COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly 1-Page Response (see Journal in Blackboard):

Write ONE PAGE, double-spaced (approx. 250 words) in response to any element of the week's assigned reading that you find particularly intriguing, challenging, interesting.

Your response is meant to be both interpretive (what you think the reading means) and personal (why you find it especially interesting, why you're drawn to it). I am particularly interested in hearing what you are learning about specifically Irish culture (an element that ought to increase as the semester progresses).

These response papers will be graded on a 3-point scale (see rubric in Course Materials on left-hand menu).

Due by midnight on Tuesdays (so I can read, grade, and respond to them in class on Thursday). I will comment in general on posts and will use them to answer questions and spark classroom discussion.

You will write a total of 8 responses over the semester; The responses are intended to generate ideas and topics for your research essays.

At the end of the semester, you will be asked to reread and revise your five best responses to include in your final portfolio.

Annotated Bibliography:

An annotated bibliography is an organized list of sources, each of which is followed by a brief note or "annotation."

These annotations may describe the content and focus of a book or article; suggest the source's usefulness to your research; and evaluate its method, conclusions, or reliability;

This assignment is intended to introduce you to the process of scholarly research, including accessing and working effectively with print and digital sources; learning to distinguish between primary and secondary and scholarly and popular resources; critically evaluating sources for relevance, authority, and bias; and correctly citing your sources on the Annotated Bibliography in MLA format.

Your bibliography should include 4-5 different sources, as follows:

Source 1: A literary work/reference book (if you compare two literary works it still counts as one source).

Source 2: An article from a scholarly journal
Source 3 and 4: Another article from a scholarly journal or magazine or newspaper and a book or book chapter, or some other combination of sources

Source 5 (optional): An Internet site. You must list the reasons why you selected it and why you think it adds value and insight to your knowledge of the topic.

In preparation for our library visit on Thursday, 9/22, you will need to access the course Study Guide, ENGS 005J: Contemporary Irish Literature - Patten (Fall 2016), at Bailey Howe Library: http://researchguides.uvm.edu/c.php?g=546026&p=3746603

Please complete the following Library Research Tutorials:
1. Academic Search Premier
2. Catquest
3. Sources of Information: Articles

You will also need to choose an area of interest from those listed in Research Parameters, below.

Research Parameters
Because the study of Contemporary Irish Literature requires some knowledge of Irish history, politics and culture, and because the subject is so broad, you are asked to choose from one of the following areas to focus your research for the library visit:

1. Irish immigration to the U.S./Irish American culture
2. Irish myth and folklore
3. Religion – choose one from the following
   a. The effects of the Catholic Church on Irish culture and society
   b. Clerical abuse
   c. Gender/the role of women in Irish life and/or literature
4. Politics and Northern Ireland

Your informal research log will be due in class on 10/4/16; your Annotated Bibliography will be due in class on 11/17/16.

Reflection (1-page, double-spaced minimum) on 10/18 presentation by musicians Benedict Koehler (uileann piper, pipe-maker and teacher) and Hilari Farrington (harpist, accordionist and teacher). Due 11/1/16.

Final Portfolio:
The portfolio should include revised versions of your five best weekly responses and a course reflection.