Breaking the S.E.A.L.
Student Engagement with Archives for Learning- 2019-20

Programme Of Events

October, November and December 2019
• School expression of interest to participate in 2019/20 programme

16th January 2020
• Launch of BTS in Bishop McHale College
• Time: 09:00am

20th January-07th February 2020
• School visits into NUI Galway’s Hardiman, Carna and St Angela’s Libraries for Archive tours and workshop day
• Engage students with plans for their research-based project based on topics selected

17th February-27th March 2020
• BTS Mentors Visiting schools

03rd April 2020
• Due date for submission of 509-word abstract of student work for publication in Handbook of Second Level Educational Research and submission to National History Competition. Submission is through website.

17th April 2020
• Results of Finalists sent to schools

30th April 2020 at 9:00am on campus: BTS Finals
• Host an exhibition of research findings and experiences by students at the Hardiman Library with family and friends of students
• Presentation of awards and publication of student research in both digital and hardcopy.
• Presentation of school awards of participation in the Breaking the SEAL Project
• Presentations made by finalists who wish to be considered for scholarships to attend European History Camp (more details to follow)

Overall outcome for participating students is the completion of their required RSR leaving certificate history submission and the initial development of critical transitional skills required for engagement with third level institutions.
BREAKING THE SEAL - On Campus Itinerary
Welcome, Introduction and Tour – James Hardiman Library Archives

10.30–11.15 ------ Using and Finding Primary Sources
• What are Primary Sources
• Where to find them
• How to find sources in catalogues and online
• Knowing what sources to look for

11.15am - 11.30am --------------- Break
11.30am – 12.15pm
Selecting Sources - Which is the appropriate source, primary vs secondary and its benefits to helping your research
• Validating Sources – Trust and authenticity
• Sifting out what you do not need
• Answering what is asked – using the right source
• Linking the source to your argument

12.15pm – 1pm ------------------ Lunchtime
1pm – 1.45pm
Interpreting Primary Sources – How to analyse, assess and answer your question based on the evidence.
• W.B. Yeats Poems and J.B. Yeats Paintings - Link in with Yeats books and Cuala Press Broadsides by the Yeats sisters
• 1916 photographs – 'Sinn Féin Book of images of Dublin, 1916'
• Ritchie-Pickow Archive of Photographs – West of Ireland vs Urban Dublin of the 1950s
• Brendan Duddy Diary of Hunger Strikes negotiations 1981.

4. 1.45pm – 2.30pm
Academic writing - How to structure a response; Distinguish and how to write from a response from varying sources such as a diary vs newspaper, vs photograph etc.
• Figuring out what exactly is being asked
• Looking for the specific information in the source
• Writing your reply
• Forming an argument
• Conclusions from the evidence

2.30pm ------------------ Summary and Overview
3pm Depart Campus
Breaking the S.E.A.L.