M.A. in Historical Archives: A Library/Department of History Collaborative Teaching Project

Subject: Archival Studies

Overview of Innovation:
• Direct access to specialists and their facilities
• Multi-disciplinary approach
• Design and implementation of specifically tailored course modules

How it worked:
• Teaching in the Russell Library, John Paul II Library, Conservation Lab, and OPW-NUI Maynooth Archive and Research Centre at Castletown
• Bringing together expertise from Library, Archives and Conservation staff in association with the History Department
• Modules were planned and taught by Library staff on preservation management, the tradition and organisation of print, making information available, and leadership & project management

Lessons learned:
• Importance of good planning and communication
• Effectiveness of small group teaching for specialist subjects
• Recognition of the benefits of collaborative teaching
• Pivotal that teaching is focused on student needs and understanding

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