

Conditions of Participation Agreement and Release

K-State Study Abroad

1. Acknowledgment of Risks

- I understand that there are certain risks associated with international travel and residence in a foreign country and that K-State University and its staff cannot control these risks.
- I understand that these risks may include exposure to potentially serious health and safety hazards such as: transportation accidents; storms, floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters; infectious diseases; inadequate medical care; remote access to medical treatment; foreign, political, legal, social, and economic conditions; different standards of design, safety, and maintenance of buildings, public places, and conveyances; armed insurrections; and terrorist activities that may result in personal injury, destruction, property, or death.
- I understand that conditions in foreign countries can change quickly, resulting in an unsafe environment. I also understand that there can be specific hazards associated with the study abroad program or country chosen (please see <http://www.state.gov/countries> for more information). I have made my own investigation and am willing to accept these risks.

2. Health and Safety

- I agree to consult with a medical doctor with regard to my personal medical needs and about the location(s) where the program is to be offered.
- K-State University may (but is not obligated to) take any action it considers to be warranted under the circumstances regarding my health and safety including sending me home from the location of the program. I agree to pay all expenses relating thereto and release K-State University from any liability for any actions in this regard.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to check the website for U.S. State Department Travel Advisories for up-to-date information on any travel restriction for Americans abroad. (www.travel.state.gov/travel_warnings.htm)
- I understand it is my responsibility to consult with my physician regarding immunizations for travel.
- I give K-State University permission to contact my parents or next of kin if necessary.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to consult my physician regarding maintaining an adequate supply of prescriptions while abroad.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to contact the embassy for the country in which I plan to study abroad to verify that my medications can legally be brought into the country.
- I understand that if I require hospitalization while in a foreign country or in the United States during the program, K-State cannot and does not assume legal responsibility for payment of such costs.
- I understand that I am responsible for familiarizing myself with the terms and conditions of the insurance provider.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to register with the U.S. Department of State's Travel Registration website (<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/>) so the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in my destination country knows of my whereabouts in the case of an emergency when it might be necessary for a consular officer to contact me.
- Things to consider when choosing to drink or use other drugs abroad
 - You are a representative of Kansas State University and an ambassador of your country.
 - The drinking age may be lower in the country you are visiting, especially in Europe.
 - However, being drunk is NOT part of the host culture. You are expected to drink responsibly and according to host country laws should you choose to do so. Illicit drug use is NOT permitted.
 - You are not protected by American laws while studying abroad and are expected to uphold the laws of the host country you are visiting. For example, should the host country take legal action for illegal drug use or alcohol related criminal activity, there is little Kansas State University or even the United States embassy can do to intervene.
 - You are responsible for abiding by K-State's student conduct expectations, as outlined by the Office for Student Life in the online Student Life Handbook, found at: <http://www.k-state.edu/osas/Documents/2007/2007-08%20handbook.pdf>.

- Grounds for dismissal from the Study Abroad Program and immediate repatriation at your expense - as well as loss of program costs and potential credit – including ANY behavior determined by either the K-State or the host institution to be inappropriate.
- Other consequences of drinking too much can include:
 - Accidents and injuries
 - Alcohol poisoning
 - Unprotected sex and sexual assault
 - Increased risk of becoming a victim of a crime (i.e. theft, assault, etc.)

3. Standards of Personal Conduct

- I understand that each foreign country has its own laws and standards of acceptable conduct, including dress, manners, morals, politics, alcohol and drug use, and behavior. I recognize that behavior which violates those laws or standards could harm K-State University's relations with those countries and institutions therein, as well as my own health and safety. I will become informed of, and will abide by, all such laws and standards for each country to which I will travel during the program. I understand that K-State University is not responsible for informing me of foreign laws and standards of conduct. I will obey the laws of my host country, the rules of my host university, and strive to follow the social expectations of my host family or host housing center. I will respect the cultural differences I find and represent my country and my university with dignity.
- I will also comply with K-State University's rules, standards, and instructions for student behavior

4. Standards of Academic Conduct

- I understand that it is my responsibility to meet with my K-State academic advisor and to complete an Academic Approval Form for study abroad and be aware of how the credit will apply to my academic program. I also understand that I must meet all required prerequisites prior to my program.
- I understand that the host institution and/or program provider may have additional policies, rules, or guidelines to which I will be subject and regarding which I agree to abide.
- I understand that the credit received for classes taken abroad is determined by the department, college advisor, or official assigned by K-State to evaluate my transcript.
- I agree to communicate with my academic advisor as to any changes to taking a full course load while abroad, and understand that I am responsible for my academic performance.
- I understand that general K-State withdrawal/drop/add deadlines do not apply to study abroad programs.

5. Program Arrangement, Changes, or Termination

- I understand that K-State has the right to withdraw me from the program at any time, if, in the judgment of the Study Abroad Program, I have conducted myself in a way that has disrupted the program or brought the program into disrepute.
- I understand that grounds for dismissal from the study abroad program and immediate repatriation at my expense—as well as loss of program costs and potential credit—include any behavior determined by either the K-State Study Abroad Program or the host institution to be inappropriate. These behaviors include breaking the laws or rules of the host country and institution, particularly in the following aspects: alcohol abuse, drug abuse, sexual harassment, or disorderly conduct or behavior that endangers or disrupts the peace of any person or institution abroad.
- I understand and acknowledge that K-State assumes no responsibility or liability, in whole or in part, for any delays, delayed or changed departure or arrival times, fare changes, dishonors of hotel, airline or vehicle rental reservation, missed carrier connections, sickness, disease, injuries (including death), losses, damages, weather, civil unrest, or public health risks. If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors I am required to spend additional nights, K-State will not be responsible for my hotel, transfers, meal costs, or other expenses.

6. Assumption of Risk and Release of Claims

- I agree to make my own investigation and am willing to accept the risks outlined above. I understand and hereby acknowledge that I assume all risks incurred by my participation in a program offered through K-State University.
- Knowing the risks described above, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in a study abroad program, I agree, on behalf of my family, heirs, and personal representative(s), to assume all the risks and responsibilities surrounding my participation in the study abroad program. To the maximum extent permitted by law, I release and indemnify K-State University and its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any present or future claim, loss or liability for injury to person or property which I may suffer, or for which I may be liable to any other person, during my participation in the study abroad program (including periods in transit to or from any country where the program is being conducted).

7. Financial Obligations

- I understand and agree to the costs associated with this program, and realize my particular experience may be more or less expensive than estimated by the K-State Study Abroad Program, depending on my personal expenses and choices. I have received a study abroad program cost sheet from the K-State Study Abroad Program, which outlines my estimated expenses.
- I understand that the K-State Study Abroad Fee and MLANG Placeholder Course Fee will be assessed to my student ISIS account
- I understand that it is my responsibility to visit the Office of Student Financial Assistance to finalize arrangements or disbursement of all financial aid and scholarship money.
- I understand and agree to the Study Abroad Program's Refund/Withdrawal Policy:
 - **Refunds**
 - The K-State Study Abroad fee is non-refundable unless you are *not* accepted into a program.
 - **Withdrawal**
 - Participants wishing to withdraw from a study abroad program should do so in writing by submitting a withdrawal form to the Study Abroad Program. This form can be found at the Study Abroad Program website (<http://www.k-state.edu/studyabroad/application/withdraw.pdf>)
 - If a student is dismissed from a study abroad program after the program officially begins, no money will be refunded.
 - If you receive financial aid and withdraw from a study abroad program, you must contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance, as it may affect your financial aid package.
- I understand that in order to study abroad, it is my responsibility to discover how my financial aid package will apply to my study abroad program. I understand that I should work with the K-State Office of Student Financial Assistance in a timely manner to make sure that my awards apply.
- I have read and understand the *K-State Study Abroad Refund and Cancellation Policies*
- I understand that if I am dismissed from my program for violations of conduct, I will still be charged the full cost and will not receive any refund.
- I understand that all application fees and deposits are non-refundable. Any additional refunds will be subject to the specific guidelines for your program and the K-State Study Abroad Program is not responsible for refunding program fees. I also understand that if I withdraw from a program after December 1st (for Spring programs) or after May 1st (for fall, summer, or academic year programs), I will be billed the study abroad administrative fee (\$450 for semester; \$200 for summer), despite not participating in the program.

8. Travel Documents

- I understand that I am responsible for obtaining a U.S. passport and the proper visa for the country to be visited prior to participation in the study abroad program.
- I understand that I am responsible for finding out whether I am required to apply for a country-specific student visa. I understand that I am fully responsible for obtaining a country-specific student visa.
- I understand that without proper documentation, I may be refused boarding at the airport and lose all money invested in the program and related expenses.

9. Other

- I understand that the Study Abroad Student Handbook contains important information related to my study abroad experience. I further understand that it is my responsibility to read the handbook.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to provide the K-State Study Abroad Program updates in my contact information and my emergency contact's information.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to these requirements, terms, and conditions.

Name: _____

Student ID: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please read the following statements, and initial each one if you agree to participate in them.

_____ I understand that my likeness from photographs submitted to the Study Abroad Program by myself or other participants may be used for various marketing activities, publications, and/or on the web for the purpose of promoting study abroad through K-State University.

_____ Students who have/are currently studying abroad can act as mentors for other interested students. In addition, students who are planning to study in the same program, institution, and/or country can be connected with each other to share planning information prior to leaving for their country. I give consent to the Study Abroad Program to share my e-mail with other applicable students.

