

Ireland, Seek the Fair Land: Stories of Ireland and America

July 9 to July 24, 2017, 3 credits (Summer 2017)

The Country

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 Course

HUM – 200 International Studies in the Humanities

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.

Program Highlights:

Literary and historical walking tours of Dublin	Ireland’s national art galleries and museums	Theatrical and traditional musical performances
Hiking the beaches and hills of Connemara	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
Historic Pubs/ Nightlife in Galway City	The Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) region	Village life in Tully Cross along the Renvyle Peninsula

“Ireland is such a great study abroad destination with strong connections to America. You learn a lot about American and Irish culture while there.”

-Student, 2014 program

Estimated Program Fee: \$3,700

\$1,000 scholarship available!

Includes:

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

Does not include:

Tuition – 3 summer credits
Passport Fee
Personal Expenses

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Faculty Contact:

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 Iowa City Campus, Room 130

Humanities Ireland Schedule: July 9-24, 2017

- *Pre-departure workshop for one week in June.*
- *4 two-hour class meetings on Irish history and culture and instruction on traveling abroad.*

Sunday, July 9: Depart USA

Monday, July 10: Arrive at Hotel, tour Parnell Square, O'Connell Street and Temple Bar area

Tuesday, July 11: Historical Walking tour of Dublin

Wednesday, July 12: Kilmainham Gaol museum

Thursday, July 13: Dublin City Museum and National museums of Dublin

Friday, July 14: Galway, Eyre Square, Galway City Museum

Saturday, July 15: Galway market, Burren, Cliffs of Moher

Sunday July 16: Aran Islands

Monday, July 17-Saturday, July 22: Tullycross, Walking tours of Connemara and Inishbofin Island, music and theater performance by Renvyle artists

Sunday, July 23: Return to Dublin, cultural performance

Monday, July 24: Return to USA



Info Session:

Thursday, November 10– 11:15 am Linn Hall 2188 and Iowa City Room 205

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