

Foothill Ireland Program Summer 2016
Castles in Communities: Medieval Ireland Past and Present
June 26 – July 23, 2016
County Roscommon, Ireland

Program Description

The Foothill Ireland Program is an intensive, 4+week/12-unit combined archaeological/anthropological field school and cultural immersion experience in the heartland of the Republic of Ireland. The program weaves together, on a day-to-day basis, lectures, discussions, readings, fieldwork activities, excursions and hands-on practice & service learning in the fields of archaeology, cultural anthropology and applied anthropology. The program also integrates opportunities for immersion into the communities and natural surroundings of County Roscommon in Ireland.

During your 4+-week stay in Ireland, you will have the opportunity to:

- Join the Foothill College Castles in Communities (CIC) project in the surveying, excavation and artifact analysis of the medieval landscape of Roscommon.
- Practice and utilize ethnographic fieldwork techniques to learn about cultural heritage and traditional life of Ireland, and explore the impact of archaeology, globalization, tourism, and economic development in the Roscommon region.
- Interact with and hear lectures from Irish and American anthropologists and archaeologists, local historians and culture experts, local artisans, youth groups, and other local community leaders, who have dedicated their lives to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the region.
- Experience daily life in the small towns and surrounding farmlands of Roscommon, Castlerea and Ballintober.
- Participate in service learning projects.
- Visit the cultural and natural wonders of the surrounding region in Ireland.

Program Staff

Foothill Ireland Program 2016 Instructors of Record:

Dr. Samuel Connell, Ana Gonzalez, M.A., Daniel Cearley, M.A., and Dr. Chad Gifford

Program Schedule

Weekly Overview

Week 1 Introductory Days (June 26– July 1)

- Arrival, Orientation & Acclimation
- Introduction to program & course components, requirements & expectations, safety & health

- Introductory lectures on Ireland archaeology and museum visits
- Local orientation & welcome events in Ballintober and Castlerea
- Introductory lectures, visits and exploration of Ballintober Castle and other nearby sites of archaeological interest including Sligo, Rothcroghan and Clonmacnoise
- Introduction to archaeological & anthropological fieldwork theories & techniques
- Cultural immersion activities
- Individual exploration, reading, writing and study
- Sunday July 3 – free day

Week 2 (July 4th – July 8th)

- Break into groups for archaeological & anthropological field training, cultural immersion and service learning rotations.
- Field trips to archaeological sites, other research projects in the area, towns & villages, natural surroundings.
- Class lectures & discussions
- Individual exploration, reading, writing and study.

Long Weekend (July 8th - July 11th)

- Irish National Heritage Park for overnight experience
- Drop in Dublin or back to Roscommon

Week 3 (July 12th - July 16th)

- Archaeology/Anthropology field days, focusing on in the field hands-on learning and participation in the research
- Ballintober Heritage Day (Saturday July 16)
- Sunday July 17 – free day

Week 4 Final Days (July 18th – July 23rd)

- Student Independent Pilot Projects (SIPPS)
- Prep for archaeological site closure and program departure
- Program debrief, wrap-up and evaluation
- Good-byes and final logistics
- July 23rd – students depart Roscommon independently

Standard daily schedule

Monday - Saturday

7:00	Breakfast – <i>self prepared with food purchased by project</i>
8:00	Ready to start activities
12:00	Break for tea & lunch – <i>self prepared & packed at home (may change)</i>
4:00	Field day complete
5:00	Dinner begins (served for 1 hour) – <i>prepared group meal</i>
5:00 -7:00	Start of evening activity/lecture (if scheduled for that day – 3/week)

Sundays

Group fieldtrips and/or free time – *meals on own*

Academic Objectives, Expectations and Grading

Overview, Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

All students must enroll in 12 units (no more/no less) of coursework, and all students **must enroll in Anth 67C Cultures of the World: British Isles (4 units)** and a remaining 8 units based on the declared emphasis in this year's program. The course options for Ireland 2016 are:

CRN	Course ID	Course Name	Instructor of Record
10560	ANTH-067C-01 (4 units)	Archaeology of the British Isles	GIFFORD, CHAD (currently STAFF)
10457	ANTH-012-01 (4 units)	Applied Anthropology	CONNELL, SAMUEL
10500	ANTH-017L-01 (2 units)	Archaeology Laboratory	GONZALEZ, ANA
10469	ANTH-051-01 (2 units)	Archaeology Survey	CEARLEY, DANIEL
10294	ANTH-052-01 (4 units)	Archaeology Field Methods	CONNELL, SAMUEL
		Lecture	CONNELL, SAMUEL

The course objectives and your learning opportunities for each of the above courses are woven together day-to-day, often in an integrated and holistic fashion. All program components and coursework are very integrated in this field school, and all students receive lectures by all instructors and guest lecturers. All students, regardless of emphasis, will be gaining experience in archaeological and cultural/applied anthropological field methods. There is much crossover between coursework; one assignment or activity will be aligned with learning objectives for more than one of your courses.

It is absolutely essential to be present (both physically & mentally) to the best of your own individual abilities at every activity, lecture, discussion, etc., in order to receive credit for each of the courses in the program. You will also be expected to complete readings and other assignments for the above courses. If you have

concerns about your ability to participate in any individual or group assigned activity, or complete one of the assignments, you must notify one of the project directors immediately. Every opportunity for flexibility and individual adaptation will be given for legitimate concerns.

It is also important to understand that while academic credit is granted on an individual basis, you are part of a larger group of faculty & students participating in multi-year research projects in a host country. You (and the group) are guests in the country of Ireland. Your own behavior and participation *will* impact (positively or negatively) both the faculty and other students on the 2016 project, as well as future Foothill research projects and field schools. Please take this opportunity and responsibility seriously!

The primary academic course objectives for the Foothill Ireland Program 2015 are the following:

- Prepare students to operate in a field archaeology environment anywhere in the world by exposing them to methods of site reconnaissance, surveying, excavation techniques, data recording, photography and drawing, and artifact analysis (ceramic typology and stone tool production experiments) in a laboratory environment;
- Demonstrate to students how we interpret the past from what we find in the present by laying the groundwork for understanding the links between method and theory in archaeology;
- Expose students to the Medieval period of Ireland, specifically the period of Anglo-Norman incursion and local Irish resistance, thus contributing greatly to their understanding of imperial and colonial processes in the ancient and modern worlds.
- Raise students' awareness of the implications, politics and economic impact of archaeological research, discovery, analysis and interpretation on modern communities adjacent to archaeological sites.
- Introduce students to the skills necessary to conduct basic ethnographic/anthropological fieldwork techniques including observation, participant observation, mapping, interviewing, photography & video, and written documentation, and ensure ethical practice of anthropological fieldwork;
- Introduce students to how and why cultural anthropologists use ethnographic fieldwork methods to analyze and write about local communities and cultural heritage; and how these methods and analyses can be applied to assess community needs and support community and economic development;
- Become familiar with the different languages, cultures and people of Ireland;
- Learn and successfully implement skills of cultural exploration, immersion and adaptation.

The Student Learning Outcomes are as follows:

- Students will practice and apply understandings of archaeological methods and field survey in archaeology.
- Students will learn how to critically analyze and interpret archaeological data, including laboratory data, gathered from fieldwork and field survey.
- Students will practice and apply understandings of archaeological laboratory methods and techniques of archaeology, including cataloging, care and analysis of artifacts, bone recognition, and archaeological excavation.
- Students will practice cultural relativism and apply understandings of global diversity in a practical and applied form.
- Students will critically analyze and interpret anthropology data so that it can be used to apply to real-world issues.
- Students will apply anthropological principles for solving human problems on the local, regional and world scales.

Expectations and Grading

As mentioned above, **active** (enthusiastic, engaged, and full of your best effort), **respectful** (of the local people and places, as well as fellow program participants and staff) and **consistent** (present and on time every day/every activity) **participation** is absolutely essential in order to maintain successful standing in the program, and receive credit for each of the courses.

In addition to participating in all fieldwork, lab work, lectures, excursions, group discussions and cultural explorations, you will also be required to complete a set of program assignments. These assignments include the following:

1. **An archaeological and laboratory field log** – *all students take scientific notes on fieldwork, such as excavations and survey findings.*
2. **A practical demonstration of key archaeological excavation and survey techniques** – *all students will be evaluated on basic field tasks by the professors of record.*
3. **A practical demonstration of key laboratory techniques** – *all students will be evaluated on basic lab tasks by the professors of record.*
4. **A cultural fieldwork notebook** – *all students will make entries into a designated cultural fieldwork notebook that will provide an opportunity to document and reflect on the field experiences. A minimum number of entries (see below and also separate field notebook handout) will be required for credit.*
5. **Short exercises and assignments** – *students will be responsible for completing short exercises and assignments related to the archaeological and anthropological field experiences.*
6. **Reflections, weekly evaluations and blog entries** – *Students will be required to complete short reflections about their academic and experiential learning in addition to periodic program evaluations and occasional blog entries.*

You will receive a distinct letter grade for each of the courses in which you are registered, based on successful completion of all required assignments, and full participation in all activities. All grading follows this general rule:

Fieldwork, Labwork & Written Assignments	60 pts
Participation	<u>40 pts</u>
Final Course Grade	100 pts

Participation points are based on the overall involvement and contribution of the student in all aspects of the field project. Grades will be tallied based on your total points. Final grades will use +/- and will be done on the standard 90, 80, 70% scale (e.g. .98>=A+, .93-.97=A, .90-.92=A-). There are no predetermined number of As and Bs.

Breakdown of point awards for assignments

	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Point Award</u>	<u>Course</u>
1	Archaeological field notes/daily log	30	ANTH 51, 52 & 17L
2	Practical demo of excavation, lab, and survey techniques	20	ANTH 51, 52, & 17L
3	Field Journal with specified entries	30	ANTH 12
4	Class Exercises	30	ANTH 67C
5	Various Field Exercises	5	ANTH 51, 52 & 17L
		25	ANTH 12
6	Cultural Visitation and Reflection Write ups	30	ANTH 67C
7	Evaluations and Blog Entries	5	ANTH 51, 52, & 17L
		5	ANTH 12
8	Active, Respectful and Consistent Participation	40	ANTH 51, 52, & 17L
		40	ANTH 67C
		40	ANTH 12

Required Texts

Required Textbooks:

- 1) Foothill Ireland Program Reader (forthcoming handouts distributed in country)