



# Study Abroad at Maynooth University Spring 2023

*Last updated on 20.09.2022.*

*Information for Study Abroad & Exchange students.*

## Welcome



Congratulations on taking the first steps to making your study abroad experience a reality!

Studying in another country will benefit you in so many ways. You will meet lecturers and students with different perspectives and different ways of thinking. You will explore new ideas, and perhaps view familiar concepts from alternative perspectives. We hope you will exploit this opportunity to the upmost to develop your own thinking, to challenge your own ideas, and to refine your own perspectives. In and out of class, during the semester and into the future, this experience will be of great value.

I am delighted that you are considering or have chosen to study at Maynooth University. I am a MU alum having obtained my UG in Media Studies & English, and a Masters in Business Management from this institution. I have worked for MU for almost 8 years and have welcomed thousands of students to our campus, hoping that each one truly experiences the unbelievably supportive, collegial and inspiring place we call our campus.

I will be here to guide and support you throughout the process.

**Jodi Killackey**

**International Officer**

**Non-EU Study Abroad & Exchange programmes**

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### Our Campus



Check out this video<sup>2</sup> to get excited about coming to Maynooth University!

**Maynooth University** was formally established as an autonomous university in 1997. Yet, it traces its origins<sup>3</sup> to the foundation of the Royal College of St. Patrick in **1795**, making it, simultaneously, Ireland's youngest university and one of its oldest educational institutions.

**Maynooth University** is an internationally recognised institution located 25 kilometres outside of Dublin, Ireland, and is the nation's fastest growing university. In 2022, Maynooth University was ranked # 1 in Ireland in the latest Times Higher Education (THE) Best Young University Rankings.

With over **15,000 students** from more than **100 countries**, Maynooth offers a range of classes in the humanities, science and engineering, and social sciences, including business, law, and education.

The physical environment of the campus<sup>4</sup>—historic and beautiful in its heritage, yet modern and dynamic in its recent development—is key to the nature, success and sustainability of both the Maynooth University learning community and the very special community of Maynooth in which we reside.

Maynooth University is committed to being a University community that promotes and advances equality, respects and values diversity, and develops a collegiate environment of *excellence with*

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNBFYb3LTzM>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/about-us/university-history>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/CampusMasterPlan>

*equality*, in which the human rights, the responsibilities and diversity of all students and staff are recognised and respected.

Maynooth University is a place where difference is celebrated and all members of its community have a sense of belonging. Maynooth University has a proud history of supporting equality, diversity and equality of access. Find out more about the EDI work happening across the University here<sup>5</sup>.

MU welcomed its **first female President**, Prof. Eeva Leinonen<sup>6</sup>, in October 2021 and she will lead Maynooth University in the next stage of its development.

The campus has been awarded the Green Campus Flag for its achievements in biodiversity support, energy management, water conservation, waste management, and sustainable travel and transport. It offers a variety of beautiful walking and running trails featuring native wild flower meadows, a river, an edible garden, an orchard, woodland areas, and nesting boxes where wildlife flourish.

## Applying to Maynooth University



You can apply to be a study abroad or exchange student at MU through our simple application form<sup>7</sup>.

**Application deadline:** October 31st 2022.

**Required documents:**

- Transcript

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<sup>5</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/edi/edi-projects/edi-work-across-maynooth>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/about-us/presidents-welcome>

<sup>7</sup><https://forms.office.com/r/JPT6JE8E9K>

- Passport photo page scan (please ensure you include your name when saving the scanned document)
- Two academic references (if GPA is below 3.0)
- English language test score (if English is not your first language)

**The English Language Requirements Are:**

- IELTS 6.5 (minimum 6.0 in each band)
- TOEFL paper-based (560) or TOEFL IBT (92) (we do not accept TOEFL ITP)

**ACCEPTANCE EMAILS** will be sent to the email address entered on the application form on a rolling basis. You can expect to receive a decision within 4 weeks.

All information can be found on our website. <sup>8</sup>

## Spring 2023 Dates



- Accommodation move in: January 23rd 2023
- Orientation: January 24th - 27th
- Classes commence: January 30th
- Study week: March 13th - 17th
- Easter break: April 10th - 14th

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<sup>8</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international/study-abroad-information>

- Lectures finish: May 5th
- Examination period: May 12th - 27th 2023
- Accommodation move out: June 3rd 2023

***\*All dates are subject to change, with as much advance notice as possible given.***

***\*Examination timetable is released in April each year.***

## Housing



### The Residence Office

The Residence Office<sup>9</sup> will send the information for applying for on-campus accommodation to your home school advisor/coordinator. There will be a set date for the application system to open and you must apply on this date.

Your accommodation will be on the **North Campus in our Village residences**. You will be within a 5-10 minute walk of your classes.

**Take a look at our housing through this virtual tour!**<sup>10</sup>

### Room Types

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<sup>9</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation/accommodation-campus>

<sup>10</sup><https://tours.maynoothuniversity.ie/accommodation/>

You can choose between a single room with en-suite (own) bathroom OR a single room in an apartment containing two shared bathrooms/washrooms. Kitchen/living area is shared by the 5 students per apartment.

A bedding pack will be supplied and 10 laundry tokens. You must supply your own towels and kitchen utensils.

There is wireless internet access available throughout the campus and your residence.

### **Security**

The apartments are secure with 24-hour security on campus.







## Classes



### EXPLORE OUR OFFERINGS

Class descriptions and details can be found on our course finder <sup>11</sup> *\*please note these are 2021/2022 classes and are subject to change. The database will update to 2022/2023 in August.*

### CERTIFICATES

**We are also offering bespoke Certificate programs to our study abroad students:**

- Certificate in International Business<sup>12</sup>
- Certificate in Irish Cultural Heritage<sup>13</sup>

You can take the number of credits that you need/are instructed to take by your home university. Students generally take 20-30 ECTS per semester.

- **We strongly suggest** that you have extra classes approved by your home university in the event that you are not in a position to avail of one or more of your chosen classes.

### CLASS SELECTION & APPROVAL PROCESS

Students will receive **PRE-APPROVAL** for their class choices in advance of arrival. After acceptance, students will be sent information about our **International Module Approval System (IMAS)** and will

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<sup>11</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international/study-maynooth/available-courses>

<sup>12</sup>[https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Certificate in International Business 0.pdf](https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Certificate%20in%20International%20Business%200.pdf)

<sup>13</sup>[https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document//Cert\\_Ir\\_Cult\\_Heritage\\_Sem\\_2\\_2021-22\\_flyer final.pdf](https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document//Cert_Ir_Cult_Heritage_Sem_2_2021-22_flyer_final.pdf)

log in during a set period to upload their transcript and select modules. International Coordinators from each Department will then log in and accept (or not accept) students into their chosen modules.

There is also a 2 week add/drop period at the beginning of each semester to make changes.

**A selection of our modules which study abroad students regularly take (a small sample, we have hundreds on offer!):**

- INTRODUCING IRISH CULTURAL HERITAGE<sup>14</sup>
- DIGITAL MARKETING<sup>15</sup>
- FOOD, NUTRITION AND CLIMATE SECURITY<sup>16</sup>
- SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY<sup>17</sup>
- MEDIA AND GENDER<sup>18</sup>
- DEVELOPMENT & CONFLICT<sup>19</sup>
- MUSIC AND IDENTITY<sup>20</sup>
- INTERNATIONAL LAW<sup>21</sup>
- MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY<sup>22</sup>
- ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS<sup>23</sup>
- COMPUTING FOR ENGINEERS<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>14</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=ID001X&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=ID001X&YEAR=2022)

<sup>15</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=MN229&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=MN229&YEAR=2022)

<sup>16</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=KD303&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=KD303&YEAR=2022)

<sup>17</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=SO312&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=SO312&YEAR=2022)

<sup>18</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=MD220&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=MD220&YEAR=2022)

<sup>19</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=KD353&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=KD353&YEAR=2022)

<sup>20</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=MU262&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=MU262&YEAR=2022)

<sup>21</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=LW257&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=LW257&YEAR=2022)

<sup>22</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=CS261&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=CS261&YEAR=2022)

<sup>23</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=MT301C&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=MT301C&YEAR=2022)

<sup>24</sup>[http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE\\_CODE=EE108&YEAR=2022](http://apps.nuim.ie/courses/?TARGET=MODULE&MODE=VIEW&MODULE_CODE=EE108&YEAR=2022)

## Maynooth Town



Named after an **ancient Irish god, Nuadha**, Maynooth is **Ireland's only university town**.

It is located in County Kildare, approximately 24kms (15 miles) west of Dublin City. It lies within the boundary edge of The Pale which was the name given to the area under English control during the Late Middle Ages.

On one end of Main Street, beside the entrance to the University, is the 12th century Maynooth Castle, a former seat of the Dukes of Leinster. Up until 1535, the castle was the stronghold of the colourful historical figure, Thomas FitzGerald, the 10th Earl of Kildare, also known as Silken Thomas. At the other end is Carton House with its stunning grounds, also a former seat of the Dukes of Leinster.

Today Maynooth is a small but **thriving centre** full of shops, restaurants, bars and cafes. Being a University town, Maynooth is known for its warm and friendly nature and for welcoming newcomers from all over the world. Everything you need is just a few minutes away – that's the beauty of Maynooth!

Maynooth is a friendly town that enjoys good relations with Maynooth University and its students.

Overall, you'll find people to be welcoming and happy to help with directions as in most small towns, and eager to ensure that your stay is safe and enjoyable.

### Supermarkets and Dining

There are lots of dining options in the beautiful town of Maynooth, from a variety of supermarkets (grocery stores) to fast food outlets and restaurants providing a wonderful variety of quality Irish and other cuisines.

We will tell you more about these after you arrive.

### **Pub Culture**

Ireland is famous for its pub culture, and Maynooth is no exception. You will most likely find yourself in a pub at some point, even if just to enjoy Irish music, and the "craic" (fun and enjoyable conversation)!

The legal age for buying/consuming alcohol in Ireland is 18 years. Photographic ID is required.

You are responsible for your own safety while in Ireland and this includes responsible drinking.

If you are out late, please make sure that all of your group arrive home safely. And remember that you are staying in a shared environment and be conscious of noise levels after 11pm.

We will also tell you more about enjoyable things to do locally after you arrive.

### **Transport**



Maynooth town is well served by three main public transport providers:

1. Dublin Bus
2. Bus Éireann

### 3. Irish Rail

#### **Dublin Bus**

The primary routes between Maynooth and Dublin city centre are the C3 and C4 buses, with buses every thirty minutes. The bus stops in Maynooth are approximately 10 minutes walk from campus.

Depending on traffic and time of day, the journey can take approximately 50 minutes. The C3 and C4 timetables are on this link<sup>25</sup>.

There are also some night-time buses which are the C5 and the C6. The C5 timetable is here<sup>26</sup>. The C6 timetable is here<sup>27</sup>.

#### **Bus Éireann**

There are four Bus Éireann (Irish Bus) routes that serve Maynooth, with bus stops located near the library. Although less regular than Dublin Bus services, as well as Maynooth-Dublin travel, they offer a convenient possibility to explore further afield as far as Sligo and Mayo. The timetables are on this link<sup>28</sup>.

#### **Irish Rail**

Maynooth train station, about 15 minutes walk from north campus, is on the Dublin-Sligo line meaning that you can have the option to explore the west of Ireland. Trains run frequently and take approximately 30-40 minutes to reach three Dublin city centre train stations: Connolly, Tara Street and Pearse Station. From these stations, you can also take Dublin and surrounding areas commuter trains (DART), inter-city trains and city and national bus lines. Click here<sup>29</sup> for more information.

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<sup>25</sup><https://www.transportforireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/All-C-Spine-Full-C-Spine-routes-FA4.pdf>

<sup>26</sup><https://www.transportforireland.ie/wp-content/themes/transportforireland/assets/img/c-spine/timetables/C5.pdf>

<sup>27</sup><https://www.transportforireland.ie/wp-content/themes/transportforireland/assets/img/c-spine/timetables/C6.pdf>

<sup>28</sup>[https://www.buseireann.ie/inner.php?id=406&form-view-timetables-from=Maynooth+\(University\)&form-view-timetables-to=dublin&form-view-timetables-route=&form-view-timetables-submit=1](https://www.buseireann.ie/inner.php?id=406&form-view-timetables-from=Maynooth+(University)&form-view-timetables-to=dublin&form-view-timetables-route=&form-view-timetables-submit=1)

<sup>29</sup><https://www.irishrail.ie/en-ie/station/maynooth>

## Travel



### **Dublin Airport**

Maynooth is located about 30km/18miles from Dublin airport. There are multiple public transport options, and this information will be shared with you in our pre-arrival guide. A taxi is a recommend way to travel to campus when you first arrive, as you will likely be tired and have heavy luggage! It will cost €50-60.

### **Covid-19 Information**

All passengers travelling to Ireland from overseas (as of 10.05.2022):

- Are **not** required to show proof of vaccination, proof of recovery or a negative PCR test result upon arrival.
- Do **not** need to undertake post-arrival testing.
- Do **not** need to undertake post-arrival quarantine.

Anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms while in Ireland should follow the HSE guidance in relation to isolation and undertaking antigen or PCR testing as appropriate.

The information above is quoted from this Irish governmental website<sup>30</sup>. We recommend that you regularly access this link for complete and up to date travel advice and regulations which will always supersede this document.

It is recommended that you keep up to date with the information provided by the organisations listed below, and any other relevant organisations:

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<sup>30</sup><https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/77952-government-advice-on-international-travel/#travelling-to-ireland>

- Irish Government Advice on International Travel<sup>31</sup>
- Health Service Executive (HSE) Ireland COVID-19 Guidelines<sup>32</sup>
- Maynooth University COVID-19 Guidance<sup>33</sup>

## European Travel

Ireland can be a great base for a trip to European countries and the United Kingdom (UK). If you are thinking of planning a weekend break outside of Ireland, we recommend that you book well in advance. Also carefully check visa regulations as not all countries have the same requirements, including for return to Ireland. This also applies to Covid-19 regulations. Do your research in plenty of time, and monitor the situation on an on-going basis.

Aer Lingus<sup>34 35</sup> is Ireland's national airline offering a wide variety of flights from Dublin Airport to international destinations, with special offers regularly available too.

Ryan Air<sup>36</sup> offers low-cost flights to numerous European and UK destinations from Dublin Airport.

Remember: It is very important to ensure you have the required travel documentation, visa/s and insurance. Please see the Visa and Insurance section of this document for more information.

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<sup>31</sup><https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/77952-government-advice-on-international-travel/>

<sup>32</sup><https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/restricted-movements/>

<sup>33</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/coronavirus/students>

<sup>34</sup><https://www.aerlingus.com/html/en-IE/home.html>

<sup>35</sup>[https://www.aerlingus.com/html/en-IE/home.html?gclid=Cj0KCQjwrJOMBhCZARIsAGEd4VFmCdk5bbHUnhYpyVmQ8FkkjIVVHYGDjVAoulvAz3keV3dedcsCXtQaAgufEALw\\_wcB&gclid=aw.ds](https://www.aerlingus.com/html/en-IE/home.html?gclid=Cj0KCQjwrJOMBhCZARIsAGEd4VFmCdk5bbHUnhYpyVmQ8FkkjIVVHYGDjVAoulvAz3keV3dedcsCXtQaAgufEALw_wcB&gclid=aw.ds)

<sup>36</sup><https://www.ryanair.com/ie/en>



## Immigration, Visa and Insurance Information



### VISA:

If you are a citizen of **USA, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea or Taiwan (countries where the majority of our study abroad/exchange students come from)** you **do not** require a visa to enter Ireland. For a full list of non-visa required countries please see here.<sup>37</sup>

### Immigration

However, all Non-EU students **ARE** required to register with Immigration after arrival.

When you arrive in Ireland, your passport will be stamped to allow you to remain in Ireland for a short period of time. You must then register with immigration in order to receive your Irish Residence Permit (IRP card). The International Office at MU will assist you with this process. Read this information<sup>38</sup> carefully.

### STEP

We recommend all students travelling from the USA take advantage of the free US Department of State program. The Smart Traveller Enrolment Program (or STEP) will connect you to the Irish embassy and let them know that you'll be staying with us! Find out more at <https://step.state.gov/step/>.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>37</sup><https://www.irishimmigration.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Immigration-Service-Delivery-Visa-and-Non-Visa-Required-Countries.pdf>

<sup>38</sup><https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international/key-information/visa-immigration>

<sup>39</sup><https://step.state.gov/step/>

## **Travelling Outside of Ireland**

If you choose to travel to Europe or the UK whilst staying with us we strongly encourage you to make sure that you bring your acceptance letter and IRP card with you as you may be asked for it on your return to Ireland. Any travel organised outside of Ireland, including ensuring that your documents are all in order, is your responsibility. Please do your research and plan ahead.

## **Health Insurance**

For **non-EU students**, confirmation of private medical insurance is **required**. You must have valid health insurance, issued in English in order to **meet immigration requirements**.

## **Travel Insurance**

We recommend that all students ensure they have adequate travel insurance that can cover against losses such as damaged or delayed luggage, cancelled flights, delayed or missed departure, loss or theft of money or passport, and illness or injury.

Social? Follow us on Instagram!<sup>40</sup>



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<sup>40</sup>[https://www.instagram.com/maynoothuni\\_international/](https://www.instagram.com/maynoothuni_international/)

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