

## Study Abroad Student Agreement

### Exchange Programs

I have applied to participate in an exchange program (the Program) offered by the University of North Texas (UNT). I understand that my participation in the Program is voluntary. In consideration for being allowed to participate in the Program, I agree and represent as follows:

1. I understand that, as a participant in the Program, I am subject to the rules and requirements of the Program, as well as to the rules and requirements of UNT and of any cooperating university and/or institution associated with the Program. I agree to fulfill these requirements and comply with these rules in all respects and will be subject to immediate dismissal from the Program if I do not do so.
2. **Program Policies.** I am responsible for knowing and abiding by the regulations and policies of the Program as they are outlined by the Program, as well as in the following:
  - a. [Study Abroad Withdrawal Policy](#)
  - b. Study Abroad Program Orientation and Handbook
  - c. Host Institution Policies
  - d. [UNT Student Code of Conduct](#)
  - e. [UNT Standard of Academic Integrity](#)
3. **Orientation.** I will participate in all mandatory pre-departure and on-site orientations. I agree to attend, participate in, and review any materials provided in these orientation sessions. I understand that my failure to attend pre-departure or orientation sessions may result in my removal from the Program or my offer of admission being rescinded.
4. **Authorization for Release of Educational Records.** I give consent for full access to any and all records about me held by UNT to the SAO, including but not limited to disciplinary records. I understand that information from these records may be disclosed to my Program director, Program provider and/or host institution, at the discretion of the SAO.

I hereby voluntarily authorize University of North Texas officials in the department(s) identified below to disclose personally identifiable information from my educational records:

- a. Registrar
- b. Financial Aid
- c. Student Development/Center for Student Rights & Responsibilities
- d. Student Accounting and University Cashiering Services
- e. Housing
- f. Others, as deemed appropriate

Specifically, I authorize disclosure of the following information or category of information:

- a. Grades/Transcripts/Academic
- b. Financial Aid
- c. Student Account Information

- d. Disciplinary
  - e. Housing-Related
  - f. All University Records
  - g. Other Information, as deemed appropriate
- 5. Contact Information.** I will ensure that the SAO has access to my current contact information for the duration of the Program and until my academic records from the Program are posted at UNT. To that end, I will:
- a. Maintain my permanent contact information through MyUNT, making updates as necessary.
  - b. Provide my contact details abroad (address, email, and phone numbers) through my online Program application on the SAO website.
- 6. Insurance.** I understand that I will be covered for the duration of my Program by a policy of comprehensive health and accident insurance that provides coverage for injuries and illnesses I may sustain or experience while abroad during my participation in the Program. I understand, however, that it is my sole responsibility to review such coverage and to obtain any additional coverage that I deem appropriate. A detailed description of this coverage will be provided to me by the SAO, or the Program host, prior to my departure.
- I understand that I am responsible for my own health maintenance. In the event of serious injury or illness while participating in the Program, I will inform an appropriate Program official, so that assistance may be secured. I acknowledge that UNT is under no obligation to seek health services on my behalf.
- I understand that the policy does not include coverage for personal property and that I am responsible for obtaining additional coverage, if needed.
- 7. Disability Accommodation.** At least 60 days prior to my scheduled departure, I will report in writing to the SAO or the Office of Disability Accommodation any physical or mental condition I have that may require special medical attention or accommodation during the Program.
- 8. Visa Requirements.** I am solely responsible for determining if I require a visa to study in the Program country or to enter any other country I plan on visiting. If a visa is needed, it is also my responsibility to obtain the visa, which may require an in-person appearance at the appropriate consulate. I understand that I am responsible for all fees associated with obtaining a visa. Failure to obtain a visa, if necessary for my Program, will result in my inability to participate on the Program.
- a. Visa requirements and application processes vary by destination and nationality. U.S. citizens should contact the appropriate consulate to determine the steps to obtain necessary visas. Non-U.S. citizens are advised to contact the appropriate consulate to learn the student visa procedures governing their nationality.
  - b. UNT is not responsible for penalties associated with failure to obtain a visa in time for the start of the Program, including airline change fees.
- 9. Course Registration.** I must maintain enrollment in the minimum number of UNT credits required by the Program. If I withdraw from any study abroad program course(s), leaving me with fewer than the required number of credits, I will be violating the terms of participation in the Program and may be dismissed from the Program.
- 10. Transfer Credits.** I understand that all academic work done by UNT students under the auspices of a host institution will be regarded by UNT as transfer credit, rather than UNT resident credit. My official

record of participation in the Program will be my UNT transcript, listing the transfer credits and grades I earned at the host institution, or listing the credits and grades I earned for UNT courses offered as part of the Program.

**11. Dismissal from the Program.** I acknowledge that the SAO reserves the right to decline to accept or retain me in the Program at any time if my actions or general behavior impede the operation of the Program or adversely affect the rights or welfare of any person (including myself). Similarly, I understand that, in the sole discretion of UNT's employees, agents or representatives, I may be dismissed from the Program if it is determined that my continued presence in the Program would be disruptive or an interference to the Program's continuation (including if I stop attending classes). If dismissed from the Program, I understand that:

- a. I will not be permitted to participate in any Program activity and will no longer be entitled to any Program benefits, including travel, meals and lodging.
- b. No refund will be guaranteed for any part of the Program not completed or for any accommodation or Program service(s) not used.
- c. I will assume sole responsibility for all travel and costs associated with my return to the U.S.
- d. I may be referred to the local authorities or appropriate University officials for further disciplinary or other action.
- e. I will not be entitled to any hearing regarding termination while abroad. The appeal of such termination requires my return to the UNT campus and is processed through my UNT Academic Dean for academic topics and through the Dean of Students for code of conduct topics. I may then be subject to action under the Student Code of Conduct procedures.
- f. I may not be eligible for participation in any future UNT study abroad program.

**12. Changes to the Program.** I understand that UNT reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to make alterations in the Program calendar as it may deem necessary or desirable, with or without notice, or to cancel the Program or any aspect of it prior to departure and to cancel the Program or any aspect of it after departure, requiring that all participants return to the United States if UNT determines or believes that any person is or will be in danger if the Program or any aspect of it is continued.

- a. UNT is not responsible for financial penalty or loss I may incur as a result of any such cancellation, operational, or itinerary change, regardless of whether UNT makes a flight arrangement.
- b. UNT may substitute hotels or accommodations or housing of a similar category at any time, with or without notice. For programs in which housing is included in the program fee, specific room and housing assignments are within the sole discretion of UNT.

The SAO strongly advises me to purchase fully refundable airline tickets and/or trip cancellation insurance to safeguard against losses or penalties resulting from any of the above scenarios.

**13. Independent Travel.** I understand and agree that: (1) prior to the start of the Program; (2) during free time within the period of the Program; and, (3) after the Program ending date, I may elect to travel independently at my own expense. I understand that I retain full responsibility for making any such arrangements and for all costs, transportation, lodging, food and any other expense that may be associated with non-Program activities.

I understand that UNT strongly discourages rental or operation of vehicles, including scooters and mopeds, while participating in the Program. I understand that poor road conditions, different traffic laws and regulations, and varying insurance requirements can make driving motor vehicles in foreign

countries extremely hazardous and is not recommended by UNT. If I rent or operate a vehicle, while participating in the Program, I agree that such activity is totally voluntary on my part and against the advice of UNT.

- 14. Legal Issues.** I am aware that the laws, rights and privileges of the United States may not apply to me while I am living or traveling overseas. I am subject to the laws of the Program country and those countries in which I will be living or traveling during my participation in the Program and I agree to abide by those laws. I further realize that I am subject to host country legal processes, and that UNT and the U.S. State Department, have no responsibility to assist in any legal proceedings that may result from the consequences of my actions in a foreign country.
- 15. Image Release and Waiver.** I hereby grant permission to University of North Texas, its Board of Regents, employees and assigns, to copyright, publish, and use in all forms and media and all manners for advertising, trade, promotion, exhibition, or any other lawful purpose whatsoever, still, single, multiple or moving photographic portraits or pictures of me, or those whose intellectual property I rightfully own provided by me, in which I may be included in whole or in part, or composite or distorted in character, or form, in conjunction with my own or a fictitious name, or reproductions thereof in color or otherwise or other derivative works made through any medium. I hereby waive any and all rights that I may have to compensation, remuneration and/or profit for copyright, publication and use of the same. I further waive the right to inspect the finished product that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which it may be applied.
- 16. Risks of Study Abroad.** I am aware of and understand the risks and dangers of travel to, in, and around the Program country, including but not limited to the dangers to my own health and personal safety posed by the use of public transportation, and by civil unrest, political instability, terrorism, crime, violence, and disease. Prior to departure I will review the U.S. Consular Information and the Centers for Disease Control information applicable to travel to, in and around the Program country. By my participation in this Program, I assume, knowingly and voluntarily, each of these risks and all of the other risks that could arise out of or occur during my travel to, from, in, or around the Program country.
- 17. Waiver, Release and Indemnification.** I, individually, and on behalf of my heirs, successors, assigns and personal representatives, hereby **RELEASE, WAIVE, COVENANT NOT TO SUE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE** the University of North Texas System, the University of North Texas and all current and future members of its Board of Regents, students, agents and employees, in their official and individual capacities ("Releasees") from and for any and all responsibility and liability for any delays, delayed or changed departure or arrival times, fare changes, dishonors of hotel, airline or vehicle rental reservations, missed carrier connections, sickness, disease, injuries (including death), losses, damages, weather, strikes, acts of nature, circumstances beyond the control of UNT, force majeure, war (declared or undeclared), quarantine, civil unrest, public health risks, criminal activity, terrorism, expense, accident, injuries, damage to property, bankruptcies of airlines or other carriers or service providers, inconveniences, cessation of operations, mechanical defects, any failure or negligence in connection with any accommodations, restaurant, transportation, or other service or for any substitution of hotels or of common carriers beyond UNT's control, with or without notice, or for any additional expense occasioned by any of these events. If due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors I am required to spend additional nights, UNT will not be responsible for my hotel, transfers, meal costs, or other expenses. My baggage and personal property are transported at my risk entirely; I agree that the State of Texas, the UNT Board of Regents and UNT shall not be responsible for loss or damage to my baggage or personal effects.

I, individually, and on behalf of my heirs, successors and assigns and personal representatives, hereby **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** Releasees from any loss, liability, damages or costs,

including court costs and attorney fees which arise out of, occur during or are connected in any manner with my participation in the Program, any related or independent travel, any activities or any field trips, irrespective of whether they are sponsored, supervised or controlled by UNT.

- 18. Severability.** I agree that should any provision of this Agreement be found to be unenforceable, that all remaining provisions of the Agreement will remain in full force and effect.
- 19. Governing Law.** I agree that if there is a dispute concerning my participation in the Program or the interpretation of this Agreement, any such disagreement shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas.
- 20. Entire Agreement and Modification.** The terms and conditions of this *Student Agreement* represents my complete understanding of the parties hereto with regard to my participation in the Program and supersedes any previous or contemporaneous understandings I may have had with UNT on this subject, whether written or oral, and cannot be changed or amended in any way without the written concurrence of both UNT and me.

**I AM OVER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS AND AM COMPETENT TO EXECUTE THIS AGREEMENT.**

**I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY EACH OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS STUDY ABROAD STUDENT AGREEMENT AND THAT I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH THE COUNSEL OF MY CHOICE PRIOR TO EXECUTING THE DOCUMENT, THAT I UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, THAT BY SIGNING IT I AM GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS I MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE, AND THAT I HAVE SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY.**