IRELAND

March 10 – 19, 2017
Registration Deadline: December 1, 2016

Courses:
- HIST 498/IS 490: Historical Field Studies Abroad, 3 credits
- HIST 495/IS 590: Historical Field Studies Abroad, 3 credits
  Prerequisites: admission to the graduate school or permission of instructor
- SOC 494/IS 490: Sociological Field Studies Abroad, 3 credits

Website: www.ccsu.edu/NorthIreland

Cost: $2,995 per person, based on multiple occupancy.
CIE Scholarships are available. See program website.

Program Directors:
Dr. Louise Williams, History (860) 832-2806; williamsl@ccsu.edu
Dr. John O’Connor, Sociology (860) 832-2975; oconnorjohn@ccsu.edu

IRISH HISTORY, POLITICAL CONFLICT, CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

This course abroad program starts and ends in Dublin, but is set primarily in the north of Ireland, both in the county of Donegal, Republic of Ireland, and Northern Ireland, United Kingdom. Ireland is not merely a country of immense physical beauty. It also is an area of intense political and social conflict that began with the first English involvement in the twelfth century, was complicated by religious, social, economic, and cultural divisions afterward, and became especially problematic in the late twentieth century in the north. The legacy of conflict continues to the present day.

The goal of all the courses is to give participants an in-depth understanding of the history and context of past and present problems in Ireland, and to introduce them to recent attempts at resolution, some of which have been cited positively as models for other conflict-ridden areas around the world today. The emphasis of HIST 498 is on the historical background to, and representation of, Irish troubles from the ancient period to the present day, and on current efforts at historical reconciliation. Students may only register for one Irish course and those registering for HIST 498 must be admitted to the Graduate program. SOC 494 provides a detailed assessment of political conflicts and social movements in Northern Ireland since the 1960s.

Students will stay at Inch Island Irish Studies Centre, where they will receive lectures from Irish academicians about history and politics, hear the life stories of participants on both sides of their recent troubles, including former IRA members and Protestant Loyalists, and learn about hopes for the future from politicians. Students will leave Inch House to tour the nearby city of Derry. They will also tour both Catholic and Protestant communities, see famous political murals, and explore the site of the Bloody Sunday massacre with a first-hand witness. Students will visit organizations dedicated to historical truth recovery and reconciliation, go to the Guildhall, seat of the government of Derry, and meet the current Mayor. Finally, an excursion will be taken to Belfast to see the political murals and divided communities there, and to visit the power-sharing National Assembly at Stormont.

The great physical beauty of Ireland will not be missed on the trip. On tours of the Irish Wolfen Peninsula and Giant's Causeway students will see stunning geological rock formations, a 4,000-year-old ring fort set on top of a hill, and Dunluce Castle and other sites that are featured in the TV series “Game of Thrones.” In addition, participants will get an introduction to historic Gaelic culture, with an Irish language lesson, demonstrations of traditional Irish harping, singing, and dancing, and evenings of Celtic music at local venues in nearby towns. In the last days in Dublin students will join a walking tour of the sites of the 1916 Rising, visit Kilmainham Gaol where the leaders of the rising were imprisoned and executed, and take part in all the 100th Anniversary celebrations that will be taking place.

Program Costs
The cost of the travel program includes round-trip airport transfers in the U.S. and abroad, economy-class international airfare, multiple-occupancy accommodations, most meals, ground transportation, and most entrance fees. All personal expenses (i.e., some meals, medical, souvenirs, laundry, telephone, etc.) are at additional cost. CCSU reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary at any time, with or without notice.