

California State University, Los Angeles
Study Abroad Program Guide –Risk Management

The importance of providing safety-related guidelines to students participating in Study Abroad programs is secondary only to the academic-related goals of the program. The following risk mitigation measures are provided to assist program participants in staying safe - from departure to arrival - and return to campus.

I. Pre-Departure Briefing

Faculty-travel coordinator arranges pre-departure briefing with Risk Management Coordinator (preferably two weeks in advance of departure schedule).

II. Risk Coordinator will:

Discuss country-content specific U.S. State Department information re.:

Crime

Medical

Buddy system

Political issues (if any)

(Provide and discuss a) Travel Assist card

Crime: Brief overview on types of crime (pick-pockets; robbery, theft; fraud by deceit, etc.).

Reporting crime: In-resident supervisor; consulate office; local police precinct; consider pre-programming important local numbers in cell phone; be aware of currency used in-country and exchange rates; transportation services (i.e. taxi services – be vigilant and aware of your surroundings at all times), public transportation – take note of service routes).

Be aware of how you are dressed: flashy/expensive jewelry; large handbag or a wallet that is easily visible may make you a target. Take note of your clothing and shoes could they be issues if you need to, or because of, respond to an emergency situation.

Medical: Check with your health care provider to insure medication dosages and availability or substitutions while out of the country.

Attempt to locate hospitals that not only will provide services you may need but provide services in the language you feel most comfortable with.

Be familiar with what payment devices are acceptable and be prepared to provide that form of payment.

Ensure that you have a means of contacting your state-side physician should verification of medications/dosages become necessary.

Buddy System: always make an effort to travel in pairs/with a buddy. If this is not possible be sure to let your faculty coordinator know where you plan to be, how you plan to get there, when to expect your arrival, return, and your cell phone number and contacts.

HAVE FUN BEING SAFE