Covering the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland
with travel to Ireland and Northern Ireland

In this course, taught by Reuters’ former chief correspondent for Ireland and Northern Ireland professor of practice Elaine Monaghan, students from The Media School, the Department of Religious Studies and the School of Global and International Studies will form teams to report on Northern Ireland’s “Troubles,” its peace process and the historical and religiopolitical roots of that conflict.

During spring break travel, they will meet and be briefed by journalists, diplomats, academic experts, politicians and activists. They will also visit and report on important sites including EPIC the Irish Emigration Museum, political institutions and organizations supporting refugees. Students will also participate in a special event at Seamus Heaney HomePlace, a new site dedicated to the life and work of the Nobel laureate.

Tentative course schedule and trip details

1-2:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. This is subject to change.
Travel to Dublin, Ireland, and Belfast and Londonderry, Northern Ireland, during spring break, March 9-17, is a required component of this class.

Eligibility

To apply for the course, you must:

- be on track to be a sophomore by credit hours (30 hours completed) by the end of fall 2017 semester, or a master’s student
- have a 3.0 cumulative GPA
- be on track to be admitted to The Media School, the School of Global and International Studies or the College of Arts and Sciences as a religious studies major by the end of the fall 2017 semester

Entry to this course will hinge on a letter of interest and an interview at which you will be asked to explain your interest in the course and what you will contribute to your multidisciplinary team. Eight places will be made available to undergraduate students, sophomore or higher, from The Media School, and four apiece to religious studies and SGIS.

Costs

The American Council of Learned Societies, The IU Foundation, The Women’s Philanthropy Leadership Council and The Media School have all contributed funds to make this a low-cost travel opportunity.

Full program costs before grants: $2,915
Course fee after scholarship: $550

The course fee covers round-trip transportation from Bloomington, lodging, all required activities, health insurance and some meals. We recommend students also have $200-$400 available during the trip to cover meals and personal expenses.

These expenses can be reduced through other scholarships and grants, such as the Hutton International Experiences grant.

Upon acceptance into the field experience course, your bursar account will be billed the non-refundable $550 course fee.