



## 2023 COURSES PROGRAMME

Learn archaeological excavation and survey techniques from experts at Ireland's oldest and longest-running Field School. Set in a spectacular location on historic Achill Island, on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, for summer 2023 the Achill Archaeological Field School will offer a six week course with academic credit from the National University of Ireland Galway, a one-week Introduction to Archaeology course, and an eight-week Trainee Supervisor course.



- Ireland's oldest archaeological field school
- Benefit from our wealth of experience
- Low tutor-student ratio for high quality tuition
- Spectacular location on historic Achill Island
- Purpose-built campus with fully-equipped classrooms
- On-campus accommodation for comfort & convenience

The 2023 excavation will take place at Tawnaghmore (above), a short walk from our campus in Dooagh. This nucleated settlement of 19 dwellings likely dates to the late/post medieval period (AD1380-1900) and appears on maps dated to 1809 and 1838, but little is known about its period of occupation or abandonment. We look forward to uncovering the history of this enigmatic site.

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### Excavation Courses with Academic Credit

The Field School offers one six-week accredited courses that comes with 9 semester credits / 18 ECTS, which are transferable to numerous universities and third-level institutions worldwide.

The course cover a full range of excavation, site recording techniques, and laboratory work. Lectures take place in our purpose-built campus, as do our workshops on post excavation skills such as managing site archives, writing stratigraphic reports, preparing AutoCad drawings, and creating illustrations using programs such as Inkscape and QGIS.

#### SS106

Introduction to Archaeology of Ireland  
(3 Semester Credits/6 ECTS Credits)

#### SS107

Archaeological Field Studies  
(3 Semester Credits/6 ECTS Credits)

#### SS108

Data Analysis  
(3 Semester Credits/6 ECTS Credits)

Course	2023 Dates	Weeks	Cost	Modules
Excavation & Recording 1	26 <sup>th</sup> June - 4 <sup>th</sup> August	6	€5,500	SS106/SS107/SS108

### Trainee Supervisor Course

An eight-week trainee supervisor course is available to students who have already completed a Field School accredited course. This course runs from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

### Introduction to Irish Archaeology

A one-week course providing a first taste of archaeology and field methods. Ideal for anyone with an interest in archaeology, anthropology and local history. Offered with both residential and non-residential options. This course will run from 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023.



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### Excavation Site at Tamnaghmore

In 2023, the primary focus of work will be the excavation of two drystone houses at Tamnaghmore (translates as great meadow), a small enigmatic settlement, which probably dates to the late/post medieval period (AD1380-1900).



Tawnaghmore/Tawnaghlaure is a nucleated settlement of 19 unplanned houses running in a linear fashion over c. 200m of ground at an elevation of 97m asl. The site is located on ground sloping gently south-eastwards, along the left and right banks of the Abhainabhaile (Townland River), which flows in a south easterly direction and enters the sea at Dooagh village. Access to Tawnaghmore /Tawnaghlaure from Dooagh is along the banks of this river, following a bog road, a narrow grass-covered track and a glacial ridge to reach the site. There is no visible road/track into the settlement. To the north east is a grass and bog covered linear settlement with an unknown number of houses called Caislean (small stone fort) which may suggest the presence of a Cathair (stone fort) in this area sometime in the remote past. A pollen core taken in 2005 indicated the presence of a deciduous forest in this area during the mid to late Neolithic (Caseldine, C. 2005, 169-178). The settlement appears on maps dated to 1809 and 1838 but little is known about its period of occupation or abandonment. The houses are relatively large, have some unusual features and are sub-rectangular in shape. We look forward to an exciting season in 2023.



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### About the Field School



The Field School was established in 1991 in the village of Dooagh, on Achill Island. Linked to the Co. Mayo mainland by a bridge since 1887, Achill is Ireland's largest island at 57sq miles. It boasts five Blue Flag beaches, several mountains and spectacular coastal scenery – including Ireland's highest sea cliffs. It is a popular holiday destination for visitors seeking escape, inspiration, and a connection with traditional Irish country life. Artists and writers who came to live and work on Achill in the last century include Robert Henri, Paul Henry, Graham Greene and Heinrich Boll.

Achill was the main location for filming of the 2022 movie 'The Banshees of Inisherin'.

Achill is accessible via rail and coach to Westport from Dublin and other travel hubs. A local bus service links from Westport to Achill.

To apply for any of our courses in 2023 please complete the form on our website at: <https://achill-fieldschool.com/application-form/>