

## Eastern Washington University Study Abroad Acknowledgement of Health and Safety Risks

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ E.W.U. I.D. \_\_\_\_\_

Participating in a Study Abroad program offers you an exciting opportunity to learn and develop in a foreign environment. However, a certain amount of stress due to cultural shock or change in living conditions and facilities is also a normal part of any study abroad experience. In some cases, such stress and adjustment may aggravate disabilities or illnesses which you have under control at home.

Through advising, and our pre-departure orientation, Study Abroad seeks to provide you with information and additional sources of information for you to consult, on the potential risks and hazards of living and traveling in a foreign country, and on how these may impact your health and safety. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), Eastern Washington University (EWU), and the Study Abroad Office will work with you to accommodate any disabilities to the extent required by the law.

Upon being accepted to your program, regardless of destination, Study Abroad recommends that you make an appointment to visit the Student Health and Wellness Office. Should you require immunizations or other treatments, you may need to visit a physician for up to three months before your date of departure. Please do not neglect this important feature of travel preparation.

In addition, Study Abroad insurance coverage is mandatory for all participants. EWU provides insurance coverage for all students participating in an education abroad experience. The only circumstance under which someone may opt out of the university insurance is by providing the Study Abroad Office proof of equivalent coverage through another provider. It is also recommended that you check with your personal medical insurance company to determine if you have medical coverage overseas and that you consider getting additional travelers insurance.

I have read the above statements and acknowledge that foreign study and travel may present health and safety problems and risks. I further acknowledge that the EWU Study Abroad Office strongly recommends having a physical exam, making any special arrangements for continuing medical care, obtaining specified immunizations, and/or notifying others of dietary restrictions as deemed necessary, prior to my departure for any overseas program. I also understand that if

I have a learning disability, I should verify prior to my departure that the school I will be attending overseas will be able to accommodate my needs.

Additionally, I recognize that it is my responsibility to research my host country and the surrounding areas so that I am aware of any potential risks or threats specific to that area.

I understand that if I fail to adhere to the rules of the Study Abroad Office, my host school overseas, applicable government agencies, either foreign or domestic, or if I take unnecessary risks while abroad, that EWU will not be responsible for my negligence.

*I have read and understand the:*

Consular Information Sheet at the Department of State web site (<http://travel.state.gov>) and the Travelers' Health Information at the Center for Disease Control web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinat.htm>) for (*specify country*)\_\_\_\_\_.

I understand the risks and safety concerns associated with my Study Abroad.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_