7-day Course in IRELAND

Study Visit to Schools in Ireland

Dublin (Ireland)

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This structured course is designed for **teachers, head teachers, principals and other school staff** who would like to learn about the Irish education system within the context of Irish culture. Although the pedagogic encounters with schools are focused on **Primary**, **Secondary** and **Vocational** levels, other educational sectors may also benefit from the general approach of this course.

Language of communication: **English**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our **7-Day Course** is for those who want to learn about Irish education and culture through a combination of pedagogic encounters with schools, seminars, field projects "Contexts4Content", and workshops.

English Matters will select educational institutions related to Primary, Secondary and Vocational school levels. Participants will learn about educational organization and management of learning and will have the opportunity to share their experience and ideas with colleagues from a variety of schools around the world.

The course offers several **key activities**:

1. Pedagogic encounters with schools to learn about educational organization and management of learning.
2. Seminars and workshops to explore specific aspects of the education system and culture of Ireland.
3. Professional and cultural discussion resulting in a concluding presentation of learning.
4. Field learning projects "Contexts4Content" as a basis for the development of teaching materials to assist their students in meeting their learning goals and be aware of the socio-cultural richness of Europe.

Objectives:

- Become familiar with relevant aspects of the Irish education system.
- Learn about examples of teaching practices in schools in Ireland.
- Participate in seminars and workshops related to educational and cultural aspects of Irish society.
- Participate in field projects "Contexts4Content" to places of natural, historical, and cultural significance, to support the development of teaching resources.

This **7-Day Course in Ireland** will allow you to experience the authenticity of the country and its people from the very moment you step foot in the airport.

Allowing yourself to spend enriching days in full contact with Irish society and culture and combining this with pedagogic encounters with schools, will bring you an in-depth understanding of the Irish education system.

The way in which students are educated can be a window to a deeper vision of society. This can also lead to reflection on why a society educates its people in a certain way and may encourage you to see your own education system from a refreshed perspective.

This combination of elements will help build a holistic vision of education and culture in Ireland from several enriching perspectives.

A NOTE ON THE IRISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

Education is considered a central pillar in the economic, social, and cultural development of Irish society, in such a way that both authorities and social agents clearly see it as strategically linked to national development. The **Irish education system** has always been highly valued by the public. The primary school curriculum is fully child centered, and the secondary education with its Junior and Senior Cycles presents a stimulating Transition Year (a year of maturation, without formal exams, where students can enjoy a wide range of educational inputs, including work experience). In terms of achievements in higher education, Ireland has a reputation as one of the best educational systems in the world. Irish students perform in the best sectors in international studies such as PISA assessments, and employers, both national and international, affirm the quality of the professional level of graduates of the Irish education system. Further Education and Vocational Training presents a unique design in Ireland: The Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme, and the Youthreach programs, complete the panorama of a remarkably interesting educational offer in Ireland.

LOCATION OF THE COURSE: Dublin (IRELAND)

Dublin is an old medieval Viking city that displays a fascinating panorama on its streets through a pleasant mix of historic buildings and sites, monuments and street art. Trinity College and the unique Book of Kells, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin's Viking Castle, the remarkable Chester Beatty Library, or the Samuel Beckett Bridge, can be discovered at the same time as Sweny's pharmacy (immortalized in Joyce's Ulysses), where a surprising mix of second-hand books and lemon-scented soap can be found together.

Dublin is also a warm and welcoming city. Its enjoyable “craic” has attracted visitors for centuries. Traditional music is extremely popular in Ireland, and it is so easy to find a pub where a band is playing some good drinking music while customers happily join in the chorus.

DURATION OF THE COURSE

7-day course: **40 hours, a Sunday to Saturday course.**

CERTIFICATION AWARDED

A Certificate will be awarded and will include the name of the participant, description of the course and its learning outcomes, dates and course hours.

DATES

7-day Course in Ireland

Location: **Dublin (Ireland)**
Language of communication: **English**
Duration (days): **7 training days in Ireland**

Dates in 2027
28 February – 06 March (7 training days)

Note: Dates may be subject to amendment according to school calendar year of the country visited. This change, if necessary, will be informed to participants before the course confirmation.

Reference programme of the 7-day course:

Study Visit to Schools in Ireland
Dublin (Ireland)

7-day Course
(from Sunday to Saturday)

Sunday
Registration.
Fundamentals: principles, structure, framework
Tools for reflection on learning & Professional Development
International Dimension
Framework for pedagogic encounters with schools.

Monday
Education System in Ireland.
Field Learning Project: *Images of Dublin*

Tuesday
Educational Visit to School I: Educational organization & management of learning.
Feedback on the educational visit to school.

Wednesday
Educational Visit to School II: Educational organization & management of learning.
Field Learning Project: *Irish and European Art at the National Gallery of Ireland*

Thursday
Educational Visit to School III: Educational organization & management of learning.
Feedback on the educational visit to school.

Friday
Assessment of learning management in Ireland.
Field Learning Project: *Irish Heritage-Glendalough*

Saturday
Presentation of participants' learning portfolios
Final reflection on learning acquired
Reflection about Dissemination Strategies
Evaluation of the programme

NOTE: This programme may be subject to amendment. Such amendment, if necessary, would be kept to a minimum, consistent with the quality and balance of the programme.

THE IRISH AMERICAN EDUCATOR INITIATIVE

Culture. Connection. Professional Learning.

The **Irish American Educator Initiative** gives teachers from across the United States the opportunity to learn beyond the classroom, gain meaningful experiences and fresh inspiration, and return home with new perspectives to share with their students. Based in Ireland, our courses connect American educators with Irish history, heritage, literature, art, and culture through engaging learning experiences inspired by Irish writers, artists, educators, and cultural representatives.

Whether you have Irish roots or simply want to discover a new culture, our programmes provide fresh ideas, meaningful connections, and practical inspiration for the classroom. Explore Ireland, deepen your professional knowledge, and bring new stories and perspectives back to your students.

As part of the initiative, teachers also have opportunities to take part in study visits to Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Norway, Estonia, Portugal, and Spain. These visits allow participants to see teachers at work, visit schools, meet local educators, and explore different approaches to teaching and learning.

By sharing ideas across cultures, American teachers can discover fresh perspectives and practical inspiration to bring back to their own classrooms.