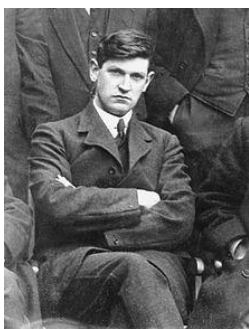


Mícheál Ó Coileáin / Michael Collins

Live Zoom Course / Thursdays, August 18th and 25th / 6 – 7:30 pm



“England’s idea was to make Ireland an English province. For her purposes Irish civilization was to be completely blotted out. The Gael was to go. Our lands were to be confiscated and given to aliens. Our industries were to be effectively destroyed. Everything that tended to remind us of the past, everything that tended to retain our Irish outlook, everything that helped to keep us a distinct people, everything that tended to keep alive in us our memories of our Gaelic civilization and of our Irish nationality, freedom, and prosperity, was to be obliterated.” The Path to Freedom by Michael Collins

Michael Collins (1890 –1922) was an Irish revolutionary, soldier, and politician who was a leading figure in the early-20th century struggle for Irish independence.

He took part in the Easter Rising of 1916 and was interned following the surrender. He was central to the reorganization of the radical independence movement following his release and he rose through the ranks of the Irish Volunteers and Sinn Fein. He was elected in the general election of 1918 and was a central figure in the first Dáil Éireann taking on many roles including that of Minister of Finance. In the War of Independence (1919-1921), he was Director of Organization and Adjutant General for the Irish Volunteers, and Director of Intelligence for the Irish Republican Army.

After the July 1921 ceasefire, Michael Collins was one of five plenipotentiaries sent by the Dáil cabinet to negotiate peace terms in London. The resulting Anglo-Irish Treaty, signed in December 1921, established the Irish Free State. Michael Collins viewed the treaty as offering "the freedom to achieve freedom" and persuaded a majority in the Dáil to ratify the treaty.

A minority in Dáil Éireann led by Eamon de Valera refused to accept the terms of the Treaty. A provisional government was formed in early 1922 under the chairmanship of Michael Collins but was soon disrupted by the Irish Civil War, in which Collins was commander-in-chief of the National Army.

He was shot and killed in an ambush by anti-Treaty forces on 22 August 1922 at *Béal na mBláth* (translating as "mouth of the flowers/blossoms") in county Cork.

This two-week course on the centenary of his death will provide an overview of his contribution to the centuries old struggle for Irish independence from England/Great Britain.

The course will cover:

1. His biography
2. His role in the Easter Rising of 1916
3. His role in the War of Independence
4. His Role in the Anglo-Irish Treaty
5. His killing/assassination in August 1922

To enroll, please email seanmurphy630@gmail.com / Course fee is \$50