Eligibility
This program is open to juniors and seniors (sophomores may be considered in exceptional cases) in good academic and social standing with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students may be required to complete a pre-requisite course in the semester prior to participating in the program. If you are accepted to the program, we will let you know about any pre-req course in your acceptance letter. Due to the challenging nature of study abroad, student academic and disciplinary records will be carefully screened.

Accommodations
Students on this program will be housed alongside Irish and international students in flats in a complex called “Gort na Coiribe”, located on the Headford Road about a 10-minute walk from the NUIG campus. Fully equipped kitchens are included in the flats and a large shopping center and a cinema complex are nearby. As you are responsible for your own meals on this program you may choose to prepare your own at home; in addition, full meals may be purchased at the university canteen at government subsidized prices. To view the accommodations, visit the Gort na Coiribe website at [http://www.gortnacoiribe.com](http://www.gortnacoiribe.com).

Excursions
Several excursions linked to the Irish Culture and Society course are included as part of this program. They typically include visits to Northern Ireland, Dublin, Cork, Kerry, and the Aran Islands. Some local excursions in and around Galway may be organized as well.

Going Abroad With the CGE
Students will be charged standard HWS tuition and room fees and a $600 administrative fee. This will cover credit for a four-course semester, health insurance, housing and class-related excursions. Note that no HWS board fee will be charged. Students should plan to bring their board fee to Ireland to cover meal expenses. While these expenses will vary according to individual tastes, we estimate that about $2000—$2200 (somewhat higher in spring due to the longer semester) should be sufficient for students who typically prepare their own meals. Additional expenses not covered include airfare, books, visa and personal expenses (laundry, entertainment, ground transportation and independent travel). We estimate airfare for this program at $900—$1100 from the East Coast, books at $250 and visa at $350. It is difficult to give an accurate estimate of personal expenses because student spending habits differ considerably. We would suggest a minimum of $1500 above and beyond meal expenses. However, students on a tight budget should be able to manage with less. If you are concerned about finances, we strongly encourage you to talk to the CGE staff who can offer information and advice based on your specific situation.

Application Deadline
- This program is offered every semester.
- Applications are available at the Center for Global Education.
- Applications are due at the CGE office on a selected date in October (for fall programs) and March (for spring programs).
  
For specific dates contact the CGE.

NOTE: The information above is subject to change. Please see the CGE for more information.
About Galway

Galway, a university town with a vibrant artistic and cultural atmosphere, is the administrative capital of County Galway and the largest city in the West of Ireland. This area of the country is noted for its geographic and cultural distinctiveness. With the largest concentration of Gaelic-speaking communities in Ireland, the West is widely recognized as the most typically “Irish” part of the country. The Gaelic heritage is perhaps most evident in the Aran Islands (Inishmore, Inishmaan, and Inisheer), located just off the coast at the entrance to Galway Bay.

The Program

Hobart and William Smith Colleges maintain an affiliation with the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) to provide students with the opportunity to live and study among Irish students at an Irish university. Participants in the program are also encouraged to join one of the many university clubs and organizations in order to directly experience Irish student life and culture. A service learning project, required of all students and linked to the Director’s Seminar, will provide a unique opportunity for students to gain access to the local community.

Courses

This program consists of a combination of special courses taught for the group and regular university courses. All students will take two required courses:

**Contemporary Irish Culture and Society** (1 credit)
This course, an interdisciplinary survey designed to give students insight into important historical events and processes that have shaped Irish culture and society, is organized and taught by faculty from the Centre for Irish Studies at NUIG. A series of excursions are linked to this course and will serve to illustrate key themes and topics.

**Fall 2016 Director’s Seminar: Innovation in Galway** (1 credit)
In this course students will explore the concept of innovation within the context of the history and development of the Galway region. While the word “innovation” is often associated with technological advancements or product creation, for purposes of this course we will take a much broader view to include any idea or concept that has a significant impact on society or a subset of society.

After looking at how innovation is viewed across cultures and from the perspective of different academic fields, students will focus their study on a specific innovation or innovator from Galway. This will involve working in teams to identify research topics and questions related to the innovation/innovator followed by each student designing and carrying out their own research project. Several class sessions will be devoted to students reporting on the progress of their work and receiving peer and instructor feedback prior to submission of a final paper. Through these projects students will explore the cultural context of the innovation/innovator and gain insight into the lasting impact of the innovation/innovator on the local community.

**Elective Courses** (2 courses/2 credits)
In addition, students will select two electives from the regular NUIG catalogue. Following are examples of courses taken by students on previous programs. Consult the NUIG website for further details on course offerings:
http://www.nuigalway.ie/arts/coursedescriptions.html

- Introduction to Northern Irish Politics
- Short Plays of Samuel Beckett
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Church and State in Ireland
- Irish Famine in a European Perspective
- Feminist Thought
- Women in Irish Society
- Gaelic Language
- Contemp. Irish Poetry
- Shakespearean Comedies
- Irish Art
- Scottish Short Stories
- The English Language in Ireland

**Academic Focus**
The Galway program is accessible to students from virtually any academic discipline as participants will be able to select two courses from the NUIG catalogue. Note that access for international students to some NUIG courses is limited due to such factors as the duration of the course and the nature of course prerequisites. Science students with very specific course needs are advised to consult with staff at the Center for Global Education before applying to this program.