



Studying abroad with SIT in Ireland: In the words of recent students

“The combination of meeting with academics, activists, social and community workers, and ex-combatants, as well as simply just exploring areas that were of profound importance during the Troubles, has made for a far more fulfilling academic experience than we could have possibly had if we were exclusively taking classes.” **Charlie Fick, Carleton College**

“We undertook longer study tours, such as our trips to County Mayo and Northern Ireland, which often felt like extended field study assignments. We helped activists clean up their solidarity camp in Kilcommon, participated in a sustainability conference at Corrymeela, and listened to the Revered Ian Paisley preach from his towering pulpit at the Free Presbyterian Church. We sat in on a committee of the Northern Ireland Assembly, met the Quinn family and toured Shankill Road. Each of these experiences allowed me to understand our classroom theories in the context of real life situations and to develop my emerging field study skills.” **Jayce Hafner, Hendrix College**



“I have learned so much more about myself, about Ireland, and about the nature of peace and conflict than I ever could have imagined three months ago. This has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life and I intend to carry these themes and lessons with me in all of my future travels and endeavors.”

The impact that the field study has had on me was significant. I feel more confident about approaching people, asking questions, and finding access to information...I feel as though I have taken ownership of my education and the knowledge that is imparted to me. I know that this field study experience will have a long lasting effect on all of my future academic endeavors.”

Brielle Balsamo, Fordham University

“...I have received an education in the history, the politics, and the sociology of the island. I think even more importantly, I have [had] the chance to really be in Ireland, to learn by rolling up my sleeves and exploring, by asking questions, and chasing after answers.” **Anthony Pinto, Bennington College**



“I hope to bring many lessons with me from my time in Ireland. I believe the most invaluable of those lessons would be the acknowledgement of others’ identities, consideration and tolerance for others’ personal and cultural “truths”, and the importance of an education based in experiential and active learning.”

Rachel Goldberg, Goucher College

“My time in Ireland has been an amazing experience in all respects. I have been able to see both positive and negative sides of the island in so many different ways, and it has changed how I view not just Ireland, but the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the world in general”. **Sasha PF Holston, Kenyon College**