

SURVEY OF IRISH FOLK MUSIC

We will mix discussion, listening to recordings, viewing images of Ireland, and watching videos of popular Irish musicians and singers. We will combine cultural, historical, and geographical information about the songs; sing along at home, or bring to class recordings or lyrics of songs.

The course cover material from *A Simple Survey of Irish Folk Music*. Be advised that Mr. O'Neal is an improviser: anecdotes and images from his travels in Ireland will emerge as the need arises.

In the first week, we will ask "What is Irish folk music?" Next, we will look at instrumentation, and then turn to the traditional melodies and how they were saved. We will listen to and discuss some common varieties. This is an excellent time for class members to bring forth class recordings and/or lyrics of songs relevant to the theme(s) we discuss.

Required text: *A Simple Survey of Irish Folk Music* by Bill O'Neal, Jr. ISBN: 9798743604333
Available from Amazon in paperback and e-book format.

LEADER: Bill O'Neal is a retired high-school teacher of English and semi-professional musician/singer who has performed Irish folk music here and in Ireland for over four decades.

MONDAYS: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks beginning September 27 through November 5

MAXIMUM: unlimited