



# **Spring 2021 Study Abroad Update Meeting**

Thursday, October 1, 2020

12:15 pm PDT



# Agenda

- Overview and Introductions
- Check In Activity
- Monitoring Spring 2021 Study Abroad
- Next Steps
- Q&A



# Check In Activity



What are your fears or concerns related to Spring 2021 Study Abroad?

21

Foreign hospitals  
Would it be worth it?  
Safety covid Restrictions on travel  
cancellation safety concerns corona  
that its not gonna happen

That it won't happen

getting sick abroad travel culture shock  
Isolation program changes  
no time to make alternative plans  
The likelihood it will happen  
Certain programs getting stopped



# Monitoring Spring 2021 Study Abroad

- Monitoring host countries
  - Travel Advisories, health care capacity, borders, visas
- Monitoring programs
  - Review program expectations and modifications (e.g., housing options may be more limited, course delivery may include online, co-curricular activities may be more limited, program travel likely to be in-country only)
  - Reach out to a program or OSA advisor if you want to talk about your country/program in more depth.
- Travel restrictions
  - Travel outside host country is likely to be prohibited or strongly discouraged.
    - Avoid possibility of rapid border closures and getting stuck outside country
    - Also, ethical considerations related to COVID-19. Avoid contributing to national/regional spread due to travel.
- Less likely to evacuate
  - More likely to shelter in place during lockdown periods and provide online instruction.
  - Evacuation more likely if borders are closing or health care system is no longer able to provide adequate care to students.
- Reassess goals in the current environment
  - How open to study abroad in a more restrictive environment are you?
  - How can you make the most of the opportunity in your program's local environment with any limitations?



# Monitoring Spring 2021 Study Abroad

- November 2: Travel Risk Advisory Committee (TRAC) Decision
  - Decision about spring study abroad is independent of campus decision
- Impact of program changes on participation
  - Programs have already started announcing cancellations, and we expect to see more before the TRAC decision
  - Students will not be allowed to apply to a second-choice program
  - Students will not be allowed to participate in remote programs (those that either begin remotely or that will be delivered entirely remotely (i.e., from a student's home))



# Next Steps



## October 9<sup>th</sup>

- Notification Date

## October 19<sup>th</sup>

- Acceptance Agreement Due
- Students on Leave – written intent to return due to Dean of Students

## November 2<sup>nd</sup>

- Travel Risk Advisory Committee (TRAC) Decision Date

## November 20<sup>th</sup>

- Participation Forms due

## November TBD

- Pre-Departure Orientations

## December 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

- Flight booking period



# Health Review Process

- Consider personal physical and mental health needs
  - As you would normally for extended international travel as well as for the COVID-19 environment.
    - How will you manage continuity of care during periods of quarantine, if required at the start or during program?
  - Do you have any health issues that put you more at risk for serious illness if you contract COVID-19, and have you discussed your travel plans with your family and health care providers?
- Review insurance coverage
  - Will your primary insurance along with supplemental insurance provided through your program or Pomona be sufficient to cover your health needs, or do you need to purchase additional insurance?
- Discuss your needs, questions, concerns with a study abroad advisor and program staff
- Have a plan in advance
- Health form due – November 20. Reach out now to schedule an appointment with your health care provider to complete the form after November 2 (plan ahead to be sure you can be seen before the form is due).



# Visas & Flights

- Timeline
  - Visas
    - Please do not apply for a visa until after the November 2 decision.
    - However, if you need to start the visa process (specific circumstances) earlier than November 2, please make sure to contact the OSA.
  - Booking Window for Flights: December 1-15
    - Please do not book your flight until you have received an email from the OSA.
- Work with OSA's Travel Agency
  - More information will be discussed during the pre-departure orientation.
- Key Point: Please be in communication with your Program Providers and the OSA regarding visas & flights.





# Academic Expectations for Fall 2020

- Students are expected to be **enrolled** full-time on campus in the semester prior to study abroad and must **complete the semester with grades in each of their courses**. Study abroad approval will not be granted (or will be revoked) for students who withdraw before the end of the semester or who take incompletes in their coursework.
- New leaves since application – discuss with study abroad advisor – there is a process for requesting exceptions this semester.
- If you are struggling and anticipate you may need to take an incomplete, reach out to your resources (e.g., faculty, Class Dean, Academic Support (QSC, Writing Center, Sage Fellows)) for help. Discuss your plan with a study abroad advisor.



# Alternatives

- While there is no perfect substitute for the opportunity to travel and study in another country for a semester, the Study Abroad Committee is considering some alternatives in case study abroad is not available this spring.
- Summer study abroad
  - No list of approved summer programs; we recommend starting with our [approved semester program](#) providers (e.g., CIEE, IES, IFSA, SIT, etc.)
  - Scholarships: resources page in your Pomona application and on our [website](#)
  - Request transfer credit from Registrar's Office
- Summer research or internships
- Fall 2021 study abroad
  - Consider if this is possible for you
  - Discuss with your academic advisor (is it possible within the structure of your major?)
  - Students who applied this year will need to reapply through Pomona. (no deferrals)
    - Most application materials can be moved over. We will need new Academic Planning Forms, signature documents, and anything else that needs updating.
    - Program applications can be deferred if programs allow.
- Post-graduate opportunities (e.g., graduate school, fellowships, Peace Corps, etc.). Visit CDO for more information.



# Office of Study Abroad

[sabroad@pomona.edu](mailto:sabroad@pomona.edu)

Nicole Desjardins Gowdy, Director  
[nicole.gowdy@pomona.edu](mailto:nicole.gowdy@pomona.edu)

Lindsey Kogasaka, Assistant Director  
[lindsey.kogasaka@pomona.edu](mailto:lindsey.kogasaka@pomona.edu)

Christine Jamoralin, Coordinator  
[christine.jamoralin@pomona.edu](mailto:christine.jamoralin@pomona.edu)

Sarah Groh, Graduate Intern  
[sarah.groh@pomona.edu](mailto:sarah.groh@pomona.edu)

[Study Abroad Peer Mentors](#)

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