

**Office of Education  
Abroad**

**Florida International University**  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, PC 113  
Miami, FL 33199  
T: 305.348.1913 F: 305.348.1941

**Acknowledgment of Pre-Departure Materials**

I, the undersigned student, agree that I have received and read the pre-departure materials provided to me by the Office of Education Abroad at Florida International University.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I understand the information provided in these materials about health and safety issues, travel, money matters, cultural adjustment, and other related topics, and I agree to be bound by the policies, rules and regulations set forth in the Pre-Departure Guide for Studying Abroad 2010-11

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Panther I.D. # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with other required documents to:

Office of Education Abroad  
Attn: Coordinator  
Florida International University  
11200 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, PC 113  
Miami, FL 33199

**Florida International University**  
**Office of Education Abroad**  
**Study Abroad Participant Contract**

1. As an FIU study abroad program participant, I understand that possession of basic health and accident insurance valid outside the US is a requirement for participation. I agree to enroll in the coverage provided by the FIU Office of Education Abroad.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

2. I understand that I must conduct myself in a manner that shows respect and consideration for the host country. I understand that I am subject to dismissal if my behavior is deemed detrimental to the functioning of the program or offensive to the host culture. Disruptive conduct or inappropriate sexual behavior similarly merits dismissal.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

3. Students expecting to earn FIU credit must maintain the same standard of academic work as would be required on the home campus. I am responsible for arriving on time for classes and required meeting and cultural excursions, and for following the program schedule set forth by the FIU study abroad program director or accompanying instructor.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

4. I agree to show courtesy and respect to my fellow group members, my instructor, and host institution. I will not disrupt others who are sharing housing accommodations during the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

5. I understand that the program itinerary/schedule is subject to change, at the discretion of FIU and/or its partner institution.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

6. If I travel independently during free time while participating in an FIU sponsored program, I will notify my FIU program director or instructor of my whereabouts, and give the names of persons with whom I am traveling not for purposes of supervision, but for purposes of information. I assume responsibility for my personal safety and conduct when engaging in non-FIU organized travel and/or activities, and release FIU from any liability concerning said travel and/or activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

7. I understand that services taken for granted in the US, such as telecommunications, might be more difficult to access when abroad. I also understand that citizens of other countries may be strongly committed to the concept of energy conservation. The cost of electricity is very high. I agree to use electrical appliances with discretion, and hot water (which relies upon electricity) sparingly. Air conditioning should not be expected.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

8. I understand that, while my in-country program hosts will try to accommodate special requirements (such as vegetarian meals on group outings), I should not expect the same level of ability to meet such requirements/provide special services as at home. I agree to make an effort to adapt to the host culture and customs as much as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

9. In other countries, the sale of wine, liquor, and other alcoholic beverages may not be restricted. I am expected to exercise personal responsibility and limit the use of such beverages. I understand that I am subject to disciplinary action, including immediate dismissal from the program, for excessive consumption of said beverages.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

10. The use, possession, or commerce of illegal drugs in any form is in violation of the rules of the program and are likely to also violate the laws of the host country. If I am found with any illegal substances I understand I will be immediately dismissed from the program and I will be subject to the laws of the host country.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

11. By signing this agreement, I attest to the fact that I am in good physical health and capable of adapting to the rigors of traveling in a foreign environment. FIU Study Abroad Programs involve a full schedule requiring students to maintain an active pace.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

12. I understand that I am responsible for any and all costs arising out of withdrawal from the program before its completion, including withdrawal caused by illness or disciplinary action. Early withdrawal or dismissal may result in academic penalty.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

13. I understand that as an FIU student, I will be viewed as a representative of my country and my university. I agree to abide by the above stated rules of participation and conduct and to the FIU Student Conduct Code.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

14. I understand that I must possess a current passport with at least six (6) months' validity after the date of the expected return. I understand that I am responsible for obtaining any necessary visas.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

15. As a study abroad participant, I understand that I may be traveling to or through countries that have security risks. Information about the State Department Country Specific Information and Travel Alerts and Warnings can be found at <http://travel.state.gov/travel/> and the Centers for Disease Control Department at <http://nwww.cdc.gov/travel>. If circumstances change and the State Department changes the status of any country to a travel alert or travel warning, I understand that FIU may, in its sole discretion, terminate the study abroad program that I am on and require my immediate return to the United States. I agree to fully cooperate with FIU if this occurs. FIU and/or agents will undertake the travel arrangements for the return to the United States. FIU will attempt to arrange other academic studies for me so that I can complete that portion of my program. If I refuse to return to the United States when requested due to a program cancellation as described in this paragraph, I understand that my financial aid, travel insurance (which includes medical and political evacuation coverage), and academic credits for the study abroad program may be negatively impacted.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness signature

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**OFFICE OF EDUCATION ABROAD  
OVERSEAS STUDENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT  
RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, being of legal age, do hereby agree and promise the following for and in consideration of my application for participation and acceptance in a Study Abroad Program (“Program”) offered by Florida International University (FIU).

1. I shall be bound by and comply with the terms, conditions, and obligations of the Program, including those relating to fee payment, late application, and refund policies. My failure to comply with the terms of the Program or to conduct myself in a fitting manner may result in my involuntary withdrawal from the Program by either FIU or my host institution.
2. My participation in the Program is voluntary and is not a requirement of my curriculum at FIU. I have chosen to participate in the Program because of the learning and cultural experiences I will gain through study in a foreign country. I acknowledge that I am neither an agent nor representative of FIU and may not look to the University or the State of Florida for reimbursement of expenses. I accept full responsibility for all costs and expenses associated with my participation in the Program.
3. I acknowledge that, in the course of my participation in the Program and related activities, I may be exposed to risks inherent in travel to a foreign country, some of which are known and some of which are unknown, which may result in property damage or loss, as well as personal or bodily injury which could be painful, permanently disfiguring or debilitating and even fatal. I voluntarily assume all risks, including, but not limited to, sickness, bad weather, hurricanes, strikes, war or military actions, quarantine, detention, delay, vandalism, muggings, kidnappings, earthquakes, tsunamis, and/or acts of terrorism. I further expressly assume full responsibility for any risk of bodily injury, death, or property damage due to the negligence of the State of Florida, the Florida Board of Trustees, the Florida University Board of Trustees or FIU, and their respective employees and agents, or otherwise.
4. I agree and acknowledge that I will have time for, and may engage in personal activities unrelated to the purpose of the Program while I am abroad. Such activities will be at my sole responsibility and risk.
5. I acknowledge that FIU, the FIU Board of Trustees, the Florida Board of Trustees and the State of Florida and their respective officers, employees, and agents are not responsible for losses or expenses suffered by me due to delays, changes in itinerary, changes in the content of Program study, or other matters which are beyond their control.
6. I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns release, waive, discharge and relinquish, and agree to hold harmless the State of Florida, the Florida Board of Trustees, the FIU Board of Trustees, and FIU, and their respective officers, employees and agents, from and against all claims and causes of action for bodily injury, property damage, wrongful death, loss of services or otherwise which may arise from my participation in the Program and its related activities, whether the same should arise by reason of the negligence of anyone participating in the Program or its related activities, or otherwise. I specifically understand that I am releasing, discharging, and waiving any claims or actions that I may have presently or in the future for the negligent acts or other conduct by FIU. I agree that, under no circumstances will I, or anyone claiming through me, prosecute or present any claims for personal or bodily injury, property damage or loss, or wrongful death against the State of Florida, the Florida Board of Trustees, the FIU Board of Trustees, or FIU, or their respective officers, employees, and agents.
7. I, for myself and any others claiming through me, accept full responsibility for my safety and expenses and assume the complete risk of any injury to myself or my property which may arise out of or in the course of my participation in this study abroad program.
8. I further expressly agree that this Overseas Student Participation Agreement Release & Assumption of Risk is intended to be as broad and as inclusive as the laws of the State of Florida will allow, and that if any portion thereof is held to be invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding the invalid portion, will continue in full legal force and effect.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE OVERSEAS STUDENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND, BY SIGNING IT, AGREE THAT IT IS MY INTENTION TO EXEMPT AND RELIEVE FIU FROM LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL LIABILITY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, OR WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE OR ANY OTHER CAUSE OF ACTION.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness signature

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**OFFICE OF EDUCATION ABROAD**

**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT INFORMATION**

I am in good academic standing and I am free of conduct probation. I will make the OEA office aware of any charges pending against me. If I provide false or misleading information or my conduct status should change prior to program departure, my admissions to the program will be rescinded and any program fees paid will not be refunded. I understand that I must meet minimum cumulative GPA requirements for the program. \_\_\_\_\_ (please initial here). By initialing, you are acknowledging that you have read the above statements, and you are giving the FIU Office of Education Abroad permission to check on your records with the Office of Student Conduct at FIU.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature and Panther ID

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date