



HIGHER
EDUCATION
PROGRAM



William & Mary
School of Education

William & Mary School of Education **Ireland 2018** **Itinerary**

Program Overview:

Ireland provides a site of educational transformation within the European Union and has a long tradition of commitment to education. The Celtic Tiger ushered in an era of prosperity little evidenced in the country, but the economic downturn resulted in the Irish government strategizing about how to best leverage their educational resources. Coupled with these in-country changes are the impacts of the Bologna Report and Lisbon Strategy, as well as the recent vote on Brexit.

Learning outcomes and modules help create a system of transparency for student mobility in Europe. The U.S. is beginning to look at similar options.

The course content creates a comparative analysis of the Irish education system relative to the United States. Visits to schools and colleges in both Ireland and Northern Ireland provide the basis of comparisons. As well, we will meet with leaders of the Higher Education Authority to discuss their recently released Strategy for Higher Education report. Students will read both fiction and non-fiction texts to learn more about the history of the Irish educational system, reform efforts, and the political climate. Assignments are reflective in nature with a culminating critical project that addresses the implications of international education on U.S. curriculum and educational goals.

Itinerary is subject to change up to 2 weeks prior to departure.

Sunday May 20th

Depart the US for Ireland

Monday May 21st Dublin: Arrive into the Dublin airport, and transfer to Ardgillan Castle for tea and scones and a visit to the castle, then your coach will transport you to your city center hotel. (Overnight Dublin)

Tuesday May 22nd Dublin, AM Academic visit (HEA/ Fulbright) afternoon visit to such places as Kilmanhaim Gaol, or possibly Glasnevin Cemetery or the GAA museum.

Evening: Planned cultural event such as the Abbey theatre (Overnight Dublin City Center)

Wednesday May 23rd Dublin Morning planned visit to a local school, and possible meeting with the principal. Visit to DCU, evening cultural event at the Brazen Head (Overnight Dublin City Center)

Thursday May 24rd Galway Depart for Dublin's west coast with stops in places such as Clonmacnoise and travel through the Burren. (Overnight Galway)



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Friday May 25th Galway: Academic day in Galway meeting with NUI Teaching Center, cultural visits in the afternoon. Evening traditional and dinner. (Overnight Galway)

Saturday May 26th Sligo Depart Galway and travel through Connemara and the lovely village of Westport before staying the night in Rosses Point Sligo (Overnight Sligo)

Sunday May 27th: Donegal

Depart Donegal and travel the short distance to Donegal with a stop in Donegal town and visit to the castle, then on up to Glen colm cille- welcome dinner- traditional music and soup and sandwich dinner (Overnight GlenColm Cille)

Monday May 28th Donegal

Full day in Glencolmcille with activities such as archeology tour of the area, possibly some GAA sports. (Overnight Glen Colm Cille)

Tuesday May 29th: Derry

AM meeting with local principal before departing for Derry, possibly late afternoon stop in Letterkenny Institute of Technology, before stopping in Derry for the evening. (Overnight Derry)

Wednesday May 30th Derry

Full Day in Derry, including a walking tour of Derry, (Overnight Derry)

Thursday May 31st Belfast

Depart Derry for Belfast with a stop at the Carrick rope bridge and the Giant's Causeway and Dunluce Castle, we may also work up a visit to University of Ulster campus. (Overnight Belfast, dinner at the Crown pub)

Friday June 1st Belfast

Full day of academic visits in Belfast, visit to Belfast secondary language school or a visit to Queens College and then a visit of the Falls and Shankhill road. (Overnight Belfast)

Saturday June 2nd Newgrange

Finish up visits to Belfast and travel the short distance down to Newgrange lodge with a planned visit to the Newgrange site. (Overnight Newgrange lodge, dinner at the lodge)

Sunday June 3rd Depart for the Dublin airport