



Support and Administration
Service and Administrative Offices
Centre for Adult Continuing Education, UCC



Genealogy: Breaking Through the Brick Wall

Fee: €150 for 6 weeks

Times/Dates: Wednesday 7-9pm, 30 September to 4 November 2009

Venue: Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, Room 243, UCC

Lecturer: Mr. Tony McCarthy, Centre for Adult Continuing Education, UCC

When you've traced your roots back as far as the so called 'brick wall', there is always a suspicion that there is something else out there to help you break through. The introduction evaluates Ireland's genealogical resources. The course then examines the contribution that the new cutting edge technologies – the Internet and DNA – can make to genealogical research. Ancient Irish genealogies are examined and the prospect of linking your own family tree to one of them is evaluated. Other collections of published genealogies are assessed in a similar manner. The final lecture examines the DFA (Descent from Antiquity) project.

1. The Genealogical Establishment in Ireland An introduction to Genealogy in Ireland as practised over the last century, focussing on developments since the 1990s, and with special emphasis on the status quo.
2. Cutting Edge Technology – DNA A look at the impact that advancements in genetic research have made on genealogy, with an emphasis on how DNA may be used to advance personal genealogical research.
3. Ancient Irish Genealogies: The major collections of ancient Irish genealogies, their location, practical use and value are described.
4. Published Genealogies Genealogies ranging from those in Burke's and Debrett's prestigious publications to humble Internet databases, are listed, described and evaluated from the point of view of making links.
5. Cutting Edge Technology – The Internet The quantity and quality of genealogical information on the Internet.
6. The DFA (Descent from Antiquity) Project The lessons to be learned from the search for the genealogical holy grail.