



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE

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Administrative Board of the College of Arts & Sciences  
Office of General Education  
CB #3510  
300 Steele Building  
UNC-CH

### UNC English in Dublin- Global Minimester

Dear Colleagues:

The Department of English and Comparative Literature and the Study Abroad Office are submitting for your approval a proposal to establish a faculty-led summer study abroad program in Dublin in Summer 2018.

#### Program overview

This three-week summer study abroad program will be hosted by IES Abroad in their Dublin study center and on University College Dublin's (UCD) campus. Participants will enroll in the required course, ENGL 127: Writing about Literature (3 credits), taught by a UNC-CH professor.

#### Program rationale

Ireland is a country where literature pervades nearly every aspect of its culture. If you walk around downtown Dublin, you see statues of Oscar Wilde, you can visit the famous lighthouse from the opening of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, you can see the beach Seamus Heaney writes about in "The Strand" near his former home in the Sandymount neighborhood in Dublin. Students in the UNC-CH English in Dublin Minimester Program will enjoy an immersive experience that yokes classroom work and experiential learning. Program participants will be reading works of Irish literature and then exploring the art, culture, and environs that inspired them and their creators. Students will leave the program with a greater understanding of the essential connections between literature and place; between art and life.

The UNC-CH English Global Minimester is being offered in Dublin, Ireland to fill the need for short-term study abroad programs that will enable study abroad experiences for a segment of the student population who may not otherwise be able to participate. As ENGL 127 is a lower level course and satisfies general education requirements, students from any discipline can benefit from this course. Though the program will be open to all College students, the minimester format will attract students who are not able to study abroad for a longer duration due to time and financial constraints. Dublin, Ireland serves as an ideal location for this program; because of its accessibility, it is a popular study abroad destination for our students, and this program will capitalize on the demand for short-term study abroad programs by coupling it with this desirable location.

In order to adapt ENG 127 to a compressed timeline, I have scaffolded the major assignment—the research paper—into several smaller assignments to ensure that the students are attending to the writing process throughout their time in the course, and therefore still learning the necessary skills required to write a critical research paper. The readings will be available to the students well ahead of the class, and I plan to be in contact with them to urge them to read ahead. My biggest concern is that they will not have enough time to read, so I am going to emphasize this as a key to success for the course.

### Faculty

Melissa Geil, a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature will serve as the UNC-CH Resident Director in 2018 and possibly beyond. Professor Geil's CV is in the appendix. Professor Geil also lived in Dublin, Ireland for nearly two years, where she worked for the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. Professor Geil has both local knowledge of and connections to the program's proposed location.

### IES Abroad

IES is a non-profit study abroad organization that administers study abroad programs for US college students. IES offers many programs at their centers throughout the world. UNC-CH has an institutional agreement with IES and many of their semester and summer programs are approved for UNC-CH student participation, including the IES Dublin programs. The IES Dublin summer programs have been particularly popular among UNC-CH students in the past few years with an average of 16 students participating on the various IES summer programs over the last three years.

IES has a customized programs division that works with US partner institutions, like UNC-CH, to develop and administer customized faculty-led programs. These programs are designed to utilize existing IES resources and tailor a program to meet specific needs of the US university. UNC-CH launched a highly successful customized IES program for science students in 2017.

### Dublin, Ireland

Dublin is the capital and largest city in Ireland with over 1.2 million inhabitants. The city center is, however, relatively small and can be navigated by foot, with most of the population living in the suburbs. The IES center is within walking distance to the city center, and UCD's campus is a 25 minute bus ride from the city center.

### Program dates

The proposed program dates for 2018 are June 10-June 30.

### Program content

Students will enroll in ENGL 127: Writing about Literature taught by Melissa Geil and will earn three graded UNC-CH credits.

English 127: Writing about Literature is a multi-genre course designed to develop critical thinking and writing skills in a collaborative intellectual environment. As this is a writing course, students will be concentrating on the nuts and bolts of writing work of quality and substance, creating a persuasive argument and then articulating that argument in a concise and well-formulated manner. We will do this through a series of assigned projects, response papers, rough drafts, and in-class writing assignments based on the texts we will be reading for the course. This course, in

particular, focuses on the literature of Ireland and Northern Ireland. This course fulfills both a Literary Arts (LA) credit and a Communication Intensive (CI) credit for the General Education Curriculum.

The program will include several course-related excursions in Dublin and a literary-themed overnight visit to Northern Ireland, which will focus on artistic responses to the Northern Ireland conflict.

In addition to the academic content, which will include cultural insight, the program will also include opportunities for cultural learning through the on-site orientation, a tour of Dublin, and an Irish culture evening.

More details about the course and the program's schedule are provided in the syllabus found in the appendix.

### Enrollment

The program will accept applications from UNC-CH and non-UNC-CH undergraduate students, with priority given to UNC-CH students. Target program enrollment is 10-20 participants. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.75 at time of application and at least rising sophomore status at time of participation.

### On-site logistics

IES will provide a full range of logistical support including program development, on-site orientation, excursions, and 24/7 emergency support.

The on-site orientation includes a guided "Hop-on, Hop-off" bus tour of Dublin, a comprehensive session on health and safety, culture, and living in Dublin, giving students an introduction to student life in the city and integration into Irish society and culture.

IES will provide necessary facilities including classroom space, housing, and library access on UCD's campus. Students will live in a UCD residence hall with single rooms, kitchen facilities, laundry facilities, and internet. IES will also provide housing for the Resident Director in a nearby studio apartment.

Emily Marlton, Northern Europe and Oceania Program Director in the Study Abroad Office, conducted a site visit to Dublin in December 2012, including a half-day visit to the IES Dublin center and two days on the UCD campus.

### Health and Safety

The UNC-CH Study Abroad Office enrolls students in international accident and health insurance through GeoBlue (<https://www.geobluestudents.com/>) for the duration of the program. There are no immediate health concerns in Dublin. Modern medical facilities and highly skilled medical practitioners are available in Ireland.

According to the U.S. State Department website, all European countries, including Ireland, remain potentially vulnerable to attacks from transnational terrorist organizations. The national government is taking action to guard against terrorist attacks, but U.S. citizens should be aware that attacks could take place without warning. The U.S. State Department website also reminds tourists that there is some risk of theft of personal property and pickpockets.

In the mandatory pre-departure orientation sessions, the UNC-CH Study Abroad Office discusses the potential for terrorist attacks in Europe and covers general safety precautions.

We are happy to provide any further information that you may need to evaluate this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

  
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Dr. Mary Floyd-Wilson, Chair, Department of English and Comparative Literature    Date    September 18, 2017

  
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Dr. Robert Miles, Associate Dean: Study Abroad and International Exchanges    Date    9.20.17

**English & Comparative Literature**  
**English 127: Writing About Literature (Ireland and Northern Ireland)**  
**Professor: Dr. Melissa Geil**

**Proposed Syllabus for Global Minimester in Dublin**

**Texts:**

Augusta, Lady Gregory, select writings  
Coohill, Joseph, *A Short History of Ireland*  
Deane, Seamus, *Reading in the Dark*  
Doyle, Roddy, select short stories  
Heany, Seamus, select poetry  
Joyce, James, *Ulysses* and other select works  
Wilde, Oscar, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *De Profundis*  
Yeats, W.B., select poetry

**Assignments:**

1 10-page research paper (due at the end of the course)		<b>Totals:</b>
5 response pages to readings and performances	10% each	40%
Class Participation and short presentations	10%	50%
		<u>10%</u>
		100%

**Learning Objectives**

1. Students will identify major characteristics of literary works such as stylistic conventions and typical content.
2. Students will identify major authors from Irish literature and be able to discuss characteristics of their work.
3. Students will develop their own arguments about an aspect of a work from the class through the writing of a critical essay.
4. In the writing of the critical essay, students will demonstrate research skills and source integration skills through the incorporation of secondary sources.
5. Students will relate ideas about a particular work and author by leading a discussion in class.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Attendance:**

You are required to attend all class session meetings and to come prepared to participate. In addition, attendance and participation in supplemental activities and outings is required as part of your enrollment in the course.

**Honor Code:**

The honor code applies to everything that you—and I—do at this university, including our use of outside sources in our research and writing. Our work in this class will conform to the principles and procedures defined in the *Instrument of Student Judicial Governance* (<http://instrument.unc.edu/>). The research that we do this semester, whether primary or secondary, print or online, formal or informal, will require careful documentation on your part. The need to cite your sources applies to all your work, including drafts as well as final versions of your projects. When in doubt: CITE.

If I suspect you of plagiarizing all or part of a paper, even unintentionally, I am required to report the offense to the Honor Court. If you think you are running into trouble with a paper, PLEASE come and speak with me. ***It is much, much better to take a late penalty on an assignment than to risk Honor Court proceedings.***

**Participation and Short Presentations:**

A crucial part of your class participation grade comes even before you come to class: you must engage with the text when you read it. Your class participation grade depends on your active participation in class. Be prepared for the discussion by keeping up with the reading.

Throughout the course, I will have you sign up for discussion leader spots, which means that you will be responsible for coming up with questions and points of discussion for the class, and then help to lead that class session. We will be assigning the discussion leader spots early on in the course.

**Response pages:**

You will be responsible for writing **five assigned response pages**. No late response pages will be accepted. They are designed to help to process your reading, class discussions, and supplemental learning experiences as well as to improve your writing and generate ideas for longer papers. Your response should not be a summary of the day’s reading; instead, you should discuss a critical aspect of the reading which interested or perplexed you. Although response pages are less formal than your papers, they still must be polished, typed, proofread, and spell-checked.

**Research paper:**

You will be responsible for writing **one ten-page research paper** on which we will be working extensively in and outside of class. The topic will emerge from the literature of the class, as well as material you will draw on from your experiences in Ireland. The paper will be due at the end of the class.

**SCHEDULE**

Date	Text/Assignments	Class time/topic	Class related activities	Other	Class contact hours	Experiential contact hours	Total Daily Contact Hours
June 10				Depart for Dublin			
June 11				Arrive in Dublin			
June 12			Orientation				
June 13	Coohill, Joseph. Ireland: A Short History	9-11 Topic: Irish History: a Brief Overview (first 1.5 hours) Topic: Literary Dublin (second 1.5 hours)	Literary walking tour of Dublin (2 hours) (something like this: <a href="http://www.visitdublin.com/see-do/details/literary-walking-tour-dublin#53.340144 -6.251688 16">http://www.visitdublin.com/see-do/details/literary-walking-tour-dublin#53.340144 -6.251688 16</a> )		2	2	4

June 14	James Joyce, Dubliners, selections from Ulysses	9-11 Topic: James Joyce and Ireland			2		2
June 15	James Joyce, selections from Ulysses <b>Due: Response 1-Walking Tour—Connect with an author on the syllabus</b>	9-11: Topic: Ulysses and Dublin; Introduce research paper assignment	Literary Walking Tour: Leopold Bloom's Dublin (Ulysses character) (2 hours)		2	2	4
June 16			Bloomsday Activities and Joyce Tower (5 hours), Joyce Museum			5	5
June 17				Free day, students will be given list of recommended activities in and around Dublin			
June 18	W.B. Yeats, select poetry (Easter Rising) <b>Due: Response 2 Ulysses and Dublin—Bloomsday response</b>	9-11 Topic: Yeats and Irish Nationalism	Research Time for Research Paper		2		2
June 19	W.B. Yeats, Seamus Heaney (select poetry)	<b>9-12</b> Topic: The Troubles then and now	Research Time for Research Paper		3		3
June 20	Reading in the Dark by Seamus Deane <b>Due: Response 3: Yeats and Easter Rising</b>	<b>9-12</b> Topics: The Troubles and Reading in the Dark			3		3
June 21	Reading in the Dark by Seamus	<b>9-12</b> Topic: Reading	National Gallery visit (2 hours)		3	2	5

	Deane	in the Dark Introduce Research Paper					
June 22	<b>Due: Response 4: Paper Outline</b>		Derry tour on Troubles (4 Hours)	Travel to Belfast in the morning		4	4
June 23			Belfast Tour on Troubles (4 Hours)	Return to Dublin		4	4
June 24				Free day			
June 25	Oscar Wilde, Importance of Being Earnest	<b>9-12</b> Topic: Oscar Wilde	Research time		3		3
June 26	Yeats, Lady Gregory (select readings) <b>Due: Draft of Research Paper</b>	9-11 Topic: The Irish National Theater	Research time Evening Out: The Irish National Theatre (3 hours)		2	3	5
June 27	Contemporary Irish Fiction: Short Stories by Roddy Doyle, and two others	9-11 Topic: Roddy Doyle and contemporary Irish Writers	Research time		2		2
June 28	<b>Due: Response 5: Theatre Review</b>	<b>9-12</b> Topic: Peer review of research paper, revision plan workshop	Additional office hours for research paper		3		3
June 29	<b>Due: Final Research Paper In class: reflection</b>	9-11 Class evaluations			2		2
June 30			Depart Dublin				
			<b>Total Contact Hours</b>		29	20	49