



**INSTITUTE OF STUDY ABROAD IRELAND**

• Educational and Cultural Programs in Ireland •



**Community Colleges for  
International Development**

Local Access • Global Opportunities

# Professional Development in Ireland

2022

## Hosting students and Faculty since 1996

The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland was established in 1996, to provide programs in Ireland for U.S. students. After a few years based in Dublin, founder, Dr. Niamh Hamill decided to relocate the campus to Donegal, along the Wild Atlantic Way, and she joined forces with John O'Connell, to provide year-round opportunities for faculty-led trips to Ireland.

As the number of colleges and schools increased, there was an increasing demand from institutions for pre-trip site visits and faculty development courses, so that trip leaders and the college administration could integrate the desired outcomes of the study trips with the classroom content, the overall curriculum, and the ethos of the sending institution.

The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland is now in partnership with over 200 schools and colleges in the U.S. and hosts regular professional development programs in Ireland for faculty and administration.

## WORK WITH US IN IRELAND

Our Professional Development courses take place in Ireland over 5-6 days, and include site visits, field trips, intensive workshops and seminars, cultural and culinary experiences in urban and rural Ireland.

Our courses are open to professionals working in any realm of Higher Education. Partners or friends are welcome to join you.

*Niamh Hamill Ph.D*      *John O'Connell*

**Dr. Niamh Hamill Ph.D & John O'Connell**



## The Impact of Cultural Competency

It is widely acknowledged that cultural competence and global awareness are now highly valued skills in the modern workplace. The cultivation of these skills is now as essential a part of higher education as other academic experiences, as students prepare to become part of a globalized society.

Many administrators and faculty are keen to restart or develop study programs and/or courses that deliver cultural competence; that are integrated with institutional goals such as interdisciplinary teaching, the development of critical and comparative thinking, and personal development.

Post Covid, we have witnessed the development of virtual methods of delivering outcomes in cultural competency and global awareness, and there are now new opportunities to offer the virtual program and/or the study trip in ways that can address historic difficulties. Though virtual courses cannot replicate the travel experience, they can deliver similar outcomes of cultural competency and global awareness.

A well-executed cultural competency program and / or a planned short-term study trip program as a component of a college or school course requires engagement and expertise, from curriculum planning to the coordination

of travel, and demands the engagement of administrators, faculty, the study abroad providers, and the participating student.

Courses should also be affordable, accessible, and appealing to a diverse student body, and should incorporate tools to measure effectiveness. Programs should be robust academically, sustainable, and easy to administer.

Study travel is most effective when it is a component of a college course, but this can be difficult to organize if the college course is small, or the curriculum is not internationalized, or the faculty are not interested, or students are not interested, or cannot afford it.

Covid-19 has thrown even more complexities into the processes of arranging study travel. There are other challenges to study travel that can limit its effectiveness; institutional resistance, faculty resistance, student fear, logistical limitations and so on; because of this myriad of reasons, study travel programs can be difficult to deliver effectively. The key to a great study-travel experience is an engaged faculty, a supportive provider, and a partnership between the two to give students what could be their most formative experience of their lives.

# Your Curriculum, Your Outcomes

The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland has successfully developed long-term partnerships with many U.S. Schools and Colleges, and in association with these partners, we have created short professional development trips to Ireland.

Our seminars will discuss best practices for internationalizing your curriculum, through the use of online content, and faculty-led travel programs. We consider the methodologies that deliver structured and focused academic learning outcomes compatible with the ethos and goals of the college courses.

Higher Ed professionals who are interested in creating or increasing the capacity of their educational institution to offer cultural competency and internationalization experiences, in both integrated virtual courses and short educational travel programs.

We focus on supporting the development of internationalization so that your program reflects and compliments both the Institutional goals and the Curriculum goals. We also focus on faculty engagement and student engagement as part of this process.

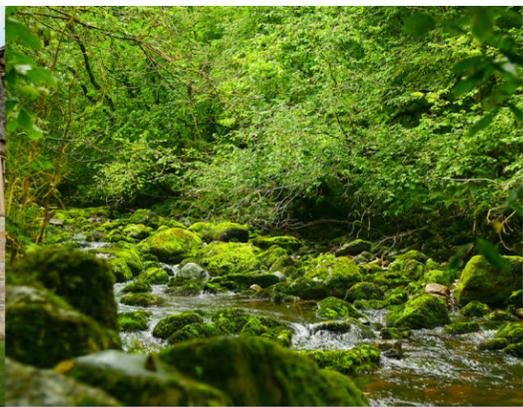
# Professional Development in Ireland

Our Professional Development Programs are suitable for faculty and administrators of Early College Programs, Community Colleges, Community College Consortia, Study Abroad Advisors and Department Heads who are interested in creating or increasing the capacity of their educational institution to offer cultural competency and internationalization experiences, in both integrated virtual courses and short educational travel programs.

Our Professional Development programs focus on supporting the development of internationalization so that your

program reflects and compliments both the Institutional goals and the Curriculum goals. We also focus on faculty engagement and student engagement as part of this process.

Our professional development programs are a combination of workshops, field trips and seminars, in Dublin City, and at our campus in County Donegal, on the Wild Atlantic Way. The travel element of this professional development experience will demonstrate the opportunities to use shared narratives to inspire critical and comparative thinking, as we introduce you to multiple historical and cultural experiences here in Ireland.



## Our seminars and workshops will cover:

- Building and using **online content in your classroom**
- Growing faculty and **institutional enthusiasm for internationalizing**
- **Logistics and supports** for both online courses and study travel
- Creating **collaborative partnerships** with other institutions
- Addressing **the challenges of post-covid travel and cultural competency.**

## Testimonials

*A trip to Ireland with ISA Ireland and Niamh and John is basically perfect. They plan every detail. The knowledge and experiences gained are fantastic, but they are complemented by the welcome and ability to make everyone feel special that Niamh and John exude, as well as the opportunity to spend time learning, bonding, and collaborating with likeminded educators. I know the trip for students is life-changing. It has been no less than life affirming for me—maybe even life changing too.*

*Sarah Wright, English and Pol. Science Instructor, Surrey Community College*

*As an educational leader, I was particularly impressed with the power of storytelling prominently displayed by the staff as well as by members of their partner organizations. I highly recommend ISA Ireland as a setting for transformative experiences for both student study abroad and staff professional development.*

*Dean Roughton, VP of Institutional Research, North Carolina*

*Attending the Fall Forum was a great opportunity to experience elements of an ISA program and connect with colleagues from around the country, and it also gave me an opportunity to reimagine ways to deliver study abroad for my students with in-person, virtual, and hybrid models.*

*Jeff Badger, Professor of Fine Arts, Southern Maine Community College*

# The Fall Forum

## September 22-28, 2022

### Ireland

#### Thursday 22 September

- Depart USA for Dublin, Ireland

#### Friday 23 September

- Arrive early AM Dublin Airport-transfer to Dublin hotel
- Meet at 2pm in Dublin hotel for introductory seminar on Study Abroad Programming
- 2.30pm Guided tour of Epic Ireland Diaspora Exhibition.
- Group Dinner & discussion.

#### Saturday 24 September

- 10am Travel to Institute of Study Abroad Ireland Campus in Donegal, with guided visit Tara (Ancient tribal site)
- Arrive at Campus, check in & group dinner.
- Evening seminar CCID

#### Sunday 25 September

- ISAI 'Shared Narratives and the American student'
- Lecture & guided field trip to Donegal Castle & surrounds.
- Evening seminar CCID

#### Monday 26 September

- ISAI - 'Empathy, Social Justice and Global Citizenship'
- Field Trip to Derry City, Northern Ireland, including visit to Bloody Sunday
- Civil Rights Museum.
- Evening seminar CCID

#### Tuesday 27 September

- 9am Breakfast
- 10am - 1pm Choice of beginner surfing lesson or beach horse-riding trek OR lecture 'Identity, ethnicity and culture'
- 2pm Depart Donegal via Yeats Country, arrive at Dublin hotel for free evening

#### Wednesday 28 September

- Depart Ireland for USA



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