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| **Instructors:**  Charles Leflar  Katie Terrell  Department of Accounting  Walton College of Business  University of Arkansas | **Contact Information:**  **Charles Leflar**  Office: WCOB 467  Telephone: 479-575-6616  E-mail: [cleflar@uark.edu](mailto:cleflar@uark.edu), kterrell@walton.uark.edu  Dept. Secretary: Jasmine Edwards  Dept. Secretary Telephone:479-575-4051 |
| **Mailing Address:**  Dept. of Accounting  Walton College of Business, 401  U. of Arkansas  Fayetteville, AR 72701 | **Course Website:**  A blackboard site will be maintained at the start of the Spring semester. |
| **Course Textbooks:** Reading assignments will be posted on Blackboard.  **Required Software:** None. However, you will be required to extensively and regularly use Blackboard to work on key aspects of the course and to have access to Facebook and GroupMe for daily in-country communication.  **Blackboard Assistance:**   * Login to the new Blackboard site at <http://learn.uark.edu> * Consult the “Walton College Blackboard Support” Course Website, found within Blackboard * Contact the **Walton College Blackboard Help Desk**   **Email:** [blackboard@walton.uark.edu](mailto:blackboard@walton.uark.edu)  **Telephone:** (479) 530-8427 | |

**Communication & Office Hours**

By appointment only. However, the instructor is easily accessible on email.

**Course Description and Objectives**

This course involves a semester long study about the business and general environment in Ireland. In order to appreciate the nuances of dealing with Ireland, students will be exposed to the history and culture of Ireland, and the course will culminate with a three week trip to Ireland, where many of the concepts learned in the course will be experienced. In the spring of 2014, there will be four classes during which students will be exposed to lectures and presentations. Between the classes, students will be provided access to information that can be accessed online from Blackboard. There will be a half-day wrap-up class in summer 2012 to reflect on the in-country portion of the class.

Key Objectives:

1. Understanding the historical, cultural, and economic facts that have shaped Ireland’s current business environment.
2. Gaining insights about the shape of Ireland’s future business environment.
3. Gaining deep understanding of operational and managerial challenges of businesses working in Ireland and how it interacts with the European Union.
4. Understanding the cultural and other differences between Irish and American ways of doing business.
5. Understanding and coping with the challenges inherent in managing the Irish-based operations of multinational corporations.

**Course Components and Grading**

Your final grade in the course will be based on your performance in the following components:

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| **Component** | **Points Possible** |
| **Term Paper (written in Ireland)** | **150** |
| **Class Participation/Ala Carte assignments** | **100** |
| **Movie and Book Reviews (3 @ 50 points each)** | **150** |
| **Irish History Paper** | **50** |
| **TOTAL COURSE POINTS POSSIBLE** | **500** |

Assignments: In the spring of 2014, you will be assigned a project related to the history, culture, business environment, and economic conditions in Ireland. The project involves a presentation.

Class Participation: We expect you to be fully engaged during class, ready to share your thoughts and observations with others.

Movie and Book Reviews: During each of the classes, an Irish Feature Film will be shown (usually with some commentary). The films will focus on contemporary life, cultural issues, or other aspects of Ireland that we deem relevant. Each student is required to write three one page (single spaced) reviews.

Irish History Paper: Irish history is much more a part of everyday life in Ireland than is United States history here in the USA. You will write a short (four or five pages single spaced) paper that is due at the end of the spring semester that highlights the key information about Ireland that you learned in the stateside part of the course. The paper should also discuss Irish history and how it is relevant to business and life in Ireland today as well as what you hope to learn during the in-country portion of the class. If you are receiving Honors credit, this paper will include additional topics, per instructions.

The Ala Carte assignment list consists of activities which the students can choose. You will be required to do some of them, but you get to choose the ones which interest you the most. Honors and Graduate credit students will be asked to do more of these.

Every student will required to submit a term paper at the end of the trip. The topic of the paper cannot be determined prior to the travel and must be approved by faculty. It should be on a topic which concerns both Ireland and business. Students are encouraged to propose a topic of interest to them. Examples of topics include such things as “Differences in Irish and American Advertising: The influence of Culture,” “The Irish Music Industry,” and “How Catholicism has Influenced Irish Business Practices.” These papers will have various deadlines for topic, outline and first draft and should be 10 pages in length. For students earning Honors or Graduate credit, the papers should be at least 15 pages long and of the appropriate quality for the credit earned (consult faculty for further details).

**Late Assignment Policy:**

You are urged to submit all assignments and papers on time. For every 24 hour delay, you will be assessed a penalty of 10% of the maximum grade you could have earned on the assignment/exam. Any submission received more than 72 hours after it is due, will earn no credit.

## Grading Standards

## The grading scale shown in Table 2 will be used to determine final course grades.

*General grading philosophy*: Evaluation of your class-work is an important part of the learning process. We do not “give”grades, but assign them based on your performance. I take this aspect of the job very seriously, and work hard to provide you with objective and fair feedback. I do not anticipate curving your grades

| **Points** | **Letter Grade** |
| --- | --- |
| 450-500 | A |
| 400-449 | B |
| 350-399 | C |
| 300-349 | D |
| <300 | F |

**Course Policies**

*Academic Honesty:*

The application of the Graduate School of Business Academic Honesty Policy, as stated in the [University Catalog](http://www.uark.edu/depts/gradinfo/prospective/catalog/index.html), will be fully adhered to in this course. Please be especially conscious of the plagiarism policy that is posted on Blackboard. Please note that the ‘turn it in’ software is routinely used in many WCOB courses to check for plagiarized material.

### Inclement Weather

### Since this is not a traditional class, inclement weather is not expected to play a major role. However if exceptional circumstances were to arise we will post appropriate notices for all students on blackboard or via Facebook/GroupMe.

### Student Conduct

### Students are expected to always represent the University of Arkansas well and to set an example of good conduct. Doing anything which has the potential to embarrass the University will result in a ‘card.’ The first card is a warning, a yellow card, which has no grade impact. Each additional card earned by an individual is a red card and is a deduction of one letter grade. Note that students can earn multiple red cards or that a single, egregious action may earn a red card without a prior warning (yellow) card. Particularly bad behavior will result in a grade of F and the student being sent home at their own expense.

### Examples of conduct that can earn cards are doing such things as being drunk, taking items from cultural sites, leaving the group activities without permission, being late or doing anything inappropriate. Note that this is not a comprehensive list.

**Tentative Schedule**

Spring 2017 (Classroom Component).

There will be four class meetings during the spring 2017 semester. The dates and times will be announced in late fall, 2016. The classes will be held either evenings or Saturdays and please make every effort to attend all of the classes.

Class 1: Introduction to the Study Abroad, Basic Information about Ireland. Project, movies and books assigned.

Class 2: First Project Presentations: History of Ireland, Update on Irish and EU Economic Condition

Class 3: Additional Project Presentations: The Cultural Heritage of Ireland, Details of Travel and Classes in Ireland discussed

Class 4: Final Project Presentations: Business and Development in Ireland, Preparation of Travel to Ireland.

Summer 2017 (Ireland Component)

June 4 – July 3 (tentative) Travel to Ireland. Three weeks at University College Dublin and one week Irish Cultural tour. We will have lectures by UCD faculty on EU Economics, doing business in Ireland and the EU, and other related topics. We will tour cultural and historic sites as well as have visits to local Irish businesses and Big 4 accounting firms in Dublin.

Class 5: TBA Wrap-up Session after return from Ireland (mutually convenient Saturday in late June or Early July)