

**Gender(ed) Troubles – Nationalism, Violence and Gender in
Twentieth-Century Irish Drama and Fiction (53-542)**

Art der Veranstaltung: Seminar Seminare II (Seminare Ib für Studierende mit Zulassung vor WS 14/ 15) [AA-A2, ENG-6/a, AA10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-W, AA-WB]

Veranstalter: Verena Keidel, M.A.

Ort/Zeit: Blockseminar 18.-22. Juli 2016 (time/place t.b.a.)

Beginn: Die., 3.5. 18-20 Phil 1269 (preparatory session)

In this seminar, we will analyse the theoretical concatenation of nationhood, nationalism and gender relations. Specifically, this class will provide you with different ways of looking at the nexus of gender and violent nationalism in the context of (Northern) Ireland's sectarian and political conflict, 'The Troubles'.

Using a theoretical framework drawing on, e.g., gender, feminist and trauma studies, we will study a range of literary and non-literary texts. We will, for instance, examine how Ireland's colonial history has shaped specific nationalist tropes: We will discuss an early dramatic representation of 'mother Ireland' in W. B. Yeats's iconic and controversial play *Cathleen Ni Houlihan* (1902). We will then engage with a more recent playwright, Martin McDonagh, and analyse how he debunks constructions of militarized masculinity and victimized femininity in his violent farce *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (2001).

While our main focus will be on 20th-century drama and (shorter) prose fiction, we will engage with at least one audio-visual representation of 'the (gendered) Troubles' by looking at Neil Jordan's Oscar-winning film *The Crying Game* (1992).

You will be provided with a reading list in the preparatory class on May 3rd. Secondary texts will also be made available on Agorá at the beginning of May.



From left to right: stage productions of Yeats's *Cathleen Ni Houlihan* and McDonagh's *Lieutenant of Inishmore*; stills from Jordan's *The Crying Game*.