robert J Savage and Christopher Morash, (spring/summer 2015, vol. 50 nos. 1 & 2).

“‘A Stranger among Us’ Edward Roth and the Establishment of Irish Television’ in *History Ireland* (Dublin, 2010).

“‘The soil of Ireland for the people of Ireland’ The Politics of Irish Land’ in *Eire/Land* (Chestnut Hill, 2003).

‘Strongholds and Relics, Images of “The Troubles”’ in *Re/Dressing Cathleen: Contemporary Works from Irish Women Artists*. (Chestnut Hill, 1997).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Current research project is a book length study of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the Northern Ireland conflict.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

External

Moore Institute Visiting Fellow, National University of Ireland, May 2013.

Long Room Hub Visiting Research Fellow, Trinity College, Dublin fall semester 2012.

Leverhulme Visiting Professor, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh, spring semester 2007.

Irish-American Cultural Institute Visiting Fellow, National University of Ireland, Galway spring semester 2004.

Department of Education and Science, (Ireland) grant as director and principal investigator for *Ireland in the New Century, Politics, Culture and Identity*, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington D.C. 2000.

Internal

- Research Expense Grant Spring 2016.
- Faculty Fellowship, fall semester 2012.
- Research Expense Grant, spring 2010/2011.
- Faculty Fellowship spring semester, 2007.
- Faculty Fellowship spring semester, 2004.

Institute of Liberal Arts grants:

- Primary investigator for *Making Memory* funding for new interdisciplinary course taught by Richard Kearney (Philosophy), Sheila Gallagher (Fine Arts) and Robert Savage (History) Fall, 2015.
- Grant application to fund an assistant editor for the journal *Éire Ireland*, (PhD candidate funded, 2009-2013).
- Interdisciplinary seminar and performance that celebrated the centenary of the birth of the tenor John McCormack, 2009.

TEACHING

Spring 2016

- HS 4281.01 Film, Media and Modern Ireland (30 students)
- HS 5501.01 Making History Public, Propaganda and the Great War, (13 students)

Fall 2016

- HS 4824.01 'The Troubles', a History of Northern Ireland (25 students)
- HS 4824.01 Making Memory: History, Story and Image (new interdisciplinary seminar with Philosophy and Fine Arts (23 students)

Spring 2015

HS 032.01 Europe and the Modern World II (234 students)

HS 41901 Film, Media and Modern Ireland (25 students)

Fall 2014

HS 4283.01 History of Northern Ireland (25 students)

HS 4283.01 Disunited Kingdom (21 students)

Spring 2014

HS 032.01 Europe and the Modern World II (307 students)

HS 431.01 19th Century Ireland Union to Rebellion (18 students)

Fall 2013

HS 434.01 Northern Ireland 1912-to the present (23 students)

HS 693.02 Honors Seminar (10 students)

Spring 2013

HS 036.01 Europe and the Modern World II (215 students)

HS 410.01 Disunited Kingdom (24 students)

Fall 2012

Faculty Fellowship, Trinity College, Dublin Visiting Fellow

Spring 2012

HS 032.01 Europe and the Atlantic World II (140 students)

HS 438.01 Ireland Since the Famine (41 students)

Fall 2011

HS 410.01 Disunited Kingdom (28 students)

HS 419.01 Media and Modern Ireland (28 students)

Spring 2011

HS 02401.01 Eurasia and the World (69 students)

HS 026.01 Discussion (16 students)

HS 431.01 Twentieth Century Ireland (22 students)

Fall 2010

HS 410.01 Disunited Kingdom (34 students)

HS 434.01 19th Century Ireland Union to Rebellion (34 students)

Spring 2010

HS 436.01 Twentieth Century Ireland (31 students)

HS 843.01 Graduate Colloquium: Modern Irish History (8 students)

Fall 2009

HS 434.01 A History of Northern Ireland (39 students)

Spring 2009

HS 378.01 Ireland through Film and Fiction (36 students)

HS 438.01 Ireland Since the Famine (33 students)

Fall 2008

HS 434.01 A History of Northern Ireland (35 students)

Spring 2008

HS 438.01 Ireland Since the Famine (35 students)

HS 843.01 Graduate Colloquium Modern Irish History (9 students)

Fall 2007

HS 434.01 History of Northern Ireland (33 students)

Spring 2007

Faculty Fellowship, University of Edinburgh

Fall 2006

HS 434.01 A History of Northern Ireland (33 students)

Spring 2006

Graduate Colloquium Modern Irish History (8 students)

HS 438.01 Ireland Since the Famine (32 students)

HS 693.02 History Honors Seminar (10 students)

Fall 2005

HS 434.01 19th Century Ireland Union to Rebellion (27 students)

HS 434.01 History of Northern Ireland (31 students)

Spring 2005

HS 438.01 Ireland Since the Famine (30 students)

HS 843.01 Graduate Colloquium: Modern Irish History (8 students)

Fall 2004

HS 434.01 19th Century Ireland Union to Rebellion (28 students)

HS 434.01 History of Northern Ireland (33 students)

Spring 2004

Faculty Fellowship, National University of Ireland, Galway

Spring 2003

HS 434.01 History of Northern Ireland

HS 699.01 Éire/Land: Political, Visual and Literary Perspectives, (cross registered with English, Fine Arts, 35 students).

Fall 2003

HS 378.01 The Troubles through film and fiction, (33 students).

PhD SUPERVISION

- 2012 External reader/examiner, Emily Bloom, Department of English, University of Texas, Austin, *Air-Borne Bards: Anglo-Irish Writers and the BBC, 1931-1968*.
- 2011 Internal examiner/reader, Megan Myers, Boston College, *Moving Terrorists from the Streets to a Diamond-Shaped Table: The internationalization of the Northern Ireland Conflict, 1969-99*.
- 2011 Internal PhD Oral Comprehensive Exam Committee, Eric Foss and Ian Delehanty.
- 2007 Supervisor and Chair, PhD Defense, Deidre Bryan, Department of History, Boston College, *Maria Martin's Irish Medical Missionaries of Mary, West Africa, 1921-1933*.
- 2009 External PhD Comprehensive Examiner, Katherine Lamontagne, PhD Boston University Department of History.
- 2005 External examiner/reader Mairead Pratschke, McMaster University, Ontario, *The Transformation of Ireland in Gael Linn's Amharc Éireann film series, 1956-64*.

HONORS THESES SUPERVISED

- 2015/2016 Hannah Forsyth: *The Place of women in the development of Irish Nationalism*.
- 2014/2015 Aashana Dhruva: *Church and State in contemporary Ireland: The Case of Savita Halappanavar*.
- 2013/2014 Kellan Etter: *The Old Firm: A Historical Analysis of Sectarian Conflict in Glasgow through Soccer*

- 2012/2013 Christopher Fitzpatrick, *An unknown ally: Irish Neutrality during WW II and a consolidated model analysis of Anglo-Irish relations* (with International Studies)
- 2011/2012 Patrick Keating: *'The Laughter of Comely Maidens': An Examination of Gender Discrimination within Irish Juries, 1922-1975.*
- 2010/2011 Erin Garrity, *Irish Cultural Nationalism on Stage, The Abbey Theatre in the 1920s.*
- 2008/2009 Matthew Hunt, *The Origins of Republican Sinn Féin.*
- 2005/2006 Caitlin Gill, *America and Economic Development in 20th Century Ireland* (with the Carroll School of Management).
- 2003/2004 Theresa Imeidiata, *The state, educational policy and the Irish Traveler Community.*

SELECT SCHOLARLY PAPERS

Invited lectures/seminars:

- 'Sean Lemass and the Irish Revolution', Bi-Annual Conference of Irish Historians in Britain, University of Liverpool, July, 2016
- 'The BBC and the Politics of Censorship 1979-1988', Irish Studies Seminar, National University of Ireland Galway, March 2015.
- 'Margret Thatcher and the BBC's Irish Troubles' Annual Irish Studies International Lecture, Queen's University Belfast, May 15, 2014.
- 'The Oxygen of Publicity?' Margaret Thatcher and the BBC, St Mary's University College, London, May 8, 2014.
- ""The controller should be consulted"" The BBC in Northern Ireland 1959-1976. Queen's University Belfast, June 20, 2013.

‘Media and the Citizen’, Long Room Hub, Trinity College, Dublin, March 2013.

‘The Troubles’ the BBC and the politics of censorship’ More Institute Lecture, Huston Film School, National University of Ireland, Galway, March 2013.

‘Lies, Betrayal and the Death of an Informer, London 1974’ University College, Cork, December 6, 2012.

‘The BBC’s Irish Troubles’ Long Room Lecture, Trinity College, Dublin, November 29, 2012.

‘The Death of an Informer, London 1974’ National University of Ireland, Galway, November 15, 2012.

‘Are the Irish Different? Media and Modern Ireland’ International Workshop in Irish Studies and the Social Sciences, School of Sociology, University College Dublin, September 2012.

‘Capturing Change and Creating Controversy in 1960s Ireland’ Symposium of Irish Studies in South America, Natal Brazil, August 2012. (postponed)

‘Battling the Bishop: Innovation in 1960s Irish Television’ St. Mary’s University College, London, November 2011

‘Irish Media Culture’ Notre Dame Summer Seminar, Dublin, Ireland June 2010.

‘Writing the Legacy of Sean Lemass’ Humanities Institute of Ireland, University College Dublin, November 2009.

‘America, Ireland and the Contemporary Media’, Entwined Histories: Ireland, France and America, History Ireland Lecture, Byrne-Perry Summer School, Wexford, Ireland, July 2009.

‘Finding a Voice? The Irish Language and Telefís Éireann 1960-

1972', Ireland-Wales Conference University of Aberystwyth, UK
April 2009.

"'Reel' Ireland? Screening Contemporary Irish Film', Brandeis
University Comparative Diaspora Symposium, March 2009.

'Writing Irish Media History' International Association of Television
and Film Archivists, (FIAT) Lisbon, Portugal in October 2007.

"'Dublin, A City in Fear?'" The Representation of Urban Poverty in
1969 Ireland', Leverhulme Lecture, New British Social History
Seminar, Warwick University (UK) May 2007

'Cultural shift and the Catholic Church: *Radharc*, and social
documentary in 1960s Ireland' Leverhulme Lecture, University of
Edinburgh, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, May
2007.

'Loan-sharks, ham-fisted hyperbole and testing the limits of 'public
service' broadcasting in 1960's Ireland', Leverhulme Lecture, Seminar
in Irish Studies, National University of Ireland, Galway April 2007.

'Ireland and the limits of public service broadcasting: The 1969 *Seven
Days* Tribunal.' Leverhulme Lecture, Institute of English Studies,
Senate House, University of London, March 2007.

'Elizabeth Bowen's Ireland? Film, controversy and depicting 'real
Ireland' in the 1960s'. Leverhulme Lecture, University of Liverpool
March 2007.

"'Over paid, over publicized and unsuitable for the job at hand"
Edward Roth and the advent of Irish Television.' Leverhulme Lecture,
Hertford College, University of Oxford, February 2007.

'American influence in the development of Irish Television',
Scotland's Transatlantic Relations Seminar, University of Edinburgh,

January 2007.

‘The Role of Graduate Students in Irish Studies’ International Irish Forum, European University, Florence Italy, October 2005.

‘Documenting the Ireland of Sean Lemass’, National University of Ireland, Galway, Public Lecture Series, March 2004.

‘Perceptions of Ireland in the Mid-Twentieth Century’, A Lost Decade? Emigration, Culture and Society in 1950's Ireland, University College Cork, February 2001.

‘Ireland and the Politics of Representation: CBS and the “The Tear and the Smile”’, Brown University, Department of History Seminar, March 1999.

‘Constructing/Deconstruction the Image of Sean Lemass’ Ireland, Film Institute of Ireland, Conference, Nationalisms: Visions and Revision, November 1998.

Conference presentations:

‘Censorship, the BBC and the Irish ‘troubles’’, New England Historical Association, Middlebury, Vermont, April 2016.

‘Scotland Yard’s Special Branch and the Death of an Informer’, American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, March 2016.

‘Edward Roth’s Tenure as RTÉ’s Director General, 1960-1963.’ Power, Trust and Ethics: Media Research Conference. Dublin City University, June 2005.

“A Stranger among Us’: the Advent of Irish Television”, American

Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 2005.
‘Edward Roth, America and the Development of Irish Television’
Seminar in Contemporary History, Trinity College Dublin, May 2004.
‘Irish Republicanism: Theory and Practice’, American Historical
Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, January 2002,
(respondent).
"Irish-America and the Depiction of 'Modern' Ireland" American
Historical Association Annual Conference, Boston, January 2001.
‘Sean Lemass and the Representation of the 'New Ireland'’.
International Conference, Ireland: Politics, Culture and Identity,
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington D.C. May 2000.
‘The Cultural and Political Documentation of Ireland 1959-1962’,
Information, Media and Power Through the Ages, The 24th Biennial
International Conference of Historians in Ireland, University College,
Cork, May 1999.
‘Irish Language Film in Contemporary Ireland’, Split/Screen
Conference, Harvard University Film Archive, April 1999.

SERVICE

Department

History Department Undergraduate engagement committee,
2014 to the present.

History Department Core committee, 2015 to the present.

Faculty Advisor for study abroad students 2010 to the present.

University

Co-Director Irish Studies 2003-2010.

Associate Director Irish Studies 1995-2003.

University Fellowship Committee member 2008 to the present.

University Non-Tenure Faculty Grievance Committee member 2013 to present.

Founder and curator, *Boston College Irish Film Series* 1998-2010 (featured over 100 feature, documentary and short films).

Co-curator of *Literary Lives, Portraits from the Crawford Art Gallery and Abbey Theatre, Ireland*, McMullen Museum of Art Boston College, Autumn 2010.

Founding editor, *Irish Studies*, bi-annual newsletter of the Irish Studies program, 1998-2010.

As Associate Director of Irish Studies worked with the Office of International Programs to establish formal exchange programs with Trinity College, Dublin; the National University of Ireland, Galway; Maynooth University and Queens University, Belfast.

Professional

Irish Research Council external board member Horizons Program, 2015.

Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Post Graduate Assessment Board, 2001- 2003; reappointed 2006-2009, 2013-2104.

Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Post-Graduate adjudicator 1998-2001, 2010-2012.

Assessment Committee, National University of Ireland, Post-Graduate Fellowship in History, 2010.

Carnegie Trust, Project Assessment Committee, 2011.

Editorial Board, *The Historian*, Journal of the Phi Alpha Theta, International Honor Society in History, 2003-present.

Editorial Board, *Film and Film Culture* the Irish Journal of International Film Studies, 2007-2009.

Co-Editor, *Irish Literary Supplement*, 1996-2006

Chair, External Review of the Department of History and Art History, University College Cork, February 2010.

Co-chair, External Review Committee, St. Mary's University, Halifax Nova Scotia, Canada, 2008.

Program review for the Academic Council of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, 2009.

Institute of International Education, Fulbright National Graduate Screening Committee, 2004 - 2006.

Selection Committee, National University of Ireland, Galway, Visiting Professor in Irish Studies, 2005.

Irish Research Fund Adjudicator Irish American Cultural Institute, 2002.

Elected to the National Executive as History Representative, American Conference for Irish Studies, 2001-2003.

Director and Investigator, *Ireland: Politics, Culture and Identity* (Conference Director for the Department of Education and Science, Ireland) as part of an international project, *Island: Arts from Ireland*, May 2000.

Tenure and promotion reviews for Queen's University Belfast (2014), University College, Cork (2010), Dublin City

University (2007), De Monfort University UK (2005), Boston University (2001).

Manuscript reviews for Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Liverpool University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, Yale University Press, Manchester University Press.

Peer reviews for: *Irish Historical Studies*, *The Historian*, *Media History*, *Journal of Social History* and *The Journal of Woman's History*.

Book reviews: *Journal of British Studies*, *Irish Historical Studies*, *Media History*, *Journal of Social History*, *Irish Literary Supplement*.

MEDIA

Interviews with print media:

The Atlantic, *The New York Times*, *The Irish Times*, *The Times (London)*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Harvard Review* and *Boston Herald*.

Radio and television interviews: National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*, Ireland's national radio and television service, RTÉ, BBC's *The World*, CBC (Canada) and Boston television stations. Historical consultant for RTÉ documentary 'Battle Station' 2012 and *National Geographic* 2010.