



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

USG Health & Safety Workshop Series

Workshop II: Preparing For Travel
10/4/2023

Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Pre-departure Orientations
- III. Faculty Orientations
- IV. Questions and Discussion



Presenters

Leah Hicks, UGA, Assistant Director,
Global Risk, Health, and Safety

Erin Rasche, Georgia Tech,
International Health, Safety and
Security Director

Dr. Laura Boudon, GSU, Director of
Study Abroad





UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

Pre-Departure Orientations

Leah Hicks, UGA

Erin Rasche, Georgia Tech

Pre-Departure Orientation for Students

- Academics
- Itinerary
- Travel Arrangements
- Passport and Visa Requirements
- Packing List
- Accommodations and Meals
- Costs, Financial Aid, How to Access Money Abroad
- Health & Safety Preparations (including Mental Health Preparations)
- Alcohol & Drugs
- Student Conduct & Behavior Expectations
- Cultural Differences & Acculturative Stress
- UGA Template PowerPoint available. If interested, please email Leah (Leah.Hicks@uga.edu)



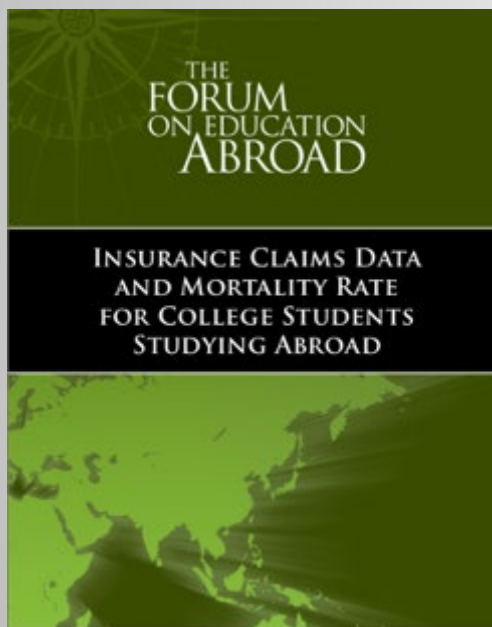
Make Pre-Departure Orientation Interactive

- Some Possible Ideas to Consider
 - Have students **write themselves a letter**, to be read after the experience. What are they hoping to learn, to do, to experience while abroad?
 - Have students make a **Mental Well-Being Plan of Action**. Ask them to think about what resources, people, habits they could count on if they experience a challenging situation while abroad.
 - **Think, Pair, Share** activity about their destination. What do they know, how do they know it, what are they hoping to learn?
 - **Assign a relevant reading** ahead of time and have a brief discussion.

"Because we focused on the snake, we missed the scorpion." -
Egyptian Proverb



What Does the Data Say?



- Perception
 - Terrorism
 - Natural Disaster
 - Armed Conflict
- Reality – US Travelers
 - Transportation
 - Homicide
 - Drowning
 - Suicide
- **Reality – Study Abroad**
 - Accidental Fall
 - Transportation
 - Drowning



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

Faculty Orientation

Laura Boudon, GSU

Erin Rasche, Georgia Tech

Pre-departure Documents and Resources

- Emergency Action Plan
- Emergency Pocket Brochures
- USG Insurance Information [here](#)
- Campus Resources Available While Abroad
- Free Resources for International Travel
- Faculty Guidebook and Resources
- Emergency Phone Number



Pre-departure Steps At Your Institution

Remind faculty of the study abroad pre-departure steps.

- Insurance enrollment for students and faculty
- Pre-departure sessions for students
- Health Clearance Forms or related forms
- STEP enrollment for faculty and students



Emergency Procedures Workshop Topics

- Faculty Responsibilities While Abroad
- In Case of Itinerary Change
- In Case of Emergency Abroad
- Student Conduct Abroad
- Scenarios
- Resources



Recommendations for faculty

1. Set up a communication channel for students and faculty for the program (possibly groupme or whatsapp)
2. Be clear about expectations regarding student conduct and academic requirements in syllabus and itinerary.
3. Communicate clearly and frequently with students during the program.
4. In case of emergency, call to let your institution know about developing situations.



Duty of Care

- Reasonable person test
- In context of study abroad?
 - Obligation to inform
 - Planning to mitigate risk of foreseeable injury
 - Appropriate response when incidents occur
- Foreseeable harm vs. Negligence
- Liability and negligence risk is **highest for short-term study abroad programs** due to level of institutional control

Duty of Care

- Foreseeability – Resources
 - Department of State
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Insurance provider
- Prudent Response
 - Acting with or showing care
 - Insurance
 - Emergency Protocols
 - Campus Resources



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

Questions

Contact Information

Leah Hicks: leah.hicks@uga.edu

Erin Rasche: erasche3@gatech.edu

Dr. Laura Boudon: lboudon@gsu.edu

