

LIST I

HIU34079/80. The Troubles, 1968–1998: From Civil Rights to the Good Friday Agreement (Brian Hanley)



Between 1969 and 1998 nearly 3,500 people died as a result of the Northern Ireland conflict, while almost 50,000 were injured. It is over 25 years since the signing of the Good Friday Peace Agreement and commentators increasingly make the argument that the conflict is moving from the realm of memory to history. Indeed 2023 was the first year since 1969 there was not one 'Troubles' related fatality. While the idea of a united Ireland in 'our' lifetimes is talked about realistically, the 'Troubles' remains among the key issues that divides opinion north and south. This module examines developments from the outbreak of the Troubles in 1968 until the peace agreement of 1998. Key events will be looked at, but we will also try to understand how day-to-day life continued in the midst of conflict. We will look at the writings of activists and political commentators as well as academic historians. How different communities responded, how class and gender affected these responses, the contending views of activists, the experience of 'ordinary' people, popular culture, music and sport and the role of the media are all examined. Though the majority of the violence took place in Northern Ireland, this course engages with the all-island and indeed the global context of the Troubles.