



**Trinity College Dublin**

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The University of Dublin

SCHOOL OF POLITICAL

**ENTITLEMENT METHODS –  
AN EXAMPLE OF THE GREAT FAMINE  
IN IRELAND, 1845 – 1851**

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SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
M.SC. APPLIED SOCIAL DATA SCIENCES

## Declaration

I hereby declare that this Dissertation is entirely my own work and that it has not been submitted as an exercise for a degree at this or any other university.

I have read and I understand the plagiarism provisions in the General Regulations of the University Calendar for the current year, found at <http://www.tcd.ie/calendar>.

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Date: May 9, 2024

# Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my supervisor, **Prof. Martina Kirhberger**, for her guidance through each stage of this dissertation.

# **Abstract**

A short summary of the problem investigated, the approach taken and the key findings. This should not be more than around 400 words.

The must be on a separate page.

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# 1 | Introduction

*October playing a symphony on a slack wire paling.*

*Maguire watches the drills flattened out*

*And the flints that lit a candle for him on a June altar,*

*Flameless.*

— “*The Great Hunger*” by Patrick Kavanagh. (Kavanagh and Quinn, 2006)

The Great Famine in Ireland points not only to the corpses of the dead, but also to a “black hole of identity, naming and meaning” (Luchen, 2019).

The effects of the Great Famine were far-reaching. It wasn’t until 120 years later, in the 1960s, that Ireland’s population began to grow consistently due to large-scale emigration, late marriage and a high incidence of permanent celibacy no longer hold (Grada, 1979), but it was still nowhere near as large as it had been during the Great Famine<sup>1</sup>. This also makes Ireland one of the few countries in the world to suffer population decline over the past 170 years when the world’s population has increased more than six fold<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Census of Population 2022 – Summary Results, Last accessed: 8 May, 2024

<sup>2</sup> Blog by Ambassador Mulhall on Black ’47: Ireland’s Great Famine and its after-effects, Last accessed: 9 May, 2024



## 2 | Literature Review

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# Bibliography

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Luchen, W. (2019), 'The naming of identity: The famine narrative in joseph o'connor's star of the sea and the transatlantic diasporic writing', *Foreign Literature Studies* 41(5), 123.