COLÁISTE CHEATHARLACH
NAOMH PÁDRAIG

CARLOW COLLEGE
ST. PATRICK'S

STUDY ABROAD *in* CARLOW, IRELAND

SEMESTER STUDY ABROAD IN CARLOW, IRELAND

Fall Semester
August - December

Spring Semester
January - May

CARLOW TOWN

Affectionately known as Carlow Town, Carlow is the quintessential Irish country town which is located about an hour away from Dublin and easily accessible by both train and bus. With a population of 25,000, Carlow is home to two higher education institutions: Carlow College, St. Patrick's and South East Technological University (SETU Carlow). To learn more about Carlow Town, visit www.carlowtourism.com.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

This program is open to students who have a strong interest in immersing themselves in Irish culture and heritage. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older as of the program start date. The minimum age requirement is strictly upheld. All applicants are required to complete an application form.

To be considered for admission, students must meet the minimum admissions requirements:

- completed at least twelve credit hours at their home institution by the time they commence their studies (credits taken in AP, CLEP, IB, etc. may be counted toward the twelve-hour total);
- obtained a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 out of a 4.0 at their home institution;
- be a learner in good standing at their home institution;
- obtained a grade of B or higher in a written composition course
- completed at a post-secondary institution;
- be a registered learner at an affiliated institution of Carlow College and/or
- SETU Carlow.

An application is considered complete when it includes:

- a completed Carlow College Study Abroad Application Form (U.S. Semester);
- an up-to-date and official academic transcript;
- The nomination by the International Officer / Study Abroad Advisor at a learner's home institution.

Carlow College and SETU Carlow welcomes applications from learners with disabilities and / or additional support needs. As such, we are committed to making reasonable accommodations to ensure that academic opportunities are available to all appropriately qualified applicants, irrespective of disability. Applications from learners with disabilities are subject to the same academic selection process as all applicants.

ACADEMICS

Students in this program will enroll as full time students at Carlow College and/or SETU Carlow, earning 12-18 semester credits. The cornerstone of the programme is The Irish Experience, a course which provides students with an introduction to the history, culture, and people of Ireland. This course includes excursions and a forum for inquiry into the country they reside in for the academic term.

The remaining course options are similar to those students take at their home college, courses in:

- History
- Literature & Creative Writing
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Philosophy
- Marketing/Business /Accounting
- Media & Public Relations
- Health Sciences
- Information Technology

Attention has been paid to identify the courses that will help students fulfill general education requirements for their degrees. The study abroad representative at your home institution has a list of courses offered at both institutions each term.

CULTURAL EXCURSIONS

The academic program is enriched and deepened through excursions to places of cultural and historical significance.
Excursions are taken to:

- Carlow/Wexford including Dunbrody Famine Ship, St. Mullins and Mount Leinster
- County Wicklow, including Glendalough and the Wicklow Gap
- Kilkenny City, including Kilkenny Castle and St. Canice's Cathedral
- Dublin City, including Book of Kells and Christ Church Cathedral
- Belfast City, including Crumlin Road Gaol and the political murals of West Belfast
- A three-day excursion to County Kerry, including Killarney National Park and Dingle.

HOUSING & MEALS

Study abroad students will stay in on-campus accommodation provided by Carlow College. Residing at Lennon House, each student will share a living space, kitchen and bathroom with other students. WiFi is available in the residence hall and laundry facilities are located on the premises. Bed and bath linens are provided for a fee. In the even to oversubscription for on-campus accommodation, Carlow College will source appropriate alternative accommodation.

Meals are not included in the program fee. A Meal Plan is available on College Days only (Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays). Both Carlow College and SETU Carlow have a cafeteria serving breakfast and lunch (Monday to Friday). A good selection of grocery stores and eating establishments are located with walking distance of on-campus accommodation.

ORIENTATION

Students will normally receive a Pre-Departure Orientation at their home institution which will outline the program and provide practical information for studying abroad. The Carlow institutions will provide an in-county orientation the first week upon arrival.

PASSPORT & VISA

Students will need to acquire or have a current passport before departure. The required visa is obtained once the student is in Ireland. Applicants should allow at least eight weeks for standard passport processing. An application and information can be acquired at your local post office or **Travel.State.Gov**. Passports must be valid for six months after the program ends.

All study abroad students at Carlow College, St. Patrick's will need to obtain a Stamp 2A study visa. Students from the United States do not need to apply for this visa prior to arrival to Ireland and the application will be submitted during Induction Week.

Once you arrive in Dublin Airport, the Immigration Officer will stamp your passport with short-term permission to stay, normally for one month but can be up to 90 days.

It is recommended that you have the following documents to show the Immigration Officer at your point of entry into Ireland:

- Valid Passport;
- Acceptance letter from Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- Proof of medical health insurance
- And proof of sufficient finances; €3,332 (in total) for Fall Term; and €4,165 (in total) for Spring Term.

During Induction Week, you will meet as a group to go over the visa application process in more detail. This session will include arranging your visa appointment and addressing any questions you may have.

Required Documents for Your Study Visa Application:
To complete your visa registration, once you are in Ireland, you will need the following documents:

- Passport
- Entry Stamp (this will be provided at passport control upon arrival)
- Letter of Acceptance from Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- Letter of Registration from Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- Letter of Accommodation from Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- Proof of Exam Results/Transcripts
- Proof of Financial Support

At your designated visa appointment, you will need to present the above documents in person at the following location:
Immigration Service
Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration
13-14 Burgh Quay
Dublin 2
D02 XK70

In addition to fingerprinting, there is an application fee of €300, which is payable by credit or debit card.

FEES

Carlow College and SETU Carlow will not directly process learner fees for an American student's tuition or accommodation. All study abroad students are registered through their home institution. As such, all payments for tuition and accommodation are processed through the learners' home institution. The Home Institution will invoice affiliated institutions for tution and accommodation; in turn; the affiliated institutions will process tuition and accommodation payments on the learners' behalf. For a complete program price, please contact your study abroad representative.

APPLICATION

The application deadline is May 15 for the Fall Term, and October 15 for the Spring Term. Applications must be received at the study abroad office at your home institution and then this office will send the completed application documents to the Lead Host Institution in Carlow

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Oirdheiscirt
South East Technological University

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