

Cian T. McMahon

Department of History & Honors College • University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway • Las Vegas, NV 89154-5020 • cian.mcmahon@unlv.edu

SPECIALIZATION

My research focuses on the transnational dimensions of Ireland and the Irish diaspora with emphases on migration, identity, solidarity, and maritime social history.

EDUCATION

PhD (History)	Carnegie Mellon University	(2010)
MA (History)	University College Dublin	(2002)
BA (History)	University of Manitoba	(2000)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor	Joint Appointment, Department of History & Honors College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2019-Present)
Assistant Professor	Joint Appointment, Department of History & Honors College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2014-2019)
Post-Doctoral Scholar	Department of History, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2011-2014)
Visiting Instructor	Department of History, Duquesne University (2010-2011)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Coffin Ship: Life and Death at Sea during the Great Irish Famine (New York: New York University Press, 2021)

The Global Dimensions of Irish Identity: Race, Nation, and the Popular Press, 1840-1880 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015)

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

“‘That City Afloat’: Maritime Dimensions of Ireland’s Great Famine Migration,” *American Historical Review* 127, no. 1 (March 2022): 100-128

“Shipwrecks and Society: Press Reports of the Irish Emigrant Passage to Canada, 1845-1855” in *Canada and the Great Irish Famine*, edited by William Jenkins (Montreal/Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press, forthcoming)

“Tracking the Great Famine’s ‘Coffin Ships’ Across the Digital Deep,” *Éire-Ireland* 56, nos. 1–2 (Spring/Summer 2021): 81-109

- “The Pages of Whiteness: Theory, Evidence, and the American Immigration Debate,” *Race & Class* 56, no. 4 (April 2015): 40-55
- “International Celebrities and Irish Identity in the United States and Beyond, 1840-1860,” *American Nineteenth Century History* 15, no. 2 (2014): 147-168
- “Cartoons in the Classroom: Using Digitized Political Caricatures to Teach Migration and Ethnicity,” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 33, no. 4 (Summer 2014): 87-93
- “Caricaturing Race and Nation in the Irish-American Press, 1870-1880: A Transnational Perspective,” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 33, no. 2 (Winter 2014): 33-56
- “Transnational Dimensions of Irish Anti-Imperialism, 1842-1854” in *Irish and Scottish Encounters With Indigenous Peoples*, edited by Graeme Morton and David Wilson (Montreal/Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2013), 92-107
- “Ireland and the Birth of the Irish-American Press, 1842-61,” *American Periodicals: A Journal of History and Criticism* 19, no. 1 (2009): 5-20
- “Irish Free State Newspapers and the Abyssinian Crisis, 1935-6,” *Irish Historical Studies* 36, no. 143 (May 2009): 368-388

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Routledge History of Irish America* (co-edited with Kathleen Costello-Sullivan, under contract)
- Paddy’s Day: How Celebrating Saint Patrick Shaped the Irish Diaspora* (monograph, in progress)
- “Globalizing Irish America” Special Double Issue of *Journal of American Ethnic History* (co-edited with Darragh Gannon)
- “Sabbath on the Ocean: Religious Rituals on Irish Emigrant Ships in the Mid-Nineteenth Century” in Maddalena Marinari and Kevin Kenny, eds., *Rituals of Migration: Irish and Italians on the Move* (under contract)

SELECT GRANTS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- William Morris Award for Excellence in Scholarship*, College of Liberal Arts, UNLV (2016)
- William Morris Award for Excellence in Teaching*, College of Liberal Arts, UNLV (2016)
- Honorable Mention, Donald Murphy Prize for Distinguished First Book* (American Conference of Irish Studies, 2016)
- NEH Summer Stipend* (National Endowment for the Humanities, 2015)
- Bernadotte E. Schmitt Grant* (American Historical Association, 2013/2014)
- Visiting Research Fellowship in Irish Studies* (NUI Galway/Irish-American Cultural Institute, 2012/2013)

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

- “Solidarity at Sea during the Irish Great Famine,” [invited talk], Irish Studies Research Seminar, Institute of Irish Studies, Queen’s University Belfast (November 2019)
- “‘The Ocean Is Their Cemetery’: Emigrants, Community, and Death at Sea during the Great Famine,” American Conference for Irish Studies (March 2019)
- “‘Within The Wooden Walls of That City Afloat’: Emigrants, Community, and Power at Sea during the Great Famine,” American Conference for Irish Studies (June 2018)
- “‘Use All the Economy You Can’: Preparing to Emigrate during the Irish Great Famine,” [invited talk], Strokestown Famine Emigrant Walk (May 2017)
- “‘Have Salt Beef With You’: Scribbled Advice on Pre-Paid Irish Emigrant Tickets during the Great Famine,” American Conference of Irish Studies (March 2016)

SELECT BOOK REVIEWS AND PEER-REVIEWING

I have peer-reviewed book and journal article manuscripts for Routledge (2022) • Anthem Press (2021) • *Éire-Ireland* (2019) • Department of History, University of New Mexico (tenure application, 2018) • *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* (2017) • *Irish Studies Review* (2017) • *Journal of British Studies* (2017, 2015) • *American Nineteenth Century History* (2016) • Bloomsbury Academic (2016) • Red Line Editorial (2016) • Syracuse University Press (2016) • *Journal of American Ethnic History* (2015) • *Law and History Review* (2012)

I have published book reviews in the *American Historical Review* (forthcoming) • *Irish Literary Supplement* (2021) • *Journal of American Ethnic History* (2020, 2016) • *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* (2019, 2017) • *Journal of American Studies* (2017) • *New Hibernia Review* (2016, 2014, 2012) • *H-Net Reviews* (2013) • *Journal of British Studies* (2011)

SELECT POPULAR MEDIA & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- “The Coffin Ship,” *Fund for Irish Studies lecture series, Princeton University* (December 2021)
- “Sean Moncrieff Show,” *Newstalk FM, Ireland* (June 2021)
- “Cultures of Las Vegas: The Irish,” *Clark County Television* (March 2020)
- “UNLV Class Offers Historical Context For Upcoming Presidential Debates” on *The State of Nevada, KNPR Nevada Public Radio* (2016)
- “Immigrant Voices/Immigrant Debate,” Guest Post, *University of North Carolina Press Blog* (2015)
- “UNLV History Professor Examines Historical Irish Immigration” on *KNPR Nevada Public Radio* (2015)
- “The Glucksman Ireland House NYU Radio Hour,” *WNYE* (2015)
- “The Global Dimensions of Saint Patrick,” Guest Post, *University of North Carolina Press Blog* (2015)

UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT AT UNLV

Honors College

“Reading and Writing Historical Fiction” • “Country Music in American History” • “Soccer and the Making of the Modern World” • “Pirates, Outlaws, and the Popular Imagination” • “World Thought And Experience II” • “Themes in American Civilization (Protest)”

History Department

“Society and Culture in Modern Ireland” • “Immigration and Identity in American History” • “Great Personalities in History [The Enlightenment]” • “The News in Historical Perspective: Issues Facing the 2016 Presidential Candidates” • “Capstone Research Seminar” • “Great Migrations in Human History” • “Great Migrations in American History” • “The French Revolution & Napoleon” • “Europe Since 1914” • “Sports and Society in American History” • “The United States Before 1877” • “The United States Since 1877”

Graduate Education

I have also taught graduate courses/seminars and sat on a number of MA and PhD committees

COURSE DEVELOPMENT AT UNLV

HIST151/351 (2018-Present) • HON 110/115 (2015-Present) • “Lied Library Special Collections Faculty Retreat,” (January 2016) • Teaching and Curriculum Committee (Fall 2015) • D.E. HIST 101 Revision Committee (Spring 2015) • COLA 100LA Critical Thinking Assessment Subcommittee (Fall 2014) • Institute on Integrated Course Design (Spring 2012)

SELECT UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

I served as the History Department’s Undergraduate Coordinator for two years, between 2017 and 2019. In this position, I helped to coordinate the teaching schedules of our faculty, addressed long-term shortcomings in our curriculum by developing new 1-credit workshops, pursued college retention/progression/completion (RPC) targets by establishing closer connections between the department and our majors, and made important contributions to institutional documents including the annual Assessment Plan and our department’s Ten-Year Review.

At the college level, I have served on committees relating to student RPC, faculty awards, and course development. My joint-appointment in the Honors College has also enabled me to have an impact on the development of some of UNLV’s brightest and hardest-working students. I am a member of the UK/Ireland Scholarships Committee, which seeks to identify and prepare gifted students applying for prestigious scholarships abroad. I also sit on the HON 110/115 committee, which is dedicated to providing our first-years with a formative freshman seminar experience.

Beyond UNLV, I have dedicated much time and effort to peer-reviewing books, articles, and applications for others in my field and am on the advisory board of a book series on migration, demography, and the environment at the University of Nevada Press. I am also currently serving as the History Representative of the American Conference for Irish Studies and chair one of its book prize committees.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Historical Association

American Conference for Irish Studies

Immigration & Ethnic History Society