April 7, 2021

**Education Abroad and Overseas Campuses**

Dear Fall 2021 external and exchange study abroad applicants,

We know that studying abroad this coming fall is important to you. The Education Abroad Office continues to monitor the situation around the world, and your health and safety in your program location is our primary concern. Despite positive signs on vaccination rates here in the U.S., at this time, many countries are still experiencing border closures, strict immigration restrictions and local conditions related to the virus that are impacting medical infrastructure and capacity.

Now that the application deadline for your study abroad term has passed, we wanted to let you know that we continue to monitor the situation in your host country even though conditions abroad could change substantially before the start of the fall semester. As a result, your status will remain as **Conditionally Approved** until University leadership makes a decision on the matter in the coming months. We understand it is not ideal to operate with this level of uncertainty; we want to remind you to visit the [COVID-19 Guidance For Students Studying Abroad on External or Exchange Programs page](#) where we are still encouraging students to plan carefully over the coming months to enable academic continuity and financial stability until it becomes clear what is in store for the fall 2021 semester.

Given the many unknowns and few guarantees that all programs will run as planned, Education Abroad understands that fall 2021 applicants will need to consider alternate plans for the fall semester. Waiting until a program cancellation is announced to begin sorting out alternate plans is impossible and that is why we are reaching out to you today.

Please read below for important information about choosing an alternate backup study abroad option to pursue for Fall 2021.

**Alternate study abroad options for Temple students:**

- **Have a second program application opened as a backup.**
  
  There are a small number of programs that we can offer, space permitting, if you are interested in having a backup program should your program be cancelled. You may only select ONE of these options:
  - Temple Rome
  - Exchanges in the United Kingdom ([Lancaster University](#) and [University of East Anglia](#))
  - Exchanges in South Korea ([Sogang University](#) and [Hankuk University of Foreign Studies](#))
  - **Please note:** we cannot offer any External Programs as alternates; this includes direct-enroll programs.

By having a backup application, you are not withdrawing from your first-choice program. Instead, you will simultaneously complete requirements for both programs so that if your first-choice program is cancelled, you may be able to easily transfer your application materials to your backup program in a different location. In order to have a backup application available to you, you must complete the SURVEY by April 15. You must be logged in to your Temple AccessNet account in order to access the survey. Please note that completing the survey does not guarantee acceptance to your backup program, it is just the first step in indicating interest in a backup program.

For reasons that are beyond Education Abroad’s control, it is imperative that students understand that they (or their families) cannot register their interest in a backup program after April 15th. If fall 2021 is the only semester feasible for study abroad, please understand that this message serves as a student’s one and only opportunity to develop a backup study abroad plan should your original plans fall through. If your first-choice program is cancelled and you have not completed the above survey by April 15, you will not have the opportunity to open a
backup application for any fall program. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

Once you complete the survey to indicate your selected backup program, we will open an application on your behalf and copy most of your information from your first-choice application. You must then meet all Education Abroad deadlines and:

- Submit a new preliminary course request, including the course(s) you would plan to take on the program you choose
- Discuss your new study abroad plans with your academic advisor, and request that they complete a new recommendation for your backup program

**Note:** Since the application deadline has passed, students who select to open a backup application with Temple Rome will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which they complete the survey. Admission to the program is based on program enrollment and admission from the waitlist is not guaranteed. For exchange programs, the exchanges program manager will reach out to interested students to discuss the appropriate university placement and application processes.

**Scholarships:** If you applied for and are awarded a scholarship from Education Abroad with your first-choice program, which is then cancelled and you transfer to your backup program, your scholarship application will then be reviewed again based on the program you are transferring to. Please note that we cannot guarantee that students in this situation will be awarded a scholarship for their backup program, though you should know we have a process by which you will be considered.

The pandemic has taught us all to have backup plans for our backup plans. Thus, since main campus fall 2021 registration is opening next week you should also register for a full semester of main campus courses prior to the end of priority registration to meet your Fly in Four checkpoint and have course registration in place if you are not able to study abroad. Registration for your study abroad program will take place at a later date, at which time your program manager will provide more information and instruct you to drop your main campus courses.

Please monitor your Temple email for updates regarding the status of your current program and share this message, which will soon be posted on our website, with your family. Please understand that it is your responsibility to develop a backup plan that is most suitable to your academic goals. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate sending students abroad, and offering alternate options, during this challenging time.

Best,

Education Abroad

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