

Joyce at School

JOHN McCOURT

Università di Macerata

Abstract

This essay examines the absent and later uncertain place of Joyce's writings in Irish schools and universities. It analyses how Joyce was kept off the official school curricula and out of English literature textbooks until very recently. It also investigates the reticence of Irish academia to seriously engage with his writings until the 1980s. It traces the social, religious, political and cultural pressures that determined his neglect before examining how Joyce is studied in Ireland today.

Keywords: school; education; politics; religion; Ireland.