

## **Beloit College**

### **Study Abroad: Student Acknowledgement of Risk and Responsibilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Risk is inherent in nearly all we do, including study abroad. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has added new risks to study abroad and altered study abroad conditions as enumerated here:

- travel restrictions can make it challenging if not impossible to enter or exit countries at times;
- quarantine may be required upon arrival in some locations or upon return to the U.S. or other home country;
- as conditions warrant, instruction and student activities may shift online;
- opportunities for in-person engagement may be limited to small groups, with activities for larger groups, including classes, shifted to online/remote engagement modes;
- there may be restrictions on movement in host university/program locations;
- the pandemic makes it important for students to identify resources in the study abroad site that will be needed should a lockdown or departure be required;
- strains on health systems may limit capacity to treat non-COVID-19 health issues; and
- the pandemic's course is unpredictable. No matter how carefully universities and programs are planning, swift changes may have to be made to modes of instruction and student life.

**Beloit College students electing to study abroad as the COVID-19 pandemic continues**, must 1) review the potential risks and responsibilities they will assume in doing so as spelled out in this document, and 2) sign this document and submit it to the Office of International Education. In considering their options, they should also review the companion document Guidance for Study Abroad Decision-making.

### **Acknowledgement of Risk and Responsibilities**

In signing this document, I acknowledge that

1. I have chosen to study abroad during the COVID-19 pandemic despite the risks and uncertainties involved in doing so.
2. I agree to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before departing to study abroad. Fully vaccinated includes 2-week waiting periods after a final vaccination where that applies. I also give the Beloit College Health and Wellness Center permission to share verification of my vaccination status with the Office of International Education.
3. I understand that neither Beloit College nor my host university/organization can accurately predict the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on my planned study abroad semester.
4. I understand that once I arrive in my host country, I will refrain from traveling to other countries until I have completed my study abroad.
5. I understand that Beloit College's [study abroad policies](#) will remain in effect during my study abroad semester, including policies concerning billing, financial aid, and credit recognition.
6. I understand that Beloit College will not be responsible for costs and logistical supports resulting from unforeseen circumstances which may lead to additional expenses and/or logistical challenges for me.
7. If instruction moves online at my host university/program while I am abroad, I will be expected to complete all host university/program coursework for which I am registered, whether I remain on-site or depart.

8. Should the host university/program suspend instruction during the semester without offering online/remote instruction, any refund of tuition will comply with Beloit College's [tuition refund schedule](#).
9. If I do depart from my host site before the end of the study abroad semester, I will not be allowed to return to Beloit College to live in a residence hall for the remainder of the semester.
10. If I depart from my host site before the end of the planned study abroad semester, I will be responsible for securing refunds for accommodation as these are permitted by the host accommodation/program.

Students who **do not acknowledge** the risks and responsibilities as indicated by their signature on this document but who nonetheless choose to study abroad in fall 2021 will

- Be required to take a vacation term;
- Forfeit financial aid for the semester in which they study abroad;
- Assume responsibility for any and all financial obligations involved in studying abroad, including but not limited to paying tuition to the study abroad host institution/program; and
- Earn neither Beloit College nor transfer credit for their study abroad.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID#

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Deadline:** No later than July 1 for Study Abroad during the Fall 2021 Semester.

**Submit** as an attachment to:  
[ois@beloit.edu](mailto:ois@beloit.edu)  
with "SA Risk Acknowledgement" in the subject line.