

Duluth Campus

Department of Sociology -Anthropology

College of Liberal Arts

228 Cina Hall
1123 University Drive
Duluth, Minnesota 55812-3306

Office: 218-726-7551
Fax: 218-726-7759

28 February 2016

Peoples and Cultures of Europe Week 8

Midterm Exam

Arrivederci Italia
and the Makings of a Metaphor


and introduction to

“Master Texts” and “Classics”

and introduction to

Éire
Ireland: The Emerald Isle, The Island of Saints and Scholars
(time permitting)

The big event of the week is the Midterm Exam, in class, on Tuesday, 1 March 2016.

For the Midterm Exam there will be an **on-line live chat** for last-minute questions the exam. Join the  live chat *via* the Week 8 “Assignments and Activities” listing:

 **Live Chat -- Review for Midterm Exam, Monday, 29 February 2016, from 6:30 - 7:30**

[<https://ay15.moodle.umn.edu/mod/chat/view.php?id=584766>](https://ay15.moodle.umn.edu/mod/chat/view.php?id=584766)

Details on the Midterm are available at

[<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceexams_midterm.html#exam01>](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3635/ceexams_midterm.html#exam01).



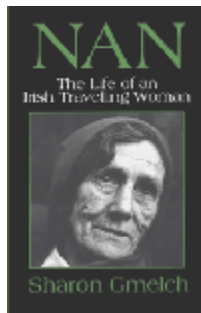
In a nutshell, the exam will consist of **four questions** drawn at random by **Moodle** from a pool of questions generated from the questions you have submitted to the wiki, plus a couple that I have added (also included in the wiki). **Use the list of questions you generated in the Midterm wiki as study questions.** And pay attention to my comments on the questions. You can find that in the Activities section of Week 6. . . .



Wiki: Contribute your question to the Midterm Exam

[<https://ay15.moodle.umn.edu/mod/wiki/view.php?id=584749>](https://ay15.moodle.umn.edu/mod/wiki/view.php?id=584749)

After the exam you'll meet and fall in love with Nan Donohoe in *Nan: The Life of an Irish Travelling Woman*. Nan will be one of those people you remember forever. She will tell you, in her own words, about her life as an Irish “Traveller”—the people some callously call “Tinkers”—including about her marriages, her eighteen children, and her “shocking physical abuse” from one husband. It's a “unique perspective on 20th century Irish history.”



Once you've met Nan, we'll begin a thorough look at Ireland, next week in class.

This is going to be a long “week”—*two* weeks long in fact.

Week 8 starts this week, and Week 9 after Spring Break. That should give you a chance to rest up—so you can focus when you return to business after the Vernal equinox.

The whole world, it seems, celebrates St. Patrick's Day on Thursday, 17 March 2016, just in time for looking at Ireland in class. So, **this week, time permitting, we're off to Ireland for at least a brief introduction.** Everyone loves Ireland, and the Irish love the world and everyone in it. We'll start off with an orientation to Ireland, all of them. You will see that with Ireland you will test your skill at keeping the **Units of Analysis** straight. (Remember those from Weeks 1-2?)

One of the great films of all time is Robert Flaherty's *Man of Aran*. It's a

classic, from just this side of silent movie days. *Man of Aran* is also a “Master Text” for Ireland and for Anthropology of Europe as a whole. *Man of Aran* did almost *all* of those things “Master Texts” and “Classics” are supposed to do—including create lasting images that become the popular conceptions of a people, and **it formulated the people as myth**.

We’ll have a look at *Man of Aran*, when we return after Spring Break, we’ll listen to what the Aran Island people have to say about “their” iconic film. Some of the very same people who “starred” in *Man of Aran*—will tell you what *they* think, in ***How the Myth Was Made***.

And before and after *Man of Aran* and *How the Myth Was Made*, we’ll take a walk around ***Inis Óirr*** (*Inish Beag* to John C. Messenger) and many other parts of the Emerald Isle.

We’ll continue our travels with the Irish “Traveller” **Nan Donohoe** in *Nan: The Life of an Irish Travelling Woman*. As I mentioned in class, Nan will be one of those people you remember forever—just as people generally remember their first trip to Ireland forever. If you have been there, you’ll know what I’m talking about. And if you’re going—soon, or sooner or later—you’ll see.

If you haven’t already done so, ***schedule some serious time blocks to work on your Project***. And be sure to ask if you have any questions about your Promissory Abstract, your Working Bibliography, or even about your Proposal itself.

One thing you should already have **started to think about is how you might present your findings**. Generally it is a good idea to pretty much finish your paper before you do too much work on your presentation, but, having said that, it is still a good idea to at least start thinking about what your presentation might be like.

For this week our course developer, has prepared an on-line survey of the class. Please help us by filling it out honestly, and promptly. Your views are very important in the future development of this course.

The survey is part of our main “Assignments and Activities” of the week . . .



Student Survey

<https://ay15.moodle.umn.edu/mod/feedback/view.php?id=584781>

Share your ideas with others. It’s always a good idea to share your ideas with others. You can discuss them on-line with the others in class. And you should do that.






s2016 **Student Collaboration Space**
for your own personal use



[Wiki for Project Collaboration](#)

The above item will be found at the top of your **Moodle** folder under “Student Collaboration Space”.

Remember to check the results of the class Video Responses from earlier weeks when they close. You can find the results in the **Moodle** Blocks where they first appeared. This week have a look at . . .

-  [Results--Kypseli I s2015 File resource](#)
-  [Results--Life Chances: Four Families in a Changing Cypriot Village s2015 File resource](#)
-  [Results--Süleyman the Magnificent s2015 File resource](#)
-  [Results--The Buried Mirror: The Virgin and the Bull s2016 File resource](#)
-  [Results--"Strange Relations" s2016 File resource](#)

In the meantime, if you have any general or specific questions, please let me know <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu>.

Your **(1) Topics** and **(2) Readings** and **(3) Assignments and Activities listings** are available in the **Week 8 Block** of your **Moodle** folder.

Best Regards and Wished,

Tim Roufs