

Summer in Dublin

For eight weeks, I embarked on a study abroad experience in Dublin, Ireland. This Bucknell In program through the Freeman College of Management allows Bucknell students to work and study internationally. Two Bucknell credits are offered through this program, which is helpful for students looking to graduate early, or in my case, Accounting majors looking to sit for the CPA. In this program, students stay at the University College of Dublin with five other roommates in apartment living style. Bucknell in Dublin partners with Connect 123 to pair each student with an internship tailored to their interests. Along with the program comes excursions to places in Ireland like Galway, Belfast, Cliffs of Moher, and many other beautiful spots. This trip brings together 30 Bucknell students and forms a strong community through all the traveling and events. I highly recommend this program because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students looking to study abroad.

Coursework

Two classes from the Freeman College of Management are offered. MGMT 290: Global/Society/Culture and ANOP 315: Guinness to Globalization

ANOP 315:

In this class, Students explore the evolution of operations and services strategies in Ireland, gaining insights into the factors that have shaped these practices over time. Students analyze four case studies relating to companies' operations. Notable companies like Netflix, 7-11, Barilla, and 1-800 Flowers are covered. This class also offers a hands-on learning experience through class field trips. After every Monday class, we take field trips to places like the Guinness Factory, the Irish Emigration Museum, and other notable attractions. These field trips help us connect class concepts to real-world examples in Ireland.

MGMT 290:

This unique class teaches students about the US and Ireland's different societal and cultural norms. One of its identifiable qualities is the ability to intern in an Irish company. This allows students to experience these societal and cultural norms first-hand. To further strengthen cultural intelligence, students are required to complete three LinkedIn Learning certification courses related to working internationally. Another aspect of the class is the weekly blogs. In these blogs, students brief viewers about what they did during the week. It is an excellent way to encapsulate each week for themselves and others.

Internship

Credebt Exchange:

During my time in Ireland, I worked at Credebt Exchange which is 10 minutes outside the city center. Credebt focuses on providing liquidity to a wide variety of companies through offering instant cash for invoices. They have three offices worldwide in Ireland, Greece, and England.

My Role:

At Credebt, I worked as a Business and Finance intern. I worked on many different projects related to Credebt's trading platform. I onboarded over 100,000 new customers to Credebt's new invoice trading platform. I also analyzed historical trade receivable transactions by interest rate and trade commission. This helps predict future interest rates and commissions to forecast revenue.

Working internationally:

It is a great privilege to have the opportunity to work internationally. It was a perfect opportunity for someone interested in international finance to broaden my knowledge on the topic. I thoroughly enjoyed my time working at Credebt Exchange. This experience has further progressed me through my career and will provide beneficial skills applicable to my future endeavors.

Cultural events

Ireland has a very rich culture rooted in tradition and community. Irish weather is notorious for constant overcast which leads to a lot of rain. Ireland has a strong pub culture that emphasizes bonding with friends and meeting new people.

Some of the cultural events that I took part in include the All Ireland Hurling Semi-Final, Irish House Party, and exploring many different pubs across Dublin.

I had a great time experiencing a different culture for two months.



Community

Bucknell Community:

One of the best things about this trip is connecting with people that you don't know. Coming into this trip, I knew one good friend and I broadly knew a few others. I was surprised on how close everyone got on the trip within the few months time.

With everyone being vastly different, I find it crazy how we were all able to mesh as one Bucknell community. This trip formed lifelong friends within the span of two months. I would highly recommend this to students interested in studying abroad.

