Pamela O'Neill

Curriculum Vitae April 2024

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy: Centre for Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 2000
Thesis: *A pillar curiously engraven; with some inscription upon it': what is the Ruthwell Cross?*

Master of Arts with Merit (by research): Centre for Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 1995
Thesis: *The Lichfield Gospels: analysis of its place in the early medieval Insular manuscript tradition*

Master of Jurisprudence: School of Law, University of Sydney 2011
Gustav and Emma Bondy Postgraduate Prize for Jurisprudence
Research project: *Relative chronology in early Irish law*

Juris Doctor: Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney 2015

Bachelor of Arts: English and Linguistics, Macquarie University 1990

CAREER SUMMARY

2017 – ongoing	Sir Warwick Fairfax Lecturer in Celtic Studies University of Sydney Discipline of English and Writing
2017 – ongoing	Principal Australian School of Celtic Learning *(celticlearning.com.au)*
2021 – 2023	Owner/Manager The Croft Celtic Cultural Centre and Cafe, Glen Innes
2012 – 2023	Sessional Coordinator, Old Irish/Middle Welsh/Scottish Gaelic/Celts in History University of Sydney Discipline of English and Writing/Celtic Studies Program
2008 – 2023	Honorary Research Associate University of Sydney Medieval and Early Modern Centre/Celtic Studies Program
2019 – 2021	Sessional Lecturer/Tutor, Built Environment Law and Ethics University of Technology Sydney Faculty of Design, Architecture, Building
2020	RES Hub Digital Content Officer University of Technology Sydney Office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research
2019 – 2020	Short Courses Assistant (and Casual Academic, LX Transformation Project) University of Technology Sydney Faculty of Law
2018 – 2019	Professional Development Administrator The College of Law Australia
2011 – 2018	Adjunct Lecturer University of New South Wales Global Irish Studies Centre
2016 – 2017	Senior Manager, Education Migration Institute of Australia
2014 – 2016	Commissioning Editor LexisNexis Australia
2007 – 2013	Education Manager/Research Officer/Professional Development Officer Migration Institute of Australia
2004 – 2007	Research Fellow University of Melbourne School of Historical Studies

Research

CURRENT PROJECTS

I have a major project in progress documenting and analysing the historical use of the Scottish Gaelic language in northern New South Wales, drawing on archival and fieldwork sources. I intend to broaden the research into a comparative project incorporating Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, and other diasporic Scottish Gaelic communities. Several international publications have expressed interest in receiving articles based on this research. The project intersects with ongoing research by colleagues at the universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh.

I have an ongoing project to publish an edition, translation and commentary of the early Irish legal text, *Críth Gablach*. This work will interact with current work being done in Ireland (Maynooth and UCD) on textual analysis, chronology, and legal themes in early Irish texts.

I have a project at the conceptual stage which will investigate the pedagogy of Celtic language transmission, with particular reference to medieval and modern Gaelic languages. The project may produce textbooks or other teaching/learning materials for one or more languages. It shares concerns currently being explored by colleagues teaching Celtic languages, particularly in North America.

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

'A pillar curiously engraven; with some inscription upon it': what is the Ruthwell Cross? (British Archaeological Reports British Series 397: Archaeopress, 2005): 208pp

Edited Collections

In preparation: a volume of essays in memory of Anders Ahlqvist (with Daniel Anlezark and Arwen Smith: University of Sydney, 2025)

Fír Fesso: A Festschrift for Neil McLeod (with Anders Ahlqvist: University of Sydney, 2018): 303pp

Germano-Celtica: A Festschrift for Brian Taylor (with Anders Ahlqvist: University of Sydney, 2017): 271pp

Celts and their Cultures at Home and Abroad: A Festschrift for Malcolm Broun (with Anders Ahlqvist: University of Sydney, 2013): 380pp

The Land beneath the Sea: Essays in Honour of Anders Ahlqvist's Contribution to Celtic Studies in Australia (University of Sydney, 2013): 203pp

Early Irish Law: Text and Context (with Anders Ahlqvist: University of Sydney, 2013): 238pp

Language and Power in the Celtic World (with Anders Ahlqvist: University of Sydney, 2011): 424pp

Celts in Legend and Reality (University of Sydney, 2010): 483pp

Exile and Homecoming (University of Sydney, 2005): 411pp

Between Intrusions: Britain and Ireland between the Romans and the Normans (University of Sydney, 2004): 188pp

Nation and Federation in the Celtic World (University of Sydney, 2003): 316pp

Literature and Politics in the Celtic World (with Jonathan M Wooding: University of Sydney, 2000): 384pp

Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association vols 1–6 (2005–2010)

Australian Celtic Journal vols 5–14 (1996–2018)

Refereed Journal Articles

'MacKinnons in New South Wales, 1882–1902' in *West Highland Notes and Queries* 5/6 (2022): 30

'Old Irish *muirchrech* "sea-boundary"' in *Ériu* 67 (2018): 1–10

'Control of the means of production in early Irish law' in *Studia Celtica Fennica* X (2013): 81–89

'Old Testament borrowings in early Irish law' in *Australian Celtic Journal* 11 (2013): 55–64

'*Peregrinatio*: punishment and exile in the early Gaelic church' in *Australian Celtic Journal* 9 (2010): 37–48

'St Vigeans No 1 and No 1a: a reconsideration' in *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association* 4 (2008): 159–173

'When onomastics met archaeology: a tale of two Hinbas' in *Scottish Historical Review* 87/1 (2008): 26–41

'Law and history: why isn't rape shield legislation working?' in *Australia and New Zealand Law and History E-journal* (2008)

'Six degrees of whiteness: Finbarr, Finnian, Finnian, Ninian, Candida Casa and Hwiterne' in *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association* 3 (2007): 259–267

'Michael Davitt and John Davitt Jageurs (1895–1916)' in *Australasian Journal of Irish Studies* 6 (2007): 43–56

'Reading cross-marked stones in Scottish Dalriada' in *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association* 2 (2006): 195–208

'Landmarks of another kind: carved stones, setting adrift and early Irish law' in *Australia and New Zealand Law and History E-journal* (2006)

'The political and ecclesiastical extent of Scottish Dalriada' in *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association* 1 (2005): 119–132

'Historical reconstruction or imaginative recreation? The nineteenth-century approach to the early medieval' in *antiTHESIS forum 3* (2005)

'The Lichfield Gospels: the question of provenance' in *Parergon* 13.2 (1996): 51–61 (as Pamela James)

Refereed Book Chapters

'Cladh a' Bhile, Ellary, and its maritime context' in *Onomastications: a Festschrift for Simon Taylor* ed Thomas Owen Clancy et al (University of Glasgow, 2024): in press

'A possible early medieval route across Scotland' in *Germano-Celtica: a Festschrift for Brian Taylor* ed Anders Ahlqvist and Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2017): 211–225

'The meaning of *muirbolc*: a Gaelic toponymic mystery' in *Celts and their Cultures at Home and Abroad: A Festschrift for Malcolm Broun* ed Anders Ahlqvist and Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2013): 229–251

'Ollam na nÉces: Anders Ahlqvist and Celtic Studies in Australia' in *The Land beneath the Sea: Essays in Honour of Anders Ahlqvist's Contribution to Celtic Studies in Australia* ed Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2013): 3–7

'Material culture and social development in early Irish law texts' in *Early Irish Law: Text and Context* ed Anders Ahlqvist and Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2013): 143–159

'Unravelling time in early Irish law' in *Language and Power in the Celtic World* ed Anders Ahlqvist and Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2011): 323–350

'A sense of place: monastic scenes in Irish-Australian funerary monuments' in *Ireland, Australia and New Zealand: history, politics and culture* ed Laurence M Geary and Andrew McCarthy (Irish Academic Press, 2007): 119–134

'Boundaries, routes and sculptured stones in early medieval Scotland' in *Exile and Homecoming* ed Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2005): 276–288

'Dimensions and distribution: aspects of Pictish sculpture' in *Between Intrusions: Britain and Ireland between the Romans and the Normans* ed Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2004): 39–49

'National religions and the survival of stone sculpture: some preliminary observations' in *Nation and Federation in the Celtic World* ed Pamela O'Neill (University of Sydney, 2003): 203–218

'From Bede to Bragg: the politics of literature about St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne' in *Literature and Politics in the Celtic World* ed Pamela O'Neill and Jonathan M Wooding (University of Sydney, 2000): 207–217

'A note on the Ruthwell Cross' in *Worshipping Women: Misogyny and Mysticism in the Middle Ages* ed John O Ward and Francesca C Bussey (University of Sydney, 1997): xxxix–xl (as Pamela James)

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

'Scottish Gaels and their linguistic identity in the Pacific', Pacific "Celts"? Diasporas, cross-cultural dialogue and revitalized identity, University of New Caledonia 2024

'Defining ecclesiastical spaces in the early medieval Gaelic world', Islands of the North Atlantic Conference, Kings College London 2024

'Working with Irish legal materials', Islands of the North Atlantic Conference, Kings College London 2024

'What happened to early medieval Irish manuscripts in Ireland: a research question', Australian Early Medieval Association Conference, University of Sydney 2023

'Scottish Gaelic in nineteenth-century northern New South Wales', Tenth Australian Conference of Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 2023

'The medieval Irish law schools: lawyers, teachers, and legal historians?', Australia and New Zealand Law and History Society Conference, University of Technology Sydney 2022

'Early Irish law texts: an exercise in creative memory?', Australian Early Medieval Association Conference, University of Melbourne 2022

'Landscape, seascape and monument-scape in early medieval Dál Riata', Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Australian Fellows' Meeting 2022

'Modern misrepresentations of the status of women in early Irish law', Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies Conference, University of Western Australia 2022

'The eruption of the church into the early Irish legal system', Australian Early Medieval Association Conference, Monash University 2021

'More thoughts on Scottish Dalriada', Medieval Round Table, University of Melbourne 2021

'Iomramh na n-oileán', Tionól Gaeilge Ghriandóite, Melbourne 2020

'Experiences of landscape and ways of knowing', Islands of the North Atlantic Conference, Simon Fraser University Vancouver 2019

'Scottish Dalriada: an inconvenient term of convenience?', Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval And Early Modern Studies Conference, University of Sydney 2019

'Old Irish *muir* in compounds: what category is being marked?', Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval And Early Modern Studies Conference, University of Sydney 2019

'Sovereignty, exclusion and dispossession in early Irish law ', Australia and New Zealand Law and History Conference, University of Wollongong 2018

'Maria Charlotte Plunkett: cén cineál mná?', Tionól Gaeilge Ghriandóite, University of Sydney 2018

'Statistical analysis of lexicon and the composition of *Críth Gablach*', Tionól, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies 2018

'Mobility without mod-cons: reconstructing travel in early medieval Scotland', Australian Early Medieval Association Conference, Flinders University 2018

'*Críth Gablach*'s false equilibrium', Australia and New Zealand Law and History Conference, University of Canterbury (New Zealand) 2017

'Earlier materials in *Críth Gablach*', Australian Early Medieval Association Conference, Australian National University 2017

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

2012 Australian Research Council Discovery Projects 'Medieval Irish law texts: scholarly, legal and social development' with Anders Ahlqvist (University of Sydney), Neil McLeod (Murdoch University) and David Stifter (National University of Ireland Maynooth): awarded $30,000/one year

2012 ARC Centre for the History of the Emotions History Research Support Scheme 'Shame and guilt in early Irish law and society' public lecture and research in Melbourne: awarded $1100

2009 British Academy Small Research Grants Scheme 'Mapping *Muirbolc*: placenames through landscape' with Thomas Clancy and Simon Taylor (Department of Celtic, University of Glasgow): alpha-ranked (not funded)

2009 ARC Network for Early European Research Discretionary Fund 'Early Celtic Legal Language Symposium': awarded $2000

2006 University of Melbourne Faculty of Arts Conference Support Grants 'Us and Them: Perceptions, Depictions and Descriptions of Celts Conference': awarded $15,000 plus approx $2500 additional funding from ARC Network for Early European Research Discretionary Fund

2004 University of Melbourne Research Fellowships (Career Interruptions) Scheme 'Stone sculpture and self-identity in Scottish Dalriada': awarded 18 months FTE salary plus $15,000 research support (over three years)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Future Research Leaders' Program, University of Sydney/Group of Eight, 2009 – 2012

Teaching

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

I have been involved in teaching in various contexts for over thirty years, and for me the moment when a student 'gets' something they have been struggling with is the most fulfilling experience life has to offer. I have worked in all of my teaching experiences, from tutoring school students to delivering professional development to university teaching and research supervision, to refine what I believe is the essential element of teaching, assisting each individual student to develop their skills. More than imparting knowledge, I believe that teaching is primarily about developing students' skills, confidence and maturity of thought. As a teacher in Celtic Studies, I encounter students with a wide variety of backgrounds and interests. I consider my contribution to their learning to consist of guiding them to a better and more critical appreciation of what Celtic Studies is and how they can participate in the discipline by critically appraising their own and others' thinking within a context of mutual respect.

Celtic Studies classes are generally small, with numbers seldom exceeding 25. In this context, it is both important and possible to engage on an individual level with each student. I believe that in such conditions I must ensure that every student understands and is enthusiastic about the material with which they are engaged. I constantly monitor reactions and adjust my teaching style to the circumstances. I make my classes very conversational, always encouraging students to discover questions and answers for themselves, rather than 'feeding' them. I also encourage interaction amongst the students, encouraging them to reflect respectfully on each others' contributions. Additionally, I encourage students to connect the material being taught to their own life experiences, bridging the distance between their own world and that of the subject matter, finding common ground and identifying and exploring differences.

I value student feedback highly, and always encourage students to provide feedback through formal and informal mechanisms. I reflect extensively on feedback when received and also when planning and structuring further classes and activities. In the same way as I myself value informative feedback, I work hard to ensure that students clearly understand my own assessment of their learning processes and progress. I provide constructive and supportive feedback continually throughout all interactions, and take particular care when composing comments on assessment items, to ensure that students, regardless of their level of achievement, are given reasons for their marks and information about how to improve their performance.

Throughout all contact with students, whether during lectures, tutorials, marking or consultations, I work towards the university's graduate outcomes. I encourage students to approach all learning activities as research opportunities, fostering an enquiring approach. I create opportunities for them to acquire information through all available media, particularly online, and to critically evaluate such sources. Wherever possible, I enable students to write their own assessment questions (under guidance) to develop their curiosity and autonomy. I always prompt them to consider the ethical or social implications of the material they study and of their own reactions and statements. I work towards supportive and respectful interactions, where students think carefully about what they say and write, according to context. To this end I also incorporate as many different communication styles as possible when designing assessments, such as informal journal/blog writing, formal essay writing, and technical description.

COURSE COORDINATION

Full responsibility, including curriculum and assessment design, online learning materials, marking, lecturing, tutoring and student consultation, for:

- *Old Irish* (third-year undergraduate unit of study, University of Sydney 2022 – ongoing)
- *Middle Welsh* (third-year undergraduate unit of study, University of Sydney 2023 – ongoing)
- *Scottish Gaelic Language and Culture* (second-year undergraduate unit of study, University of Sydney 2017 – 2021)
- *Celts in History* (second-year undergraduate unit of study, University of Sydney 2012 – 2017)
- *Celtic Ritual and Culture* (fourth-year undergraduate honours seminar in History, University of Melbourne 2006)

CURRICULUM DESIGN

As well as developing the taught subjects mentioned above, I had primary responsibility for the design of the Migration Institute of Australia's Practice Ready Program for first-year migration agents and its Associate Fellow and Fellow education and assessment programs for senior professionals in 2013. From 2008 to 2010, I had a leading role in designing and developing the central curriculum and assessment framework for the Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice taught by four universities around Australia. I now create and deliver the entire program of community-based education activities for the Australian School of Celtic Learning, including the teaching of medieval and modern Celtic languages.

ASSESSMENT

I have examined honours theses for the University of Melbourne, Murdoch University and LaTrobe University. In connection with the Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice, I designed and led a pre-moderation process for assessment instruments and a post-moderation process for student scripts across the four universities and across semesters.

LARGE GROUP LECTURING

Built Environment Law and Ethics (first-year undergraduate subject, University of Technology Sydney 2019 – 2021)

SMALL GROUP TEACHING

In addition to tutorials as part of the teaching outlined above, I have taught modern and medieval Irish and Scottish Gaelic language for Macquarie University Ancient Languages School, Irish Language School Sydney, Irish Language Association of Australia, Canberra Irish Language Association, Scottish Gaelic Association of Australia, and the Australian School of Celtic Learning.

ONLINE DELIVERY

In 2020, I rapidly moved all of my teaching to online, using a combination of live Zoom teaching, pre-recorded lectures and online modules. For the UTS Law Faculty I managed the rapid creation of a suite of online short courses, both webinar and self-paced. In 2019, I was contracted to assist the UTS Law Faculty LX Transformation project by setting up subjects in Canvas. At the Migration Institute of Australia, I was responsible for design and management of online teaching through a virtual classroom and private study workbooks with integrated research and assessment activities.

TEXTBOOKS

Lead author: *Practice Ready Manual* (Migration Institute of Australia: 1st and 2nd editions, 2012 and 2013)

Contributing author: *Migration Agents Reference Manual* (Migration Institute of Australia: 11th, 12th and 13th editions, 2011 and 2012)

Commissioning editor for over 50 LexisNexis law textbooks, including conceptualisation and development in conjunction with authors

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Current
- Lead supervisor, PhD, University of Sydney Celtic Studies Program
- Auxilliary supervisor, PhD, University of Sydney Celtic Studies Program

Completed
- Lead supervisor (originally adjunct supervisor), PhD, University of Sydney Celtic Studies, 2018
- Associate supervisor, MA, University of Sydney Celtic Studies, 2011
- Associate supervisor, 2 x PhD, University of Melbourne Historical Studies, 2009
- Supervisor, BA Honours, University of Melbourne Ancient and Medieval Studies, 2007 (first class honours and prize for best thesis in women's history)

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING

Middle Welsh
Student evaluation of teaching 4.6 from possible 5; comments include:
- 'Teaching of concepts was really clear, and the teaching staff were incredibly helpful (and also just lovely people – very approachable). They were both really open to giving feedback as well.'
- 'The professors were very understanding and reasonable in their expectations for the course.'

Old Irish
Student evaluation of teaching 4.75 from possible 5; comments include:
- 'Pam is an excellent and highly engaging teacher with contagious passion for her subject.'
- 'She is excellent at explaining complex ideas, and keeps her explanations at the level of students' current understanding so all concepts are accessible.'
- 'Never have I had a teacher the like of her in skill, encouragement and dedication to her students.'
- 'An amazing tutor who is extremely knowledgeable in the field. I found the unit content difficult to grasp at times, but Pamela ensured that we went slowly and things were well explained.'

Scottish Gaelic Language and Culture
Voluntary student citations include:
- 'I was immensely impressed by the depth and passion displayed by Dr O'Neill, especially considering the demands of online teaching. Dr O'Neill made learning Gaelic an utter delight and absolutely encouraged me. The unit could not have been offered by a better instructor.'
- 'Pamela has been great about teaching us Gaelic online and she has been extremely patient and encouraging throughout the semester. Her knowledge of the unit subject, among other things, is impressive and she is constantly sharing helpful resources to supplement our learning.'
- 'Pamela was an extremely engaging and accommodating lecturer and tutor. The content was extremely interesting and taught well and to the level and pace of the class which lessened the stress of class immensely (particularly with the added stress of moving online) and made it rewarding and enjoyable. If there was a second level class of Scottish Gaelic Language and Culture available I would take it without hesitation.'

Celts in History
Teaching and overall unit satisfaction 4.4 from possible 5; comments include:
- 'Pamela is a phenomenal teacher.'
- 'Pamela's passion for the subject was very motivating. Presentation style and engagement of student in discussion was great. Pamela was very interested in our feedback and progress.'
- 'Best aspect: Pamela O'Neill – a great, friendly and highly knowledgeable coordinator.'

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching development program
University of Sydney Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, 2018

Supporting students with disabilities
University of Sydney, 2017

Learning to teach online
University of New South Wales, 2014

Foundations of effective teaching
University of Melbourne Centre for the Study of Higher Education, 2006

Supervision skills workshop series
University of Melbourne School of Graduate Studies, 2005

Administration and Service

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Public Officer, Australia and New Zealand Law and History Society, 2015 – continuing

Series Editor, *Sydney Series in Celtic Studies* (University of Sydney), 2000 – continuing

Journal editor, *Australian Celtic Journal*, 1996 – continuing

Honorary Secretary, Australia and New Zealand Law and History Society, 2015 – 2017

Founding President, Australian Early Medieval Association, 2003 – 2009

Founding Editor, *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association*, 2003 – 2009

Book reviews:
Over 40 reviews for journals including *Parergon*, *Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association*, *Australian Celtic Journal*, *Australasian Journal of Irish Studies*, *Northern Scotland, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*

Peer reviewer for conferences, publications and grant-funding, including:
European Research Council
Australian Research Council
Irish Research Council
Poznan Conference of Celtic Studies
Studia Celtica Fennica
Wiley-Blackwell
Lexington Books

OUTREACH

Volunteer presenter and committee member, 2CBD community radio Glen Innes

President (previously Senior Deputy Convenor, Secretary), Celtic Council of Australia

Vice-President (Immediate Past President), Aisling Society of Sydney

Council member, University of Sydney Celtic Studies Foundation 1995 – 2020

Guest speaker, Australian Irish community events 2007 – ongoing

Public Relations Officer, Sydney Mediaeval and Renaissance Group 2008 – 2010

Member, Celtic Club Melbourne Cultural Heritage Committee 2005 – 2007

ADMINISTRATION

Co-convenor, Spaces and their Humans seminar, Islands of the North Atlantic Conference, Kings College London 2024

Convenor, Tenth Australian Conference of Celtic Studies, 2023

Convenor, Tionól Gaeilge Ghriandóite, 2018 – continuing

Co-convenor, (Re)constructing History through Landscape and Practice seminar, Islands of the North Atlantic Conference, Simon Fraser University Vancouver 2019

Committee member, Ninth Australian Conference of Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 2016

Alternate Celtic Studies Representative on University of Sydney Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Committees 2008 – 2013

Co-convenor, Eighth Australian Conference of Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 2013

Convenor, Medieval Celtic Law Texts Conference, University of Sydney 2012

Convenor, Early Medieval Mariners in Britain and Ireland Symposium, University of Sydney 2011

Co-convenor, Seventh Australian Conference of Celtic Studies, University of Sydney 2010

Convenor, Early Celtic Legal Language Symposium, University of Sydney 2009

Member, Historical Studies Development and Outreach Committee, University of Melbourne 2005 – 2007

Historical Studies Representative on University of Melbourne Faculty of Arts Board 2006

Convenor, Us and Them: Perceptions, Depictions and Descriptions of Celts Conference, University of Melbourne 2006

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Fellow of:
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Honorary Life Member of:
Australian Early Medieval Association

Member of:
Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies
Australia and New Zealand Law and History Society
Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand