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# ICISP Summer 2025 Study Abroad in Carlow, Ireland Program Information and Summary

## **Program Overview**

Study abroad in the Emerald Isle at Carlow College, St Patrick's! The Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs (ICISP) is pleased to provide a summer study abroad program to Carlow, Ireland available in the fall and spring semesters. A perennially popular program, studying in Ireland provides a perfect opportunity for students to enhance their educational experience and immerse oneself in a new culture, growing as an individual and making lifelong friends from around the world!

Carlow, Ireland, affectionately known as Carlowtown, is the quintessential Irish country town. With a population of 25,000, Carlow is home to two colleges including Carlow College, known to locals as St. Patrick's College. Learn more about Carlow College at www.carlowcollege.ie and about Carlow-town at www.carlowtourism.com. Dublin is about an hour away and is easily accessible by both train and bus.

Carlow College, St. Patrick's is situated in its own grounds on an eighteenth-century parkland and is known locally as St. Patrick's College. Carlow College is ideally located in the heart of Carlow town. Tullow Street is located near the college, and provides students with access to banks, shops, food outlets and a wide variety of social venues on the doorstep.

## **Program Dates**

#### Summer 2025: May 27 - June 24, 2025 (Last day to remain in housing is June 24)

Key Dates (subject to change):

- Application deadline: February 15, 2025
- Late application deadline, space permitting: March 3, 2025
- Payment in full due to ICISP: April 1, 2025

# **Admission Requirements**

This program is open to serious students who have a strong interest in immersing themselves in Irish culture and heritage. All applicants are required to complete an ICISP consortial application form and submit required documents. To be considered for admission, students must meet the following minimum admissions requirements:

- 1. Age 18 or older by the program start date. The minimum age requirement is strictly upheld.
- 2. Completion of at least 12 hours of college-level coursework by the intended program start date.
- Completion of one college writing course, commonly known as English Composition I and/or II (IAI C900, C1901R, C1900R or C1900) or the equivalent, with a B or higher.
- 4. Cumulative college earned grade point average of 2.50/4.0 or higher.
- 5. Approval and recommendation of their campus ICISP representative.



In addition, students must complete the supplemental Carlow College summer study abroad application



form provided by their ICISP representative. An unofficial transcript may be submitted to meet the admissions requirements so long as the ICISP application form and transcript have been reviewed and signed off by your ICISP representative (study abroad advisor).

A personal interview with the program coordinator may be held to determine the participant's maturity and adaptability to a foreign environment. Successful completion of the application process is required for admission to the program. Students with requests for disability accommodation should make such requests

as soon as possible. Requests for accommodation are welcome and have no bearing on an applicant's admission to the program. The program will attempt to make reasonable accommodations within the capacity available at Carlow College. Disability accommodations will vary according to need and what can reasonably be provided by a foreign institution.

#### Academics

Students on this program will enroll in two courses: Contemporary Irish Writing and the Irish Experience, earning six semester credits. Contemporary Irish Writing explores some of most exciting and dynamic literature of contemporary Ireland, with a focus on how Irish writers have responded to significant social, political and economic change. The course examines a selection of Irish fiction, film and poetry written or published (approximately) in the last fifteen years and considers how recent Irish writing has represented and interrogated certain key cultural, socio-economic and political transformations in Ireland's recent history.

The cornerstone of the program is The Irish Experience, a course that provides students with an introduction to the history, culture, and people of Ireland. Classroom discussions are integrated with guided and independent cultural excursions to provide students with both the tools to appreciate Irish culture and the opportunity to gain access to that culture during their study abroad experience in Ireland. This course includes field trips and a forum for inquiry into the country they reside in for the academic term. This is an academically intensive program with course preparation and readings due prior to departure. Carlow College provides exceptional student support services and small classes with knowledgeable and caring faculty dedicated to academic success. Please note a minimum number of participants is required to run the summer program; applicants will be notified by email if the enrollment minimum is not met after March 3.



# **Cultural Excursions**

The foundation of the program is the exciting cultural excursions included as part of the Irish Experience course. Students on past programs have reported these field trips to be the highlight of the program! Examples of excursions include: Carlow & Wexford: New Ross (Dunbrody Famine Ship), St Mullins, Mount Leinster, Brownshill Dolmen; Kilkenny: Kilkenny Castle, St. Canice's Cathedral (Round Tower), Medieval Mile Tour; Wicklow & Kildare: Moone High Cross, Glendalough Heritage Centre; Wild Atlantic Way: Cliffs of Moher, The Burren; Northern Ireland: Crumlin Road Gaol, Political Murals Tour, Belfast City, The Giant's Causeway.

The cost of transportation and entry fees for all cultural excursions is included in the program cost.

Cultural excursions enrich the study abroad experience by immersing students in local traditions, customs, and social norms, helping them develop a deeper understanding of the Irish culture. These experiences promote cultural empathy, broaden students' global perspectives, and foster personal growth.

# **Housing and Meals**

Housing is provided at Lennon House, a renovated coed residence hall on the college campus. Lennon House is situated within a short distance from the main

college buildings and within easy walking distance of the Carlow town center. Residing at Lennon House is required. Each student will have a private or shared bedroom and will share a living space, kitchen, and bathroom with two or three other students, based on gender. WiFi and laundry facilities are located on the premises. Bed and bath linens are provided.

Meals are not included in the program fee, but there are fully functioning kitchens available for student use. Students can also cook or provide meals for themselves. Many students enjoy group dinners in the common area in Lennon House. Additionally, a nice selection of grocery stores and eating establishments are located within walking distance. Please note that the goal of the program is to provide students with



a private room. Students will <u>only</u> be assigned to a shared room in the event that capacity in the program exceeds available single rooms.

# **Faculty Liaison**

Most terms a faculty member from an ICISP member institution will be on-site in Carlow to serve as a visiting faculty liaison to students, the Carlow College faculty and administration, and ICISP. While this individual will be a support for students, they will also provide service to Carlow College as a visiting professor or in another mutually agreed upon capacity.



#### **Passport and Visa**

Students will need to acquire or have a current passport before departure. Applicants should allow ample time for standard passport processing. Information on applying for a passport is available at travel.state.gov. Passports must be valid for six months after the program ends. A visa is not required for U.S. citizens, but ETIAS approval may be for students arriving in the Schengen Zone, if it is rolled out in time for departure. Further details will be provided at the orientation.

## **Pre-Departure Orientation**

Participation in a pre-departure orientation is mandatory. The orientation will be held virtually

approximately six to eight weeks prior to departure. Details will be sent upon acceptance. Carlow College provides an in-country orientation as well during the first week.

# **Fees and Payment**

The cost to participate in this program for summer 2025 is \$3,840. A \$500 deposit, taken off the total program cost, is due with the completed application form and subject to the cancellation and refund policy as outlined in the application. Please note the program price is subject to slight change due to changes in currency values beyond the control of ICISP. Please refer to the cost sheet for specific details on what is included in the program cost.

Please submit all payments to the ICISP representative at the applicant's home institution. Final payments must be made to the home institution and full payment is due to the ICISP office by April 1. Your institutional study abroad deadline may be different, check with your study abroad advisor. Payments must be made on schedule, or the student risks being dropped from the program.

The application deadline is February 15. Late applications will be considered, space permitting,



up to March 3. Applications must be received at the ICISP office by this date. Applications received after the final deadline will not be considered.

For more information or to apply, contact the ICISP representative/study abroad office or advisor at your home institution. To find your ICISP representative, visit icisp.org.