UCEAP Student Travel Policy

Participants in the University of California Education Abroad Program are responsible to exercise good judgment and to take certain precautions to minimize risks to themselves and others during their participation in the program. It is the policy of the Education Abroad Program Universitywide Office to promote safe behavior and to encourage students to engage in personal risk management when traveling during the EAP program, including breaks. In addition to advice contained in UCEAP student publications, there are tools available through the U.S. Department of State website at travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html and travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1180.html. These websites provide information and recommendations for U.S. travelers.

Travel advice from the U.S. Department of State may take several forms, all of which can be accessed at the website listed above:

- **Travel Warnings (TW)**—consider very carefully whether it is safe to travel to these countries. TWs are issued to describe long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable (unstable government, civil war, or ongoing intense crime or violence, or frequent terrorist attacks). A Travel Warning is also issued when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate. Travel Warnings remain in place until the situation changes; some have been in effect for years.

- **Travel Alerts (TA)** are issued to disseminate information quickly about terrorist threats and other relatively short-term conditions that pose significant risks or disruptions to Americans.

- **Country Specific Information Sheets (CSIS)**
  For each country, there is information like the location of the U.S. embassy and any consular offices; whether an entry visa is needed; crime and security information; health and medical conditions; drug penalties; and localized hot spots.

Accordingly, in addition to encouraging students to 1) use good judgment, 2) sign out before any travel through MyEAP, 3) register at the local US Embassy all travel, and 4) share travel information with families in the U.S., UCEAP has adopted the following policy:

**All UCEAP participants**

- a) are strongly discouraged from traveling to areas for which the U.S. Department of State has issued a Travel Warning (see travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html) unless UCEAP has made an exception to this policy.
- b) are also strongly discouraged from traveling to areas that the Study Center, UC partner institutions, or other information sources indicate may be risky or dangerous.
- c) should pay particular attention to the U.S. Department of State Travel Alerts and Country Specific Information that recommend U.S. citizens to avoid or defer all travel to a particular region or area within a country.
- d) are responsible for following the UCEAP student travel policy.

UCEAP participants who choose to travel to high-risk areas as described above in spite of UCEAP and U.S. Department of State recommendations should discuss their plans with Study Center and/or UC partner institution staff, and must sign a Travel Waiver before departure.

A student who travels without advising the Study Center Director or staff and signing the waiver may be subject to disciplinary action.

Due to the security environment in a particular country, or region, that may impact UCEAP’s and U.S. Consular Affairs’ ability to assist students, this policy and related security measures may be amended at any time including increasing travel restrictions, or adding travel bans during student breaks.

UC OGC approved
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