







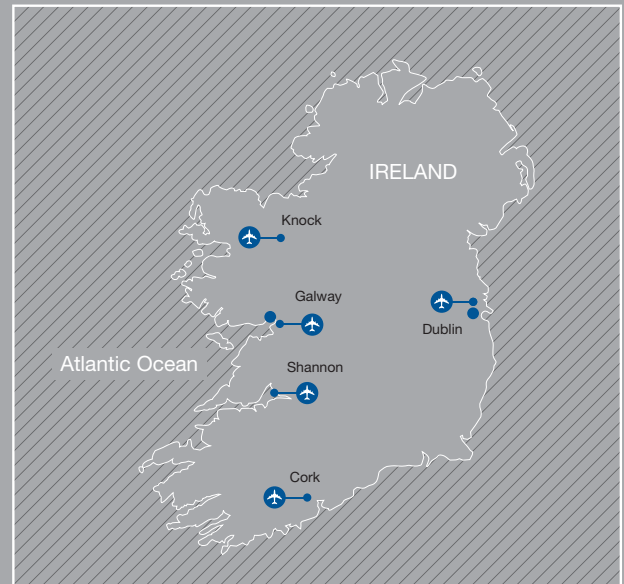


Galway Cultural Institute



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Welcome to Galway Cultural Institute

Since 1989 Galway Cultural Institute has provided English language programmes to students from all over the world. Whether your needs are for work, study or simply for pleasure, we have a language course tailored to your specific needs. We are proud to share the GCI experience with you in one of the premier language schools in Ireland. Our facilities are excellent but it is our customer service that has made us truly successful. When you come to study at GCI you enter a global community – we have welcomed people from over 30 countries. At GCI we have created an unforgettable experience for you; a place you will call home, meet lifelong friends and gain the results in English language fluency that you need for your future success.



Celestine Rowland
MD



David Niland
CEO



➔ Destination: Ireland

When you come to Ireland you will have a completely unique and unforgettable living and learning experience. For an island with a population of just 4.5 million, the Irish culture and way of life has travelled far and wide. More than 70 million people are proud to claim Irish heritage.

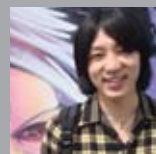
A vibrant historical and cultural tradition means that you will always have something fun and exciting to do during your stay. You will never have trouble finding someone to talk to – Irish people are welcoming, friendly and full of conversation. A wonderful nightlife, many festivals and excellent pubs will ensure lots of opportunities for language practice and fun.

Music is very much part of the Irish identity, and phenomena such as U2, Enya, Westlife and The Corrs have taken the world by storm. Riverdance has been witnessed by millions from Beijing to Boston. Our literary tradition boasts internationally acclaimed writers such as Seamus Heaney, James Joyce, Samuel Becket, W.B. Yeats, Jonathan Swift and Oscar Wilde.

“

I wanted to come to a mid-sized school with people from all over the world; and not too many Japanese. I wanted something that was homely so I chose GCI. I thought English would be very difficult, but the teachers here are very clear. My English improved really quickly; I started at pre-intermediate level and am now upper intermediate. It was great fun going out to the pub with my new friends and being involved in activities – I played the fiddle at the Kinvara Music Festival. When you come to GCI, don't be shy – talk to people and you will learn really quickly.

Dai: Japan, 22. Academic Year



➔ Destination: Galway

Situated on the Atlantic west coast, Galway is an excellent location to study English. Our city is its people, warm, friendly, welcoming – a people with a sense of Ireland's past and a sharp eye on Ireland's future. Galway is a university city – of its 100,000 inhabitants, 20,000 are university students. The main industries are education, tourism, I.T, software and medical devices.

We can share with you our clean environment, a thriving artistic and dramatic culture, traditional pubs with music to suit all tastes, top quality restaurants and a full calendar of festivals featuring poetry, the arts, music, horse racing, oyster festivals etc. Galway is also the ideal location for the sports enthusiast – golf, fishing, horse-riding, tennis, sailing and falconry are all easily accessible.

We have one of the most uniquely beautiful landscapes in the world: the 2,000 year old fortress Dun Aengus on the Aran Islands, the sheer Cliffs of Moher and lakeside tranquillity of Kylemore Abbey are all must sees. GCI offers a full activity programme throughout the year which allows students to take advantage of the attractions Galway city and the surrounding countryside have to offer you.



“

I chose GCI because I found it on the internet and got a recommendation from my agency. I chose the school because there are not many people from my country here – It is really international! My favourite thing in the school is meeting people from all over the world, and my teachers – I love them! Also, the location of the school is beautiful – you can sit in the café and look at the sea – it's really lovely.

Gee Hae: South Korean, 28. Academic Year programme



The School: Facilities

GCI moved to our current location in 2003 and provides students with world class facilities housed in a modern building overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and Galway Bay.

Our facilities include:

- 25 spacious classrooms with lots of natural light
- A beach within 1 minute walk of the school
- A Student Common Room – the ‘Halla Mor’ – which can seat up to 120 students
- Ozone Coffee Company – a café restaurant serving hot beverages, soups, sandwiches, paninis and a daily special Monday to Friday, at very competitive prices
- Bright open foyer and large seminar rooms for workshops and student meetings
- A full library and access to virtual and conventional resources
- A Computer Room with 20 PCs, which students may access for free
- Free WiFi throughout the building
- Landscaped gardens & paved area surrounding the school for relaxing and barbecues



The School: Methodologies of Teaching

GCI has been accredited by the Irish Department of Education and Science since its foundation in 1989. We also work with a number of validating bodies in Ireland and abroad ensuring all courses are recognised nationally and internationally. We hosted the 2010 IALC conference and workshop – the biggest single EFL event to be hosted in Ireland.

GCI ensures an enhanced student learning experience with an eclectic mix of cutting-edge and traditional learning techniques which accommodate the learning styles of all our students. With dynamic classes and the most dedicated, expert teachers you can be sure that on Friday you will have gained considerably more skills and knowledge than you had on Monday morning.



“

I decided to come to Ireland because it is cheaper than some other locations and it is still near lots of different countries and cultures. I am in the middle of a degree in Accounting and wanted to have a life experience. The teachers and the students at GCI are unbelievably nice. Classes are exciting and there is a real connection with the teachers – this is very nice. When you come to study at GCI balance your life – study and do things outside the school.

Tiago: Brazil, 24. Cambridge Preparation



Have the time of your life in Galway, the perfect study destination. Love the buzz of the medieval streets and watch amazing street performances; discover places steeped in tradition – the Spanish Arch where Christopher Columbus docked his ship; or enjoy the unspoilt peace and beauty of Connemara or the Burren. Our varied social programme takes advantage of all that is happening in the city and surrounding area. GCI has close links with the business and artistic communities in the city allowing opportunities for volunteer experiences particularly for long stay students.

Activities include:

- Join in a walking tour or walk the prom
- Bet on a horse or a dog at the races
- Visit the Druid, Town Hall or Black Box theatres
- Try fresh oysters at the September Oyster Festival
- Join the Film Club
- Learn the delights of Irish poetry or music
- Play football, unihock or squash
- Paint your face or wear a mad hat to school
- Take in a Sunday morning jazz session
- Swim in Salthill – a blue flag beach
- Go by boat or plane to the Aran Islands
- Go hill walking in Connemara
- Attend our monthly school parties
- Windsurf in Galway Bay
- Volunteer for the Macnas Parade
- Join in a song in a local pub



“

The agent I came with recommended GCI to me as a quality school. The things that made me interested in Ireland were the surfing, culture and castles. The best things about GCI are the quality of the teachers and the mix of students, both in age and nationality. I really enjoyed the culture experience of studying in Galway, such as the Arts Festival which was great fun. My advice to students is - Don't come with any preconceptions; arrive and enjoy!

Rafael: Swiss German, 24. IELTS Preparation





Living: Festivals

Galway is recognised as the cultural heart of Ireland and with more festivals than you can imagine. Your experience outside the classroom is guaranteed to be as full as your experience inside the classroom. While in GCI why not get involved? We encourage students to actively take part in festivals and have volunteer arrangements with the Galway Arts Festival, Macnas Parade and Salthill Community Arts Festival.

| Month | Festival | Website |
|-----------|--|--|
| Feb | Tedfest on the Aran Islands Galway International Rally Muscailt | www.tedfest.org www.irish-rallying.com www.muscailt.nuigalway.ie |
| March | St Patrick's Day Festival Connemara Pony Show Connemarathon | www.stpatrickgalway.com www.cpbs.ie www.connemarathon.com |
| April | Cuirt International Poetry Festival Half Marathon – Aran Islands The Cuckoo Festival | www.galwayartscentre.ie/cuirt www.aerarannislands.ie www.kinvara.com/cuckoo |
| May | Early Music Festival | www.galwayearlymusic.com |
| June | National Five-a-Side Football Galway Sessions Bloomsday Joycean Celebration Galway County Show | www.salthilldevon.ie/fives.asp www.galwaysessions.com www.norabarnacle.com www.discoverirelandwest.com |
| July | Galway Film Fleadh Galway Arts Festival Macnas Parade Galway Races | www.galwayfilmfleadh.com www.galwayartsfestival.com www.macnas.com www.galwayraces.com |
| August | Galway Umbro Cup Criunniu na mBad Galway Races Galway City Marathon Galway Races Autumn | www.galwaycup.com www.cruinniunamabad.com www.galwayraces.com www.galwaycitymarathon.com www.galwayraces.com |
| September | Clarenbridge Oyster Festival Clifden Community Arts Festival Salthill Community Arts Festival Galway International Oyster Festival Lady Gregory Autumn Gathering Connemara Walking Festival | www.clarenbridge.com www.clifdenartsweek.ie www.failtesalthill.ie www.galwayoysterfest.ie www.coolepark.ie www.walkwest@indigo.ie |
| October | Ballinasloe International Horse Fair Galway Bay Mini-Marathon Baboro International Arts Festival Galway Comedy Festival Halloween Festival | www.ballinasloeoctoberfair.com www.volunteergalway.ie www.baboro.ie www.thegalwaycomedyfestival.com www.macnas.ie |
| November | Tulca Festival of Visual Arts | www.tulca.ie |
| December | Christmas Carol Services Christmas Markets Ice Skating | |



Living: Accommodation / Homestay

A Place to call home

Galway Cultural Institute wants to make sure that you feel happy and at home while you study with us. We offer different options – homestay or residential accommodation year round. Homestay maximises opportunities for language practice and is a great way to get to know local culture, people and customs. You are always welcome in a GCI host family.

Homestay

- Friendly, welcoming, hospitable
- Carefully selected by our accommodation officer
- A great way to get to know the local culture, people and customs
- Breakfast and dinner every day and full board at weekends
- Single or shared room options
- Executive host family an option – en suite shower
- Many hosts within walking distance of the school

Host Family Profile

Liz & Cormac are a lovely caring couple. who live in a 4 bedroom house approximately 5 minute walk from the school. Liz is a housewife and Cormac is a taxi driver. They are friendly and outgoing and one of Liz's favourite pastimes is baking.

Living: Accommodation / Residences

Independent Living

If you are looking for a little more independence then choose from our residential accommodation options, available all year round. Apartment or house share is a perfect opportunity to start your international experience at GCI as you will be living with other GCI students. We are delighted to see students make friends for life after living together. Residences are also incredibly convenient – all are located less than 15 minutes walk from the school.

Residences:

- Bright, modern residential apartments or house share
- 5-15 minutes' walk from the school
- Self catering facilities
- Meal plan options available at Ozone Coffee Company
- En-suite and private bathrooms available
- Single or shared room options



“

I came through an agency – I have now been to the school six times! I have an excellent relationship with my host family. I consider us to be friends now and have returned to the same accommodation a number of times. For me, the best thing about studying at GCI is that it is the whole package – the staff are courteous and helpful, the classes have improved my English drastically and the location is amazing – I have been all over the city and county.

Chantal: French, 51. Advanced





Success

Start your path to your future success right here with Galway Cultural Institute. We can give you the tools you need to face the future with confidence. We can give you a target to aim at and prove your level by achieving success in an international exam. After studying at GCI you will have the skills to apply for that perfect job where fluent English is a must.

Become Fluent

Imagine being able to communicate in English. GCI can help you achieve your goals and you will be fully integrated into an English speaking community and achieve real fluency. You will speak English with confidence, gain recognised qualifications and be fully prepared for a successful career.

Get Results

You will get results studying at GCI. Students can move level in as little as six weeks with your dedication and our expert help. Our primary concern is to get you communicating, so our programmes are skills-focused and involve extensive task-based learning so that you can communicate effectively outside the classroom, in the real world.

How to choose your course

The GCI team wants to make sure that you achieve all of your learning objectives and we offer you an incredibly wide range of programme options. Before you choose your course think about why you want to study and what you need to achieve from your studies. Contact us or your agent for any advice and we will be able to match you with the perfect study pathway. Courses are flexible and you can move easily from one course to another and / or supplement your standard course with specialised or lifestyle programmes.

- General English - short and long courses
- Individual, Business and Executive programmes
- Professional Skills Suite
- Examination preparation programmes
- Lifestyle Programmes
- Teacher Training Programmes
- Group and Stage Programmes

What is my Level

Our courses are designed to conform to the Common European Framework (CEF). The Common European Framework has standardised language level competence across the EU by outlining can do statements at each level. The following grid gives you the CEF levels and their equivalents.

| Council of Europe | Level | Cambridge – ESOL | TOEIC | IELTS |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|-------|
| A1 Breakthrough | Elementary | | 0-250 | |
| A2 Waystage | Pre-Intermediate | KET | 255-400 | 3.0 |
| B1 Threshold | Intermediate | PET | 405-600 | 4.0 |
| B2 Vantage | Upper Intermediate | FCE | 605-780 | 5.0 |
| C1 Effective Proficiency | Advanced | CAE | 785-900 | 6.5 |
| C2 Mastery | Proficiency | CPE | 905-990 | 7.5+ |





General English: Short and Long Stay

Our General English courses offer short-term flexible programmes for people in a hurry, while Academic Year programmes offer long-term affordable college style courses for students wishing to gain fluency. Both programmes offer flexibility and can be combined with examination preparation, business, professional skills suite or a lifestyle option.

We offer all levels from Elementary A1 to Advanced C1 and courses start any Monday. You can choose to have morning classes (G20 / AY20) or morning and afternoon classes (G30 / AY30). Both courses focus on communication, helping you to understand and to speak English.

| Course Code & Title | Lessons per week | Details - Start any Monday (minimum 2 weeks) | Timetable |
|--|------------------|--|--|
| G20 General Standard | 20 | Tailored for the client with limited or extended / time Mix of group and individual work Focus is on skills, vocabulary and lexical items 12 students per class in winter – 14 in summer Afternoon classes focus intensively on oral communication | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons for 30 lessons |
| G30 General Intensive | 30 | | |
| ES20 Executive Summer Programme | 20 | Min 3 - Max 8 students per class General English programmes in small groups Specific dates: June - Sept | 9.00 – 12.30 |

Academic Year Programmes: 12 - 50 weeks

| Course Code & Title | Lessons per week | Details - Start any Monday | Timetable |
|--|------------------|--|--|
| AY12/20 + AY 12/30 + Academic Year Programmes | 20 30 | Discounted General Courses for long stay students Standard & Intensive Special prices apply when full fees paid in advance Minimum course for entitlement to work is 25 weeks | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons for 30 lessons |





Programmes: Individual, Business & Executive Programmes

These are specialist programmes for the modern and busy professional. You can choose and design the course that best suits your needs and time frame – combining individual, group or mini-group options to achieve your language learning goals.

One-to-one English Programmes

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details - Minimum 1 week | Timetable |
|----------------------------------|---------|---|---|
| OC20 One-to-One | 20 | Start any Monday Tailored for the client with a limited time and a pressing need to improve his/her language skills. Needs Analysis Questionnaire completed by client. Maximum progress in minimum time | 9.00 – 12.30 |
| OC30 One-to-One | 30 | | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons |
| OC40 One-to-One | 40 | | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons <small>(For courses beginning on bank holiday Mon -€100.00 supplement)</small> |

Combination English Programmes

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details - Minimum 2 weeks | Timetable |
|--|---------|---|---|
| CC26 Combination Course | 26 | Start any Monday. Combined individual & group lessons. Maximum client teacher contact. Afternoon classes can be tailored to learner needs. Number of afternoon lessons can be adjusted to suit client's needs | 9.00 – 12.30 G20 + 3 / 5 afternoons of one-to-one lessons |
| CC30 Combination Course | 30 | | |

Business Programmes

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details | Timetable |
|---|---------|--|---|
| GBP General Business Programmes 2, 3 or 4 week programme | 30 | Specific starting dates 2, 3 or 4 week programme Focus is on getting ready for the world of work – CV preparation, interview skills, general business administration, telephone skills, business writing, email, letters, customer service etc | 9.00 – 12.30 G20 + 5 afternoons of Business English |
| EEP Executive English Programme | 35 | Start any Monday 1 or 2 week programmes Max 4 clients Seminars include negotiation techniques, presentation skills, business communication, cross cultural training. Number lessons can be adjusted to suit client's needs | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons <small>*when mini group does not contain the minimum number of two, the client will receive 25 individual lessons</small> |



Programmes: Professional Skills Suite

Our Professional Skills Suite is flexible, accredited and combines English language with the study of core business modules. Galway Cultural Institute delivers the English language morning classes while Galway Business School delivers the FETAC accredited business modules in the afternoons. The flexibility of these courses gives students the opportunity to study modules in business while advancing their overall fluency in English.

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details | Timetable & accreditations |
|--|---------|--|--|
| Mkt33 English + International Marketing | 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Customer Service • Marketing | 9.00-12.30 + 5 afternoons 3 module credits at FETAC level 5 4-12 week programmes Progression can be onto a full third level at Galway Business School IELTS 4.5+ level of English or equivalent Minimum 6, Maximum 14 20 lessons of G20 + 10 lessons of specific module & 3 self study lessons |
| Man33 English + Management | 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Personal Effectiveness • Business Administration | |
| Fin33 English + Financial Accounting | 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Customer Service • Manual & Computerised Accounts | |
| Tou33 English + Tourism & Travel | 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Customer Service • Tourism Awareness | |
| IT33 English + IT Skills | 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information & Administration • IT Skills • Spreadsheets • Word Processing | |

The Professional Skills Suite offers learners excellent opportunities and a unique learning experience:

- After each four weeks students receive a certificate from FETAC, the Irish government training organisation.
- In addition they receive Galway Cultural Institute’s language programme certificate
- Students can continue and complete a full FETAC certificate (8 modules).



I found the school through an agency, who recommended GCI to me because she had been here before. I have a degree in Tourism Management so my agent said the Professional Skills Suite Tourism and Travel course was perfect for me. I found the course great because the knowledge was so practical. The best thing about the school for me was the students and the staff.

Valentina: Italy, 25. Professional Skills Suite





Examination Preparation Courses

International exams give you a goal to aim for and proves your level. We are specialists in putting you through the right course for the right exam. Your study time is optimised and your career prospects are enhanced while doing these courses. We offer preparation in the major exams – Cambridge – FCE/ CAE / CPE - TOEIC and IELTS. These courses are flexible and you can transfer easily from General / Academic Year or other long stay programmes. Cambridge organises exam centres in Galway and IELTS exams take place in Dublin.

Examination Preparation Programmes (max. class size: 14)

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details - Specific starting dates | Timetable |
|--|---------|---|---|
| EP 20 Cambridge exam preparation FCE / CAE | 20 | 12 weeks tuition plus 1 exam week FCE/ CAE preparation GCI is a centre of exam excellence Our focus is on maximising your success | 9.00 – 12.30 Upper Intermediate |
| EP 30 Cambridge exam preparation FCE / CAE / CPE | 30 | 6 weeks tuition plus 1 exam week Short intensive courses Maximum use of time for exam success | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons Upper Intermediate |
| EP 30 Combi-TOEIC Combined General English + TOEIC Preparation afternoons | 30 | 4 weeks exam preparation Many starting dates GCI is a TOEIC testing centre IELTS is a benchmark for university entry Minimum numbers required | 9.00 – 12.30 G20/AY20 or OC20 + 5 afternoons TOEIC / IELTS Preparation Intermediate |
| EP 30 Combi-IELTS Combined General English + IELTS Preparation afternoons | | | |





Lifestyle and English Plus

Specialist English Programmes

Language & Irish Culture offers afternoons of Irish culture including aspects of history, the arts, the Irish language, social and economic development as well as practical culture workshops in dance, music or song.

Language & Cookery explores the language of cooking and the kitchen. There is an introduction to local ingredients and recipes and a look at the evolution of modern Irish cuisine. The 'Taste of Ireland' demonstration is practical and fun and the highlight of each week.

English and Film introduces students to the practical experience of film production during their final week. Students gain hands on experience of all the major aspects of film production from the planning phase, to acting and shooting and finally editing. Students receive a 3-5 minute DVD of their masterpiece to take home.

Take Time Programme is designed exclusively for students with experience and 'who are not young enough to believe that they know everything'. The programme is aimed at people who want to refresh or relearn their English and have a social and cultural experience. The programme combines exciting language practice with a range of cultural and social activities with a focus on Ireland's cultural heritage.

English Plus Options include falconry, festival programme, fishing, golf, horse-riding, sailing, spa treatment or windsurfing & kayaking. Choose your preferred option in advance or on arrival at GCI.

| Course Code & Title | Lessons | Details | Timetable |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|
| LC Language & Irish Culture | 30 | G20 with 10 afternoons lessons of Irish Culture Minimum numbers required Intermediate + | 9.00 – 12.30 + 5 afternoons |
| LCK Language & Cookery | 30 | G20 lessons in the mornings 6 lessons of culinary English 1 'Taste of Ireland' which is a 3 course meal demonstration, sampling & recipes 2 week programme 4+ participants | 9.00 – 12.30 + 4 afternoons |
| EFM English & Film | 20 | 4 week programme 3 weeks G20 + 1 week film production Minimum 8 students | 9.00 – 12.30 3 weeks Week 4 - Film Week |
| Take Time Programme TAP | 20 + host family + programme | 2 week programme Available at any time for Closed groups Minimum numbers required | 9.00 – 12.30 includes Host family & programme |

Teacher Training Programmes

This programme is aimed at non-native teachers of English who wish to access teaching materials and methodologies and who want to increase their own language awareness. Participants require a B2 (Upper Intermediate) level of English or above. Programmes are for two weeks and run four times per year – January, April, July & August and minimum numbers required.

Objectives & Pedagogical Outcomes

- Focus on authentic materials development and assessment
- Interesting tips to motivate students
- Introduction to Irish culture and uses in the classroom
- To refresh the participants' knowledge of English
- Teacher observation and micro teaching

Sample timetable

| Time | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| 9.00-10.30 | Ice-breakers Warmers & finishers | Grammar & vocab Future time / the natural world | Master Class Using the web as a language learning tool | Creating, adapting & evaluating activities for language learning | Children as language learners |
| 11.00-12.30 | Passive Voice Health & Beauty | Master Class Getting your tongue around pronunciation | Master Class Using music & song as a learning tool | Learning to learn language pathways | Master Class Correction – when to correct & how to correct |
| 12.30-13.30 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| 13.30-15.00 | Micro Teaching | Culture – an overview of Irish Culture | The internet as a language teaching tool | Culture – an overview of Irish literature | Observations – a chance to see a class in action |





Stage and Group Programmes:

Calling all Principals and Teachers

These programmes are designed for school groups who wish to travel to Galway from September to June for a uniquely Irish experience. Programmes are specifically designed to suit the interests and needs of 12-18 year old students who choose to travel during the school year. We have organised a dynamic language and activity programme to suit a variety of group requirements. Tailor made options are available. Classes are in the morning or afternoons.

GCI has designed a variety of programme options to suit the requirements of every group:

Option A – Standard stage - classes, activities & excursions

Option B – Technical visit stage - classes, activities & excursions and visits to two local businesses

Option C – Tailor-made stage - classes, activities & excursions and includes specific business, IT and social media modules

Key Features

- Emphasis is on communication, Irish culture & modern life
- Learn a language where it is spoken
- Practice inside and outside the classroom
- Experience life in the west of Ireland at first hand
- Preparation for cross-curricular learning

Sample Activities

- Walking tours
- Trip to the aquarium and River Corrib
- Culture and music workshops
- Trip to Galway Museum
- Blog writing
- Treasure hunts
- Speed dating
- Day trips to the Aran Islands, Cliffs of Moher or Connemara





GBS: Paths to Success

Galway Business School, sister company of Galway Cultural Institute, is the premier private business school in the west of Ireland. GBS was founded in 2000 and since then has been providing students from all over the world with quality higher education qualifications which are recognised internationally. Our various courses are accredited by the University of Wales, Edexcel, FETAC and the Institute of Commercial Management.

Choosing a course at GBS can provide you with a number of advantages which will make your studying experience a central part of your future success:

A truly international education

While Irish students make up 80% of those enrolled on courses at Galway Business School, we are proud to welcome students from all over Europe and beyond onto our full-time day courses. This means that when you study at GBS you will gain the vital international experience needed to fulfill your potential.

Excellent pastoral care

International students have very specific needs – it can be stressful studying in a foreign country when you are away from your culture and family. GBS fully understands these needs and has trained administrative and lecturing staff to give you the guidance you need to achieve all your goals as well as effectively integrate into Irish life.

Internationally recognised qualifications

Business in the 21st century is an overwhelmingly international occupation. Therefore if you intend to get ahead in the business world you need to gain qualifications that are well recognised across the globe. GBS is proud to have our BA Honours in Business Administration validated and awarded by the University of Wales. This, along with Irish and UK government accreditations, means that you can use your GBS qualification wherever your career takes you.



“

I decided to study abroad because I felt the need for international experience in order to really get ahead in my career. Galway Business School has been ideal for me for many reasons. It's not too big, so I don't feel lost and I can speak with the lecturers and staff when I need to. The modules have been incredibly useful – I can really see how the theory functions in the workplace. I've had such a good time here that I think I am going to stay on for the top-up degree year.

Rutgar Ebskang: Holland, 25. GBS HND in Business





GBS Programmes: BA, HND and UFP

Our Honours Bachelors Degree in Business Administration is a three year programme validated by the University of Wales. The programme is designed to give a clearly structured business education that provides a solid foundation for success in your future career.

The programme combines business theory and practical coursework that develop the student's ability to critically analyse and comprehend the latest thinking and best business practice. Students learn to develop practical solutions to real problems and how to effectively communicate information, ideas, complex problems and solutions to all members of the organization.

The first two years of this programme lead to the Higher National Diploma award and the final year completes the degree programme. Our University Foundation Programme (UFP) is suitable for entry to both UK and Irish Universities. The UFP allows students to improve their English language while introducing them to a range of business and cultural concepts.

| Course Title | Hours per week | Details | Timetable |
|-------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| BBA | 15+ | Validated by the University of Wales 3 year programme 10 modules over 2 semesters for the final year Mix of Irish and International Students Excellent Results | Monday – Friday with individual times for tutorials & research project 26 weeks +2 assessment weeks per year Two entry dates Jan & Oct Small class sizes – average 20 |
| HND – Business | 15+ | Validated by BTEC/EDEXCEL 2 years Flexible courses with 16 modules Can be a final diploma award or the first two years of a three year degree programme Mix of Irish & International students Excellent results | |
| HND – Marketing | | | |
| HND – Finance | | | |
| UFP - Foundation | 22 | Validated by the University of Wales 10 modules over one year Suitable for entry into both Irish & UK universities Choice of two streams – Business Stream or Language & Culture Stream Opportunity to sit IELTS examination | |



GBS Programmes: Semester and Short Term Courses

Semester programmes may be studied as unique skills acquisition courses or in combination with an English language programme. These programmes range from ten to thirteen weeks and are validated by BTEC / EDEXCEL. There are three entry dates – October, January and June

Semester Programmes

| Course Title | Hours per week | Details | Timetable |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| European Business | 15 | Validated by BTEC/EDEXCEL Suitable for all students or for those who wish to specialize in a particular area 25% of a full time HND programme Small class sizes – average 15 | Mon – Fri with individual times for tutorials 13 week programme |
| PR & Advertising | | | |
| Managerial Finance | | | |
| e-Marketing | | | |
| Management Studies | 15 | Validated by BTEC/EDEXCEL Suitable for students who wish to pursue a career where management skills are important or vital Promotes personal development & enhances leadership skills Small class sizes – average 15 | Mon – Fri with individual times for tutorials 10 week programme |

Short Programmes

| Course Title | Hours per week | Details | Timetable |
|--|----------------|--|---|
| Marketing | 15 | Tailored for the client with limited time and a need to develop his / her knowledge of the chosen field Develops practical skills Can be instantly applied once the course is completed Enhances analysis and communication through the medium of English Students may take any module singly or with others | 6 week programmes Various starting dates |
| Advertising | | | |
| Public Relations | | | |
| Buyer Behaviour | | | |
| International Business Communications | | | |



FAQs: Frequently Asked Questions

How do I travel to Galway?

We can organise your transfer from your airport of arrival directly to your accommodation in Galway. We recommend either Go Bus or City Link bus services as being very efficient and affordable and regularly provide a non-stop service (about 2.5 hours) from Dublin airport to Galway. All coaches arrive into Galway Coach Park. Bus Eireann buses and all trains arrive into Ceannt station.

www.aerarann.ie – flights from Dublin to Galway

www.gobus.ie – transfer from Dublin airport to Galway by bus

www.citylink.ie – transfer from Dublin and Shannon airports to Galway by bus

www.irishrail.ie – transfer from Dublin or Limerick to Galway by rail

www.buseireann.ie – transfer from Dublin city to Galway

Do I need Health & Travel Insurance?

All students should provide their own health and travel insurance to cover elective medical care and to insure against loss of luggage, fees etc. If you are undergoing medical treatment you should bring a medical certificate and sufficient medicines to cover your stay in Ireland.

Students from EU countries should bring their EHIC Health Insurance Card. This entitles you to free emergency care. Those from non-EEA countries need to purchase emergency insurance cover as a minimum to comply with visa requirements.

What happens on my first day?

On your first day you will take part in a level test and orientation session. This helps us to assess your correct level and to introduce you to the GCI Team and the facilities in the school. It also allows you to meet other new students and to ask any questions you may have. We also ask you to fill in an orientation form with full details of your home address in your home country.



You will be given your text book on your first day, and all other additional materials that are needed will be given to you by your class teacher. We process your GCI Student ID card which will give you access to classes, the school facilities and activities, the library and the IT room. It also entitles you to discounts in Ozone Coffee Company as well as in shops and on certain services.

Classes are usually in the mornings from 9.00 – 10.30 and from 11.00 - 12.30. There is a break from 10.30 – 11.00 which allows you some time for a coffee and a chat with other students or with the GCI team. Afternoon classes are usually from 13.30 – 15.00 and from 15.30 – 17.00. Students will be assigned their class time table at orientation – which will include times of morning and / or afternoons.

Do I get a certificate?

Each student receives a Galway Cultural Institute certificate on departure in line with the Council of Europe Framework.

Moving levels - How do I move levels during my course?

Students can move levels during their course. The length of time spent at any one level will depend on a student's individual ability, commitment and hard work and also on the intensity of the chosen course. After 120 contact hours or less a student should move up a level. If you choose a One-to-One option moving levels can be very rapid – in as little as 4 weeks. To change levels you will have to sit an exit level test.

Do I need a visa to come to Ireland?

If you are from the EEA, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland or Switzerland then you do not need a visa to come to Ireland. The rest of the world is divided into two lists for the purposes of student visas – those who need to obtain a visa before travelling to Ireland and those who will validate their visa once in Ireland. If you are not sure about your visa status go to www.dfa.ie or email us for more information.



Can I work in Galway?

Students from EEA countries, the EU, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland and Switzerland may work unrestricted in Ireland. Students from outside the EEA may work under certain conditions providing they have enrolled on a course of minimum 25 weeks in duration listed on the Internationalisation Register, check www.education.ie. If you are enrolled on a suitable course you may then work up to 20 hours per week during term and up to 40 hours during holidays.

Student meetings

Students meet the Director of Studies and the Accommodation Officer to ensure that they are happy with their academic progress, their accommodation option and their stay in GCI. Long stay students meet the Assistant Director of Studies regularly to discuss their goals and progress and to speak about any issue where they require extra support.

Money matters

The currency in Ireland is the Euro (€). The fastest way to send money from abroad is through Western Union. Technically, the transfer should take less than 20 minutes but please allow for the time difference between Ireland and the country sending the money. Detailed information can be obtained from www.postoffice.ie or www.westernunion.com. Once you open a bank account in Galway, money can be transferred electronically directly to your bank.

Nationality mix

GCI's nationality mix policy controls the maximum number of any one nationality. We welcome onto our courses students from over 30 different countries annually.

Mobile phones & Internet

Most mobile networks have agreements with Irish mobile phone networks. Please check with your network before you travel. Once you are in Galway, we recommend that you purchase an Irish SIM card or a Ready to Go phone as it is usually cheaper than using your own phone. Connecting to the internet through your mobile phone provider is also available and flexible.

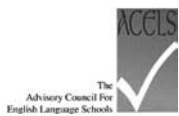
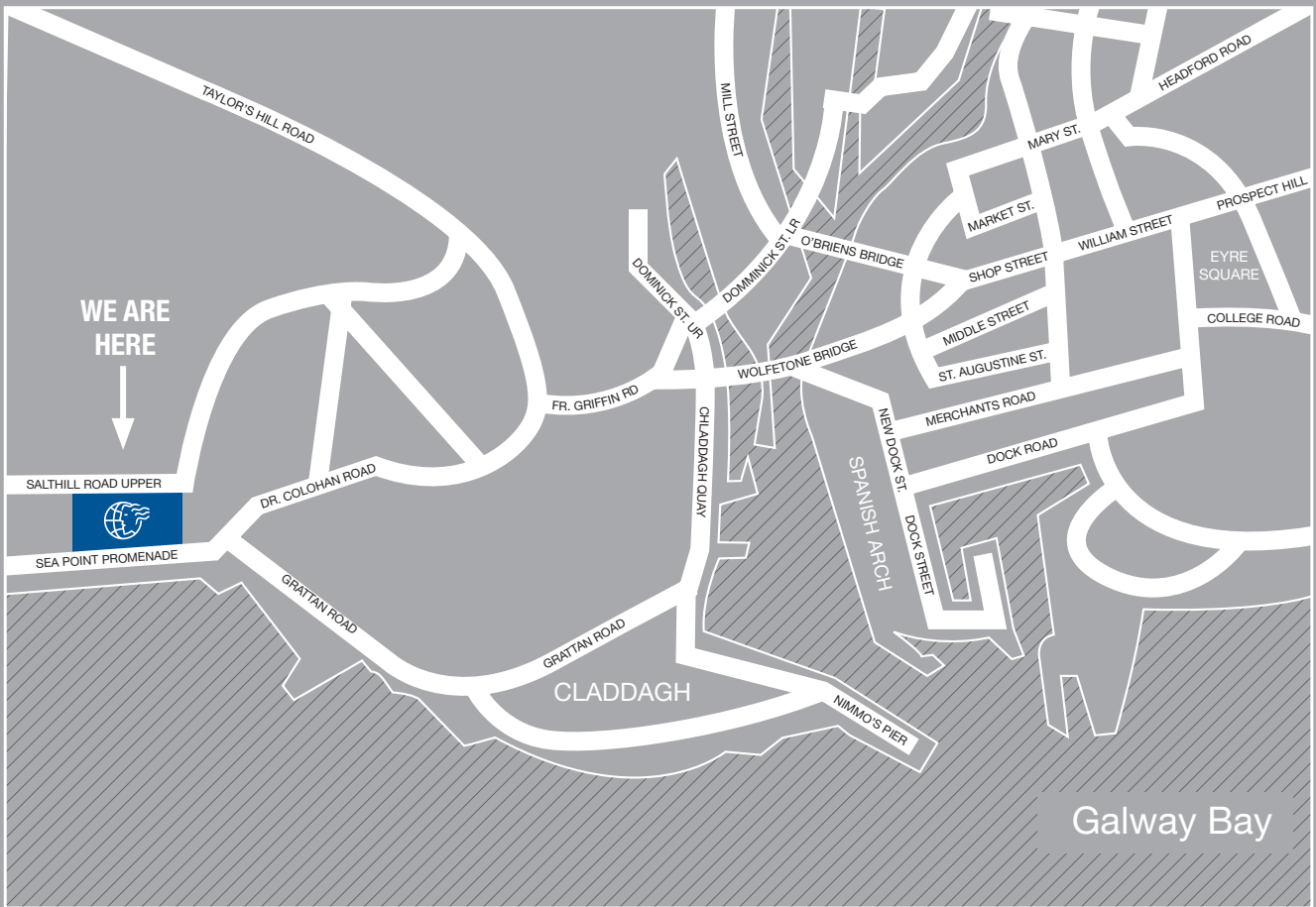
Environmental policy

GCI / GBS is an environmentally responsible organisation and we are fundamentally committed to acting in an ecologically aware manner by taking responsibility for our school environment. Misuse of energy is environmentally damaging. Our energy provider is 100% green. We take a responsible approach to turning off lights, computers, switches and other appliances.

Recycling & waste

Galway Corporation has a comprehensive recycling policy. Students in all city schools and universities are required to bring home their own waste where they can avail of the efficient management and sorting of recyclables. We are also endeavouring to become more efficient and create a paper free environment by reducing the need for printing and photocopying. We also recycle paper, plastic and food (in Ozone Café). Our main brochures are printed on carbon neutral paper.





While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is correct, the school is not liable for any errors herein. Rules & Regulations are available on our price list.



Galway Cultural Institute