

His 4775, Fall 2005, Newton Key

Write an essay (7-9 pages, graduates 12 pages, typed, double-spaced, 12 pt font, 20%: **due: 6 Dec.**) focusing on one theme and revising two scenes from *Michael Collins* (1992) based on use and analysis of primary sources (*The Times*, *New York Times*, Dáil Debates online, etc.) and the arguments of a couple relevant historians. In your essay I want you

- (a) to pick one theme;
- (b) to suggest briefly what the director of the movie is arguing about that theme and give examples to show that this is the argument (see the movie and Neil Jordan, *Michael Collins: screenplay and film diary*, New York, Plume, 1996, on Reserve, PN1997.M43683 J67 1996);
- (c) to show briefly the extent to which Thomas E. Hachey, Joseph M. Herson, Jr., and Lawrence J. McCaffrey; and Alan J. Ward agree or disagree with this argument; and
- (d) to use at least five articles or leading articles/editorials from contemporary newspapers (see below) to show the scenes you would like to add or modify to help prove or modify the director's argument (b) about the theme (a).

Focus on (d). (But don't spend time writing a screenplay!) In other words, pretend that you are the historical advisor to the film and are suggesting adding a scene based on actual documents to reinforce one point that the film makers are already arguing.

To discover what *The Times* writes about these subjects use the *Index to the Times*. Each volume of the *Index* covers a four-month period and is divided into two indices. Note that some creative researching is required. Also, we are interested in unearthing reasons why Graves and *the Times* write what they do. To discover what *the Times* thinks about the subjects, you might look at the editorials, indexed as "leading articles."

PRE-PAPER ASSIGNMENT (**due 17 Nov.**): Look up microfilm *the Times* for your birthday (or close to your birthday) in 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, or 1923. Photocopy one "leading article" (British term for an editorial) and one regular article for that date relating to Ireland (note date and page #). And type one paragraph summarizing what editorial is about, **and** where *the Times* stands.

Primary Sources for *Michael Collins*

Books:

Irish Uprising, 1914-21 : Papers from the British parliamentary archive, DA962 .I75x 2000

Intelligence Notes, 1913-16, Edited by Breandán Mac Giolla Ghoille, DA962 .I735X

Path to Freedom / by Michael Collins; foreword by Tim Pat Coogan, DA962 .C5 1996

Newspapers:

Times (of London; microfilm): AN4 .T45x

Also: *Official index to the Times 1914-57*

New York Times (microfilm), AN2 .N425x

Personal name **index** to "**The New York Times index**", 1851-1974. Byron A. Falk, Jr., Valerie R. Falk, Z5301 .F28 1976

Online:

BBC Website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/easterrising/newspapers/index.shtml>

(articles relating to the Easter Rising)

Irish Historical Parliamentary Debates Website:

<http://historical-debates.oireachtas.ie/en.toc.dail.html>

(portion of this archive is in Gaelic but a few documents in English, too)

British Parliamentary Archive:

http://www.bopcris.ac.uk/eppi/browse/1_2.html

Chapters of Dublin History:

<http://indigo.ie/~kfinlay/>

(links to several contemporary accounts of Dublin itself as well as a few newspaper articles <http://indigo.ie/~kfinlay/1916/1916index.htm> on the Easter Rising)