Instructors
- What were they like when compared to UCSB instructors?
  - They were definitely more knowledgeable in their fields. Each professor, especially in politics, teaches practically their occupation.

- Could you call them by their first names?
  - No. Trinity College is a very old institution and still thinks that way. Every professor should be called Professor (insert name).

- Was the student/instructor relationship more formal than at UCSB?
  - Yes, it was definitely more formal. You do not have one-on-one contact with your professors. Most of them only teach on the side and do not spend much time at Trinity College. For instance, I had a professor that was an opinion columnist at the Irish Times.

- Were they available for help during office hours?
  - No. If the professors had office hours, they were only about one hour a week.

Courses
- Were the courses more difficult when compared to UCSB courses?
  - The only part that was more difficult was that your finals are at the end of the year, and most of your classes are year-long. That means that you are tested on a years’ worth of material. That is significantly more material than one quarter worth at UCSB.

- Was the grading system similar to UCSB?
  - The grading system is completely different. While confusing at first, you get the hang of it.

- How did the course structure differ? Ex) did you have many assignments or just finals?
  - It really depends. For political science, for a year-long course, I was graded on two essays and a final.

- Did you have oral and/or written exams?
  - At least in political science, you had written exams.

- Was the final exam schedule flexible or inflexible?
  - Your final exam schedule is extremely inflexible. I don’t know of anyone who was able to reschedule a final

- What kind of academic support, if any, did you receive?
At Trinity College, you are assigned a tutor. He/she is extremely helpful with any academic questions you might have.

- Did you find you needed to be more independent and take more initiative abroad?
  
  o YES. Especially in Ireland. They give you a reading list and you are expected to do it, even though you are not constantly being checked with midterms/papers. It will all be fair game on the final exam, so you have to do the reading.

- Was classroom participation expected?
  
  o In your tutorials, class participation is expected. Also in some small lectures, class participation is extremely vital as well.

- How were the host university courses different than UCSB courses?
  
  o They were more detailed, because the classes are year-long. Also they are more geared toward independent study.

- Were classes usually on certain days/times and for how long?
  
  o Classes are usually at night (at least for Political Science) and can be everyday of the week. Classes are typically two hours a week.

- What is the class culture like? How important was it to be punctual? Could you eat/drink in class?
  
  o It is not vital to be punctual. Every professor is usually five minutes late. No, eating/drinking in class is looked at as disrespectful. Class culture is very formal.

Language

- In which languages were the courses offered?
  
  o English.

- What language did you take your courses in?
  
  o English.

- If you took your courses in a foreign language, please provide info about your overall experience, difficulty of courses, language acquisition, placement exams, etc.

Host University

- How large is the university? Student enrollment and approx campus size (smaller than UCSB)? Is it an urban campus with many tall buildings or just a few buildings?
The university is comparable to UCSB in terms of student enrollment. However, the campus is a lot smaller. It is also very urban, unlike UCSB, since it is in the center of Dublin.

- Do the local students live on campus, at home, or off campus?
  - I would say that most students live on campus or at home. Not a lot of people, besides international students, live off campus.

- If not located in the city center,
  - How far or close is it to the city?
  - What type of public transportation could you take – cost?
  - Could students take cabs -cost?
  - How long would it take to get to the city center?

- Are there student clubs on campus that UC students could join?
  - Yes! Join the Hist and the Phil. They are some of the oldest societies in the world (the Hist is THE oldest society in the world) and they get some incredible speakers (Jack White from The White Stripes for example). Also, join a sport club. They are very big on Trinity’s campus and there are a lot to choose from. Also, you do not have to be good at the sport to play. It is a good way to stay active even when Dublin’s weather makes you want to curl up inside.

- Is there a bookstore on campus? Where did you get your books?
  - There is no real bookstore on campus. I did not buy my books. Most students just read them in the library or check them out. There are so many copies of textbooks that there is no need to buy your own. Also, a lot of the assigned readings are from many different books, so there is no way that you could buy your own.

- Is there a computer lab on campus? Or, should students bring laptops?
  - Yes there are computer labs on campus. I used them all the time especially for printing. However, the campus has a great WIFI network so students can bring their laptops.

- What types of establishments are in the university’s neighborhood? (cafes, stores, etc)
  - There are tons of little cafes and stores around Trinity. It is right next to Grafton Street—Dublin’s best shopping area.

Housing
- What types of accommodations are available to UC students?
- **On-campus housing and off-campus housing.**

- How close are they to campus?
  - On-campus housing (most of it) is actually on the campus. Some is in Dublin 6 (Rathmines), so you just have to take the LUAS to get to Trinity (it is technically owned by Trinity).
  - Off-Campus housing can be anywhere in Dublin. However, there is a lot of housing really close to campus.

- How did you find your housing?
  - I found it through a website called daft.ie. I was not given Trinity housing.

- Where did you live and with whom?
  - I lived in Dublin 4 (Ballsbridge) with two other UCSB students that did not get housing.

- If you lived off campus, was it difficult to find an apartment and roommate?
  - I got lucky with the fact that two other UCSB students did not get housing either. However I think that it is pretty easy to find a roommate.
  - It was kind of hard to find an apartment in a new city, but not impossible. Use daft.ie.

- Were the rooms nicer or not than I.V./UCSB dorms?
  - I think it depends on where you live, but I liked my apartment better because I actually got to live in a neighborhood with people that were not going to school.

- Was it more expensive than living in I.V.? How much was a typical rent cost in US dollars?
  - My time in Ireland was less expensive than living in I.V. However I lucked out with rent—I only paid 275 euro. I think most people were paying around 500 euro for their accommodation, which is comparable to I.V.

- How/who did you pay for housing?
  - I paid my landlord directly.

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**Food**

- What was the food like?
  - Comparable to the United States. I missed Mexican though!

- Where did you eat most of your meals? Cafeterias, restaurants, street vendors, etc?
  - I cooked most of my meals. It is expensive to go out to eat in Dublin.
- How much was an average meal?
  - An average meal out would be about 10 euro, which is a little pricey. However, if you cook your own food it is comparable to the United States.

- What time of day did people eat lunch/dinner?
  - Lunch: 12-2
  - Dinner: 6-8

- Would it be difficult for vegetarians to find meals?
  - No! I actually knew someone who was vegan there.

Travel/Safety
- If not discussed above, describe the public transportation system around your host university/city?
  - There are three modes of public transportation in Dublin: the LUAS, the DART, and Dublin Bus.
  - Each go directly into the city center, making it easy to get to Trinity. However, many students walk everywhere.

- Did you feel safe in your host city? Are there tips you would offer future students?
  - Yes, I felt very safe in my host city. However, it is like any other big city, so be careful.

- Describe the public transportation in your host country?
  - Bus Éireann runs all around Ireland and is very inexpensive. It is a great way to get around the country.

- Was it difficult/easy to travel to neighboring countries?
  - Yes! Ryanair, one the cheapest airlines in Europe, is based in Dublin. This makes it VERY easy to travel to other countries.

Host City/Country
- What was the weather like?
  - Rainy, rainy, rainy. Also very cold during the winter.

- Describe your host city...which California/US city is it similar to (if any)?
  - I would say that Dublin is closest to San Francisco. It is a big city, but you can get the hang of it, unlike other big cities like Los Angeles.

- What were some interesting/fun things that you did in the host city?
  - See the sights!
  - Go to the parks—they are absolutely gorgeous!
- How international was your host city in terms of tourism, cultural diversity, and international businesses?
  - Very international. You will meet a lot of people in Ireland that are not actually from Ireland. Also there are foods/clothes/etc. from everywhere around the world.

**Culture**
- Describe the cultural differences that you observed/encountered.
  - Time & punctuality
    - Dublin has a much slower pace than most big cities. However, still try to be on time, even if no one else is.
  - Eye contact & staring
    - I don’t think it is any different than the United States.
  - Relationships
    - PDA is not really acceptable.
  - More formal dress in general, for women, for school, etc?
    - Dublin is a very fashion-forward city. People dress up to go to college. You would never see someone in sweats at school.
  - Alcohol consumption
    - There is a lot of alcohol consumption. Dublin’s culture is based around the pub-life. However, they do not drink themselves to death. It is more of a casual thing.
  - What culture shock did you go through?
    - The slow-pace of life is what shocked me the most. Things are closed at lunch time and by four o’clock, no one really gives you concrete instructions about anything, and going for a drink after school is acceptable.
  - Other?

**Banking**
- Were credit cards widely accepted?
  - Yes.

- Did you open a local bank account? Was it easy?
  - Yes. In Ireland, if you are staying for a year, you have to for your Visa. However, it was really easy. Just go into the Bank of Ireland/AIB on Trinity’s campus.

- If you did not open a local bank account, was it easy to withdraw money from the ATM? Which banks were popular & had low ATM fees?
- Were there ATMs on campus?
  
  - Yes, two were on campus. One for AIB and one for Bank of Ireland.