

IRELAND TODAY:

*Teaching Activities and Stimulating Materials on Irish Life & Culture
for English as a Foreign Language Classes at Secondary Level and above*

COURSE FOR EUROPEAN TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

DUBLIN, IRELAND 2023

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

These courses are designed for teachers of English to learners aged 11-19 and adults. Participants will have the opportunity:

- to discover 21st century Ireland and keep abreast of changes in Irish Life and Society and the Education System
- to gain a huge variety of new teaching ideas & motivating materials ready to use in the classroom with the focus on Ireland Today
- to improve/perfect their language skills
- to exchange ideas and develop links with teachers from different European countries

**COURSE CONTENT:****1. Workshops on Teaching English as a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today**

The workshops will look at present-day Irish life, culture and society and will provide teaching ideas for creative classroom activities relating to different aspects of Life in Ireland Today including:

- Facts and figures about life in Ireland
- The Irish Political System
- Varieties of spoken English in Ireland and Britain
- The Irish Language
- Irish humour
- Food and eating habits in Ireland
- Stereotypes of Ireland and the Irish
- Demographic changes in Irish society, the integration of migrants and intercultural education
- Modern youth culture
- Gaelic Games
- Dublin in the 21st Century

Ready-made teaching materials will be provided for the above topics.

This is a highly practical course so participants will also have the opportunity to design their own classroom materials on life in Ireland to use with their learners. Participants will present and share the materials they produce. Detailed and creative feedback and guidance will be provided by the course tutor. There will be input on task-based learning for designing classroom activities, including project-based work. The use of popular films and documentaries will also be explored. By the end of the course, participants will have a range of materials which they will be ready to exploit with their learners.

2. **Lecture: Irish History, Culture & Traditions**
3. **Workshop on Modern Irish Theatre.**
4. **Visit to Belfast.** Guided Political & Murals Tour by black taxi (2-week courses only)
5. **Lecture: The Irish Education System** (2-week courses only)
6. **Workshop: Effective Language Teaching with digital technology** (2-week courses only)
7. **Visit to a secondary school** with an opportunity to observe lessons (2-week term-time courses only) or **Tour of MoLI** (Museum of Literature Ireland) and **Tour of 14 Henrietta Street:** Social History Museum of Dublin Life
8. **Visit the Gaelic Athletic Association Museum**
9. **A guided walking tour of Dublin and cultural visits** to: National Museum: History & Decorative Arts, National Museum: Archaeology and Chester Beatty Library
10. **Visit EPIC: The Irish Emigration Museum** (2-week courses only)
11. **Cultural visit** to Wicklow Mountains National Park and Glendalough monastic site and lakes (2-week courses only)

LOCATION

DUBLIN, Ireland: Population: 1,228,000.

Famous for its cultural heritage and charming hospitality, Dublin is a lively city with a rich history, situated on the east coast of Ireland. Notable historic sights include its elegant Georgian squares, Dublin Castle, Christ Church Cathedral, the Book of Kells at Trinity College, Kilmainham Gaol and National Museums. Temple Bar is a busy riverside neighbourhood with live Irish folk music venues.

Close to the city are the beautiful hills and lakes of Wicklow Mountains National Park and attractive coastal scenery.



2023 DATES:

1-week course

Sunday 5 March - Sunday 12 March
 Sunday 16 April - Sunday 23 April
 Sunday 6 August - Sunday 13 August
 Sunday 8 October - Sunday 15 October

2-week course

Sunday 5 March - Saturday 18 March
 Sunday 16 April - Saturday 29 April
 Sunday 6 August - Saturday 19 August
 Sunday 8 October - Saturday 21 October

TOTAL PRICE:

1 Week: €1436

2 Weeks: €2095

The price includes:

(a) COURSE FEE: to include:

Full programme of study sessions and visits as itemised above.

NB. Participants are responsible for paying their own daily transport costs, including visits to schools. Any optional visits are not included in the price.

(b) HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION: to include:

Full board Accommodation with a local family (inclusive of registration fee): 7 or 13 nights (Teachers may request to be the only guest of their mother tongue or to stay in the same family as a colleague).

Host families are carefully selected and offer a friendly welcome and opportunities to chat and learn more about life in Ireland today. Participants often find that the experience of staying with a host family is one of the most memorable aspects of the course. Accommodation is in single rooms (unless participants request to share). Breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal are provided by the host family. (Food allergies, likes and dislikes are taken into account.)

Please note that many suitable residential areas are not within walking distance of the city centre and most host families are a bus ride from the city centre/tuition centre. A travel pass for all Dublin public transport costs €32 per week and can also be used to visit nearby coastal villages, beaches and cliffs.

Accommodation can be provided for family members (but not unaccompanied children) subject to availability. (Rates on request).

Alternatively (on August course only):

Self-catering accommodation in a university residence in a central location - single bedroom with en-suite shower/ wc; no meals provided (inclusive of registration fee):

Total fee: 1 week course + 7 nights self-catering accommodation: € 1479

Total fee: 2 week course + 13 nights self-catering accommodation: € 2239

Participants wishing to arrange their own (hotel or self-catering) accommodation may pay a fee for the course only.

TRAVEL:

Participants are responsible for arranging their travel to and from Ireland. Express buses run from Dublin Airport to the city.

PAYMENT:

Full payment will be due 2 months before the course begins, or for teachers awaiting funding: as soon as the grant is received. No refund for cancellations within 5 weeks of arrival. Applicants are strongly advised to take out cancellation insurance. Postponement due to Covid-19 will be possible if necessary.

PREPARATION:

Participants are asked to complete a questionnaire before the course starts in order to ascertain their level of experience and training, the age groups and types of learners they teach and their expectations from the course. This helps trainers to respond to participants' individual needs and ensure that the most relevant areas are carefully integrated. Suggestions for optional pre-course reading are given.

EVALUATION:

At the end of the course teachers participate in a detailed evaluation of the course.

FOLLOW UP:

At the end of the course teachers are asked to consider which aspects of the course will be the most relevant to their own teaching situations. On their return they are invited to keep a record of how they have been able to utilise ideas gained on the course in their own classrooms. They are encouraged to share their experiences with their fellow participants by email.

CERTIFICATE & ERASMUS+ VALIDATION:

A certificate of attendance (stating course content and number of hours) will be provided and Erasmus+ documentation will be validated.

IRELAND TODAY:

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2 WEEK COURSE FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AT SECONDARY LEVEL & ABOVE

DUBLIN

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
SUNDAY			Arrive Dublin
MONDAY	0930- Welcome and introduction 1015 1030- Lecture: Irish History, Culture & 1330 Traditions	1430- Guided Walking Tour of Dublin 1730	
TUESDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English as 1300 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	1400- Workshop on Teaching English as 1700 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish Folk Music
WEDNESDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English as 1300 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	1400- Workshop on Teaching English as 1700 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	
THURSDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English as 1300 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	1400- Workshop on Teaching English as 1700 a Foreign Language: Focus on Ireland Today	
FRIDAY	0930- Workshop on Modern Irish Theatre 1330	1430- Visit the Gaelic Athletic Association 1700 Museum and tour of Croke Park Stadium	
SATURDAY	1000- Cultural visits in Dublin: National Museum: History & Decorative Arts and 1700 National Museum: Archaeology, Chester Beatty Library or National Botanic Gardens		
SUNDAY	Free for individual research or optional visits eg The Book of Kells at Trinity College, Kilmainham Gaol or Howth & Howth Head (east coast)		
MONDAY	1030- Lecture on the Irish Education System 1230	1400- Visit EPIC: The Irish Emigration 1700 Museum	
TUESDAY	0930- Workshop: Effective Language 1300 Teaching with Digital Technology	1400- Workshop: Effective Language 1700 Teaching with Digital Technology	
WEDNESDAY	0800- Visit to Belfast: Guided Political & Murals Tour by black taxi. 1900		
THURSDAY	9000- Day visit to a Secondary school 1400 Observe lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers (in term-time) or 1030- Tour of 14 Henrietta Street: Social 1200 History Museum of Dublin Life	1300- Tour of MoLI (Museum of Literature 1500 Ireland) 1600- Evaluation Session 1700	Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish Folk Music
FRIDAY	1000- Cultural visit via Wicklow Mountains National Park and Glendalough Monastic Site & 1700 Lakes		
SATURDAY	Depart Dublin		

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