

Dublin City University

irish studies



program snapshot

- Gain an in-depth look at Irish culture through coursework and cultural excursions
- Live at Dublin City University, with its compact high-tech campus, University clubs, sports facilities, and close proximity to the center of Dublin
- Participate in one or two three-week sessions
- Join CIEE and partake in cultural activities, such as visits to museums, cathedrals, galleries, and historic sites; day trips to Dublin Castle, the Hill of Tara, and Newgrange; and a field trip to Western Ireland [Session I] and Northern Ireland [Session II]

what you'll learn

The goal of the Irish Studies summer program is to introduce students to the breadth and depth of Irish culture through coursework and cultural excursions.

thoughts from abroad

For some years now, it has been my privilege to welcome American students to my native city and to Ireland. As many of you know, Dublin is an ancient city founded by the Vikings over 1,000 years ago. Today, it is a vibrant European capital with a truly international flavor. Although it has a population in excess of 1,000,000 people, the city maintains its friendly and compact atmosphere. Visiting students quickly become familiar with its narrow streets that feature a myriad of cafés, shops, and famous Dublin pubs. The birthplace of James Joyce, the city has a strong literary and theatrical heritage. With its thriving community of artists, musicians, and writers, this heritage continues to this day. Galleries, museums, and places of historical interest create a genuine bohemian atmosphere, which allows talent to flourish.

Dublin is a student-oriented city with a student population of over 70,000, many of whom are from all over the world. I look forward to showing you my Dublin and my Ireland.

— Don Niall, Resident Director

About the Resident Director

Don Niall is a native of Dublin with considerable experience in revealing Ireland, both North and South, to U.S. students from various colleges and universities throughout America. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Master's of Philosophy (Ethnic and Racial Studies) from the University of Dublin, Trinity College. He has extensive teaching experience in international tourism, anthropology, sociology, and politics. His academic interests include the construction of Irish identity, multiculturalism, and the geography of ethnic citizenship in Ireland; this latter area being the subject of his current Ph.D. research. Over time he has worked and travelled extensively in Europe, The Middle East, and Australasia.

About the Resident Coordinator

Martin Humphreys is a graduate of University College Dublin and holds a Master's in Psychology. He has extensive teaching experience and has taught in a variety of environments with traditional and non-traditional students. He also has experience in student support and academic mentoring. This experience extends into the international educational field working with U.S. study abroad students. He has also taught English in South Korea. Martin is originally from Kildare and has an interest in Irish history and culture both in terms of personal and academic research.



about dublin

An ancient city, Dublin is one of the most dynamic and fastest growing European capitals. With a young and vibrant population of over 1,000,000, it has enjoyed considerable economic growth during the last decade. Dublin may be a city on the move; however, the charm, culture, and heritage of old Dublin is still apparent everywhere. It is perhaps the most literary city in the world with associations that include Joyce, Shaw, Swift, Wilde, and Beckett.

academics

Academic Program

The two three-week sessions focus on the history and culture of modern Ireland. Students may participate in one or two sessions.

Academic Culture

The courses include daily lectures, readings, films, and frequent outings in the city. Each session includes a field trip linked to the coursework.

CIEE courses are taught on the DCU campus by the CIEE Resident Director, but are not part of the DCU curriculum.

Nature of Classes

CIEE courses are with other CIEE students only.

Grading System

Assessment is based on the individual's overall performance in the course, including essays, coursework, and final examinations or papers.



where you'll study

Established in the early 1980s, Dublin City University (DCU) has approximately 10,000 students. DCU offers its students multi-disciplinary programs, creating an environment that stimulates entrepreneurial awareness and activity through strong links with local and international businesses. The 85-acre campus compares to a traditional U.S. campus with central green areas, cafés, theater, a sports center, and a library. DCU is located 20 to 30 minutes by bus from downtown Dublin. Public transportation is easily accessible.

living

Housing and Meals

Students share apartments in an on-campus student residence. In the residence, students have their own room and small bathroom with a shared living/kitchen/dining area. There are three to six individual rooms to each shared area. Meals are not included in the program fee and are the responsibility of the student. There are dining facilities and a small grocery store on campus.

Orientation

The orientation program familiarizes students with the country, the culture, and the academic program, as well as provides practical information about living in Dublin. At the end of orientation, students should be familiar with their new surroundings, be settled into their accommodations, and have a strong support network. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout the program.

Internet

There are several on-campus computer labs in addition to free wireless connections on campus. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops. Students also have Internet access in their rooms.

culture

Cultural Activities and Field Trips

The academic program is supplemented with excursions and cultural activities. An integral part of the summer program—and thus, mandatory—excursions include day trips to Ireland's national museums, as well as to sites of historical interest in Dublin and its environs, such as Kilmainham Gaol, Dublin Castle, Trim Castle, the Hill of Tara, and Newgrange. Tours of the city are also highlighted.

In addition, there is one major field trip per session encompassing four days and three nights. Each trip reflects areas of note in Irish history. During Session I, students travel to the West of Ireland to explore Irish history and culture. The Irish Famine is the dominant theme, although the trip also focuses on culture, music, and the Irish language. During Session II, students visit Northern Ireland, spending the majority of their time in the cities of Belfast and Derry. This field trip examines the divide in Ireland that continues to exist today, and attempts to unravel the complex relationship between those in Northern Ireland with separate identities and allegiances.



eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75

costs

CIEE Fees

Summer 2011 (Session I or II): \$3,150
 Summer 2011 (Session I and II): \$6,200
 Summer 2012: available 12/15/11

The CIEE program fees for 2012 include an optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, tuition, housing, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, pre-departure advising, and a CIEE iNext travel card which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

Estimated Additional Costs (Summer 2011, per session)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 925
Personal Expenses	\$ 500
Meals	\$ 400
Books and Supplies	\$ 50
Local Transportation	\$ 100
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 1,975

Check our website for current fees.

duration

Session I

3 weeks: late May—mid-June

Session II

3 weeks: mid-June—mid-July

Sessions I and II

6 weeks: late May—mid-July

coursework

Program Requirements

All students take the required course in each session.

Credit

Course contact hours are 45 hours and recommended credit is 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours per session, unless otherwise indicated.

Language of Instruction

English

Faculty

Courses are overseen by the CIEE Resident Director and include lectures by educators associated with several Irish institutions of higher education.



courses

Required CIEE Courses

Session I

EIRE 3002 IRSU/HIST 3001 IRSU

The Shaping of Modern Ireland

This course examines the complex relationship between Britain and Ireland, including the rebellions and eventual “Union” of Britain and Ireland. It would be impossible to understand Irish history without studying the colonial conflict between the British and the “Native” Irish. The 19th century is central to Irish history. It chronicles the history of Ireland in the 1840s—the decade in which The Great Hunger (An Gorta Mor) occurs. The causal factors of the famine are analyzed, including the reliance of the “Native” Irish on the potato crop. The failure of the crop in the period from 1845–1849 and the consequences of that failure are also examined in terms of the economic, socio/cultural, and political landscape of the period.

Session II

EIRE 3003 IRSU/HIST 3002 IRSU

Irish Culture and Society

This course is an introduction to the Irish Republic in the 20th and 21st centuries, providing an analysis that encompasses the landscape of Ireland—post independence to date—including poverty, immigration, religion, and the political divide between the North and South of Ireland. The purpose of this course is to enable students to gain a critical understanding of the foundations of modern Ireland in terms of politics, society, and culture. Emphasis is placed on four key themes of Irish life: emigration/immigration, religion and its decline, socioeconomic inequality, and national identity. The primary objective is to provide students a clearer understanding of the influences that have shaped and formed a dominant sociocultural system in today's Ireland.

a student's story

To say that the CIEE Dublin summer program was the experience of a lifetime hardly seems to do it justice. It was an innovative learning experience on Irish history, culture, and society, mixed in with a whole lot of fun.

The great thing about the course I took was the way it was taught; with an exciting approach that focused on connections and interactions. From listening to cultural music, to watching historical documentaries, to class field trips that were linked to course material, it was impossible to be bored. After hearing all about Irish history and culture, we then had our own personal tour guides, the CIEE Resident Staff, to take us around and show us all about what we had just learned. They made us feel comfortable and welcome in our new surroundings. I cannot emphasize enough how much of an impact the CIEE staff's enthusiasm had on the program.

Unfortunately, not I or anyone else could tell you exactly what this experience is truly all about. I learned a lot, saw a lot, and laughed a lot. You'll need to experience it for yourself.

— Marki Conway, Merrimack College