



SEMINARS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY


EXPLORING IRISH CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION


Program Direction and Academic Content to be provided by: Jim Coleman and A.J. Walsh
 May 12 – June 6, 2012

Day	Date	Location/Program
1	Saturday May 12	CHICAGO Departure. Depart (6:45 p.m.) Chicago O'Hare International Airport on American Airlines flight AA #92 for Dublin.
2	Sunday May 13	DUBLIN (BELFAST) Arrival. Arrive (08.00) at Dublin Airport and transfer by private touring motorcoach with driver-guide, with enroute stop at the historic ruins of Monasterboice, famous for 10 th Century Celtic high crosses. Short orientation tour of Belfast on arrival, including viewing Stormont, housing the Northern Irish Assembly, Queen's University and the Titanic exhibit at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum. Check-in at the IBIS BELFAST CITY CENTRE (triple rooms with rollaway). Group dinner (19.00) at the hotel. Touring motorcoach with driver-guide through Galway arrival.(D)
3	Monday May 14	BELFAST/CORRYMEELA. Morning (08.30) departure by private motorcoach to view the Murals of the Falls and Shankill Road areas, where political messages were painted during the troubles (late 1960's – late 1990's). Travel to CORRYMEELA RECONCILIATION CENTRE for group lunch. Corrymeela is a place of refuge for Protestants and Catholics of all ages and walks of life to exchange their stories. Afternoon and evening programming arranged by the centre, including a group dinner. (B,L,D)
4	Tuesday May 15	CORRYMEELA/DERRY. Morning (09.00) departure by private motorcoach to the Giant's Causeway for visit, the Rope Bridge, and a tour of Bushmills Distillery, entrances included. Continue to Derry for check-in at the PADDY'S PALACE HOSTEL or similar. (B)



5	Wednesday May 16	DERRY. Morning guided walking tour of the Bogside, including the Bloody Sunday Trust Museum and tour the Guildhall. (B)
6	Thursday May 17	DERRY/SLIGO. Morning departure by private motorcoach for Sligo, with en route visit in Donegal for lunch on own. Upon arrival at Sligo, check-in at the HARBOUR HOUSE HOSTEL or similar. (B)
7	Friday May 18	SLIGO. Morning departure by private motorcoach for full-day guided touring to include Drumcliffe Church (High Cross, Yeats' Grave), Tobernalt Holy Well, Megalithic Graveyard at Carrowmore, Listoghil and Sligo Abbey. (B)
		
8	Saturday May 19	SLIGO/GALWAY. Morning departure by private motorcoach for Galway, via connemara with possible enroute visit to Croagh Patrick (hiking weather permitting). Check-in at the SLEEPZONE YOUTH HOSTEL or similar. End of touring motorcoach with driver-guide. (B)
9	Sunday May 20	GALWAY /ARAN ISLANDS. After breakfast Depart by private motorcoach to Rossaveal for embarkation on ferry to the Aran Islands. Upon arrival, all program arrangements by faculty director including accommodation. All islanders speak "old Irish" and we will learn at least some of the language and study this old Irish Culture. We will stay, eat and study at the Irish Language school. See their web site: http://www.gaelfhios.com/
		
10	Monday May 21	ARAN ISLANDS. Gaelic language lessons; learn an old Irish dance and an opportunity to have lessons on the Tin Whistle. Weather permitting we will have a chance to sail in the antique sail boat "Galway Hooker" and row the old leather covered fishing boat, the Curragh
		The Island is famous for
their wool sweaters, plan on that souvenir expense.		

11	Tuesday May 22	ARAN ISLANDS. Biking, hiking, canoeing and swimming If not too cold. A professional vocalist and group leader, Deirdre Ní Chinnéide is on their team and hopefully in residence while EIU is there. See her website: www.deirdrenichinneide.com
12	Wednesday May 23	ARAN ISLANDS/GALWAY. Afternoon return by ferry to Rossaveal and transfer by private motorcoach to Galway for check-in at SLEEPZONE YOUTH HOSTEL or similar. Coach and driver-guide to be with the group through end of day on June 1 st in Dublin. Possible lecture by Professor from NIU.
13	Thursday May 24	GALWAY. Possible visit to the National University of Galway. Have lecture on maritime history and discussion with noted Antique Boat builder. Possible ride on his Club's fleet of ancient boats (most of which he has built)
14	Friday May 25	GALWAY/KINVARA. Morning departure by private motorcoach for Kinvara, for check-in at local BED & BREAKFASTS TBA. (B) <i>Group to split up between different B&B's in town</i>
15	Saturday May 26	KINVARA/LIMERICK. Morning departure by private motorcoach for Limerick, via the Burren, with stop at the Cliffs of Moher and Bunratty Castle, entrances included. Lunch on own in Ennis. Afternoon program with Local Businessman to exammin the business environment and culture. Check-in at JAMAICA INN . Evening dinner at local restaurant. (B,D)
16	Sunday May 27	LIMERICK/DINGLE. Morning departure by private motorcoach for Dingle. Upon afternoon arrival, check-in at multiple BED & BREAKFASTS TBA. (B) <i>Group to split up between different B&B's in town</i>
17	Monday May 28	DINGLE. Full-day tour of the Dingle Peninsula, including Riasc monastic site and the Gallrus Castle and Oratory. The makeup of the Waterford Crystal factory has changed. Many buyers of Irish Crystal now buy from companies such as Dingle Crystal. We may have a discussion with the Owner/Crystal artist at this company. (An opportunity for souvenir, although expensive) 
18	Tuesday May 29	DINGLE/CORK. Program arrangements by faculty director. Evening departure by private motorcoach to Cork. Upon arrival in Cork, check-in at CORK INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL or similar. Dingle has a large concentration of sheep. We hope to arrange a discussion of agriculture and area products with local ag specialist.
19	Wednesday May 30	CORK (Cobh). Travel to Cobh for visit to the Cobh Heritage Centre, entrance included. Afternoon maritime visit as arranged by faculty director. Return to Cork by coach. (B)
20	Thursday May 31	CORK. Modern maritime will be the observation here. (Shipping, Yachting, Coast Guard). (B)

21	Friday June 1	CORK/DUBLIN. Morning (09.00) departure to Cashel for a walking tour of the Rock of Cashel, an ancient medieval castle and religious center in Tipperary, entrance included. Continue on to Dublin with enroute stop in Kildare (Silken Thomas Hotel), time permitting. Upon arrival in Dublin, enjoy a panoramic city tour of Dublin including the St. Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals, St. Stephen's Green, Temple Bar, and government buildings. Check-in at DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL or similar. End of private touring motorcoach. (B)
22	Saturday June 2	DUBLIN. 24-hour Dublin Tour Hop-on/ Hop-off public bus ticket provided for all students. (B)
23	Sunday June 3	DUBLIN. Make own way to Kilmainham Jail for an afternoon guided tour with site guide, entrance included. (B) 
24	Monday June 4	DUBLIN. Make own way to Guinness Brewery for guided tour, <u>student ID required</u> . Afternoon program arrangements by faculty directors. Evening Literary Pub Tour. (B)
25	Tuesday June 5	DUBLIN. Day free for independent exploration. Evening farewell dinner at local restaurant. (B,D) (This free day may be changed to Sunday or Monday).
26	Wednesday June 6	DUBLIN/CHICAGO. Transfer by private motorcoach to Dublin International Airport for flight departure (10.00) on American Airlines flight AA #93 to Chicago. Arrive (12:05 p.m.) Chicago O'Hare International Airport. (B)

Date sent to Faculty Director: September 13, 2011

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)