UC Davis Summer Abroad Program Proposal
Film Production in Ireland

Beginning
Summer 2016

Submitted By
Jesse Drew, PhD, Professor, Cinema and Technocultural Studies
Glenda Drew, Professor, Department of Design

Proposed Courses
CATS 104: Documentary Production
CATS 198: Film Production, Group Directed Study

Location
Dublin, Ireland with field trips to Western and Northern Ireland.

Student Accommodation and Classroom Facilities
Classes and lodging will be based in Dublin

Appeal to Students
Course is part of the Cinema and Technocultural Studies major and can also fulfill requirements for upper division studio credits for Design students. Acquiring skills in film and documentary production appeals to a wide range of students, from creative arts and social sciences, to the hard sciences. Conducting research, writing scripts, acquiring visual evidence and editing an audio-visual thesis has broad appeal to many students and is an increasingly important aspect of any undergraduate education, as well as any graduate education.

Logistics of Course
Formal class will meet mornings M-W-Th from 9am until 12-noon for lecture and demonstration of skills of cinematic production. Students will work in teams on projects, including researching, interviewing, location shooting and other production work during most afternoons. Evenings will include an opportunity to review daily rushes and watch other works, leading to discussion and summation. Classes and evening discussion will include visits from local filmmakers and scholars of Irish history and culture. Time will also be scheduled for individual evaluation and consultation with students.

Field Trips
Location visits will enable students to appreciate the rich histories of Ireland and its environs. Visits will include trips to museums, places of historical interest and the Irish Film Institute in Dublin. Longer trips will be planned for the cultural center of Galway on the Atlantic Coast, and to Belfast in Northern Ireland.
**Why Ireland**

An international educational experience is a very valuable part of an undergraduate education and Ireland offers a great opportunity to acquire such education. The lack of a language barrier will allow many UC students the opportunity to fully engage in a variety of rich experiences in a European nation. There are many historical and cultural reasons why Ireland offers a wide range of educational possibilities. Dublin is home to a very rich literary tradition, including Oscar Wilde, W.B. Yeats, James Joyce and Samuel Beckett. Ireland offers a great diversity of geographies, from the rugged coastlines to the Giant’s Causeway, from the bustling harbors to the cultural centers of the cities. The impact of Ireland and its legacy within the United States is enormous. The Irish diaspora in the US is one of the largest of US nationalities, as millions of Irish citizens left the Emerald republic over a period of many decades to work on railroads, construction and industrial production in the US. For students of political history, Ireland has the distinction of being considered one of the first colonized nations, dating back to the 1500s. Modern Ireland also offers the chance to see how the Emerald Gulch has emulated Silicon Valley in its evolution into a center of technological innovation. For students who want to explore overseas, there will be no shortage of fascinating topics and visually compelling compositions.

**The Instructors**

Both Jesse Drew and Glenda Drew have many years experience working in the cinema and documentary field and in teaching film studies and production. Jesse Drew has past experience both in Mexico and Ireland leading a similar course in filmmaking. Glenda Drew, while American born, has dual citizenship with Ireland, is a frequent visitor to Ireland, and has relations with current relatives there. She has taught many time-based film and media courses, including motion graphics.
SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Study Abroad Summer 2016 / Film Production
CATS 104: Documentary Production
CATS 198: Film Production, Directed Group Study

DOCUMENTARY STUDIES IN IRELAND

Professors

Jesse Drew / jdrew@ucdavis.edu
Associate Professor, CATS

Glenda Drew / gadrew@ucdavis.edu
Associate Professor, Design

Course Description

Concepts and practice of narrative and documentary media production focusing on use of video and new media tools. Students will utilize basic video, sound, lighting, and computer software as they develop short cinematic projects in Ireland. Completed work will be exhibited publicly and hosted on a Cinema Ireland video website. Students will be required to keep a written journal of their experiences and to complete several short essays.

Grades

Participation—15%
Presentations of Work in Progress—20%
Writing/Journal Assignments—25%
Final Project—40%

Topics

Week One: Background, Preparation and Skills Assessment
Field Investigation, Research and Pre-Production
(Short Essay Due)

Week Two: Production Planning and Principal Cinematography
(Journal Entries)

Week Three: Principal Production and Post-Production
(Journal Entries)
Week Four: Fine Tuning, Revising, Feedback and Screening
(Journal Entries)

Films will be screened weekly in Dublin at the Irish Film Institute. From the time of its founding in the 1940s to the present, the IFI has played a key role in defining Irish national culture. In recent years, it has become a major force in promoting Irish film internationally and also in bringing international film to Ireland.

Possible Films For Viewing

- *Man of Aran* (Dir. Flaherty, 1934)
- *Rocky Road to Dublin* (with *The Making of Rocky Road*) (Dir. Lennon, 1968)
- *Anne Devlin* (Dir. Pat Murphy, 1984)
- *The Field* (Dir. Jim Sheridan, 1990)
- *The Commitments* (Dir. Alan Parker, 1991)
- *Bloody Sunday* (Dir. Paul Greengrass, 2002)
- *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* (Dir. Ken Loach, 2006)
- *Hunger* (Dir. Steve McQueen, 2009)
- *The Secret of Kells* (Dir. Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey, 2009)
Schedule (In Ireland: Sample Only)

Week 1  Dublin

S  8:00 – 10:00 am Arrival transit to Dublin
    1:00 – 3:00 pm Program Dinner and Orientation Group Meeting

M  9:00 am – noon Class Meeting: All students
    2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Program Event: National Museum Tour (Archaeology)

W  9:00 am – noon Class Meeting: All students
    1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Program Event: Writers Museum

Th  9:00 am – noon Class Meeting: All students
    2:00 – 4:00 pm Program Event: Walking Tour Viking Dublin

Week 2  Dublin

M  9:00 am – noon Class Meeting: All students
    2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Program Event: Joyce Tower

W  9:00-12:00 pm Class Meeting: All students

Th  9:00 am – noon Class Meeting: All students
    2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Program Event: Kilmainham Gaol Tour

Belfast

F  Travel to Belfast

Sa  Titanic Museum

Su  Giant’s Causeway
    Travel to Galway

Week 3  Galway

M  Galway: Free Day
    7:00 pm Program Event: Trad on the Prom

T  8:00 am – 6:00 pm Program Event: Inismor (Aran Islands Tour)

W  8:30 am – 4:00 pm Cliffs of Moher and Galway-Cork Travel
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<tr>
<td>Th</td>
<td>10:00 am – 1:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Program Event:</strong> Blarney Castle Tour</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>10:00 am – 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Cork-Dublin Travel</strong></td>
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<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Check in:</strong> Dublin</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dublin</strong></td>
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<td>9:00 am – noon</td>
<td><strong>Class Meeting:</strong> All students</td>
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<td>8:30 am – 5:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Program Event:</strong> Day trip to New Grange</td>
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<td><strong>Class Meeting:</strong> All students</td>
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<td>1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Program Event:</strong> Guest Lecture</td>
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<td>TH</td>
<td>9:00 am – noon</td>
<td><strong>Class Meeting:</strong> All students</td>
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<td>2:00 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Program Event:</strong> National Library or National Gallery</td>
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<td>Last Day of Program: 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Group Dinner and screening</td>
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