

Safety Issues

Since 9-11, safety is more important than ever, and Auburn University considers the safety and health of its students to be our number one priority. Students can't obtain Auburn approval to study in a country where there are U.S. State Department travel warnings. Our Study Abroad office monitors safety issues abroad and works closely with the AU Risk Management Office. Students will be insured under the Auburn Study Abroad Emergency Medical Assistance Plan (EMAP) as long as they are enrolled in Auburn Abroad. This plan includes 24/7 worldwide emergency call center assistance, emergency medication evacuation, repatriation, family reunification, and security evacuation.

When choosing a study abroad program, you should familiarize yourself with their emergency support services. Ask questions. While on your program, be vigilant and exercise good judgment anytime you are in unfamiliar surroundings. Avoid dressing like a tourist to deter pick pockets. Never carry large sums of money with you, and keep your wallet in a money belt or neck pouch under your shirt or a secure bag.

Understand that you must abide by the rules of the country in which you are living or traveling; American laws and policy will not protect you abroad, nor can they help get you out of any trouble. Your Program Director should provide you with adequate and informative pre-departure orientation materials. Also, do plenty of research on the region you will be visiting.

Both the U.S. Department of State and its Overseas Security advisors issue daily on-line travel warnings and announcements. Make sure you register with the U.S. Embassy in the country (ies) where you will be studying (or visiting).

http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/registration/registration_1186.html

As an American, it is prudent to stay abreast of current world events while abroad. You may find that many people want to discuss their political opinions with you; it is wise to devise a way to diplomatically handle comments or questions. Avoid any potentially volatile conversations completely. For more information on safety abroad and travel advisories please view the U.S. Department of State website at <http://travel.state.gov/> and country specific information at:

http://www.state.gov/www/background_notes/.