England / Ireland Itinerary (subject to minor changes)

Day 1 Tuesday, May 12
Depart for London, England

Day 2 Wednesday, May 13 London
Arrive at London Heathrow Airport (LHR)
Transportation by private bus from the airport to your hotel with a stop at Northala Fields
Visit the Northala Fields, which is a country park beside the A40 with four circular artificial hills. It was designed by the urban design and landscape architecture firm FoRM Associates. The landforms were built with 65,000 lorry loads of waste material from the demolition of the old Wembley Stadium.
5 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star The Byron Hotel in London
Orientation session by your on-site coordinator at the hotel
Public transportation pass for the duration of your entire stay in London
Welcome dinner at a restaurant in London to kick off the program

Day 3 Thursday, May 14 London
Breakfast at the hotel
Public transportation during the day
planted gardens, palm houses and more than 50,000 species of native and exotic plants, trees and flowers.

Admission to Hampton Court Palace to experience the public dramas and private lives of Henry VIII, his wives and children in the world of the Tudor court. Admire Henry’s Great Hall, the infamous Haunted Gallery and the Tudor kitchens. Discover the spectacular baroque palace built for William III and Mary II and explore the magnificent gardens.

**Day 4 Friday, May 15 Sissinghurst - Northiam**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Admission to Sissinghurst Castle Garden, which is among the most famous gardens in England. Vita Sackville-West, the poet and writer, began transforming Sissinghurst Castle in the 1930s with her diplomat and author husband, Harold Nicolson. Harold's architectural planning of the garden rooms, and the colorful, abundant planting in the gardens by Vita, reflect the romance and intimacy of her poems and writings.

Guided tour of Great Dixter Gardens. Great Dixter was the home of the garden writer Christopher Lloyd, who promoted a particularly ‘English’ style of gardening, based on the Arts & Crafts movement of the 19th and early 20th century (admission to Great Dixter House is not included).

**Day 5 Saturday, May 16 London**

Breakfast at the hotel

Public transportation during the day

Guided tour of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The 247-acre park served as the central feature for the London 2012 Olympic Games, which were recognized as the “Greenes Games” in history, with the park
declared the “winner of the Games” by the Mayor of London.

Guided tour of the Barbican Centre and surrounding Brutalist estate during which you explore the site’s little-known nooks and crannies, venturing through criss-crossing highwalks, leafy courts and sweeping crescents, with plenty of stops along the way, including the Lakeside Terrace, the striking form of the Sculpture Court, the trio of soaring residential towers and the ruins along the original London Wall

**Day 6 Sunday, May 17 London**

Breakfast at the hotel

Public transportation during the day

Free day for your own explorations of London. Students might want to visit the Tate Modern Gallery, the London Design Museum or the V&A Museum.

**Day 7 Monday, May 18 London - Sheffield**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Audio-guided tour of Blenheim Palace. Home of the 12th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, this masterpiece of 18th century baroque architecture boasts over 300 years of history. As a World Heritage Site, Blenheim is surrounded by more than 2000 acres of ‘Capability’ Brown landscaped Parkland and Formal Gardens.

2 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star Best Western Sheffield City Centre Cutlers Hotel in Sheffield

Orientation session by your on-site coordinator at the hotel
Day 8 Tuesday, May 19 Sheffield

Breakfast at the hotel

Arranged by UTK: Meeting with Nigel Dunnett, Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Sheffield, to learn about his projects in City and University Campus and the private gardens

Group dinner at a restaurant in Sheffield

Day 9 Wednesday, May 20 Sheffield - Liverpool

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus to Liverpool

1 night in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at a 3-star hotel in Liverpool

Orientation session by your coordinator at the hotel

Free afternoon for your own explorations of Liverpool

Day 10 Thursday, May 21 Liverpool - Colwyn - Holyhead - Dublin

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Admission to Bodnant Gardens to discover the stunning plant collections, with every color and shape, bringing the garden to life throughout the year. See the Italianate Terraces with their impressive walls, steps, pergolas and paths. With stunning ponds and the Pin Mill to finish, they
are the perfect blend of natural and man-made art.

Ferry tickets from Holyhead to Dublin (travel time: approx. 3 hours 30 minutes)

Transportation by private bus from the port to your hotel

3 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star aparthotel Staycity Aparthotel- St. Augustine Street in Dublin

Orientation session by your on-site coordinator at the hotel

**Day 11 Friday, May 22 Dublin**

Breakfast at the hotel

Free day for your own explorations of Dublin. Students might consider visiting St Stephen’s Green Park, which provides an oasis of green calm in the middle of a bustling city. Its four centuries of history are eventful and complex, involving such important figures as Arthur Guinness, 1st Baron Ardilaun, and Countess Constance Markievicz.

**Day 12 Saturday, May 23 Newgrange**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus to Newgrange and return

Guided tour of Newgrange, an exceptionally grand passage tomb built during the Neolithic period, around 3200 BC, making it older than Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids. The site consists of a large circular mound with an inner stone passageway and chambers. The mound has a retaining wall at the front, and it is ringed by engraved kerbstones. There is no agreement about what the site was used for, but it is believed that it had religious significance.
Free afternoon in Dublin for your own explorations

**Day 13 Sunday, May 24 Dublin - Glendalough - Cashel - Cork**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Admission to Glendalough in the Wicklow Mountains, which was founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century. Set in a glaciated valley with two lakes, the monastic remains include a superb round tower, stone churches and decorated crosses.

Admission to the Rock of Cashel, which is a spectacular group of Medieval buildings, set on an outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale. It was reputedly the site of the conversion of Aenghus the King of Munster by St. Patrick in the 5th century AD

1 night in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 4-star The Metropole Hotel in Cork

**Day 14 Monday, May 25 Cork - Bantry - Killarney**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Free time in Bantry. Framed by the Sheep’s Head hills and the craggy Caha Mountains, Bantry Bay is one of the country's most attractive seascapes. Sheltered by islands at the head of the bay, Bantry town is neat and respectable, with narrow streets of old-fashioned, one-off shops and a picturesque waterfront.

Round-trip ferry tickets to Garnish Island (travel time: approx. 15 minutes one way)
Visit to Garnish Island located in the sheltered harbor of Glengarriff in Bantry Bay. Garnish is world renowned for its gardens which are laid out in beautiful walks and it has some stunning specimen plants which are rare in this climate. The gardens are the result of the creative partnership of Annan Bryce and Harold Peto, architect and garden designer.

2 nights in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star Scott’s Hotel Killarney in Killarney

Orientation session by your on-site coordinator at the hotel

**Day 15 Tuesday, May 26 Ring of Kerry**

Breakfast at the hotel

Guided bus tour of the Ring of Kerry (public tour) which is considered one of the finest drives in the world. From rugged cliffs to golden beaches, small villages and pastures green to peat bogs and picturesque mountain ranges. During the tour you will see amongst others Dingle Bay, the village Sneem and the Killarney National Park with magnificent views of the Lakes of Killarney and Black Valley.

**Day 16 Wednesday, May 27 Killarney - Kilkee - Shannon**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transportation by private bus during the day

Ferry tickets from Tarbert to Killimer (travel time: approx. 20 minutes)

Hike on the Kilkee Cliff Walk, which is a wonderful cliff walk that brings you face-to-face with nature and reveals the sea architecture that defines the peninsula

Farewell dinner at a restaurant in Shannon or surrounding to wrap up the program
1 night in twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star Park Inn by Radisson Shannon Airport at Shannon Airport

**Day 17 Thursday, May 28 Shannon**

Breakfast at the hotel

Walk from the hotel to the airport (walking time: approx. 5 minutes)

Departure from Shannon Airport (SNN) to the USA