

MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN

SUMMER 2025 SHORT-TERM STUDY / TRAVEL ABROAD

THE BURREN, IRELAND: INVESTIGATING PLACE THROUGH TEXT & IMAGE

Summer Term 2025

4 weeks on-site in Ballyvaughan, Ireland (May 10 – June 7, 2025) with pre- and post-trip mtgs
3 Studio Elective Credits (Design or Fine Arts) + 3 Humanities Elective OR Writing Credits
(Credits can count towards minors in Book Arts, Sustainability, Humanities, or Writing)

Prerequisites: Completed Freshman year courses by time of travel AND instructor approval

This four-week program is based at the Burren College of Art in County Clare, on the West Coast of Ireland. The Burren College of Art is located in a restored 16th c. castle near the village of Ballyvaughan, providing a unique base from which to explore the geography of County Clare. The surrounding area, known as the Burren, comprises 250 square kilometers and is one of the largest limestone karst landscapes in Europe. Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and Galway Bay on the west and north, this wild and unforgiving topography is characterized by subterranean caverns, rugged hills, and dramatic seascapes, along with an interesting assemblage of plant and animal life.

Participants in this program will be inspired by the breathtaking beauty and complexity of the environment and how it has shaped the life and culture of the populations inhabiting it. Working hands-on, with field trips and engaging with direct observation of the area, will provide students with an incredible and unique experience.

Book arts have proven themselves to be a natural genre for the interpretation of researched information into a visual format. Students will use a variety of methods to capture and generate images and will be introduced to a variety of sustainable practices of image-making and book forms. The natural rural area of the Burren and the timing of the program offers students the opportunity to reflect on the work they are doing with extended studio time in space provided by the Burren College of Art.

Through writing, students will engage in a rich process of self-formation and deepening awareness. The HU/WR component of the course will use research and a variety of written forms to document and give meaning to the student experience. Students will look at other writers, historians, and storytellers to guide their self-directed inquiries.

PARTICIPATING FACULTY:

Leslie Fedorchuk has been a MIAD Professor teaching studio, humanities, and writing classes since 1994. As a practicing artist and scholar in the field of Book Arts for over 30 years, she has studied the history of the book as well as curated and exhibited in numerous book art exhibits. This will be her sixth year leading MIAD programming in Ireland.

Matthew Presutti is a print and paper artist originally from an area of rural southeastern Ohio nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The region's rich history of social activism and the natural beauty of its forgotten landscape is the foundation for Presutti's practice as an artist and the driving force behind his research into sustainable studio methods. He has taught a wide variety of print, book, and paper processes at MIAD and served for 10 years as MIAD's Printmaking Lab Technician. Matt currently teaches at Ohio University.

ESTIMATED TRAVEL / COURSE FEE: \$6135

Includes 6 credits MIAD summer tuition, housing, field trips, travel health/safety insurance during program dates, scheduled transportation between Shannon Airport and housing, and several group meals. Students' will stay in housing with WIFI, as well as kitchen and laundry access. Airfare is NOT included. Roundtrip airfare is estimated at \$900 - \$1000 and will need to be purchased in early March. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Students should expect to spend \$750 or more on food and other expenses.

Students are responsible for necessary passports or visas. Interested applicants who do not possess a valid passport that is good through December 31, 2025, should apply for a passport no later than January 2025.

REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Students are encouraged to submit applications prior to the deadline. Interested students must apply for the program and complete an application packet (download from MIAD website). Completed applications must include a statement of interest, 2 letters of support from MIAD faculty/staff, the completed application form, financial aid info form (whether requesting aid or not), plus \$800 deposit, and submit NO LATER than deadline indicated.

Students must be in good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 2.5. **Space is limited.** If there are more eligible applicants than space in the program, staff and faculty will review submitted statement of interest, letters of reference, as well as student GPA, year in school, and date application was submitted to determine participants.

Minimum enrollment must be met for program to run. *Deposits will be returned if program is canceled because of insufficient enrollment or if student is not accepted.*

Students accepted into the program will be required to sign a course commitment letter within 5 days of receiving notification of their acceptance. (Deposit will be refunded ONLY if MIAD_cancels the program.) Deposit will apply to total cost of the program.

Another payment will be required on February 28 (\$1500) and balance owed will be due by April 18th. The payment schedule will be identified in the commitment document. Payments beyond initial deposit may also be non-refundable if expenses have already been paid on participant's behalf.

NEED-BASED GRANT* APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024, 11:00 AM

Students interested in being considered for this year's Study Abroad Need-Based Grant MUST submit their complete application package by this date/time.

MIAD NEED-BASED Study Abroad Grants: Students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA, no business office holds, be in good academic standing and a current full-time MIAD student to apply and receive the grant. Grant awards for \$500 - \$750 will be based on a combination of factors including need, quality of written statement of intent, with consideration of student's cumulative GPA. If a student is awarded a MIAD need-based study abroad grant, this award will be credited to course/travel fee owed AFTER deposit. Awards are contingent upon the program running. Students must return signed acceptance/ commitment letter for the program and grant award.

Financial Aid: Aid is available to qualified students. Interested students should inquire at the MIAD Financial Aid office ASAP to determine individual eligibility. Students should be aware that financial aid cannot be distributed any earlier than 5-7 days before the start of the official summer term. Students should plan other means to cover deposit and plane tickets. Students confirmed eligible for financial aid will be able to apply that towards the balance owed. (Financial Aid CANNOT be used for deposit.)

Application materials must be submitted to Jenny Krantz, Director of Academic Administration (265B) jkrantz@miad.edu by designated deadlines. Contact Jenny for an application packet.