



GALWAY CULTURAL INSTITUTE

at Galway Business School





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**Your Future
is Here**

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Galway, Ireland

WHY CHOOSE GALWAY CULTURAL INSTITUTE?



You are most welcome to Galway Cultural Institute! One of **Ireland's premier language schools**, based in one of the most exciting and interesting coastal cities in the world. This is a place you will call home, where you will make lifelong friends and achieve the results in English language fluency that you need for your **future success**.



Since 1989, GCI has provided English language programmes to students from all over the world –in fact, we have welcomed people from more than **30 countries**.

Our facilities are excellent and our teachers are the best. So, whether you need English for study, work or simply for pleasure, we can offer a language course tailored to meet your specific needs. Our contemporary building is in a stunning location overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and Galway Bay.



A full study pathway from language to foundation and degree programmes



Superb customer service and excellent student feedback



Expert staff with high levels of student support



Social and cultural programme with opportunities for volunteering



Over 30 nationalities year round including Irish students



National and International accreditations: Irish Department of Education (QQI), ACELS, IALC, EAQUALS, Cambridge, IELTS



OUR PROGRAMMES



GALWAY CULTURAL INSTITUTE
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General English Programmes



Overview

General English Courses are our most popular programmes for learners who want to improve their practical English for everyday communication. With two different flexible options, you can start your learning journey as soon as you need to. You can choose to have morning classes (G20) only or morning and afternoon classes (G26). Additionally you also have the option of afternoon courses at discounted prices (G20). All these courses are affordable options for students wishing to improve and gain English language fluency so that you get the result you need.

Aims & Objectives

Our General English courses are designed to develop all areas of your English language skills. GCI's comprehensive General English programmes can help you achieve real fluency and prepare you for further study or a successful career. You'll develop your English language skills in a dynamic student-centred learning environment and focus on the practical aspects of language and facilitate your everyday communication during your English experience



What is included in the course fee?

- Written and oral placement test
- Tuition (45 minutes per lesson)
- Access to supplementary e-learning course materials
- Use of multi-media facilities and free WiFi
- Ongoing support and monitoring by academic team
- Certificate on completion of course
- Student Portal access
- Small class size

Key Facts

- ✓ Minimum Age: 17 low season and 16 high season
- ✓ Maximum class size: 14
- ✓ 20 or 26 lessons per week, 15 hrs / 19 hrs
- ✓ A1 Elementary to C1 Advanced
- ✓ Any Monday

GE30+



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English for 30+

Mini Group English for Work & Life



Overview

Our 30+ English course is designed specifically for more mature students wishing to learn English in a professional and focused environment with like-minded peers. This course provides a great opportunity to study English with peers of a similar age in our school in Galway and develop networking opportunities with other international learners. Students from all over the world choose to study English with us, so on your course, you can make friends with people from everywhere, providing you with a cultural experience that will really open up your world view.

Aims & Objectives

The programme is designed to help students interact more effectively in a formal environment and to develop the practical skills required to succeed in a constantly evolving global workplace. We welcome clients from varied backgrounds including junior business executives, teachers, postgraduate students and professionals individuals specialized in various industries. The syllabi are designed to deliver learner outcomes based on the Common European Framework (CEF) 'Can Do Statements' and the needs of our students.



What is included in the course fee?

- Written and oral placement test
- Tuition (45 minutes per lesson)
- Access to supplementary e-learning course materials
- Use of multi-media facilities and free WiFi
- Ongoing support and monitoring by academic team
- Certificate on completion of course
- Student Portal access
- Small class size

Key Facts

- ✓ Minimum Age: 30
- ✓ Maximum class size: 8
- ✓ 20 lessons per week, 15 hrs
- ✓ A1 Elementary to C1 Advanced
- ✓ Any Monday, from 27 April to 12 September

30+ Executive



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30+ with Executive Skills

Mini Group of 30+ English plus
One to One lessons



Overview

Upgrade to a 30+ Executive Skills course by adding One to One classes. This program combines General English language learning with One to One practical lessons focusing on business competencies, making it ideal for those looking to elevate their professional capabilities and excel in executive roles. Whether you're preparing for leadership positions or simply looking to enhance your business communication, this course provides the tools and confidence you need to succeed.

Aims & Objectives

The programme is designed for mature individuals seeking to enhance their English proficiency while gaining executive skills in English. This comprehensive program blends advanced language learning with practical business training, making it perfect for professionals looking to elevate their careers.

The course features personalised one-to-one sessions in the afternoon, offering tailored support to meet your specific learning goals. All syllabi deliver learner outcomes aligned to the Common European Framework (CEF) 'Can Do Statements' and to the specific needs of our students.



What is included in the course fee?

- Written and oral placement test
- Tuition (45 minutes per lesson)
- Access to e-learning course materials
- Use of multi-media facilities and free WiFi
- Ongoing support and monitoring by academic team
- Certificate on completion of course
- Student Portal access
- Small class size
- Individual afternoon tuition (10 lessons per week)

Key Facts

- ✓ Minimum Age: 30
- ✓ Maximum class size GE: 8
- ✓ 30 lessons per week (20 lessons General English + 10 One to One)
- ✓ A1 Pre-Intermediate to C1 Advanced
- ✓ Any Monday, from 27 April to 12 September

CC26 & 30



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Combination English Courses

English Classes + One to One
lessons.



Overview

At GCI, we understand that every learner is unique. That's why our Combination courses offer the best of both worlds. Enjoy the collaborative environment of morning group English classes and then dive into focused learning with personalised one-to-one sessions in the afternoon. You and your instructor will create a negotiated syllabus, ensuring your lessons are tailored to your specific needs and goals.

Aims & Objectives

This programme is designed for students wishing to improve their overall level of English by combining both English group lessons and one-to-one learning experience,

This course is ideal if you need to work on a specific area of language or practice for a particular meeting, presentation or upcoming event at your workplace, college or university. Each student completes a Needs Analysis Questionnaire before or on arrival. The teacher then uses the course proposal to develop a tailored course.



Key Facts

- ✓ Minimum Age: 16 in summer and 17 in winter
- ✓ Course duration: 1 week +
- ✓ 26 or 30 lessons per week, 45 min per lesson
- ✓ Beginner A1 - Advanced C1
- ✓ Any Monday (on bank holidays, courses start on Tuesdays)

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- **Communicate with confidence and precision**

Students will express themselves more confidently and accurately in English, both in spoken and written communication.

- **Enhance professional communication skills**

Develop targeted English language skills directly applicable to their field of work or study, including specialized vocabulary and relevant communication strategies.

- **Expand vocabulary and grammar**

Acquire a broader range of vocabulary and grammatical structures suitable for both casual and professional settings, enabling more nuanced and effective communication.

- **Excel in Professional Interactions**

Feel more confident and prepared to participate actively and effectively in business meetings, networking events, and other professional situations.



Certificate in English for Entry into Higher Education

Overview

This 25-week programme is designed for students who plan to enter higher education and need to demonstrate English language proficiency through an internationally recognized exam. The course combines General English classes with a 6-week IELTS Exam Preparation module, providing a complete learning pathway for academic success.

The programme runs from January to March, allowing students to complete their IELTS exam and receive results in time for the September university intake. This programme offers a structured and supportive environment to help you reach your academic goals

Levels & Availability

If your current English level is B1 to C1 (intermediate to advanced) and you're planning to pursue higher education in an English-speaking environment, this course is ideal for you. This course is available from **January to March**. Once the booking is confirmed, students can begin their course any Monday morning at 09.00am. Minimum age 18.



This course is ideal for students who want to improve their English and obtain the IELTS certificate required for university admission. It offers a structured and supportive environment to help you reach your academic goals.

Tuition

Over the course of 25 weeks, you will study 20 lessons per week in a mixed-level group, focusing on General English. In addition, you will join our specialised IELTS Exam Preparation Course, designed to help you achieve an IELTS certificate by the end of your programme—opening the door to entry into higher education institutions.

What is included in the course fee?

- Written and oral placement test
- Tuition (45 minutes per lesson)
- Interesting supplementary course materials
- Use of multi-media facilities and free WiFi
- Ongoing support and monitoring by academic team
- Certificate on completion of course
- Student Portal access
- Small class size
- IELTS Preparation course

Study Abroad Year

25 weeks tuition + 8 weeks holidays



Overview

The SAY programme is specifically designed for students outside the EEA who wish to develop their skills and fluency in English, develop transferable digital and business skills and enjoy a unique experience of living and studying in Galway. SAY programme consists of 25 weeks tuition and 8 weeks holidays and it gives students the opportunity to work part-time while studying. The SAY programmes can be structured to suit everyone's requirements and a suitable study path is designed for the student based on the starting level, academic needs and learning objectives.

The Programme

- 25 weeks tuition + 8 weeks holidays
- 20 lessons/week
- SAY English is suitable for any levels
- SAY Business is suitable for B1+ levels
- Students must be a minimum of 18
- Students are allowed to work part-time (20 hrs/week) while studying
- Students are allowed to work full time (40 hrs/week) during the holidays
- Medical insurance is obligatory (€160)
- Classes start any Monday, except for bank holidays and set dates for SAY Business
- Students must sit an international examination at the end of their course.
- Cambridge Exams: B1 Preliminary (€160), B2 First (€205), C1 Advanced (€205)
- IELTS Exams: €240

SAY Programmes

SAY General English (+ Exam Preparation)
SAY General English + Business
SAY General English + ICT Skills

SAY GENERAL ENGLISH + EXAM PREPARATION

SAY AM	€4,200
Registration fee	€70
Books & materials	€75
Exam Fee PET	€160
Medical Insurance	€160
Total	€4,665

SAY PM	€3,550
Registration fee	€70
Books & materials	€75
Exam Fee PET	€160
Medical Insurance	€160
Total	€4,015



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

These are specialised courses that combine General English with Business Modules from our Galway Business School. Suitable for B1+ level, set start dates. Choose between options below:

- **General English + Learn To Learn (September 2026)**

This course will enable you to develop the necessary learning strategies and study skills to transition and adapt to a third-level educational environment in the Irish education system. LTL Module 5 ECTS

- **General English + Computer Applications in Business (September 2026)**

This course is designed to deliver essential ICT skills and be proficient in the use of key office applications. It will introduce you to key concepts of ICT theory and the use of computer applications in business today. CA Module 5 ECTS.

- **General English + Business Communications (January 2026)**

This course is to offer practical and theoretical communication skills which are of significant use in business environments and are highly transferable to all aspects of a learner's life. BC Module 10 ECTS

- **General English + Quantitative Methods in Business (January 2026)**

This is a highly practical course where you will acquire an understanding of the most common quantitative methods widely used in business applications. QA Module 5 ECTS.

SAY BUSINESS & ICT SKILLS
€4,750

Extras:

- **Books & materials: €75**
- **Registration fee : €70**
- **Medical Insurance: €160**
- **International Exams: €160 (PET), €205 (FCE/CAE), €240 (IELTS)**

**SAY
GENERAL
ENGLISH +
BUSINESS**



General English + Skills for Academic Success

Overview

Our new General English Mornings + Skills for Academic Success course has the perfect blend for learners aiming to boost everyday communication and prepare for academic success. Spend your mornings (20 lessons/week) in a dynamic, international classroom environment, following a CEFR-aligned syllabus with weekly assessments to track your progress and build confidence. In the afternoons (10 lessons/week), focus on developing the essential academic skills you need for success in university or IELTS – including academic writing, reading strategies, note-taking, presentation skills, and exam techniques.

English Levels

If your current English level is B1 to C1 (intermediate to advanced) and you're aiming to strengthen your language skills for both daily use and academic settings, this course is for you!

This course is available from June to August. Once the booking is confirmed, students can begin their course any Monday morning at 09.00am.



Morning & Afternoon Combined Course

Whether you're preparing for higher education or simply want to improve your all-round English, this course offers the best of both worlds

Tuition

You will study 30 lessons each week in a mix group of maximum 14 students. This programme course includes 20 lessons in the morning: General English + 10 lessons in the afternoon: Academic Skills.

Morning Focus – General English (20 lessons/week)

Morning sessions follow a CEFR-aligned General English syllabus, focusing on core competencies. Lessons include skills work; focus on learner interaction and language development.

Afternoon Focus – Skills for Academic Success (10 lessons/week)

Afternoon sessions focus on Skills for Academic Success, providing targeted instruction in academic English and IELTS preparation. Key components include

- Academic writing and critical thinking
- Listening and note-taking strategies
- Academic reading and vocabulary development
- Presentation and discussion skills
- IELTS exam strategies and practice

GAP YEAR



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GAP YEAR

One or two Semesters Abroad



Overview

If you are working on English for your career, students can choose a Gap Year programme to maximise exposure to academic English and study business modules in the afternoons.

Combining a gap year with business studies can be an excellent way to gain real-world experience, enhance your skills, and build a strong foundation for your future career in business. Students who complete a business module with us may be eligible for exemptions of similar modules in their home universities.

Learners have the opportunity to choose academic modules (30 ECTS total) from Galway Business School's undergraduate programmes, and support these modules with 15 hours of English classes.

Levels & Availability

Suitable for **18+**

Minimum level **B1+ to B2**

Start Dates: **September** or **January**

Gap Year and Semester Abroad commences in February and September of each year in line with the academic intake. Students will receive their individual timetables, once they choose which modules they wish to study.

Course Details

- **Business Modules**

You will have access to a wide selection of academic modules offered from a range of business disciplines including: marketing, sales, business, entrepreneurship, accounting, computer applications.

Maximum modules chosen per semester to the value of 30 ECTS (modules available have 5 ECTS or 10 ECTS each).

Duration: 18 weeks (including revision, assessment weeks)

Timetable: Afternoons, 13.00 - 17.30

- **English Classes**

You will study General English in the morning in international classes. A gap year in Galway will focus on improving your English skills so you can speak confidently in both formal and casual settings.

Duration: 12 weeks

Timetable: Mornings, 09.00 - 12.30

Fees

GAP YEAR	Tuition Fees	Academic Fee
One Semester	€3,250	€250
Two Semesters	€6,000	€250

50+



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50+ Programme

Tailored English Programme



Overview

GCI offers an amazing two-week programme that welcomes learners in their 50s, 60s, and beyond to improve their English while enjoying a wonderful range of activities outside the classroom, including a full-day trip to the Cliffs of Moher, a walking tour, a pub night, a boat trip, and more!

Levels & Availability

It is a mixed ability class with students from Pre-Intermediate (A2) to Upper-Intermediate (B2). If students fall outside of these categories, they will have the option, if they wish to join a General English class more suitable to their level subject to class and level availability.

Aims & Objectives

Lessons emphasize communication, while activities will help immerse the student in the local culture and history. Course objectives include:

- To maximise use of English in everyday situations
- To build students' confidence in their ability to use English
- To help you improve your understanding of spoken English.

Tailored Programme

This two-week course offers 20 Intensive General English lessons and a specialised activity programme so that you can enjoy the very best of Ireland.

Tuition

The 50+ programme has 20 lessons of Intensive General English in a closed group of mixed levels, morning timetable. The course of study is designed to maximize use of English in everyday situations, includes elements of practical language and increases students' confidence in their ability to use English.

What is included in the course fee?

- Written and oral placement test
- Tuition (45 minutes per lesson)
- Interesting and stimulating course materials
- Social activity programme
- Ongoing support and monitoring by academic team
- Welcoming Lunch with fellow students & GCI staff
- Certificate on completion of course
- Immersion into Irish culture
- Closed group tuition



Exam Preparation

PET, FCE, CAE
IELTS



Course Description

A Cambridge or IELTS English qualification is among the most widely recognised international language credentials, making these courses the ideal choice for learners aiming for a globally accepted certificate. Both exam preparation pathways help students develop the skills required to communicate confidently and effectively in academic, professional, and real-life contexts, supported by structured lessons and expert guidance.

Course objectives

- To develop the skills needed to use English confidently
- To communicate effectively in a variety of practical and academic settings
- To gain comprehensive preparation across all exam components, with lessons focusing on grammar, syntax, key vocabulary, and the core skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking
- To benchmark students' level against international standards
- To support students in achieving global mobility for work, study, or migration

Who is it for?

Whether preparing for PET/FCE/CAE Cambridge exams or the IELTS Academic/General exam, these programmes are designed for learners who need proof of English proficiency to live, work, or study in an English-speaking environment. Both qualifications are recognised worldwide by universities, employers, and immigration authorities, making them suitable for students who use written and spoken English daily or plan to progress to higher education.

The Programme

- 20 or 34 lessons per week
- 4, 6 or 9-week course options
- A rigorous timetable combining classroom and home-study components
- Regular progress reviews to track individual development
- High levels of support and guidance from experienced teachers
- Task-based learning with extensive exam practice as a core component
- Lessons designed to prepare you for all examination sections: reading, writing, listening and speaking
- GCI is an authorised Cambridge exam testing centre, and IELTS exams take place at an official venue in Galway city centre

SSWP Packages



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Short Stay Programme



Aims & Objectives

Designed for school groups aged 16–18, this programme offers an enriching international experience from October to May. Students can choose from a variety of engaging tuition options, including General English, Global Digital Citizenship, Project-Based Learning, and Environmental Stewardship. Set in a safe and friendly city, the programme provides high-quality education delivered by excellent teachers who inspire curiosity and confidence. Beyond the classroom, students will enjoy amazing experiences that spark personal growth and lifelong memories.

Overview

- 20 lessons/ 15 hrs closed groups per week (morning or afternoon timetable subject to availability)
- 1 week language experience
- Dynamic programme from A2 to C1
- Accommodation in host family, full board (2/3 students per family)
- Class content to suit needs
- Class size 15 (Unless 16/17 acceptable)
- Arrival dates: Saturday or Sunday

SSWP Packages

We understand that every group of students visiting GCI has different requirements. We can tailor your mini stay programme to suit your needs, Tuition can be tailored to include global education opportunities, while the activity programme can be built around your budget. Our course is designed specifically for groups of students travelling together and looking for a programme combining intensive language experience with a fun-filled activity and social programme.



Galway

- Welcome pack and city map
- Certificate on completion of course
- Free leader with every 15 students*
- Free lunches for group leaders
- 24-hour emergency contact services
- Dedicated GCI Representative



Standard Package

- 20 lessons (15 hours tuition) per week
(mornings or afternoon classes subject to availability)
- Books and materials
- Free Online English Test
- Full board accommodation in host families
(6/7 nights)
- Return airport transfer
- Local bus pass for students & GL
- Welcome pack and city map
- Certificate on completion of course
- Free leader with every 15 students*
- Free lunches for group leaders
- Free school Wi-Fi
- 24-hour emergency contact services
- Dedicated GCI Representative

Length of stay	Group Size	Net Price per Student
6 nights	min 15 pax max 30 pax	€675
7 nights	min 15 pax max 30 pax	€735

3 Activities Package

Standard Packages + Social Programme

3 Day Activities

- Galway Walking Tour
- Galway Museum
- Irish Dancing

€45 (extra price per person)

+ Cliffs of Moher Tour

€50 (extra price per person)

4 Activities Package

Standard Packages + Social Programme

4 Day Activities

- Galway Walking Tour
- Galway Museum
- Galway Aquarium
- Irish Dancing

€55 (extra price per person)

+ Cliffs of Moher Tour

€50 (extra price per person)

Extras	Price per person
Extra Group Leader (based on host family accommodation)	€505
Special Diet (Vegetarian, Vegan, Coeliac, Halal etc.)	€65/week
Late Arrival / Early Departure (10pm/7am)	€15
GL B&B Accommodation (extra per night)	from €105/night
GCI Representative on full day activities	€175

We understand the importance of feeling at home.

ACCOMMODATION

We offer two principal accommodation options — residential and homestay. Hotels, B&Bs and private apartments can also be arranged on request.



RESIDENCES:

If you are looking for a little more independence, then choose from our residential accommodation options, available all year round.

Our residences are:

- Bright, modern, fully equipped apartments or houses
- All situated within a 10 to 30 minute bus ride from the school
- Self-catering

They offer:

- Single or shared room options
- En-suite options
- Free internet access



HOMESTAY:

Homestay is a great way to get to know people, the local culture and customs. It's the ideal solution for those who feel more comfortable living in a family environment.

Our homestay accommodations are:

- Friendly, welcoming and hospitable
- All situated within a 10 to 30 minute bus ride from the school
- Carefully selected by our accommodation officer

They offer:

- Breakfast and dinner every day, and full board at weekends
- Single room (year round) or shared room (summer only)
- En-suite options



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GALWAY, IRELAND

Blue Flag and Green Coast Award (2025)

The Salthill beach received dual recognition for meeting high standards in water quality, management, and environmental education, along with a Green Coast Award for its commitment to protecting the environment.

Best Trail/Waterway in Ireland (2025)

The Eglinton Canal project revitalized the canal's historic towpath, creating a car-free, pedestrian, and cycle-friendly route connecting key city locations

Best Destination to Visit (Lonely Planet, 2024)

Galway was named the top destination to visit in 2020 by *Lonely Planet*, which cited the city's lively festivals, cultural offerings, and welcoming atmosphere.

Europe's Friendliest City (2020)

Galway was named the friendliest city in Europe by the readers of prestigious travel magazine *Condé Nast Traveller*, in the annual Readers' Choice Awards.

Ireland's Most Charming City

Galway has been described by the *New York Times* as Ireland's most charming city: compact, walkable and filled to the brim with independent shops and restaurants.



Contact us for information & enrolment

TALK +353 91 863 100

TYPE info@gci.ie

VISIT www.gci.ie

GALWAY CULTURAL INSTITUTE

GCI House, Salthill, Galway.

H91 CDW4, Ireland



Galway Cultural Institute
International House
Galway



Association of
Language Travel
Organisations



Erasmus+