

Spring, 2025 Semester – Syllabus

Instructor: Ted Wilks

Course: British Drama: “Outlander” (Season 7); “The Hanging Gale”

Course No.:

Day, time: Wednesdays, 9:00 am – 10:15 am

Abstract: “Outlander” is a British-American television drama series based on Diana Gabaldon’s “Outlander” series of historical time-travel novels. Claire Randall, a married former World War II nurse, traveled back in time from 1946 to Scotland in 1743, where she met the dashing Highland warrior Jamie Fraser and became embroiled in the Jacobite risings. They then traveled to Jamaica and “The New World.” Season 7 involves their further adventures in colonial America.

“The Hanging Gale” is a four-episode story about the hardships of Irish tenants in 1846.

**Spring 2025, weeks 1-8
“Outlander,” Season 7**

Week 1	Episode 1	<u>A life well lost:</u> Jamie and Ian race to Wilmington, but arrive to find that Claire has been taken from jail to tend to a pregnant woman. Before Jamie can put together a plan to rescue her, Tom Christie makes a confession. Meanwhile, Roger begins training to become a minister.
Week 2	Episode 2	<u>The happiest place on earth:</u> After Brianna gives birth to her daughter, Amanda, Claire notices something is wrong. Brianna and Roger must return to their time to keep their family whole, and Jamie suggests Claire should go with them. Some unwelcome visitors at Fraser's Ridge find buried secrets.
Week 3	Episode 3	<u>Death be not proud:</u> With their home destroyed, Jamie, Claire, and Ian decide to return to Scotland for a while. Jamie tells Claire he sees things from her time in his dreams. In 1978, Brianna and Roger open a chest that has been in storage for 200 years.
Week 4	Episode 4	<u>A most uncomfortable woman:</u> Jamie is conscripted into the Continental Army, and sent to Fort Ticonderoga. Claire and Ian decide that they will also stay and fight. William Ransom, Jamie's illegitimate son and a British soldier, is sent on a mission through the Great Dismal Swamp. In 1980, Brianna applies for an engineering job at a dam, and Jeremiah talks of supernatural creatures in their home.
Week 5	Episode 5	<u>Singapore:</u> At Ticonderoga, Jamie and Claire prepare for an imminent British assault. Roger compiles information about time travel while Brianna earns the respect of her coworkers.
Week 6	Episode 6	<u>Where the waters meet:</u> Jamie and Claire help civilians flee Ticonderoga after the fort falls into British hands. Roger discovers the identity of the mysterious 'Nuckelavee'.
Week 7	Episode 7	<u>A practical guide for time-travelers:</u> Jamie prepares to face

		British forces in battle. Roger and Brianna question Buck MacKenzie's intentions in the 20th century. William fights in the First Battle of Saratoga.
Week 8	Episode 8	<u>Turning points</u> : Jamie fights in the pivotal Second Battle of Saratoga. Roger and Brianna search for Jemmy.

Spring 2025, weeks 9-12

“The Hanging Gale”: this four-episode television serial first aired on RTÉ One (Ireland) and BBC1 (UK) in 1995. It was previously shown at OLLI in 2016.

The series was a British–Irish co-production, made by Little Bird Films for BBC Northern Ireland in association with Raidió Teilifís Éireann, with support from the Irish Film Board. The serial, set in 1846 at the beginning of Ireland’s Great Famine, starred the four McGann brothers: Joe McGann, Paul McGann, Mark McGann and Stephen McGann, and was based on an original idea by Joe and Stephen McGann while researching their family’s history. The title of the series comes from the term ‘hanging gale’, the name for a widespread practice in Ireland at the time, where a landlord would allow new tenants a six-month grace period on payment of their rent, with the expectation that the rent owed would be paid when the land’s crops were harvested and sold.

Spring 2025, week 13

Left blank in case of a snow-day. If we have no snow-day this semester a suitable DVD will be shown.