



The University of Vermont

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Living/Learning B-101

633 Main Street, Burlington VT 05405

802-656-4296 • Fax: 802-656-8553 • uvm.edu/oie

Subject: UVM cancellation of study abroad programs beginning before August 15, 2021

March 10, 2021

Dear students planning to study abroad Summer/Fall 2021,

In a February 8 communication, we indicated that the University would decide by March 30 whether to allow semester study abroad to proceed for programs commencing prior to August 15. Due to continued uncertainty regarding travel and the stability of health and safety conditions globally, the University is cancelling all Summer and Fall 2021 study abroad commencing before August 15. **If your program start date is prior to August 15, UVM is rescinding your study abroad approval.** You will not be charged the study abroad fee.

A decision regarding Fall 2021 study abroad programs that begin on or after August 15 will be announced by June 15, 2021.

We recognize this is very disappointing news. If you would like to defer your study abroad participation and/or discuss study abroad in a future term, please reply to this email. If you would like to schedule an appointment with a study abroad advisor you can do so by using the Navigate app ([click here for instructions](#)).

You were advised in February to prepare for this possibility. Therefore, if this cancellation applies to you, the remaining steps for you to complete will be minimal:

Notification of program: If you are enrolled on an external or direct-enroll program, **please notify your program/host university of your withdrawal, and notify them if you would like to defer.** We will inform exchange partners and ISEP of this cancellation; we will solicit their input on whether deferring to a future term is possible for the program in which you were placed and will notify you once we hear from them.

Work with your academic advisor to solidify your plan for the summer term/next semester and beyond. Confirm what classes you will take in Fall 2021 at UVM. Discuss if you are able to fit study abroad into a future term. UVM study abroad advisors are happy to assist you in switching to a different term.

Factors influencing the decision to cancel programs commencing before August 15:

- U.S. citizens or permanent residents are being denied entry to most countries
- The U.S. Department of State country travel advisories remain at a Level 4 (Do not travel) or a Level 3 (Reconsider travel) for nearly all countries to which UVM students travel for study abroad.
 - The Department of State warns that travelers may continue to experience border closures, airport closures/lack of flights, travel prohibitions, stay-at-home orders, business closures, and other emergency conditions.

- The Department of State may not be able to provide normal US citizen services in many locations.
 - International SOS, UVM's emergency services provider, also warns that travelers may have these and other issues due to the pandemic.
- The course of the pandemic remains unpredictable, with some countries experiencing secondary waves of infection.

UVM highly values study abroad experiences as part of our students' education, and regrets that the current circumstances require us to take this step.

Sincerely,

UVM Study Abroad Advisors
Office of International Education