

APSU Study Abroad Program Orientation Guidelines

The information covered in the outline below must be presented in all pre-departure and on-site orientations.

I: Student Expectations

- Attendance policies
- Student code-of-conduct policies
- Prohibits the use of alcohol or drugs
- Student course enrollment policies
- Student payment policies
- Students must obey host-country laws
- Student responsibility
- Personal preparation
- Knowledge of host country
- Actions and decisions
- Keeping program coordinator informed of their whereabouts

II: Practical Pre-departure Guidance

- Banking notification
- Travel insurance
- Prescriptions and over-the-counter medications
- Host country research o
Immunizations
- Illnesses endemic to the host country
- Special student health needs and availability of services in host country

III: Practical Travel Guidance

- Visas/Passport
- Arrival procedures
- Luggage restrictions
- Airport conditions requiring special attention
- Travel insurance

IV: In-Country Practical Considerations

- Voltage
- Computer Access
- Communication Methods
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Currency exchanges
- Managing Finances

V: Academic Information

- Credit transfer issues
- Academic differences abroad, if applicable
- Course load work

VI: Sexual Harassment

- Country specific information on appropriate venues and culturally-appropriate attire
- Difference in dating and relationship norms
- University policy on sexual harassment
- Steps to reporting sexual harassment

VII: In-Country Safety Procedures

- Road safety and means of safe transportation
- Country specific travel concerns Recreational Hazards
- Program specific risks and how to avoid injury

VIII: Emergency Procedures

- Procedures for making local and international phone calls
- Host country emergency numbers (police, fire, hospital)
- Program emergency response procedure

IX: Cross-Cultural Issues

- Appropriate dress in social and academic settings
- Regional climate and weather conditions
- Political tensions and social and environmental issues
- Predominant languages
- Religions
- Attitude and appearance
- Customs and courtesies
- Patterns of daily and family life
- Gender and age-specific roles
- Race, sexual orientation, and tolerance issues
- Women's safety issues
- Food and diet
- Recreation and holidays
- Education and health care systems
- Cross-cultural adjustment strategies

X: Travel Precautions

- U.S. State Department Passport Registration
- U.S. State Department Travel alerts
- Avoid political protest or large crowds
- Maintaining a low profile
- Safety in numbers recommendation