November 2, 2020

Dear Temple Rome Program Participant,

I hope you’re doing well. As the COVID-19 surge in both Europe and the U.S. continues, we appreciate that the news can be worrisome, so we wanted to check in with a few reminders and reaffirm that, at this time, our Temple Rome staff continues to plan for your arrival and looks forward to hosting you in Rome this spring 2021 semester.

The Italian government is in the process of instituting measures designed to slow the rate of infection; these restrictions are expected to be in effect over the next several weeks. It is possible that there will be additional restrictions between now and the start of the semester, which may or may not be in place when students arrive. We will keep you updated on restrictions and contact students and their emergency contacts immediately if there are significant changes that impact our ability to deliver a successful and safe student experience.

In the meantime, we are pleased to confirm that the majority of students’ visa applications have been delivered to the Philadelphia consulate for processing. Consular officials expect to issue the visas well before the winter break holiday. I will email all students when this process is complete. Participants’ passports with the visas will be mailed in the envelopes provided during the application process.

**Temple Rome Pre-Departure Requirement Reminders**

- **Rome courses are now listed in Banner; however, you are reminded to register for spring semester courses on your home campus (Main, Ambler, etc., or your home school if not a Temple student) as a contingency.**
  - Information about planning your Rome semester registration will be provided soon. In the meantime, you can see a listing of courses by searching "Banner" and limiting to Rome (or ROM) campus.
  - Note that TUR is also offering a number of ONLINE courses for MAIN CAMPUS students only; you may want to consider those as part of your back-up plan, but these online courses will not be available for you to take while in Rome.
  - Again, please register as normal for your spring semester coursework, and we will switch your registration to Rome-based classes closer to the program start date. Temple students should refer to the recent email from President Englert about the spring semester (sent 11/2) for information about upcoming priority registration.

- **Housing Deposit, Rome Housing Request, and Housing Agreement** were due November 2. If you are having challenges submitting these documents, please contact Rosie (rosemary.carlson@temple.edu), although please note that Rosie is out of the office today.
- **Flight Information** and the **Health Information Form** are due Nov 11. Please upload flight information through the “Outgoing Flight 1 (O)” questionnaire(s) - if you have a layover, use “Outgoing Flight 2” etc to complete your itinerary.
  - *We have been notified that the United Airlines direct flight from Newark (EWR) to Rome (FCO) on January 9th and January 10th has been cancelled.* If you have been affected by this cancellation, please read our instructions for booking a new flight.
  - As airlines may make adjustments to itineraries leading up to the program start, please check your itinerary regularly (at least once a week) to assure your travel dates/arrangements have not changed.
  - If there are any changes to your flight schedule and you need to update your information, please email Rosie (*rosemary.carlson@temple.edu*) so that we can reset your questionnaire.

- **Pre-departure orientation meetings**: We are in the process of scheduling pre-departure orientation meetings so please keep checking your email for updates and information.

- Finally, Education Abroad and Temple Rome continue to monitor the situation in Italy very carefully, liaise with Italian public health authorities, and evaluate our plans for students so that we may offer a program that prioritizes student health and safety.

You can continue to stay up-to-date with developments in Italy by checking the Italian Ministry of Health homepage, [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/homeNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/homeNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english)

Please reach out with questions or concerns.

Best,

Rosie

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