Port City: City Life
UCD Architecture International Summer School

For three weeks in June the PORT CITY: CITY LIFE International Summer School, a collaboration between University College Dublin (UCD) and Dublin Port Company will give students from diverse disciplinary backgrounds the opportunity to observe and engage with the ongoing transformation of Dublin today. Through its close relationship to many key institutions and authorities, the Summer School will offer participants unprecedented access to the stakeholders currently negotiating Dublin’s response to global urban conditions.

UCD Architecture is the only programme in Ireland to be accredited by the professional institutes of both Ireland and Britain; the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, and the Royal Institute of British Architecture. UCD Landscape Architecture is the only programme of its kind in Ireland and it is accredited by the Irish Landscape Institute and the International Federation of Landscape Architects. In addition, the programme is currently in the process of seeking Substantial Equivalency Status from the National Architectural Accrediting Board (United States).

Programme Features

• A base in Dublin’s vibrant inner city, which will be both setting for and subject of the School’s programme.
• Intensive workshops, studio sessions, plenary lectures and seminars.
• Unique access to leaders in the cultural and creative sectors, including practitioners, artists, museum curators, urban government officials, and critical thinkers.
• A three-week programme progressing from skills acquisition, studio work, and research to final projects to include exhibition and presentation.
• Accommodation in the heart of Dublin city centre.
• Activities will include an exclusive boat-trip around Dublin Port and across Dublin Bay.
• A dawn tour of the workings of the port; evening film screenings in the city.
• Lectures and field-work in various locations across the city.

Theme: PORT CITY: CITY LIFE

Understanding a specific urban context in Dublin and its processes and infrastructure, through analysis, visualisation and reflection. Three weeks of collaborative research and design, using techniques related to the role of still and moving image and the representation of landscape, focusing on Dublin Port. Through the camera lens landscapes and spaces of scale can be comprehended and represented.

In this Summer School, the role of ‘cinematic thinking’ in architectural research will be explored. Students will identify specific conditions in the landscape that interest them (scale; viewpoint; horizon; the container world; surveillance; traffic, flows and flux; edge conditions) and map/depict these through the lens. A number of distinct workshops and seminars will run over the three weeks. Previous workshops have included virtual reality, a sound workshop, film-making, photography and the translation of space to image, and pinhole cameras. You will use a range of other techniques including mapping and drawing.

Work will range from understanding the development and morphology of Dublin Port itself; using the camera lens to understand and represent landscape; considering the role of image-making and image-screening in the urban environment; down to discussions on the technical requirements of sound, projection and screening. Any film-making or technical aspects will be accompanied by short workshop sessions on shooting, editing and software.

On completion of the Summer School, the techniques and research that students will have been exposed to will be transferrable and applicable to more traditional design processes, and the links to spatial and urban considerations made manifest.

A series of lectures and talks will accompany the Summer School. Work is process-based over the three weeks, culminating in curating your own exhibition. Students’ process-based work will be critiqued and exhibited in a public gallery.

Fees

The cost of the 3-week programme is €2,500 (approx. USD$2,650). This fee includes:
• Tuition fees including studio materials
• Field trips and study tours within Ireland
• Some sporting, cultural activities and entertainment
• Early fee for applications by February 15th: €2,250
• Indicative accommodation costs (sharing room with one other person, central location) are: €80 per night per person sharing inclusive of VAT and taxes.
To apply: Please contact joanne.reilly@ucd.ie for further application instructions.

Application Deadline: May 1st

Early Application Deadline: February 15th

For further information contact:
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Student Testimonial

Zhizhen Song
Architecture Sophomore Student, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, Summer 2017

“This was a fantastic opportunity to participate in the UCD International Summer School. During the three weeks, the various lectures offered me different perspectives to analyse the relationship between port and city, and diverse workshops helped me with skills to represent my idea. Many precious visits were provided, such as the morning trip to see a ferry entering the port, the walk on the Great South Wall and face-to-face seminars with various artists and architects. Additionally, I experienced Irish culture and enjoyed myself after class. For any future architects, I think it worth spending time on this summer school. What I learnt this summer really broadened my horizon, and I feel it will be a great help to my future studies and career.”

Assessment
Assessment is based on the student’s level of engagement with the summer school content and on the final presentation of work produced over the three weeks.

Credit Transfer
We recommend to award 6 US credits (10 ECTS) for the successful completion of the programme. We will be happy to provide full information to enable institutions to make decisions regarding the transfer of credits. UCD will send an official transcript to the home institution at the end of the Summer School.

Cultural and Social Programme
Through the summer school’s focus on contemporary urban life in Dublin, students will experience a wide range of social and cultural activities, including excursions and field trips throughout the city and beyond. Students will also have the opportunity to visit a number of sites and centres significant to Irish culture and history.

Eligibility
THE MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT IS 3.00

This summer school will be attractive to students with background studies in architecture; landscape architecture; architectural studies; urban planning; digital media; film studies; photography; liberal arts and the fine arts.

In addition to completing the UCD on-line application process, a standard form of identification i.e. a copy of student passport and a transcript of academic record to date should be uploaded to your on-line application before the application deadline.