Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

International Postgraduate Student Orientation

8 September 2025

Trinity Global Experience Team
Trinity Global

Welcome

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Today's session

1. International Student Support at Trinity
2. Events at Global Room
3. Immigration and visas
4. Bank Accounts
5. Working and PPS number
6. Health Insurance
7. Safety
8. Staying connected
9. Cultural adaptation
10. Q & A

Irish language ice-breaker

English	Irish	Pronounced
Good Morning	Maidin mhaith	Modjin wah
What is your name?	Cad is ainm duit?	Cod iss annim dwit
Aoife is my name!	*Aoife* is ainm dom	*Eefa* is annim dum
A hundred thousand welcomes!	Cead mile failte romhat!	Kaed meela fail-cheh row-itt
How are you?	Conas atá tu?	Cun-us ah-taw too
I am good	Tá mé go maith	Taw may guh mot
Hello	Dia Dhuit	Dee-ah gwit
Thank you	Go raibh maith agat	Guh rev mah agut
Goodbye	Slán	Slawn

Global Room
Student Space and International Student Support Hub

A Home Away From Home...

Trinity Global Experience Team

Louise Staunton
Associate Director - Trinity Global Experience
Email: lstaunto@tcd.ie

Dr Derina Johnson
Global Experience Manager
derina.johnson@tcd.ie

Zhilong Wang
Immigration and Support Officer
Email: WANGZ12@tcd.ie

Rachael O'Malley
Engagement Officer
rachael.omalley@tcd.ie

Hugo Mascena
Global Room Administrator
mascenah@tcd.ie

Lassane Ouedraogo
University of Sanctuary Support Officer
lassane.ouedraogo@tcd.ie

TRINITY GLOBAL ROOM

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORTS

The supports we offer include:

- General student queries
- Advice on immigration
- Information about health insurance
- Organise & facilitate student events
- Meet & Greet/New 2 Dublin
- Support in opening a bank account
- Advice on getting a SIM card
- Coffee, tea, and chats

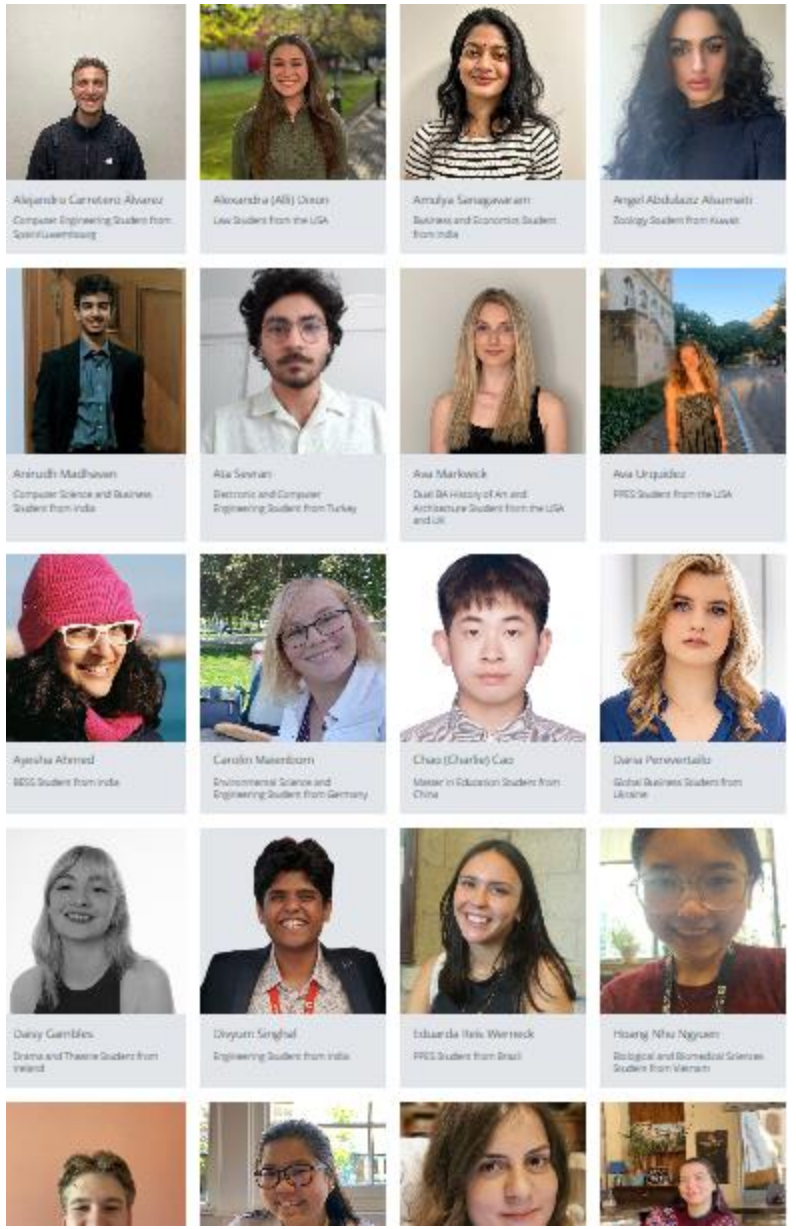
(01) 896 2097
1st Floor, Hamilton Building
TCDGlobalRoom@tcd.ie

Trinity College Dublin
The University of Dublin
Global Room

TRINITY GLOBAL ROOM

Student Ambassador Team

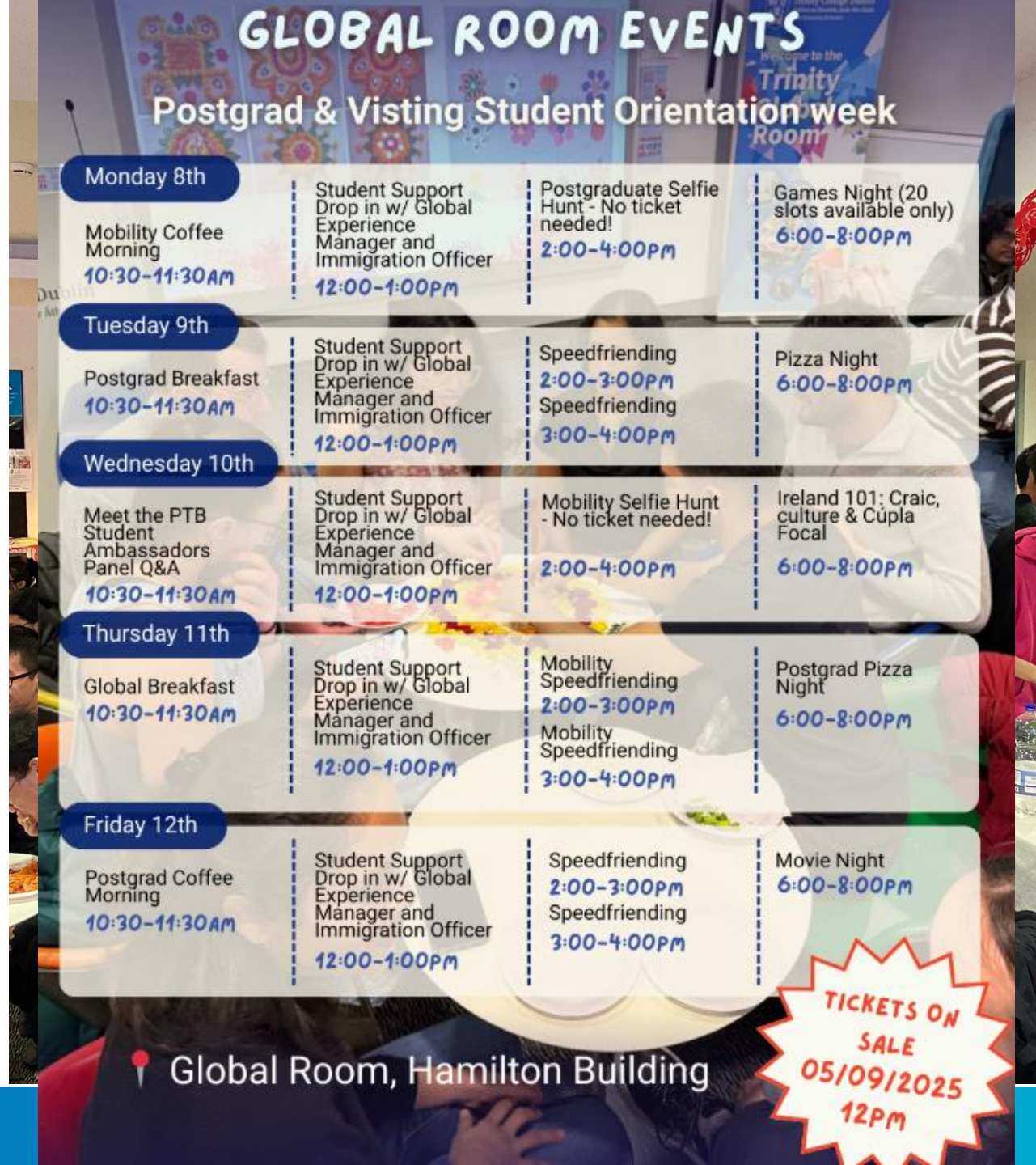
- 50+ International and Irish Students
- Advise peer students before and after arrival
- Email: tcdglobalroom@tcd.ie
- Postgraduate Ambassador recruitment coming up – watch our socials!



2. Events in Orientation Week for Postgraduate Students

@tcdglobalroom

Watch for updates!



Coming soon..

NEW 2 DUBLIN

@tcdglobalroom

Watch for updates!

ARE YOU NEW 2 DUBLIN?

Then join us **every wednesday** for a chance to gather all the essential tips our ambassadors have to offer and meet new amazing people.

- Yummy free food in every session 🍕
- Games and prizes 🏅
- Many fun activities 🪅
- Insights from our student ambassadors 💡

& so much more !!

SIGN UP FOR FREE USING THE LINK IN OUR BIO

Global Room: Where we are

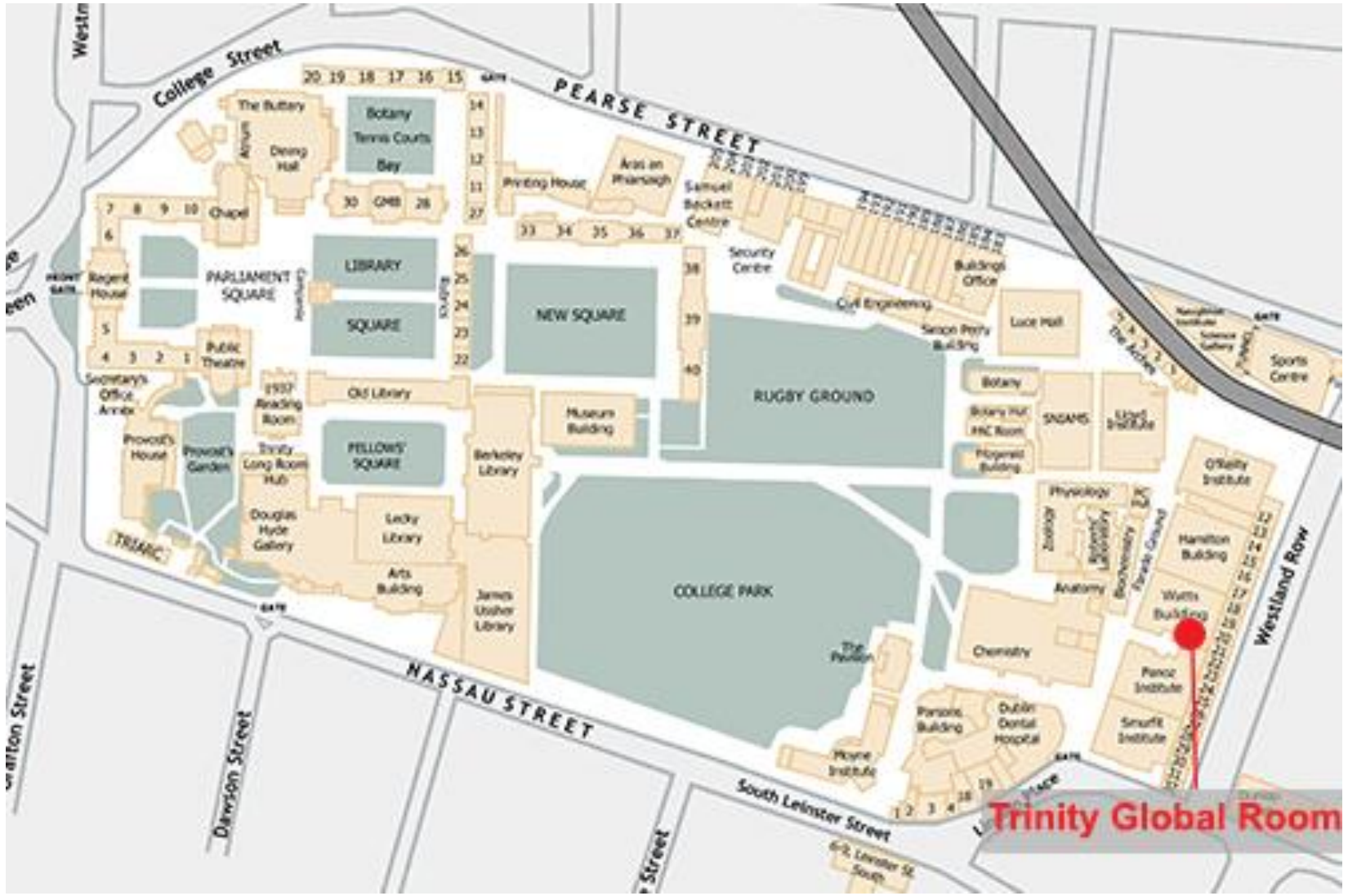
Location: 1st Floor, Watts Building (beside Academic Registry)

Open in person –
Monday-Friday, 9am-9pm (in term)

Email: tcdglobalroom@tcd.ie

Drop by or make an appointment with one of our team

OR
Join one of our drop in hours 12-1 this week to speak with the Global Experience Manager or Immigration and Supports Officer.



3. Immigration

A. Immigration Registration

- Application process & Required documents
- Obtaining appointments
- IRP

B. Traveling advice

- Schengen Visa
- UK visa

C. Immigration Clinics

Making an appointment with Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) – for Non-EU students

- The appointment must be made by the individual registering through the ISD digital portal and can be done now that you have arrived in Ireland.
- Online booking portal:
  - https://burghquayregistrationoffice.inis.gov.ie
- Your Appointment will be at the Burgh Quay Registration Office:
  - 13-14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2, D02 XK70, Ireland
  - Arrive 10 minutes early!
- Sometimes it can be difficult to secure an appointment at busy times of the year. If you are unable to book an appointment within the 90 period don't worry, your permission to remain will not be cancelled.

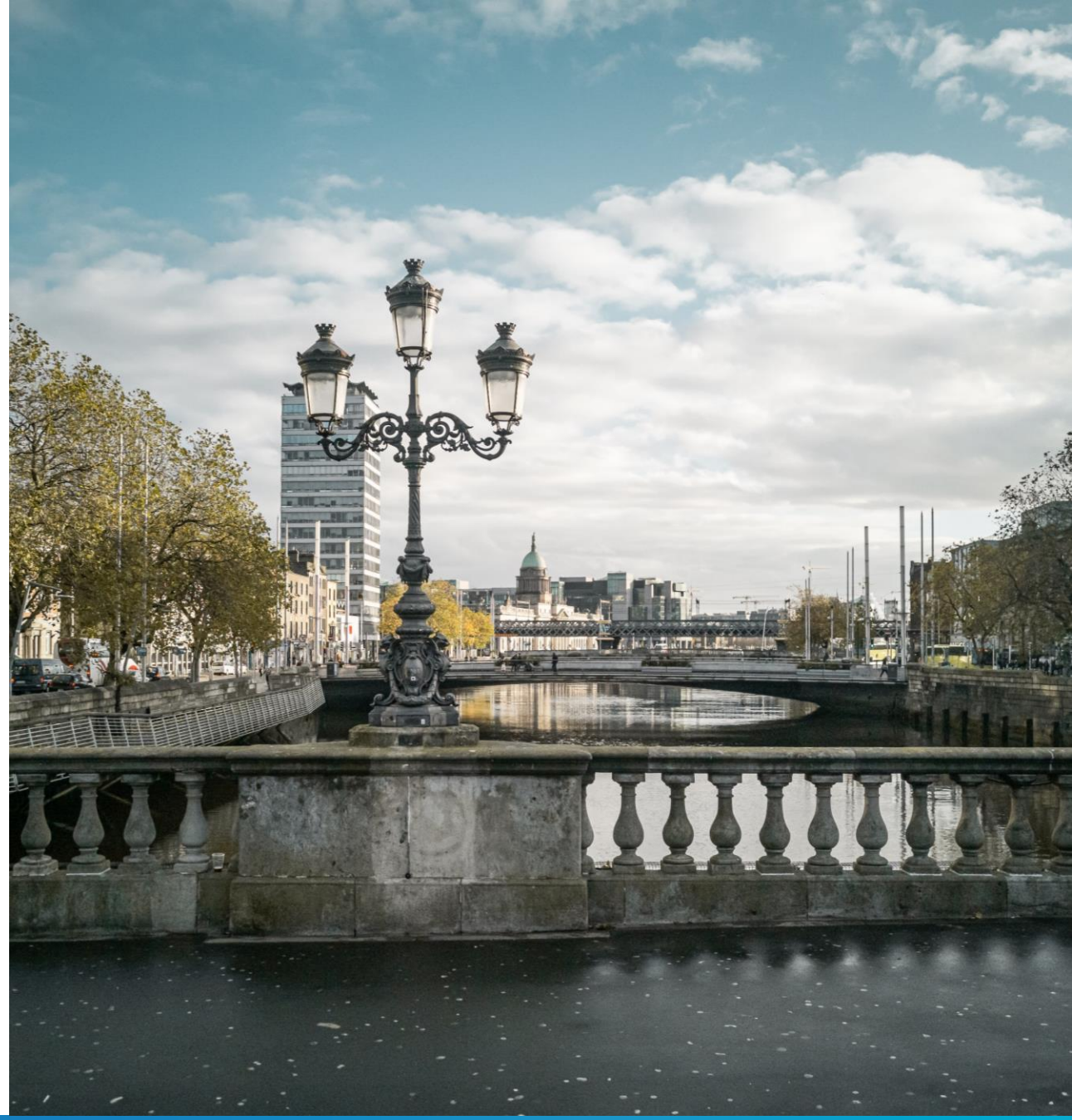
Day of your ISD appointment

- Valid Passport
- Proof of Registration*
- Proof of Fees Paid*

*Proof of registration and proof of fees paid are in the same letter and can be generated and printed from your student portal (my.tcd.ie)

- Proof of finances (for non-visa-required nationals only): €10,000 for courses resulting in residence of greater than 8 months; €833 per month or €6,665 (in total) for courses resulting in residence of 8 months or less.
- Proof of Health Insurance, policy document is required
- €300 Fee (No cash accepted. Credit card or debit card)

https://www.irishimmigration.ie/required-documents/#stamp2



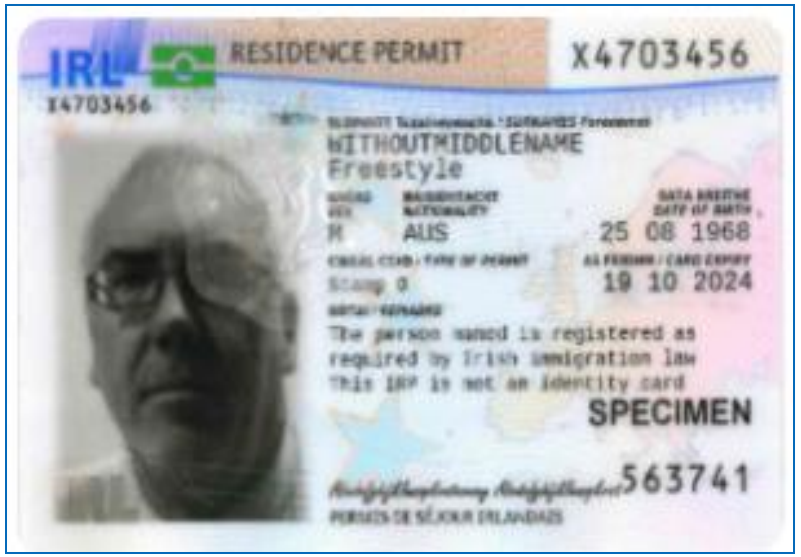
Proof of Registration Letter

- Log on to my.tcd.ie portal
- Click on the ‘Registration tab’ for options of letters to print
- Click on ‘Confirmation of Registration’
- Go to ‘Intray’ on the home tab.
- Your letter will be in your ‘New Intray’ or ‘All intray messages’
- Click ‘Proof of Registration’ to open and print the file.

Immigration Card (IRP)

- Called Irish Residence Permit (IRP) card
- Also known as a Stamp 2 (check expiry date, typically December)
- Allow for 10 working days for issue (by post)
- If not issued in 10 days, contact ISD
- Email: immigrationsupport@justice.ie

* Make sure to confirm the right address at your appointment



Entry visas for other countries

If you are planning to take a trip outside of Ireland:

- Check the visa requirements of the country you are going to
- Ensure you allow sufficient time to apply for your visa,
- Check if there are travel advisories or any restrictions before you travel:

https://www.dfa.ie/travel/

Schengen Visa

- A Schengen visa allows short-term visits (up to 90days in any 180-day period) to countries within the Schengen Area, which includes most of continental Europe.
- For requirements, check with the Embassy you're applying to. Documents required include many of those you needed to enter Ireland, as well as your IRP card (you'll get this after your ISD appointment),and Bookings (flights and accommodation).

Further details - please check the relevant country's embassy website.

Make your book the Schengen visa appointment in advance, it is in high demand!

UK Visa (incl. Northern Ireland)

- Depending on your nationality and the purpose of your visit, you may either need a Visa or ETA (Electronic Travel Authorisation) to travel to UK.

- More information on what you require and all relevant visa and immigration information: https://www.tcd.ie/study/international/arriving-in-ireland/visa-immigration/

Global Room Immigration Clinics

- Get answers to your immigration questions
- Tips on getting appointments
- Advice you on any immigration difficulties you may be having

Clinics about first time registration, renewals, third level graduate scheme: In person (Global Room) or on Zoom. Keep an eye on our Instagram for details.

Private meetings can be arranged too!

Email: Immigration and Support Officer, Zhilong Wang at WANGZ12@tcd.ie to set up meetings or ask any queries.

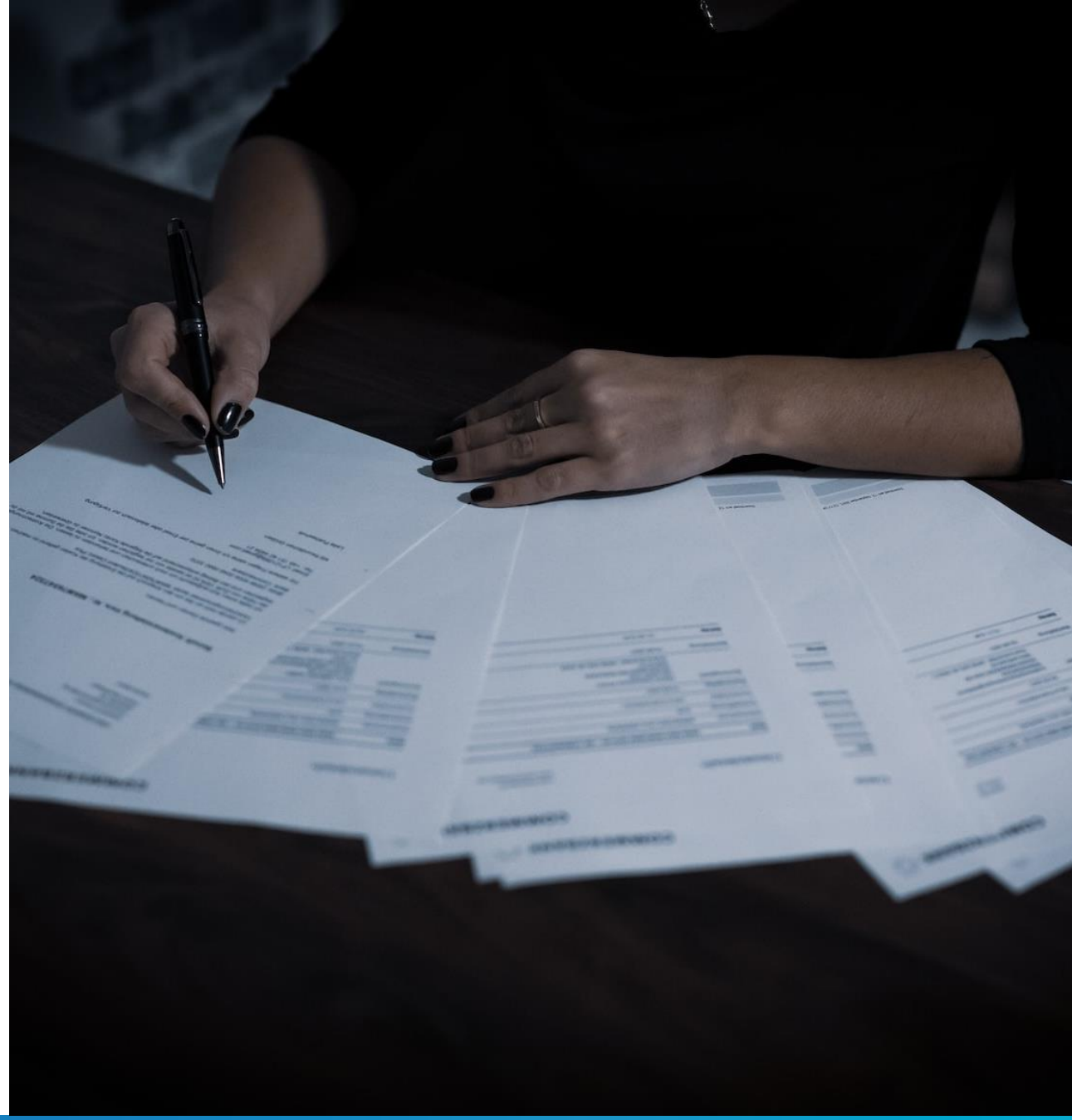
4. Opening a Student Bank Account

- **Allied Irish Bank (AIB):** www.aib.ie
- **Revolut:** www.revolut.com
- **Bank of Ireland (BOI):** www.boi.ie
- **Money Jar:** https://moneyjar.world/ (Money Jar - Student Onboarding TCD code 89610) * (Can open before arrival and permanent Ireland address is not required)

Opening Requirements

Documents that may be required to open a bank account:

- Proof of address in Ireland: Letter can be obtained from Academic Registry.
- Proof of ID: Passport.
- Bank Statement from your home country
- Other documents depending on each bank and students' nationality



Note

- Allow time for your account to become active
- If you will be under 18 at the time of opening your bank account, you will need a guardian to accompany you to open a bank account
- When securing private accommodation, most letting agents and landlords will accept cash or bank draft (which you can obtain with a foreign debit card or cash in an Irish bank) for the first month's rent and security deposit, as long as you set up direct debit from an Irish account as soon as possible after opening your new bank account

5. Working in Ireland

- **Non-EU Students** attending a full degree full-time course with an Irish Residence Permit (IRP) card (Stamp 2) are entitled to take up casual employment
    - Non-EU citizens must register with Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) before commencing employment
    - 20 hours during term time, and 40 hours between December 15 - January 15 and June 1 - September 30 only
    - The right to work lapses automatically on expiry of immigration permission
- **EU passport-holders:** Have the same rights to work as Irish citizens

How to get a PPS number

- A Personal Public Service (PPS) number is a unique reference number that everyone who works in Ireland must have

- It ensures that you can be registered with the Irish taxation authorities, known as the **Revenue Commissioners**

- Students will receive a PPS number only when you can show you have an offer to take up employment or need it to deal with a "**specified body**"

- To get a PPS number, you can apply online via email to the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection: https://www.gov.ie/en/service/12e6de-get-a-personal-public-service-pps-number/

What you need...

- A completed application form for the PPS Number.
- Evidence of your identity (passport)
- Evidence of why you need a PPS number allocated (e.g. job offer)
- Proof of your address. (Letter from Academic Registry or bank statement)

More info here:
http://www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/PPSN.aspx

Avoiding scams

Banking Scams/Fraud:

- Avoiding financial fraud and scams
- Stay informed and alert
- If in doubt, consult: www.fraudsmart.ie/

Accommodation/Rental Scams:

- Consumer Protection: www.ccpc.ie/consumers/housing/rental-accommodation-scams/
- Threshold: https://threshold.ie/faq/how-to-spot-a-scam/

Immigration Scams:

- www.irishimmigration.ie/scam-calls-renewed-notification/

- www.internationalstudents.ie/info-and-advice/know-your-rights/scams-and-fraud

6. Health Insurance

All non-EU students are required to have private medical insurance. This should provide emergency accident cover and should cover any period of hospitalisation.

For your 1st year, can use insurance from your home country.

Where to obtain?

- **Irish Life:** www.irishlifehealth.ie/ (Trinity student group scheme) Scheme Number: 20932 | Scheme Name: Trinity College Dublin Non-EU Students (no wait period; no load for pre-existing conditions)

- VHI Healthcare: www.vhi.ie
- Laya Healthcare: www.layahealthcare.ie
- Study and Protect: www.studyandprotect.com/unilanding.aspx

Irish Life Health

Or follow this link:

https://www.irishlifehealth.ie/portal/mms/MemberMobilisations/signup/23jjASdoi4lgnHf81SSgqwrihnkn43sdnfkDnskl3K

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7. Safety

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SafeZone

A **FREE** safety App

What is SafeZone?
This Trinity App increases the security and safety of students and staff while in a Trinity location. It provides immediate access to Trinity resources to provide assistance in cases of emergencies or when an alert is raised.

What is SafeZone used for?
SafeZone enables you to raise alerts (by pressing the emergency button on the App) or seek assistance when onsite in Trinity. Once an alert is raised, the user's location is shared with our security team who then respond. The App allows users to check-in for specific time periods and if they do not check-out within that period, an alert is automatically sent to security.

Further functionality will be delivered over the coming months, including sending Trinity notifications to our SafeZone registered students and staff.

How do I access SafeZone?
Just download the SafeZone app from the iOS or Android App stores, enter your TCD username and password, complete the registration form and you are good to go. You can opt to check in automatically (recommended) or manually check-in when required.

First Aid Call
For when you need medical assistance

Help
For when you need non-urgent assistance

Emergency
If you feel threatened or need urgent assistance

Download **SafeZone App** on

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

'Safety in the City' talk

16 September, 1.30-2 pm

Goldsmith Hall, Trinity

Speakers include:
Garda Community Liaison Officer

Open to all students

www.tcd.ie/students/orientation/

8. Mobile Phones

- SIM Cards from ‘Three’ – free from Global Room
- Available for collection Monday-Friday 9-9

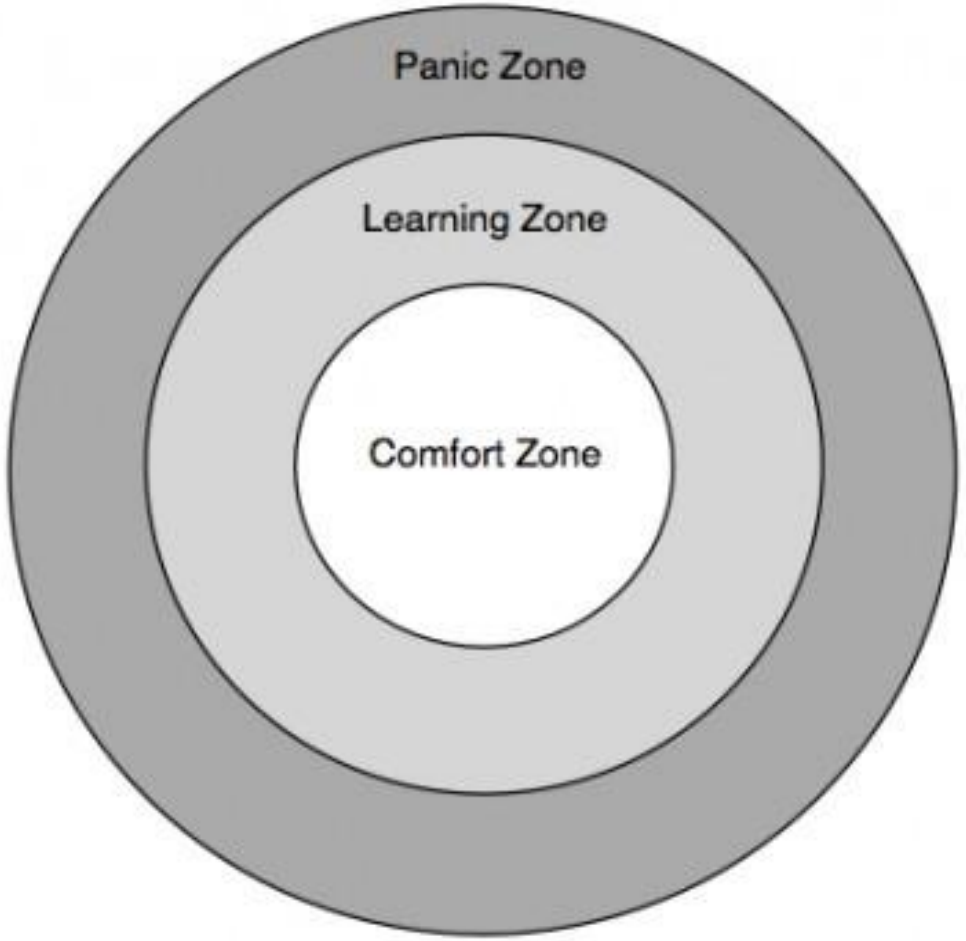
9. Crossing cultures

- Cultural adaptation
- Tips on understanding Irish culture, language, slang, humour and accents

First step… You

Think about your cultural comfort zone…

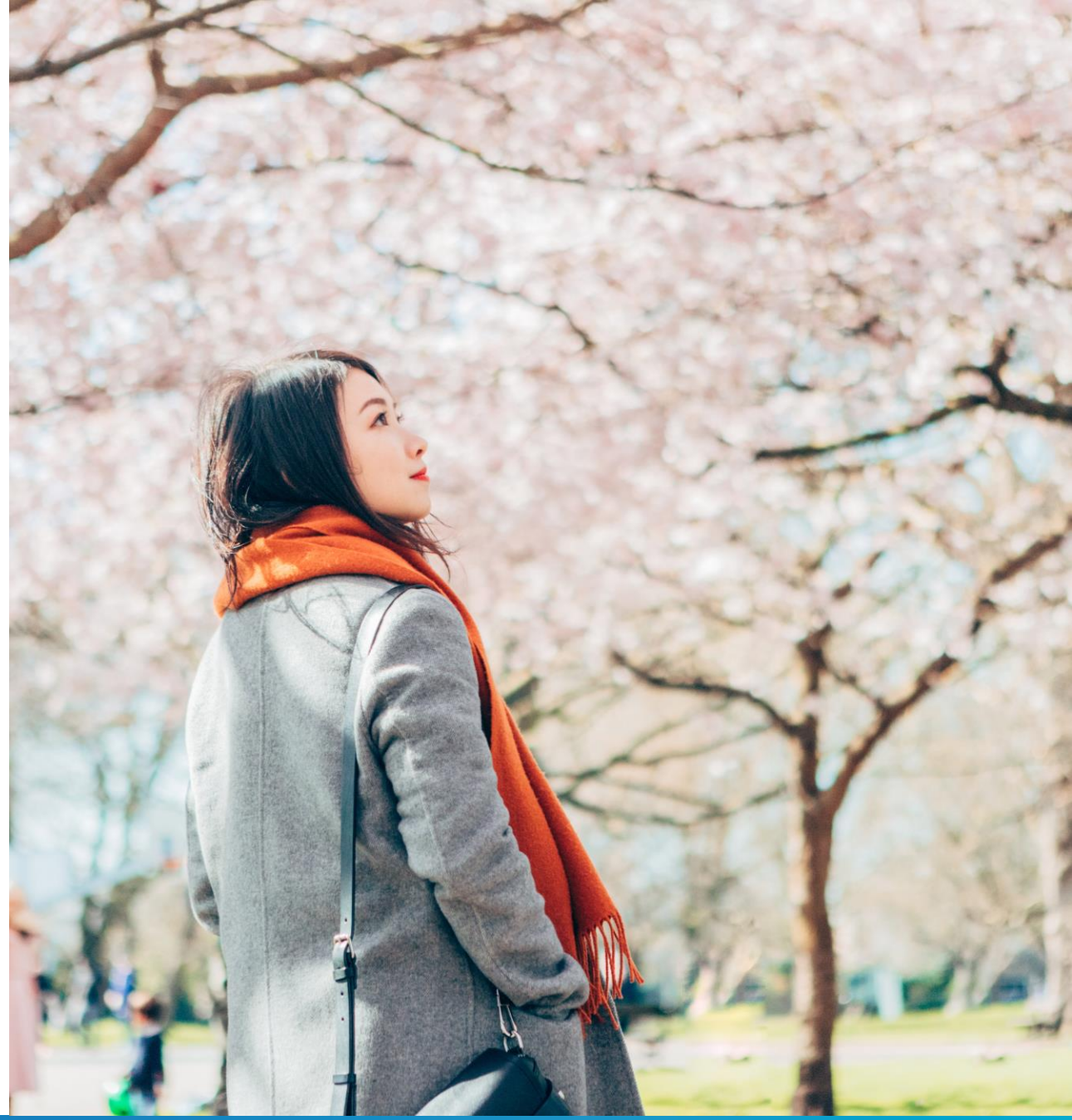
… and that of those you interact with



“Global dexterity is about learning to adapt your behaviour across cultures – no matter what culture you come from, what culture you are going to, or the situation you find yourself in.”

Andy Molinsky (2013)

Next step… acclimatising to a new culture

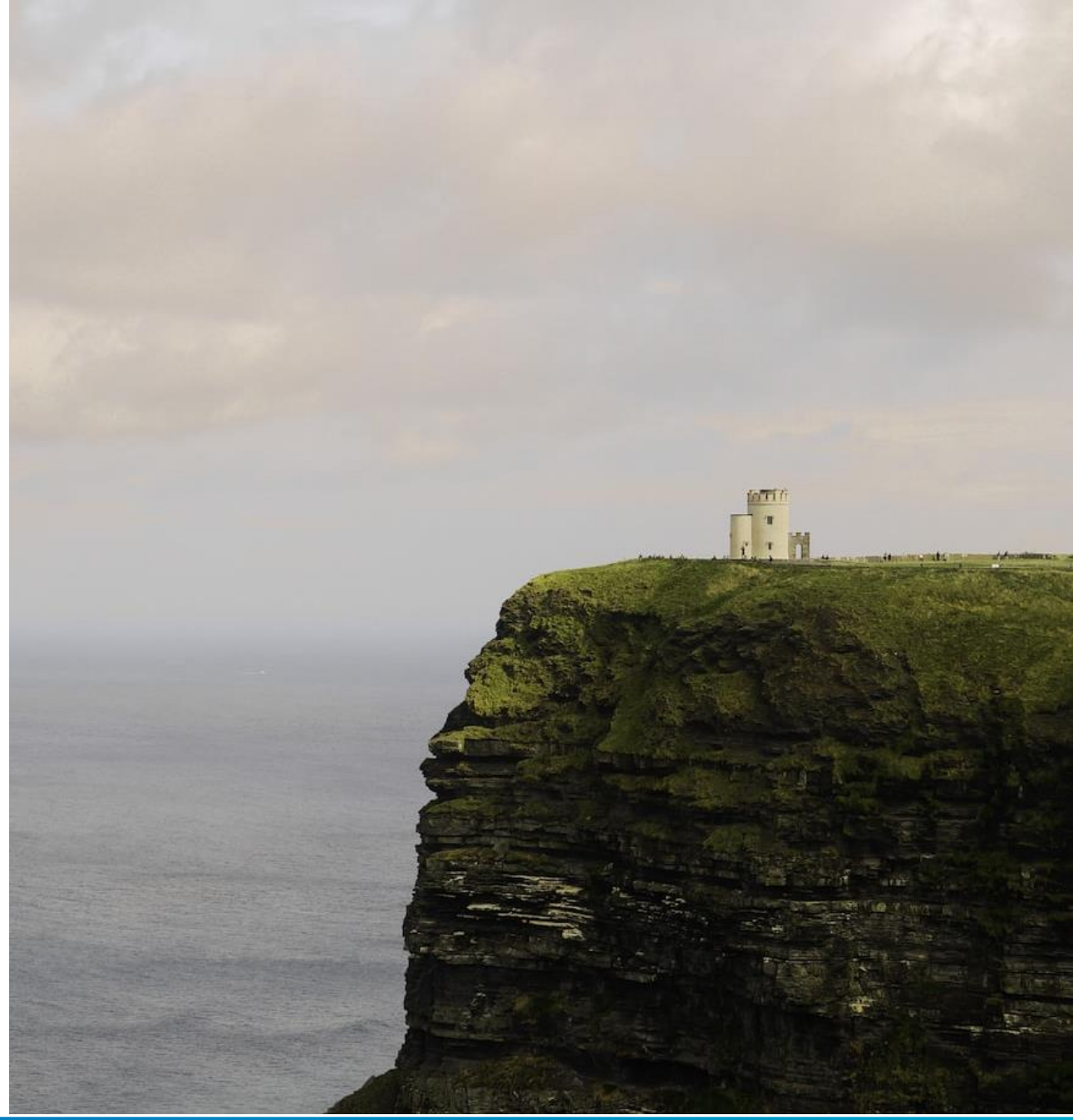


Thinking about culture…
What is culture?

Adapting to Irish culture

Similarities and differences

- Expectations and first impressions
- Cultural differences in:
  - Everyday life
  - Language and communication styles
  - Slang and humour
- Differences in academic cultures
- Culture shock and homesickness

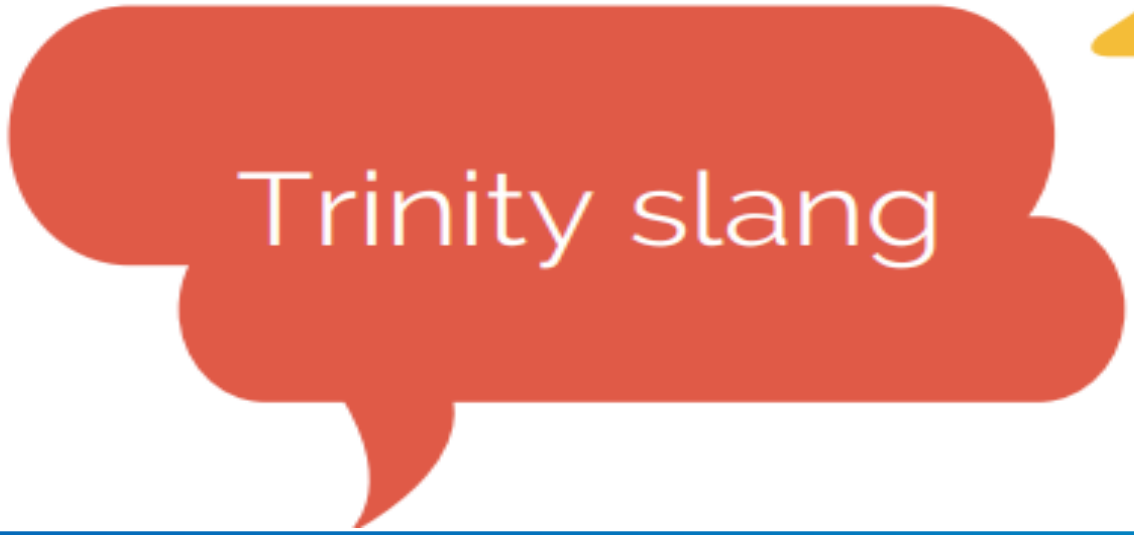


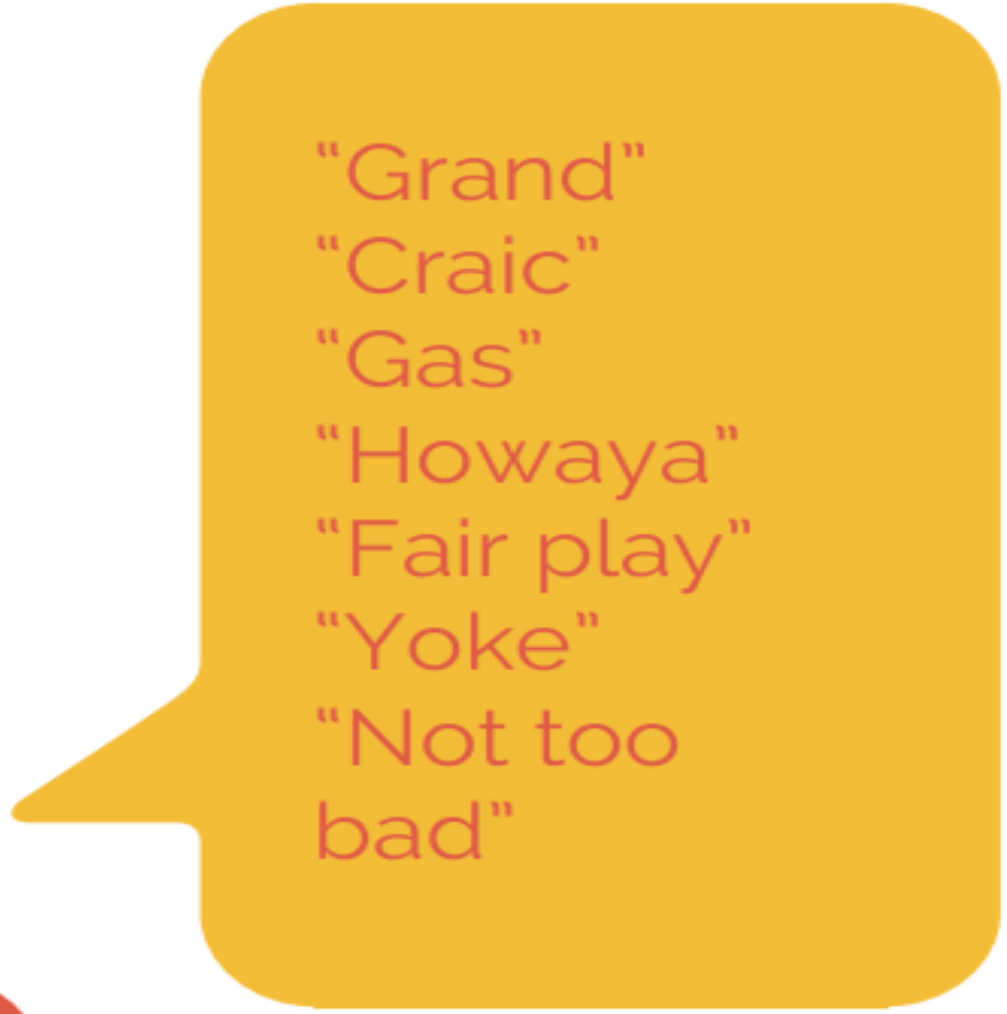
Cultural differences in everyday life

- Greetings
- Small talk
- Punctuality
- Socialising and role of the pub in Irish culture
- Humour and slagging
- Informality even in formal situations
- Queuing
- Friendliness

LANGUAGE & SLANG

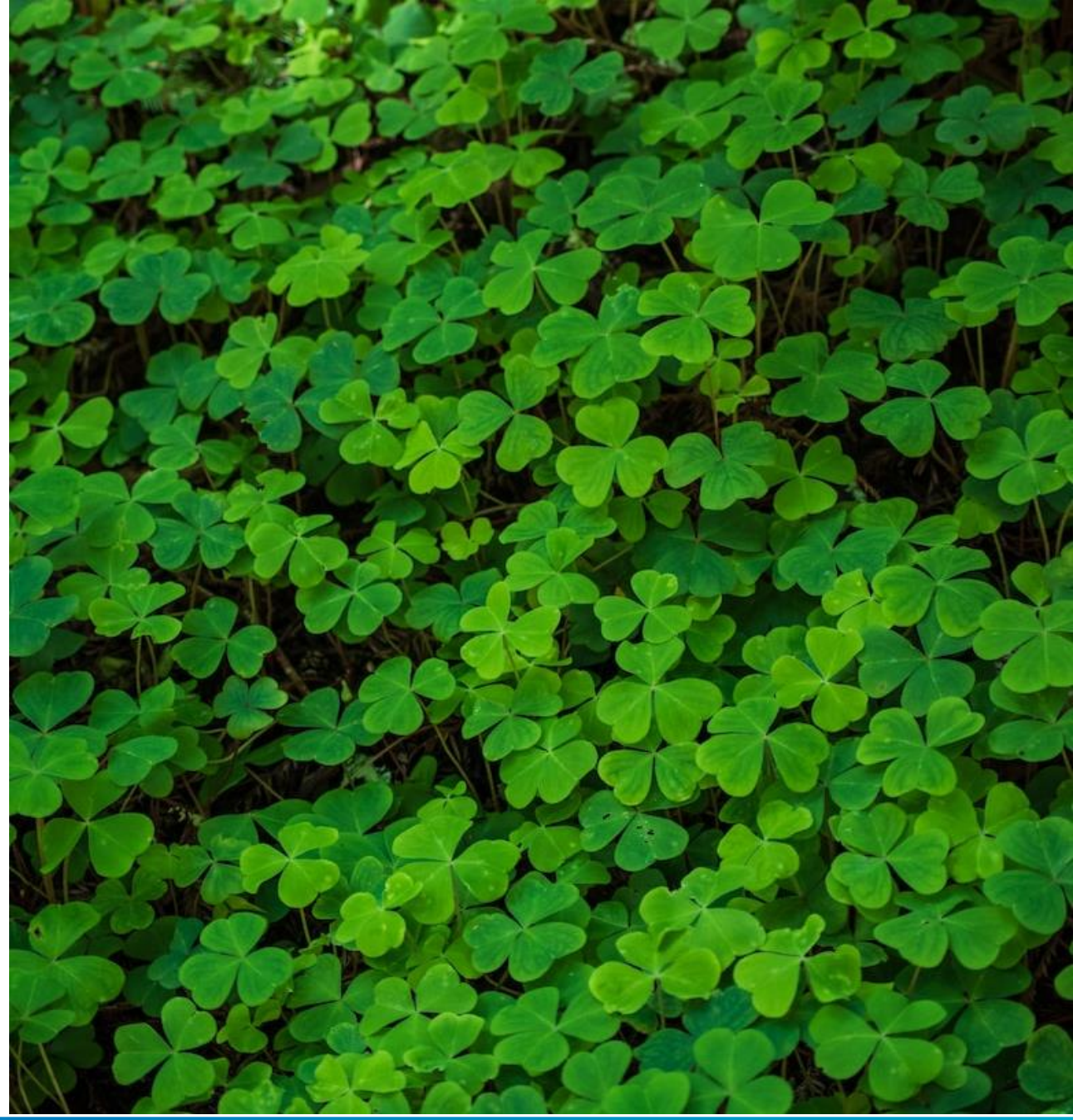
The types of thing we say...





Irish language decoder

- An Lár: city centre
- An Post: post office
- Fir: "men" - often used on bathroom doors
- Mná: (pronounced muh nah) "Women" (often used on bathroom doors)
- Gardaí - The Guards – the police



TCD Jargon Buster

Vocab:

- “College” – what we call Trinity
- Michaelmas and Hilary Terms = 1st and 2nd semester
- Classes = Modules
- Invigilator – an examination supervisor
- Provost – our College President

www.tcd.ie/students/jargon-buster/

Different
ways of communicating

- Indirect language - The Irish sometimes avoid saying "No" and being direct
- Eye contact
- Swearing

Don’t forget we speak another language in Ireland…

But we also have many regional accents…

What to do if you are finding accents hard to understand…

It's ok to ask people:

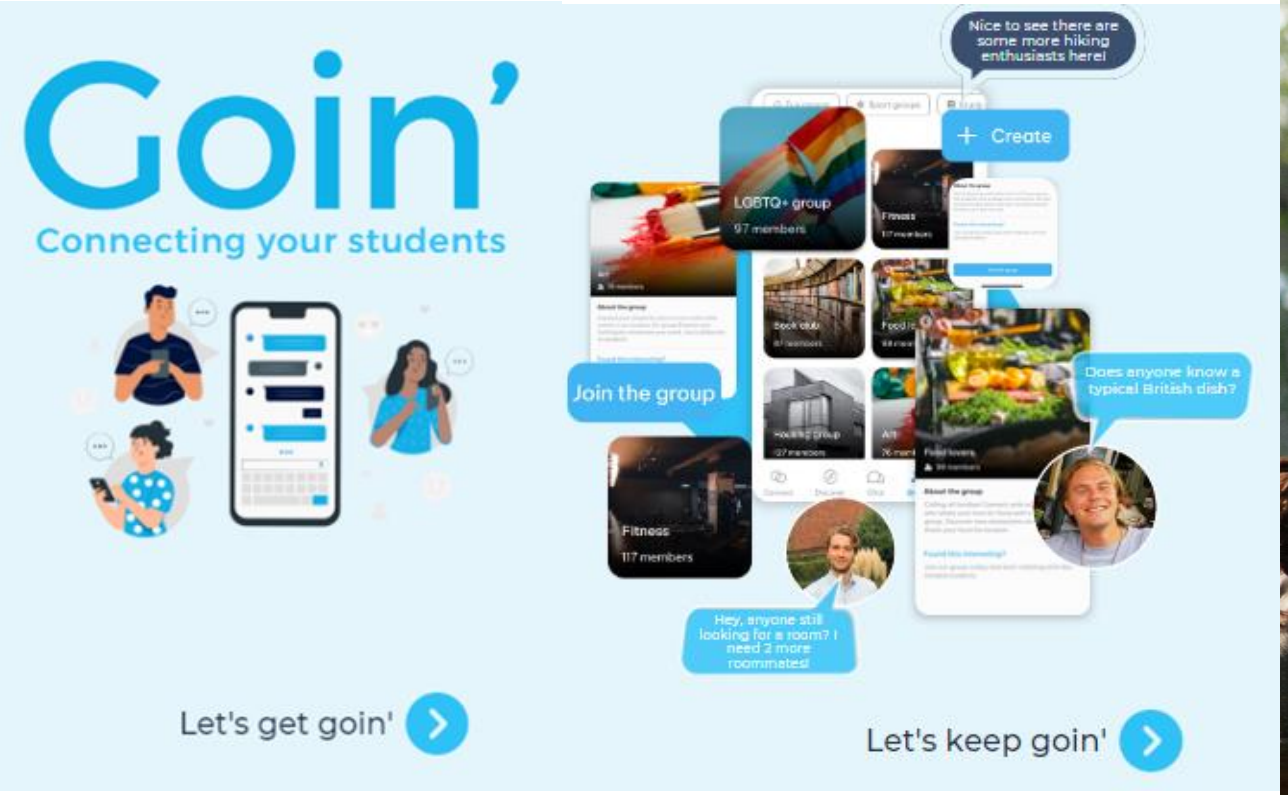
- To repeat what they said
- To slow down
- To clarify or explain new words that you are not familiar with
- It takes time to get used to new accents

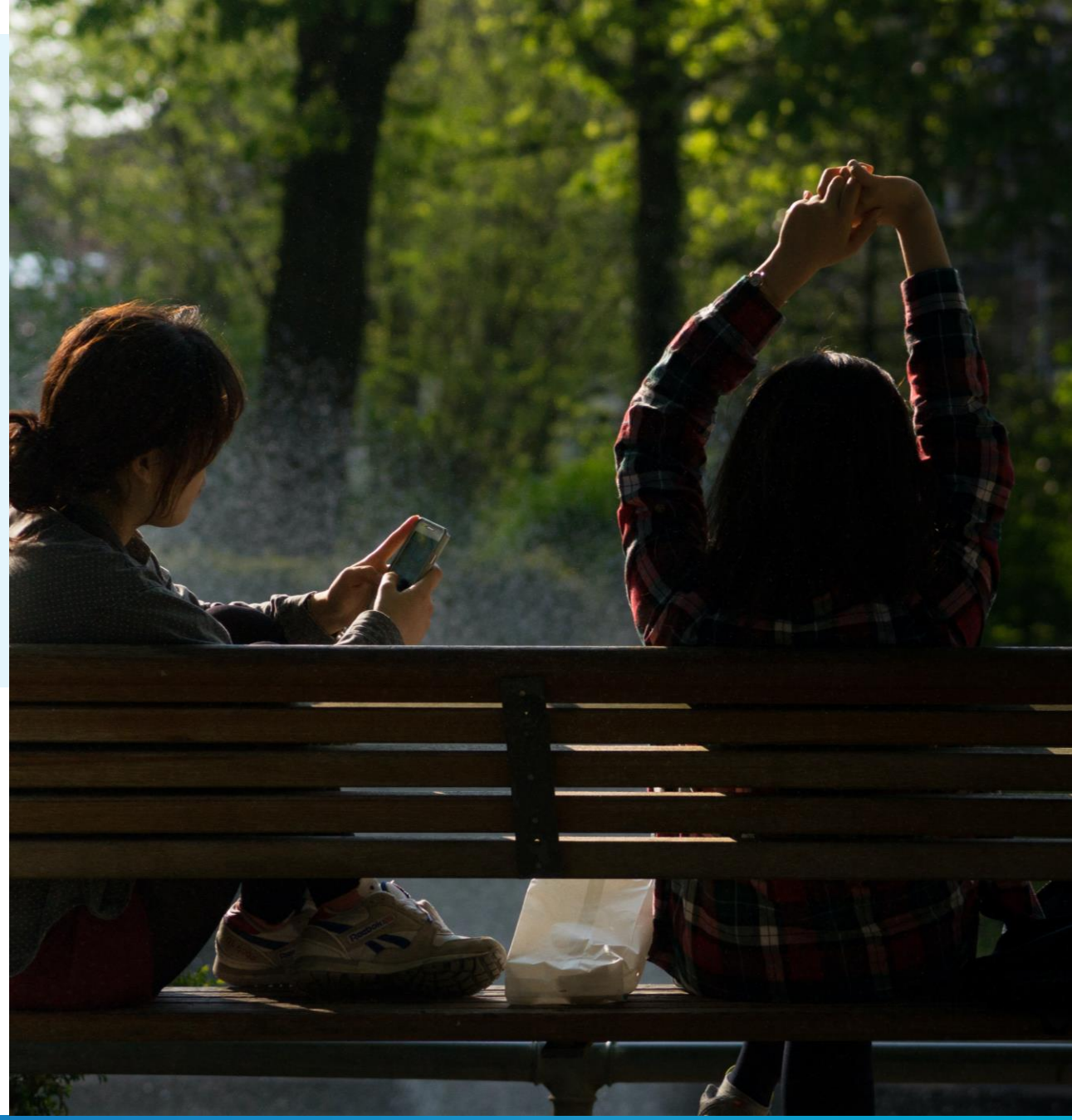
Culture shock and homesickness

- Culture Shock Curve
- Different phases of adjustment
  - From Honeymoon to "shock" - uncertainty and doubt – to adaptation
- Studying internationally pushes your boundaries
- Becoming comfortable outside your comfort zone

Coping with change and settling in

- Talk to new friends or to Trinity staff
- Get into a routine here
- Get support from home... but not too much - live in Ireland's time zone, not the one back home
- Take care of yourself, eat well and exercise
- Take the initiative - Go out and meet Irish people - Join college clubs and societies
- Immerse yourself in Irish life - read newspapers, watch Irish TV, social media



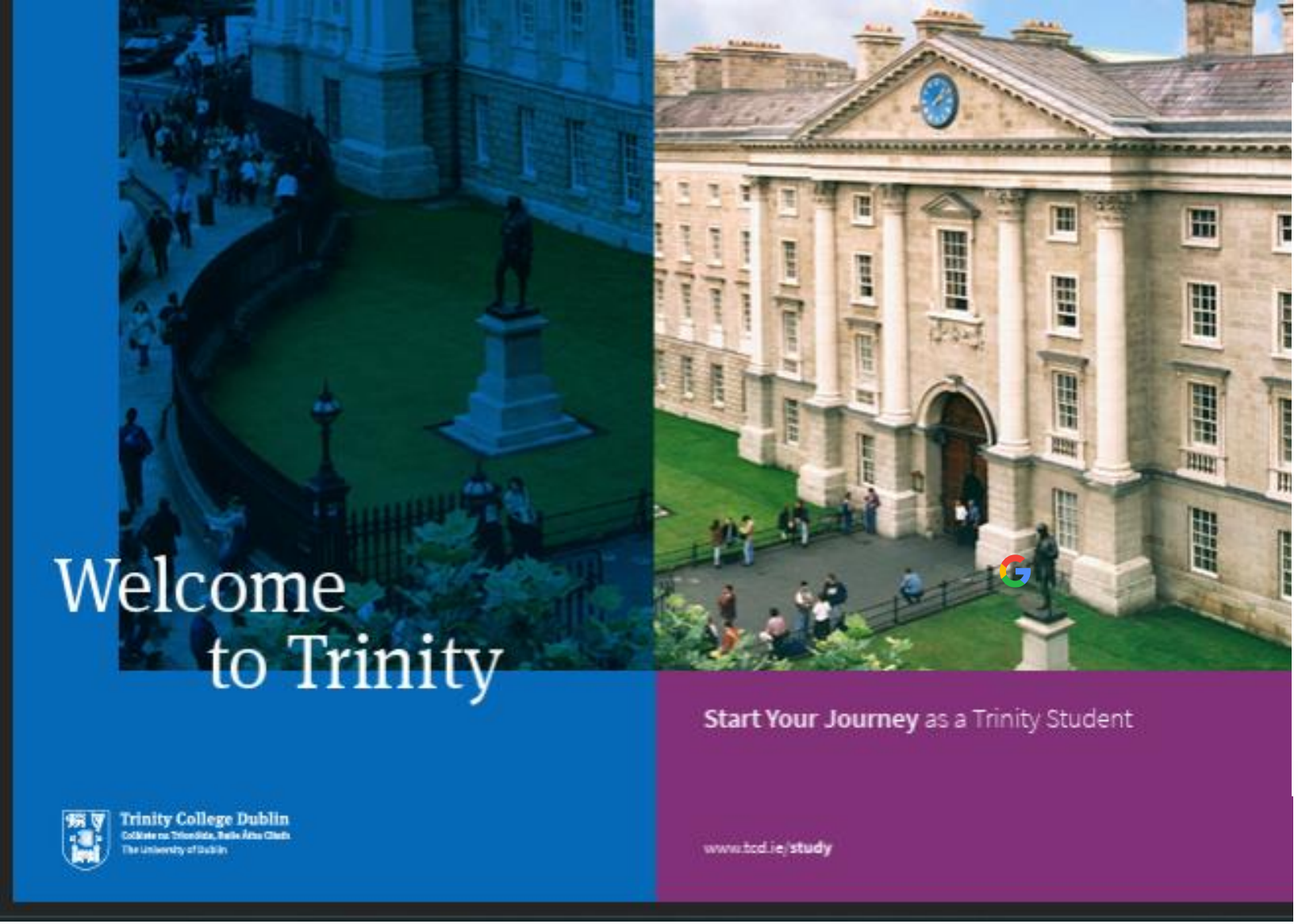


- Goin' to Trinity community app - Join via link
- Join and set up groups
- Meet your Trinity community

Goin App

Or follow this link:

https://register.goinconnect.com/role-selection/94673



Welcome Guide: www.tcd.ie/study/assets/PDF/WelcomeToTrinity2025.pdf

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Be social @TcdGlobalRoom

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Thank You. Any questions?

Good luck with your studies and have a wonderful time at Trinity.

Email: tcdglobalroom@tcd.ie www.tcd.ie/students/