Need to Know: Ireland Summer

Objective of the “Need to Know” Document
The Need to Know document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or Need to Know document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/contact/advising

Application
IMPORTANT: All applicants for this program will be charged a non-refundable application fee of 150 Euros (approximately $200 USD) by University College Dublin, but details are not finalized at this time. Regardless of payment timing or method, that fee will be charged to students who withdraw at any time.

UCD will make the final acceptance decisions.

Program Description
You will be taking either two physics courses or three computer science courses. You are required to take a full-time course of study while abroad and enroll in a total of 8 semester units.

PHYSICS: The program is divided into two, four-week sessions. You enroll in one course during each session. As a physics student, you must take both modules: Physics for the Life Sciences 1 and Physics for the Life Sciences 2. Both courses must be taken for a letter grade. Physics courses will appear as lower division on your UC transcript. The physics sequence on this program will allow students the outstanding opportunity to complete the equivalent of the Physics 8A and 8B sequence at UC Berkeley. This sequence is normally required for life or biological sciences majors as well as anyone thinking of applying to medical schools.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: You are required to take three courses: Digital Systems, Web Design, and Databases and Information Systems I. Each course runs for the 8-week duration of the summer program. Computer Science students may take one of their three courses P/NP.

Writing Ability
There is more emphasis on writing in Ireland than at UC. You may need to submit two or three essays per term, even in the sciences or mathematics. Excellent writing ability is the norm, and marking down for poor writing, spelling, and grammar is common. Seminars and tutorial sessions often require papers and oral reports.

Most Irish students have been trained rigorously in writing. The majority of their entrance exams are written in essay format. Significant emphasis is placed on literacy, not only if you are in the humanities and social sciences, but also if you are in the sciences. It is important to express intelligent ideas clearly and coherently using well-supported arguments. Spelling and grammar errors are unacceptable. This is as important in exams as it is in essays written during the term. Change your laptop setting to “English (Ireland)” and use the Spelling and Grammar function.

Grades
There are several steps involved before the grades you receive at University College Dublin will be posted on your UC transcript. Grades must be submitted to the Study Center, reviewed by the Study Center, signed at the UCEAP Systemwide Office, transmitted to your campus, and then processed at you UC registrar.

If, however, you complete the program with outstanding debts of any kind, either to University College Dublin or to UCEAP, your grades will not be sent to your UC registrar until you have paid all debts.

Seniors should especially consider these issues to make sure they do not require grades sooner than what may be possible. No individual expediting is possible until the end of the 90-day window, regardless of graduation or graduate
school deadlines. Students spending their last term on EAP are responsible for reading the BSA Handbook, Graduating on EAP Section and checking with their UC Berkeley College to discuss the potential implications of summer study abroad on degree list standing.

**Independent Research Projects**
Internships and research are not possible on this program. Independent study for academic credit may be possible for Computer Science students who already have taken one of the three Computer Science courses offered. Arrangements must be made prior to departure. Qualifying students submit a project proposal during the application process.

**Housing**
You will stay in on-campus housing. You must apply online for this housing and pay UCD directly. UCD has created a Summer housing application solely for UCEAP students and you will be emailed a link to that application later.

You must take the initiative to obtain, complete, and return all housing forms and deposits required by the university in order to ensure that you have housing. All participants, including those on full financial aid, must make their own reservations and pay the required deposits (in euros) prior to departure. The forms and deposits must be received by the host university by their established deadlines.

Carefully read all housing contracts prior to signing. These contracts are legally binding and commit you to the full cost of the housing for the period of time specified, regardless of the length of time you actually use the housing.

The housing reservation begins on the date specified in the contract. The initial move-in date may or may not be negotiable after the reservation is made, and you will need to make your own arrangements if you arrive earlier than the specified move-in date. Carefully choose your initial move-in date.