

From: [CGPS Go-global](#)
To: [Okagaki, Lynn](#)
Cc: [Drexler, Matthew](#)
Subject: 22W Study Abroad: Update from the Deputy Provost
Date: Friday, April 9, 2021 12:56:09 PM

Dear 22W Study Abroad Faculty Directors,

I appreciate that so many of our faculty, even in these uncertain times, remain committed to providing our students with global education experiences. I am pleased to tell you that we have received approval for a limited study abroad program for this coming winter. Due to health safety concerns and global COVID-19 regulations, our travel study programs will look different than they have in the past.

I am sure that you share our concern for our students' health and safety and its impact on UD-sponsored international travel in the coming year. You have likely been thinking about how you might manage if a student on your program fell ill and had to be isolated. How will you ensure that students who are isolated receive their meals and stay mentally healthy? How will you hold classes safely on-site? To support you in this process, we are putting forth a set of guidelines for 22W faculty-led study abroad programs. These guidelines will help ensure that we are prepared to mitigate risk through crisis and emergency management planning on all study abroad programs. Please note that, as it currently stands, many of our 22W programs are restricted for travel as per the U.S. Department of State travel advisory. CPGS will continue to monitor travel requirements as we plan to resume overseas programs.

The study abroad team at the [Center for Global Programs and Services](#) is prepared to support you in adjusting your programs and budgets and submitting the necessary documentation to open your program for applications. They will be hosting a [webinar on Friday, April 16, 2021, at 3:30 p.m.](#) to discuss the new guidelines and the established process for addressing program-specific concerns.

We have received approval from UD administration to implement the following guidelines for 22W study abroad programs:

1. All UD-sponsored student travel to a country that has a [U.S. Department of State](#) travel advisory rating of 3 or higher (Avoid Unnecessary Travel or Do Not Travel) is usually not permitted and will be subject to review by the UD Risk and Security Assessment Committee.
2. All UD faculty, students, and travel assistants are required to sign an amended acknowledgment of risk prior to departure. This is in addition to the existing Travel Programs Agreement and General Release signed during the application process.
3. UD will expect students and faculty to present a valid vaccination record card and negative COVID-19 test prior to departure as required by local and international guidelines. We are working with the UD Health Advisory Committee to issue specific guidelines on these requirements.
4. CGPS is partnering with Student Health Services to adapt existing travel health and safety orientations to include a required session for all study abroad students on current COVID-19 vaccine rules and regulations, as well as health safety guidelines relevant to their study abroad destination. As with existing protocol, failure to complete the health safety

requirement results in a hold (or similar enforcement mechanism) placed on the student account.

5. As a risk-mitigating measure, all 22W faculty-led programs will be supported by a minimum of two staff, which may include UD faculty directors, UD travel assistants, or locally contracted student support service organizations. Budget considerations will be made to support additional staff for single faculty programs enrolling between 14 -18 students.
6. All programs must submit a crisis management plan (format to be provided by CGPS) to articulate the coverage of all students by a paid support staff person throughout the entire program, including students who fall ill or become subject to quarantine or self-isolation protocols.
7. Faculty directors are strongly encouraged to work with CGPS to examine the feasibility of contracting a single on-site study abroad provider for logistical, health safety, and crisis management student support; programs with overnight excursions should have the support of an on-site study abroad provider vetted by CGPS.
8. Multi-site and multi-country programs are not permitted for Winter 2022. Programs are considered multi-site programs if students have to change primary residence during the program.
9. Overnight excursions:
 1. Must be supported by an on-site third-party organization that provides student support services and logistical support to faculty directors;
 2. Are limited to no more than one night away from the primary site of activity and groups will return to the primary site of residence upon completion;
 3. Must be a location within the same country as the primary site of activity; and
 4. Are limited to no more than two additional locations.
10. All programs must adhere to local rules and guidelines regarding public/private transportation capacity, classroom capacity, and the size of group gatherings; where no guidelines are available faculty may be required to follow UD on-campus regulations.
11. All programs must be designed to discourage students' free time travel by having classes or other program activities on most days and not scheduling sequential free days.
12. All programs will include \$15 USD per student in the program fee for PPE. Although students will be expected to bring their own masks and hygiene products, extra items may need to be purchased for students due to unforeseen circumstances.
13. CGPS will require all students and faculty to attend a pre-departure orientation program or series in which critical health safety protocol and procedures will be reviewed. This will include, but not be limited to GeoBlue global insurance; DRUM emergency assistance insurance; guidelines and resources for parents and families; Department of State and CDC travel safety guidelines; cross-cultural communication skills; maximizing study abroad modules.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as UD prepares to resume its study abroad programs and global learning opportunities for our students. I understand that some of you may decide that these guidelines are so restrictive that you are unable to offer the program that you feel is best for our students. Some of you may decide that it will be better simply to wait until Winter 2023. This is completely understandable, and CGPS will work with you to cancel the program for Winter 2022. In all cases, [CGPS Study Abroad](#) is available to answer any questions and support you.

Please do not hesitate to contact them should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lynn Okagaki

Deputy Provost for Academic Affairs