

# Lourdes

### Ireland & Northern Ireland

**Major:** Business & Philosophy **Home Country:** Micronesia

#### Why did you choose Ireland?

To go to Ireland was one of the main reasons I came to Mount Mary because I was able, as an international student, to Study Abroad. The reason I always wanted to go to Ireland was because of the books I had read, which were romances, but the reality of Ireland was very different.

#### Housing:

I liked staying at Inch House because it had a homey feel to it. We could go down to the kitchen and make tea for ourselves. We really felt at home there.

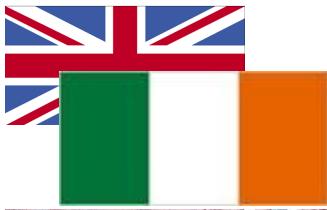
"You have to have the mindset that you're only there a limited time, so you need to take advantage of all the opportunities that are there."

## **Biggest cultural difference:**

Compared to Micronesia, the people in Ireland are more involved with and more aware of political issues, which are an important part of their culture.

## The benefits of Study Abroad:

The setting itself enables you to immerse yourself in the culture instead of just reading about it. Just being there is a mind-opening experience. Without even realizing it, you learn so much about the people, the culture, and the lifestyle.





Lourdes signed the Peace Wall in Belfast, Northern Ireland, while on a walking tour of the murals that testify to the history of the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

### Most memorable experience:

At Downpatrick, I went through an epiphany just being there. All my life I have heard of St. Patrick, but to actually stand where he stood thousands of years ago was really amazing.