

Course code LANG.1.LITD

Last update 05/08/21

Course information

Title	Literary Dublin: A Journey with Ireland's Greatest Writers
Concept by	Peter O'Neill
Course URL	teacheracademy.eu/course/irish-literature/
N. of participants	Min. 4 - Max. 14
Course length	One week (6 days, Monday - Saturday)
Language	English. Other languages may be available upon request
Locations and starting dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dublin - Second Monday of the month <p>On request, we can organize this course directly at your school. Discover all the dates at teacheracademy.eu/courses-dates/</p>
Free time activities offered	All courses include at least one city guided tour and one full-day Cultural Activity.
Type of certification awarded	Certificate of Attendance, including a description of the course contents (80% of attendance required); other Certificates may be available upon request
Price	Starting from 480€ * * Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the Erasmus+ KA1 funds and several other programs.

Course contents

Description

Dublin, UNESCO City of Literature, is the ideal destination in Europe to **engage with some of the major figures of modern European literature**. Set in its historic Georgian center, the works of key Irish writers such as Joyce, Beckett, and Oscar Wilde can only really be fully appreciated by exploring the city in the company of a knowledgeable guide.

The course will demonstrate how important a good knowledge of Dublin is to fully appreciate key literary works in Irish literature. Participants will spend an hour or two each day **reading and analyzing specific sections of cores text**. Later in the day, they will **then explore the particular part of Dublin where the texts were set**. By being able to actually walk around the streets where some of the action takes place and visiting the key places mentioned in the texts, they will develop a much greater appreciation of the writing.

Through the course, the participants will also acquire a greater understanding of how **the city of Dublin plays a key role in the selected texts**. Irish writers, like Joyce and Beckett, exploited the very specific idioms used in the city of Dublin mainly for comic effect. A lot of the comedy of their work is lost on many readers who are not familiar with the highly specific sense of idiom that is particular to Dubliners.

The course has a very practical element to it. The careful and rigorous explanations of the Guide, supported by the use of maps and coupled with a comprehensive engagement with local historical anecdotes, will bring the participants to an appreciation of very specific nuances of language, and a much greater understanding of the texts. An appreciation of the historical context will also help participants make some of the most challenging prose fiction written in the English language – such as *Ulysses* by James Joyce and the prose fiction of Samuel Beckett, which are often perceived as too intimidating and intellectual – more accessible.

By the end of the course, participants will have a much richer understanding of **the history and geography of Dublin**, of its culture and literary history, as well as of what Irish modernism brought to the world. Understanding better Dublin and the works of its most famous literary figures will also give the participants a greater appreciation of what it actually means to be a European.

Learning outcomes

- Gain deeper insights into canonical texts in modern Irish literature;
- Find strategies to interpret greater meaning by using the skills learned to decipher the texts;
- Engage in a very profound way with Irish history and culture through the exploration of key texts set in the capital city of Dublin – UNESCO City of Literature;
- Guide other readers of the texts in a more grounded and efficient way;
- Analyze and design tailor-made school activities for students who need to study modern Irish writers;
- Foster a deeper understanding of cross-cultural pollination between mainland Europe and the island of Ireland.

Tentative schedule*

Day 1 – Getting to know each other and Ireland's Literature	Day 2 - Wild about Wilde - Discovering Oscar Wilde and the Irish World of Art
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the course, the school, and the external week activities;• Icebreaker activities;• Presentations of the participants' schools;• James Joyce and an Introduction to the Homeric Parallels of Ulysses;• In the steps of Leopold Bloom, a Joycean exploration of the inner city of Dublin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The wit and wisdom of Oscar Wilde;• Merrion Square and Georgian Dublin, the birthplace of Wilde;• The National Gallery of Ireland – key works – Caravaggio, Picasso, and Jack Yeats.
Day 3 - An Introduction to Samuel Beckett	Day 4 - Other Irish writers and Poets
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dante and the Lobster, the early prose fiction of Samuel Beckett;• A literary engagement in food appreciation – How to make a Gorgonzola sandwich!• Creative writing class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thomas Kinsella – The Pen Shop;• A trip to the Seamus Heaney Centre, Bank of Ireland, College Green.
Day 5 - From Text to Place - a wrap up of Dublin and its literary connections	Day 6 - Course Closure & cultural activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Henry Street Arcade and Charles Baudelaire.	<p>Course closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion;• Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance. <p>Cultural activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excursion and other external cultural activities.

*The schedule describes likely activities but may differ significantly based on the requests of the participants, and the trainer delivering the specific session. Course modifications are subject to the trainer's discretion. If you would like to discuss a specific topic, please indicate it at least 4 weeks in advance.

Links and resources

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