Study Tours

Barryscourt Castle
Emo Court
Cashel

Study tours are an integral part of the Summer School programme and give students the opportunity to explore the beauty of the Irish countryside and to experience the places examined in lectures and seminars. This year, there will be study tours to the following destinations: first study tour: Barryscourt Castle, Fota House and Gardens in County Cork; second study tour: Emo Court, County Laois, Rock of Cashel, County Tipperary; the programmes will also include a theatre visit.

Costs

The cost of attending the School for citizens of the European Union is €1500 which covers single-room accommodation from Sunday 29 June to Saturday 26 July, this includes tuition, certain social events, study tours and meals on study tours, but excludes daily meals. **To attend the school for three weeks costs €1300 and accommodation from Sunday 29 June to Saturday 26 July, this includes tuition, certain social events, study tours and meals on study tours, but excludes daily meals.**

Summer School Scholarship:
A number of Scholarships will be awarded to students originating in the USA, Canada, the Netherlands and Italy. Funds will be available for students to attend the summer school and to cover travel expenses to and from Cork. The Summer School Scholarship is open to students who are either accepted or hold a conditional acceptance at University College Cork, who are unable to finance their studies.

The Summer School in Irish Studies in UCC aims to provide a unique learning experience by combining a rigorous introduction to major academic themes in the development of Irish studies with the opportunity for hands-on research in the form of assistantships. These assistantships are available for students who have a GPA of 2.85 or above.

The School welcomes students who take the course for credit and those who choose not to enrol for credit. Students who wish to register for credit are expected to have a GPA of 2.85 or above. Students who attend the School for four weeks may take the course for up to 10 ECTS credits, 5 in Literature and 5 in History. Students intending to take credits need to indicate this clearly on the enrolment form. Students should also forward a transcript of courses already completed at their own university or college clearly stating their GPA. They should forward these documents to the Summer School Co-ordinator before 14 February 2014.

Credits

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Teaching

The Summer School draws on the expertise of Faculty members, established scholars in their field, to deliver lectures. Lectures are followed by discussion-based teaching in seminars of small groups where Teaching Assistants develop the themes of the lectures. These Assistants already give students guidance and encouragement with their work.
Welcome from the Directors

As Directors we welcome you to the thirty-fifth International Summer School in Irish Studies at University College Cork. The School attracts over one hundred students with an interest in Irish studies providing them with an ideal location in which to explore the varied aspects of Irish history, literature and culture. It offers expert tuition, optional courses in Irish language and a varied social programme.

University College Cork

Founded in 1849, University College Cork is one of Ireland’s oldest universities and has three times been named Ireland’s University of the Year in recognition of UCC’s excellence in teaching and research. UCC is a dynamic learning environment with a global outlook and makes a major contribution to the economy and culture of Ireland.

Located in Cork, the second city of the Republic of Ireland, University College Cork is a vibrant teaching and research institution with a diverse student body, attracting students from over 80 countries worldwide. Cork city, placed in one of the most scenic regions of Ireland, is a thriving commercial centre. Although granted its first charter in the twelfth century, the city’s origins go much further back, to the early medieval period and the founding of the ecclesiastical city of Cork. As a major port it has a long history of connections with Europe and the Americas. Through its port the city was the major point of departure for the Irish emigrating to the New World and the point of introduction of new ideas from the outside world.

Summer School 2014

In 2014, the International Summer School in Irish Studies at University College Cork marks its thirty-fifth year. The School introduces students from across the world to the history, literature and culture of the Irish. The School will run for four weeks in the month of July. In the first two weeks, students will explore Ireland's history. In the second two weeks, the School will examine modern Irish writers and artists and the impact of their work on Irish culture and identity.

Study Tours

The title of this year’s school, ‘Isle of ancient fame’, is taken from a poem written in Italy over a thousand years ago by the Irish scholar, Dronion. The idealised vision of Ireland shared by many medieval writers and had a major impact on early expressions of Irish identity. In the twenty-first century, the Irish came to see the literature and art of their remote past as a foundation of a distinctive Irish identity. The ‘rediscovery’ of that inheritance led to a cultural renaissance that heralded profound political and social changes that continue to shape Irish culture and political life to this day. The lectures and seminars of the first two weeks of the Summer School will explore aspects of Irish identity formation and expression in these historical contexts.

The Literature section of the course will examine the works of W. B. Yeats and Edna O'Brien, gives a very different view of the role of the writer in modern Ireland. The lectures and seminars will address the contrasts and similarities in Yeats's romantic poetry and O'Brien's fiction and autobiographical writing. O'Brien's fiction and autobiographical writing.

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Study Tours

Summer School in Irish Studies

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In the first two weeks, students will explore how major turning-points in Ireland’s History shaped its people’s identity. The second two weeks of the School will examine how modern writers expressed that unique cultural identity. In lectures, seminars and field trips, students will explore the major themes of the 2014 Summer School.

The title of this year’s school, "Isle of Ancient Fame", is taken from a poem written in Italy over a thousand years ago by the Irish scholar, Dallan. Its idealised vision of Ireland was shared by many medieval writers and had a major impact on early expressions of Irish identity. In the tenth century, the Irish came to see the literature and art of their remote past as the embodiment of a distinctive Irish identity. The ‘rediscovery’ of that inheritance led to a cultural renaissance that heralded profound political and social changes that continue to shape Irish culture and political life to this day.

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Applicants should arrange for an academic referee to send a letter of support directly to the Summer School Co-ordinator. All documentation must be received by the Summer School Co-ordinator, Ms Victoria Pearson (v.pearson@ucc.ie) before 14 February 2014.

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The Literature section of the course will examine the works of W. B. Yeats and Edna O’Brien, two of the important figures in modern Irish literature. Yeats, the founding figure of the Irish literary revival in the late nineteenth-century, viewed the emergence of modern Ireland as the child of the Irish literary imagination, a place the poets have imagined terrible and gay (The Municipal Gallery Revisited, 1937). A contrasting voice from later in the twentieth century, Edna O’Brien, gives a very different view of the role of the writer in modern Ireland. The lectures and seminars will address the debates and similarities in Yeats’s romantic poetry and O’Brien’s fiction and autobiographical writing.

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Welcome from the Directors

As Directors we welcome you to the thirty-fifth International Summer School in Irish Studies. We hope that your time with us will be enjoyable and intellectually stimulating. We are delighted that our programme includes a wide range of lectures, seminars and tutorials, and that there will be social events and excursions to places of interest. We look forward to meeting you all and enjoying the company of this year’s Summer School students.

Study Tours

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