

Rogha na ndaoine – an Ghaeilge agus an Léann Ceilteach i Vín / By popular demand – Irish and Celtic Studies in Vienna

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1. Celtic Studies (CS) in Vienna

1.1 history

- 1995-9: campaigning for CS
- 1997: Chair in CS (Birkhan)
- 1999: CS established as independent curriculum
- 2000: CS allocated to Linguistics/Ancient History
- 2006: Chair vacant
- 2009: CS as branch of Linguistics: curriculum?

1.2 status

- independent curriculum (semi-official status)
- interdisciplinary studies
- cooperation with other departments
- around 100 students
- problems:
 - only a small budget
 - administrative structure?
 - dependent on other departments
 - Chair vacant (Birkhan)
 - MA curriculum only

Publications 2006: Stifter, David et al. (eds.). 2006ff. *Keltische Forschungen*. Wien: Praesens.

Stifter, David. 2006. *Sengoidelc*. New York: Syracuse UP.

Ambros, Arne & Theresa-Susanna Illés. 2006. *Sláinte. Irisch-Lehrbuch für den Selbstunterricht*. Wiesbaden: Reichert.

1.3 financing

- €20.000 p. a. as budget
- extra funding from Linguistics Department & Department of Ancient History
- non-financial support
 - visiting professorships (Indo-European section)
 - courses in other departments
 - visiting professors in other departments

1.4 curriculum

- archaeology
- history/ancient history and culture
- literature
- linguistics; languages

1.5 The Celtic Languages and Irish

- introductory Old Irish course compulsory (4/6 semester hours); advanced courses optional
- modern Britannic language compulsory (8 semester hours; Breton)
- Modern Irish optional (4/8 semester hours); introductory course

other languages

- Welsh
- Middle Welsh
- (Manx)
- (Cornish)

2. Teaching Irish in Vienna

2.1 university classes

- 1990ies Modern Irish taught at the Linguistics department/Indo-European (Fitzsimons)
- 2000 tutorial course only
- 2002 Modern Irish reorganized
- 2007 native speaker teaches for the first time! ☺

2.2 adult education centre classes (VHS)

- Verband der Wiener Volksbildung: 18 centres throughout Vienna
- Irish taught in two of them:
 - Stöbergasse
 - Brigittenau

VHS Brigittenau:

- a. financing: 65% from own funds (fees, third party funds, advertising)
35% from public funds (subsidies)
- b. grading system = European system
- c. students from every background

2.3 Other

- tutorials
 - university
- private teaching
 - Fitzsimons
 - ???

3. Cultural centres – tíortha gan teanga

- Austro-Irish Society
- Cumann Céilí Vín
- GAA Vienna
- pubs...?