February 8, 2021

Subject: UVM Fall 2021 study abroad

Congratulations again on your decision to study abroad Fall 2021.

It is too early to make an institutional decision about whether Fall 2021 study abroad will be permitted to continue. We expect to make a determination about the prudence of Fall 2021 study abroad participation by March 30, 2021 for any program beginning prior to August 15, 2021 and by June 15, 2021 for any Fall program beginning on or after August 15, 2021.

As a result, we want you to prepare for two possible courses of action: Fall semester abroad as planned, and Fall semester at UVM. We encourage you to take the following actions:

- **Register for Fall 2021 UVM courses as if you will be on campus.** If in mid-June UVM approves Fall study abroad to proceed (and you have not informed us that you are withdrawing from study abroad), you may drop those on-campus courses, and we will have the Registrar’s Office enroll you in “OSSP,” the UVM Overseas Studies Program placeholder course.

- **Avoid making any non-refundable deposits towards your study abroad program beyond the application deposit and pay close attention to refund policies.** This includes the purchase of airline tickets. In the event study abroad is cancelled, students will not be charged the UVM study abroad fee. If you anticipate needing to make non-refundable deposits prior to UVM’s decision in mid-June, please email studyabroad@uvm.edu to advise us of your situation.

- **Consider what your housing plans will be if you need to be in Burlington Fall 2021.**
  - **Students who have not completed their on-campus residency requirement are required to live on campus in the residence halls if their program is canceled.** In general, the on-campus residency requirement is 4 semesters for students who enter UVM as first-year students and 2 semesters for students who transfer to UVM before the age of 20. Residential Life will contact students required to live on campus to have them complete a housing & meal plan contract and give them a room assignment.
  - **Students who have completed their on-campus residency requirement are not required to live on campus, but they may request it.** To request on-campus housing, students need to complete a housing request at housing.uvm.edu. If space
permits, Residential Life will offer them a housing & meal plan contract and give them a room assignment.

- If Residential Life is not able to offer students housing or they prefer to live off campus, students are encouraged to pursue options listed under Off-Campus Living, including Affiliate Housing and the UVM Off-Campus Housing Service.

- **Pre-departure Orientation has moved to on-line format and the Office of International Education will contact you with instructions later in the Spring 2021 semester.**

We recognize this is a difficult thing to ask you to do – planning for two entirely different possibilities. However, we neither want to close off the chance for you to study abroad this fall if it is viable to do so, nor do we want you to lose out on appropriate course registration if we later need to cancel.

If you are not comfortable waiting until June to have a decision and would like to withdraw from Fall 2021 study abroad now, please email studyabroad@uvm.edu.

Please visit our Study Abroad and Coronavirus web page for FAQs and most recent communications: [https://www.uvm.edu/oie/study-abroad-and-coronavirus-faqs](https://www.uvm.edu/oie/study-abroad-and-coronavirus-faqs)

If you wish to meet with a UVM study abroad advisor, please click the following link for instructions to schedule using Navigate: [https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-International-Education/Navigate_student_instructions.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-International-Education/Navigate_student_instructions.pdf)

Sincerely,

Study Abroad Advisors
UVM Office of International Education