

Ireland

California State University, Sacramento Study Abroad Program

Dublin City University was established in 1980 to respond to the challenges being set for higher education by rapidly diversifying industrial and business sectors in Ireland and in the European Union. The university is located on a fifty-acre campus in the northern suburbs of Dublin, the capital city of Ireland. It thus offers the merits of a city location with easy access to public transport, shops, accommodation, entertainment venues, and to a wide range of cultural, recreational, and historical amenities. The university itself has a vast range of sports clubs and societies and many social events. Current facilities include a modern and well-equipped library; television and sound studios; computer and micro-computer laboratories; phonetics, languages and interpreting laboratories; an audio-visual learning resource center; and print and graphics laboratories. In addition, the university has recently acquired additional lands adjacent to the main campus, which will be developed to provide a significant sports facility.

STUDY ABROAD AT

Dublin City University

COURSE OFFERINGS

Students who would like to study in Ireland while still enrolled at this university have an excellent opportunity through this study abroad program. As required by the Dublin City University Act and by the Irish Government, all programs are designed to meet the most rigorous national and international standards. In addition to receiving a very positive response from employers, the programs have gained recognition from the appropriate professional bodies. The university currently offers around forty full-time primary degree programs and a range of postgraduate taught programs, postgraduate research degrees, part-time evening programs and distance education programs. All these courses form part of the degree studies of Irish students; none was devised for visitors. This means that our students at DCU share the Irish education experience rather than simply participating in an American program in Ireland. **For this study abroad program, courses are offered in Communication Studies and Journalism for undergraduates; and for graduate level study, International Communication, International Journalism Studies, Film and Television Studies, Journalism, Multimedia, Political Communication, and Science Communication.**

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should have **upper division standing with a declared major or classified graduate standing** at this university by the time of departure, **good academic records**, and a **2.75** cumulative grade point average for undergraduates and a **3.0** for graduates or better at the time of the application deadline. The applicant also should be prepared to accept the challenge of study in a country with an educational system different from our own. All applicants should check to ensure that they are on track for meeting the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR). In most cases, the **lower division courses** of the appropriate field of study must have been completed prior to participation in this program.

Applications will be accepted **for one semester or one academic year**. Students are required to be **full-time** while studying in Dublin and, thus, take the equivalent of 15 units during each semester for undergraduates and 12 units per semester for graduates. (Please note that in general because of the need for an early departure date in order to return to this university for the spring semester, fall semester only participation may be difficult. See the calendar section for more information.)

CALENDAR

Most of the courses are taught on a semester basis at Dublin City University, and semesters are 12 weeks long. The first semester begins towards the end of September and ends around the end of January, with a break for Christmas and the exam study period. The second semester begins towards the beginning of February and ends around the end of May, with a break for the exam study period. Students should plan to arrive in time to attend the International Student Orientation, which usually is held about a week before the start of classes.

SCHOLARSHIPS

For information on scholarships for study abroad, you should register for and attend a scholarship workshop in the Office of Global Education.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Students accepted to the program will **pay the usual California State University, Sacramento fees, remain eligible for financial aid** (except work/study), if otherwise qualified, and receive **resident credit** just as if they were attending classes at this university. (Please note that equivalency of courses falls under the jurisdiction of the academic department.) DCU has agreed to waive non-resident tuition, approximately 10,400 Euros (over \$14,772) per year, making this a particularly attractive opportunity for participants. Students will pay for their travel to and from Ireland, room and board, books, and incidentals. In addition, each student must have the required insurance during his or her stay in Ireland. The approximate cost of living in Ireland is comparable to the cost of living independently in Sacramento (not including travel costs). Expenses for a semester in Ireland are estimated at the following: usual undergraduate fees - \$2,450 (graduates would pay the graduate fee), airfare - \$950, insurance - \$200, room and meals - \$4,840, and incidentals (including local transportation, books, clothing, entertainment) - \$2,400. Total: \$10,840. The estimated expenses for an academic year are about \$20,730. This estimate is given for planning purposes only and is subject to changes from currency fluctuation, inflation, and fee changes. Keep in mind that the costs to obtain a passport and a student visa are not included in this estimate.

HOUSING AND MEALS

Locating housing will be the individual student's responsibility, although the accommodation office at Dublin City University (Campus Residences Limited) will give assistance in this area. DCU does offer housing in its residence halls to international students. International undergraduate students usually are allocated rooms in Hampstead and College Park Apartments. Location will depend on length of stay and availability. Each apartment within the Hampstead and College Park Apartments contains four or five bedrooms with a shared living/kitchen/dining area. More information can be found at the DCU accommodation website at http://www.dcu.ie/accommodation/int_oncamp.shtml.

For students who prefer to live off-campus, Campus Residences Limited provides an online list of houses in the area. International students are advised to contact the Campus Residences Limited prior to arrival for further information on these and for information on temporary accommodation for the first couple of nights in Dublin. Housing lists are available to all incoming graduate students upon acceptance to the university. A listing of hotels and guesthouses within the Dublin area also are available at the accommodation website. Additional resources suggested by DCU are <http://www.shanowensquare.com> (for nearby student apartments), <http://www.daft.ie> (for private rentals), and local newspaper ads and notice boards around DCU after arrival.

A number of eating places are located on the DCU campus.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

You may wish to consult these resources for further information:

The Office of Global Education home page: <http://www.csus.edu/oge/>

The DCU home page: <http://www.dcu.ie>

The DCU International Office: <http://www.dcu.ie/international> (helpful information for international students)

The DCU Registry: http://www.dcu.ie/registry/module_contents.php

Click on “Module Specifications by School” (left of screen) and on “Communications” to find course titles and descriptions. At the site listing the communications modules, click on “Programme Academic Structure” (left of screen) and then on the appropriate field (BA in Communications or BA in Journalism) to learn the level of the course (1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year).

The DCU Accommodation (Campus Residences Limited): http://www.dcu.ie/accommodation/int_oncamp.shtml

For information about Ireland, visit: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com>
<http://www.irlgov.ie> (Government of Ireland)

The catalogs and other information available in the Office of Global Education

To obtain an application or to speak with a study abroad advisor, please call the **Office of Global Education at 278-6686** or go to **Lassen Hall, Room 2304**. Applications, references, and transcripts should be sent to the address below. The deadline for materials to be received is **March 1** for the **fall** semester and **October 1** for the **spring** semester. Please note that there is an interview process for this application, also.

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