

# Ireland: Irish Culture and History

**July 8 – 23, 2018**

## **The Courses: HUM – 200 International Studies in the Humanities/ LIT-222 American Dreams (6 total credits)**

Course work begins in America with sessions designed to prepare students for travel and getting the most from the experience. In addition to learning about the cultural contributions of the Irish and the connections between Ireland and America, students will learn how to be travelers instead of tourists.

In July, students will travel to Ireland to experience the diversity of this modern nation. Travel in Ireland will include urban and rural settings. We begin in Dublin, Ireland's largest city and once the second city of the British Empire. Historic streets, buildings, museums and pubs tell the story of Ireland's long struggle for independence from the British. Along the way, students will discover Ireland's extraordinary story-telling culture and literary heritage. Travel to the "wild West" of Ireland exposes students to traditional Irish culture and landscapes that continue to capture human imagination. By the end of our travels, a much richer understanding of what it means to be Irish will emerge.

## **The Destinations: Dublin, Galway and Connemara**

This small island nation on the fringe of Europe attracts visitors because of its natural beauty and the friendliness of its people. Irish culture is a global force – because of the "bloody genius" of the Irish, as poet Seamus Heaney put it, but also because of the Irish Diaspora, the world-wide spread of Irish people. Ireland is never far from the minds of the nearly 40 million Americans who claim Irish ancestry. Though often idealized and romanticized in the American imagination, the connections between Ireland and America are real and worth careful study.

## **The Experience Highlights:**

- Archaeological tour of the Boyne Valley, including Newgrange, Drogheda and the hill of Tara
- The Aran Islands, including the Iron Age fort of Dun Aengus
- Village life in Tully Cross along the Renvyle Peninsula
- Hiking the beaches and hills of Connemara
- Historic Pubs/Nightlife in Galway City
- Ireland's national art galleries and museums
- Literary and historical walking tours of Dublin
- The Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) region
- Theatrical and traditional musical performances

**"Do everything in your power to study abroad; it is worth every single penny."**

**–Kirkwood student,  
2017 program**



**Estimated Program Fee: \$3,750**  
**\$1,000 Global Advantage Scholarship Available**

### Includes:

Airfare  
Housing  
Some Meals  
Health Insurance  
Many Cultural Excursions  
Most In-Country Transit

### Does not include:

Tuition: 6 summer credits  
Passport Fee  
Personal Expenses

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**International Programs  
1154 Linn Hall  
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#### Tentative Program Itinerary:

- **Sunday, July 8** (Day 1): Depart for Ireland
- **Monday, July 9** (Day 2): Arrive at Hotel, tour Parnell Square, O'Connell Street and Temple Bar area
- **Tuesday, July 10** (Day 3): Historical Walking tour of Dublin, EPIC The Irish Emigration Experience
- **Wednesday, July 11** (Day 4): Kilmainham Gaol and Dublin Writers Museum
- **Thursday, July 12** (Day 5): Dublin City Museum and National museums of Dublin
- **Friday, July 13** (Day 6): Travel to Galway by Train Galway, Eyre Square, Galway City Museum
- **Saturday, July 14** (Day 7): Aran Islands
- **Sunday, July 15** (Day 8): Galway market, Burren, Cliffs of Moher
- **Monday, July 16** (Day 9): Travel to Connemara by coach
- **Tuesday, July 17** (Day 10): Connemara orientation
- **Wednesday, July 18** (Day 11): Inishbofin Island
- **Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>** (Day 12): Omev and Clare Islands
- **Friday, July 20** (Day 13): Your Day, your way
- **Saturday, July 21** (Day 14): Theater performance by Renvyle artists
- **Sunday, July 22** (Day 15): Return to Dublin, Group Dinner
- **Monday, July 23** (Day 16): Depart for USA



#### Faculty Contacts:

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