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Humanities matter!

The value of Language(s)

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Humanities matter!

- Humanities are not an aesthetic luxury
 - Strengthen our global view
 - Develop creative and critical thinkers
 - Create problem solvers
- Humanities graduates are:
 - Culturally and globally aware
 - Technically literate
 - Sense of personal and collective responsibility



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Ireland & Brazil

- FAKE news
- Security (global, national, individual)
- Smart cities/smart aging
- North v south dynamics
- Centre v Periphery relations
- Long tradition of Irish Studies in Brazil- literature, history, Irish language and music



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The linguistic reality of Brazil & Ireland

- Brazil
- 1 Official Language: Portuguese
- Approx. 190 indigenous languages
- Approx. 20 immigrant languages
- Ireland
- Irish, recognised as the 1st official language
- English as second
- Approx. 72 other languages

Official language regimes does not represent the linguistic reality

ENGLISH v's indigenous and locally used migrant languages



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Reality in an unequal world

- English as a problem, right & a resource
- The 'need' for English is assumed to be beyond dispute (e.g. role of English in academic success)
- Yet, local languages have an equal role to play in the economic, social and cultural development of a society



LANGUAGES CONNECT

IRELAND'S STRATEGY FOR
FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN
EDUCATION

2017-2026



1. The global dominance of English.
2. Lack of awareness of the opportunities that foreign languages offer for careers and mobility.
3. The shortage of qualified teachers of foreign languages



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O L L S C O I L L U I M N I G H

Brazilian & Irish research possibilities in Applied Linguistics

- Critically analyse the structures that lead to English language gatekeeping
- Promote the use of vernacular and hybrid English in formal academic domains & in the teaching and acquisition of English (e.g localising textbooks)
- Highlight applied linguistics as a discipline with real relevance to STEM
- E.g software localisation, intercultural communication in the workplace, languages for healthcare, languages for smart aging, languages in the prevention of large scale diseases; discourse analysis and network security