



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Study Abroad

Quick Guide

University
of Galway.ie



Fáilte chuig Ollscoil na Gaillimhe

Heritage and Prestige

Founded in 1845, Ollscoil na Gaillimhe – University of Galway is one of Ireland's oldest and largest universities, with a distinguished record in teaching and research. As Ireland's only bilingual university, University of Galway champions its core values of respect, excellence, openness, sustainability and belonging and these values reinforce each other to enhance our distinctiveness.

Our values are not just aspirational, they are fundamental to the University's approach to innovation, engagement and creativity and we believe that adhering to them improves the educational experience for students as well as daily life for everyone on campus.

University of Galway in Numbers:

- Ireland's *only* bilingual university
- Over 175 years' experience providing university education.
- Ranked in the top 2% of universities worldwide
- One of three Irish universities ranked in the top 100 universities in Europe (QS World University Rankings: Europe 2025)
- World top 47 for UN Sustainable Development Goals (THE Impact Rankings)
- Galway voted the #1 'Most Charming City' by the New York Times
- Over 19,000 students with more than 170 societies and clubs

The University is recognised on global University league tables, with world leading subject areas noted in the 2024 QS subject specific rankings:

- English Language and Literature 89
- Performing Arts, Top 100
- Arts and Humanities at 202
- Psychology, Top 300



How we Support our Visiting Students:

- Dedicated International Student Officer
- General and academic orientation sessions
- *Fáilte* mornings
- Programme of social and welcome activities
- Visa and immigration assistance (Note: no visa required for US students)
- Accommodation Advisory Service
- On-campus student health centre
- Student wellbeing support



"Fáilte" is the Irish for "Welcome"





University of Galway is Ireland's
only bilingual university

The Galway Experience

The welcoming city of Galway sits on the river Corrib where it enters the sea. Our main, Galway City, campus nestles along the edge of the city, just a ten-minute walk across the river. Galway is a small, friendly city which you will quickly get to know. Our young city buzzes with life, the charming and safe streets and lanes are perfect for exploring and connecting. This fun, vibrant city has something for everyone, it's brimming with culture, music, festivals, film and craic (Irish slang for fun). You will hear the Irish language spoken daily in the streets thanks to the city's proximity to the Connemara Gaeltacht, one of several Irish-speaking regions in Ireland.

Even more adventure awaits in the stunning landscape of west of Ireland landscape, with its gorgeous mountains and coastline right on our doorstep. Whether you're happiest in the water, up a mountain, or on a pitch, you can do it all here. The Wild Atlantic Way extends north and south of the city and magical Connemara with its woods, castles, and air of mystery lies to the west. The Aran Islands are just a short boat journey away, yet you can feel like you're in a different country.

Once you've settled in you will love exploring your new home, as generations of students have before you.

Scan, or [tap here](#), to learn more about Modern Irish Culture Studies at the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies.



Studying in Galway

Each year, the University of Galway welcomes over 600 visiting students to study for a full academic year or a single semester.

As a visiting student, you can create your own individual study programme, based on the wide range of classes available from our regular degree programmes, to meet your own academic requirements.

Visiting students usually take between four and six classes per semester. Classes are generally delivered through lectures, which are also usually supplemented by smaller tutorials or seminar classes.

Visiting students are examined alongside our full-time degree-seeking students. Most classes are examined by end of semester examination, however many also include midterm assignments and/or continuous assessment.

We have many years of experience in credit transfer and course equivalence and can, on request, provide a suggested system to translate from ECTS credits to the credit system used in your home country.

Did you know?

Our Study Abroad programmes offer modules from across three colleges:

- College of Arts, Social Science and Celtic Studies
- College of Business, Public Policy and Law
- College of Science and Engineering

You can focus on your major whilst studying modules in Irish Studies, Celtic Civilisation, Psychology, Sociology and Political Science, amongst many other options.

Some popular modules previous students have taken:

Irish for Beginners
Music, Gender and Ireland
Irish Landscapes, Culture and Literature
Imagining Modern Ireland: An Introduction to Irish Culture Studies
Festival, Ritual and Commemoration
Celtic Mythology, Religion and Folklore
Health Psychology
Environmental Ethics

Your space & place to *thrive*

Student Life

With over 170 clubs and societies to choose from, you will have plenty of opportunities to make new friends, develop real life skills and of course have great fun!

Student societies and clubs arrange trips, events, guest speakers, workshops, classes and parties regularly. Interests catered for include everything from art and baking, science fiction and juggling to lacrosse, mountaineering and rowing.

The University boasts state-of-the-art sports and leisure facilities which are well used by our clubs and societies.

There are always a host of activities on campus: literary, visual, performing arts and sporting - including the Arts in Action programme which features performances and lectures in theatre, film, music, dance and visual arts.

Top 2%
of universities in the
QS world rankings



"I chose Ireland because growing up I experienced American Irish culture, including the food and music, and learned about the history of Ireland but I had never actually been to Ireland itself. I wanted to take classes that would be fairly unique to this country. So, I went for modules in the Celtic civilization course and geography classes that would have field labs in an Irish setting. Highlights of courses in the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies are hearing the Irish language (no understanding is needed to succeed but it's nice to hear it used informally or references to Irish sources), doing outdoor labs on Irish beaches and parks, and having dedicated professors interested in Ireland past and present who share that with us."

Maggie McCracken
College of the Holy Cross, USA

Tuition Fees (2026/2027)

For the most up to date tuition fees, please visit [universityofgalway.ie/global-galway/studyabroad](https://www.universityofgalway.ie/global-galway/studyabroad)

Contact

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