

*Thinking about Study Abroad NUIG  
(National University of Ireland in Galway)?*



**NUI Galway**  
**OÉ Gaillimh**



Studying in Ireland is a great experience. It offers students the ability to experience a new culture in an English language environment. Galway offers a wonderful student environment with campus situated along the river Corrib. Students can experience the beauty of the famous Connemara countryside along with the rich urban experience found in the heart of Galway.

This guide will cover some of the basics to student life at NUI Galway:

**Overview of University Set-up**

**Majors and Classes on Offer**

**Dates to Keep in Mind**

**Galway City**

## When considering NUI Galway here are a few things to keep in mind:

- ❖ The class environment in Ireland is different from that of the United States. Lectures continue for three months before having a study week after which finals will begin. Finals take place in a large hall with rows of individual desks. In many classes the final grade will be the only grade you receive for the course. This often means lecture attendance is optional and homework is not required. In order to pass a class it is often necessary to self-regulate the work you do throughout the semester.



- ❖ Courses will be referred to as modules. A course in Ireland will be the equivalent of your major here. Standard modules will be 5 ECTS and a more difficult class will be 10 ECTS. A 5 ECTS module will transfer as a 3 credit hour class while a 10 ECTS module will transfer for anywhere from one 3 hour class, two 3 hour classes, or a 5 hour class. Often it will depend on the class and where it fits in with your major requirements.



- ❖ Clubs fall into two different categories. A club refers to a sports club or other group based on physical activity. Groups based on academic or other interests will be called societies, or socs for short. There will be a soc and club fair at the beginning of the term and it is recommended that you participate in at least one as it is a great way to get involved in the student community.

### **What majors should consider studying at NUI Galway?**

Transferable courses at NUI Galway will primarily be Art and Sciences. Programs in Business (referred to as Commerce) and IT are also available. Courses most likely to transfer will be: History, Psychology, English, International Business, IT, Modern Languages, Philosophy, and Political Science. Of course many other courses are on offer at NUI Galway and looking through the website is very helpful.

## **What dates are good to keep in mind?**

The semesters are set up slightly differently at NUI Galway. International Student Orientation will be about four days before the semester starts and you are required to attend. Here are some sample dates for the 2012/2013 school year:

### **First Semester:**

Orientation – 30 Aug

Lectures Begin – 3 Sept

Lectures End – 24 Nov

Examinations – Dec 3–14

### **Second Semester:**

Orientation – 3 Jan

Lectures Begin – 7 Jan

Lectures End – 27 March

Examinations – 19 April–17 May

Application deadlines are as follows: 30 April in the case of applications for admission for a full academic year or First Semester and, 31 October in the case of applications for Second Semester

## Where will I be living?

Most European schools do not have the dormitory system. Students are often responsible for finding their own housing. One of the best options will be the student villages. Residences vary by size, with smaller residences such as

Donegan Court (54 students), Atlantis (80 students) and



Menlo Park (140 students) and larger residences such as Cúirt na Coiribe (389 students), Dúnáras (409 students) and Gort na Coiribe (657 students). These can be found online and it is recommended that you apply as soon as possible. Other places of

living can be easily found and some of the best resources online are:

[www.daft.ie](http://www.daft.ie)

[www.myhome.ie](http://www.myhome.ie)

[www.findahome.ie](http://www.findahome.ie)

[www.collegecribs.ie](http://www.collegecribs.ie)

[www.let.ie](http://www.let.ie)

[www.grabagaff.com](http://www.grabagaff.com)

[www.rent.ie](http://www.rent.ie)



www.findahome.ie

NUI Galway does have an accommodation office that can help you find a residence. You

can contact the

Accommodation Office on +  
353 91 492364 or email

[accommodation@nuigalway.ie](mailto:accommodation@nuigalway.ie).

Most residences come fully  
furnished.



## What is it like to be a student in Galway?



Galway City lies along Galway Bay and is one of the larger cities in Ireland. Natural attractions include The Cliffs of Moher, the Burren, and Connemara. Night life is centered on Eyer Square and

Shop Street. There are many student events throughout the semester and the best way to get involved is in your classes.



For more in-depth information visit  
<http://www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/international-students/why-nuigalway.html>