

COURSE DETAIL

IMAGES OF EMPIRE: REPRESENTING POLITICS IN THE AGE OF NAPOLEON

Country

Ireland

Host Institution

Trinity College Dublin

Program(s)

Trinity College Dublin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

History

UCEAP Course Number

183

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

IMAGES OF EMPIRE: REPRESENTING POLITICS IN THE AGE OF NAPOLEON

UCEAP Transcript Title

POL IMAGES/NAPOLEON

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

From his emergence on the international stage with the Italian and Egyptian campaigns of the late 1790s to his death in 1821 and beyond, Napoleon Bonaparte's career, first as all-conquering general, then as Emperor and finally as exile inspired an unprecedented explosion of visual imagery throughout Europe. From epic canvases of the enlightened hero on horseback and caustic caricatures of a demented 'little Boney' to physical mementos of the Emperor and booty plundered during the wars he waged, these images and objects offer important insights into how contemporaries understood and expressed their experience of revolution and regime change, of conquest and colonisation, of victory and defeat. Surveying the history of the Napoleonic period and its aftermath through its visual and material culture, this course draws upon local and international research collections to explore the interaction between image-making and empire-building in the early 19th century and to interrogate the relationship between art and politics in the making of modernity. In so doing, it also asks how historians can bring visual culture to bear upon their study of the past.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

HIU33102

Host Institution Course Title

IMAGES OF EMPIRE: REPRESENTING POLITICS IN THE AGE OF NAPOLEON

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.tcd.ie/history/undergraduate/images-empire.php>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

History

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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