



## Acknowledgement of Travel Risks During the COVID-19 Pandemic

### 1. Notice and Acknowledgement Regarding COVID-19

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic constitutes a worldwide risk to human health. COVID-19 is a highly contagious disease that can spread easily and exponentially via person-to-person transmission and can lead to severe illness or death. According to public health organizations, persons of all ages are at risk. Senior citizens and persons with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable. San Francisco State University (SF State) is continuing to monitor the ongoing impact of COVID-19 while adhering to federal, state, and local public health laws, regulations, and guidance to minimize the spread of the virus. However, these efforts will not eliminate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and containing spread of the virus will require a collective and unified effort, with everyone sharing in the obligation to do their part to be, and stay, safe.

Participation in SF State-related international travel involves a real and potential risk of personal injury including contracting COVID-19, as well as the loss of academic credits and financial repercussions resulting from the disruption of a program.

As a participant in a study abroad program, Student hereby acknowledges and agrees that:

- a. SF State will not be financially liable for nonrefundable program fees, return travel costs, or other personal expenditures incurred by Student because of the cancellation, suspension, and/or modification of the program in which Student is participating.
- b. SF State will endeavor to provide academic accommodations if the program in which Student is participating is cancelled or otherwise interrupted but cannot guarantee a solution for all programs and majors.
- c. Student understands and acknowledges that cancellation of a study abroad program after the add/drop date may result in the loss of an entire semester's worth of credit, and that SF State reserves the right to decide whether or not to accept academic accommodations provided by host institution, if offered.

- d. Student understands and acknowledges that the host institution may modify or interrupt in-person teaching and move to remote or online instruction with little or no prior notice in order to respond to surges in COVID-19 infection rates and/or in response to local public health guidance and government instructions.
- e. SF State will assist but cannot guarantee residential accommodations or quarantine arrangements, on campus at the host institution or elsewhere in the world, in the event of the cancellation or interruption of Student's program. Student acknowledges that, if Student is ordered to quarantine or self-isolate while attending a study-abroad program, Student will be solely responsible for making his or her own residential accommodations unless such arrangements are provided by the host university.
- f. Student acknowledges that insurance coverage provided by SF State does not cover evacuation or other accommodations due to disruption to travel plans resulting from a pandemic. Coverage does include medical expenses resulting from the treatment of COVID-19 but does not extend to losses for travel and accommodation expenses. Student will be solely responsible for these expenses.

## **2. Student's Health and Safety Obligations Related to COVID-19**

Student's health and safety, and the health and safety of others in the program, depends on Student's strict compliance with all applicable public health regulations, laws, orders, and guidance related to COVID-19, including, but not limited to, all applicable requirements for protective masking, social distancing, testing, isolation, and quarantine. Student expressly acknowledges the foregoing and therefore specifically agrees to all the following:

- a. Student acknowledges the importance of protecting the health and safety of all participants in the program and pledges to do Student's part to limit the spread of COVID-19 and of any coronavirus variant by making Student's health and safety, and that of others, a priority.
- b. Student will remain mindful that Student's actions at and away from the host institution location may help limit the spread of COVID-19 and of any coronavirus variant to others in the local community, including the most vulnerable.
- c. Student will comply with all applicable local public health regulations, laws, orders, and guidance related to COVID-19 and with all directives, policies, and orders of SF State related to COVID-19.
- d. If required, Student will wear a face covering over Student's nose and mouth at all times, both inside and outside, when participating in academic and student activities associated with Student's program.
- e. Student will practice good hand-washing hygiene, washing frequently and for 20 seconds with soap and water, and utilize hand sanitizer if hand-washing facilities are not available.
- f. Student will follow physical distancing protocols as required by the country and host institution laws and health directives.

- g. Student understands and agrees that COVID-19 immunization may be required by the University as a condition of participation in an SF State program. In the event that SF State determines that COVID-19 immunization is required for participation in Student’s program, Student agrees to provide the SF State proof of vaccination within the time period and in the manner requested by SF State.
- h. Student may be required to comply with additional mitigation measures in the future based on host institution and local government issued health directives.
- i. SF State and the host institution are taking reasonable steps to mitigate risks to participants in the program, but those measures will not eliminate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 or a variant thereof. Accordingly, Student acknowledges that program participants will face a risk of exposure and may contract COVID-19.
- j. **Student’s failure to comply with any of the foregoing provisions may seriously threaten Student’s health and well-being as well as the health and well-being of others, and therefore SF State reserves the right to immediately terminate Student from the program and/or to undertake such other corrective or disciplinary actions as SF State deems appropriate under the procedures contained in the SF State Student Code of Conduct.**
- k. Student acknowledges that SF State may modify the terms of this Addendum at any time, and Student agrees to comply at all times with the terms then in effect. SF State will post updates to this Addendum on the [SF State web page](#), and Student is responsible for keeping informed of updates to the Addendum terms.

Student acknowledges and agrees to all of the foregoing terms and conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date