In the words of Dr. Maureen Murphy, Professor of Curriculum and Teaching in English Methodology and Irish Studies in Hofstra’s School of Education and Allied Human Services, “Teaching is not a job; it is a way of life. What could be more rewarding than to create a community of passionate learners who will help their own students to construct meaning from literature, to read with understanding and to write with clarity.”

Dr. Murphy and her Hofstra colleague, Dr. Alan J. Singer, developed a statewide, interdisciplinary/interactive curriculum consisting of 150 lessons, for grades 4 through 12, for the study of the Great Irish Famine to introduce new learning methods for teachers and students. This landmark curriculum maintains the highest academic standards of Hofstra University and the New York State Department of Education.

An accomplished and respected author and researcher, her books, articles and papers span the broad spectrum of Irish folklore and literature, Irish and Irish-American history, political science and literature written in Irish. Dr. Murphy is currently completing a book about Irish domestic servants, *Hope From the Ocean*.

The excellence of the Hofstra University faculty has been instrumental in the University’s establishment of a chapter of the national honor society Phi Beta Kappa and accreditation by prestigious national agencies, including the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Association for Engineering and Technology, and American Psychological Association.

To learn more about Professor Maureen O’Rourke Murphy, visit her Hofstra Web site:
http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/maureen_o_murphy