**Thesis Outline 14/11/2012**

Title: The Understanding and Use of Flann Mainistrech and his Work in Later Medieval Gaelic Manuscript Culture.

Literature Review: 20,000 words.

The literature review will cover modern scholarship and debate on issues relating to the thesis. Also, it will examine the history of attitudes to Flann Mainistrech back to the late 17th century in the context of attitudes to named Gaelic writers of history more generally. O’Flaherty’s *Ogygia* is currently envisaged as the starting point. I have also consulted James Ware’s *De Scriptoribus Hiberniae*. It is of interest for its treatment of medieval Gaelic writers generally even though it doesn’t mention Flann.

The literature review will look at scholarship relating to the following issues with which the thesis as a whole engages:

* Methodologies used previously to research individual authors and poets etc., esp. Flann Mainistrech
* Authority in medieval (Gaelic) literature.
* Theories of authorship.
* Theories of textual transmission.
* Historical writing in medieval Ireland.
* The poetic/learned class.
* The writing of the intellectual biographies (inc. case studies) of medieval Gaelic poets/scholars and how the definition of their corpus can be verified.

Methodological Defence: 5,000 words.

Chapter 1: References to Flann Mainistrech in Medieval Sources: 15,000 words.

* Terminology used to describe Flann Mainistrech in Annals and Ascriptions.
* Flann Mainistrech in Other Texts.
* Comparison with the Treatment of Other Authors.

Chapter 2: The Transmission and Attribution of Texts Attributed to Flann Mainistrech in Medieval Manuscripts: 10,000 words.

* Book of Leinster/Rawl. B.502.
* Book of Fenagh/Rawl. B.514.
* *Lebor Gabála* *Érenn* (v. brief, as discussed more fully in next chapter).
* Others.
* Where is Flann Mainistrech not cited?

This chapter will look at

Chapter 3: Reworking or Citation of Texts Associated with Flann Mainistrech: 30,000 words.

* *Annals of Innisfallen*
* *Lebor Gabála Érenn*.
* *Reidig dam*, *a De, do nim*, Dublittir ua hUathgaile and Gilla in Chomded húa Cormaic.
* Gilla Coemain and Tara King-Lists.
* Synchronisms
* Gilla Brighde Mac Con Mide.