NON-UM STUDY ABROAD
PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION
Friday, November 4th, 2022
OUR AGENDA

1. Health & Safety
2. Financial Aid
3. Credit Transfer
4. Visas
Wyatt Boykin
International Travel Safety Coordinator
Global Engagement Team, Office of the Provost

Monet Tiedemann
Assistant Director for Special Programs
Office of Financial Aid

Clara Kawanishi
Academic Advisor and Coordinator of International Student Affairs
Newnan LSA Academic Advising

Jake Koelzer
Program Advisor, Global Engagement & Education Abroad
International Center

Kelly Nelson
Assistant Director, Global Engagement & Education Abroad
International Center
HEALTH & SAFETY

Wyatt Boykin
International Travel Safety Coordinator
Global Engagement Team, Office of the Provost
Travel Health & Safety Topics

https://global.umich.edu/travel-resources/

“UMRT” AND Registering Travel

Travel Health and Geoblue Insurance

U-M General Emergency Protocols
Is your program “UMRT”?

- Receive “in-residence” credit, not “transfer” credit
- Funds from or managed by a U-M unit
- Necessary to achieve a degree requirement
- Organized by an SSO or sanctioned by U-M as a “Sponsored Event”
- U-M managed or otherwise organized

UMRT = additional requirements
Travel Registration

- Required for UMRT programs, recommended for all U-M travelers
- Allows U-M to reach out to you in the event of an emergency
- Gives access to AlertTraveler
- Eligible to purchase GeoBlue Travel Abroad Insurance
- Register any “side travel” before/during/after your program as “personal,” and get appropriate health insurance for those dates

https://global.umich.edu/travel-resources/register-your-travel/
AlertTraveler

- “Opt-in” – download app and subscribe to use
- Subscribers receive real time alerts for their travel locations
- Access destination-relevant health, safety, and security information
AlertTraveler User Guide

AlertTraveler Overview

The Faculty & Staff Travel Registry is integrated with the Terra Dotta AlertTraveler system. AlertTraveler provides real-time health and safety alerts related to your travel destination. The AlertTraveler system includes an optional mobile application for iOS and Android devices that utilizes GPS and your trip registration itinerary.

It is available as an add-on service for U-M travelers that register their travel in the U-M Faculty & Staff Travel Registry. AlertTraveler provides country and city intelligence, automated messaging from the U-M Travel Registry, as well as an App with opt-in safety/security alerts specific to your trip.

Note: Use of the AlertTraveler mobile app is not required for University of Michigan related travel (UMRT). The following steps are optional and each traveler has the ability to set their own subscription and alert settings.

Installing AlertTraveler (iOS devices)

Go to the Apple App Store and search for AlertTraveler by name, then download and install it on your iOS device.

Note: You will need to obtain a Registration Email and Password before configuring the app. (See “Configuring the AlertTraveler App” below).

If you want to subscribe to alerts while traveling, respond as indicated below to the following messages during initial activation:

- “AlertTraveler Would Like to Send You Notifications” - Tap “Allow”
- “AlertTraveler Would Like to Access your Motion & Fitness Activity” - Tap “OK”
- “Allow “AlertTraveler” to access your location while you use the app” - Tap “Allow”
- “Background location is not enabled” - Tap “Settings” then tap “Location” and then select “Always.”

To Download User Guide, go to MCompass or this link:
STEP Registration

• A free service from the U.S. DoS for U.S. citizens/nationals

• Receive timely notifications concerning nearby travel safety issues

• Helps the U.S. Embassy, family, and/or friends contact you in an emergency

• Not required, strongly recommended

Enroll Now
https://step.state.gov
Dear U-M Traveler in Australia,

I hope you are doing well. As the International Travel Safety Manager, I support U-M travelers abroad and provide resources and guidance in times of distress. As you may know, there has been severe flooding and evacuations in Queensland & New South Wales, Australia, with potential flash floods in Victoria, Australia. I am checking in with all U-M travelers registered for Australia.

Please respond to this email, so we at U-M know your current status.

In keeping with best travel practices, I also encourage you to:

1. Ensure your contact information in the U-M Travel Registry (M-Compass) is up-to-date.
2. Update any family members or loved ones to let them know that you are OK. An easy way to do this is to forward this email.
3. Let any other U-M contacts know that you are doing alright.
4. If you have not already, register for:
   - AlertTraveler: You will receive real-time health and safety alerts related to your travel destination. Registration details are provided in the AlertTraveler User Guide in M-Compass.
   - Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): You will receive any messages or alerts from the U.S. embassy in your travel destination. Enroll in the US State Department Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP).
5. Follow local news and the advice of your local contacts to remain up-to-date on the situation.
6. If needed, you can also contact the University of Michigan by following emergency protocols.

The University, including the International Travel Oversight Committee, is keeping careful track of events using multiple sources. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to let us know, and we can give you a call.

Kind regards,
Ayesha
UHS Travel Health Services

• Allergy, immunization, & travel health clinic

• Schedule visit 6-8 weeks before departure
  ◦ Small fee for clinic visit
  ◦ Review website for services and costs

• Bring immunization record & list of current medications.

• Alternative options: Michigan Medicine Overseas Travel Clinic, your healthcare provider, etc.

• Check CDC for travel recommendations.
GeoBlue Travel Abroad Health Insurance

• Coverage for a wide range of conditions and events:
  ◦ Doctor/hospital visits, including tele-health
  ◦ Prescribed medications overseas
  ◦ Emergency evacuation
  ◦ Mental health

• Resources for reviewing health and medical facilities at host destination.

• GeoBlue is NOT trip insurance
Use GeoBlue by web or app

www.geobluestudents.com

**PRE-DEPARTURE**
- Research provider/s nearest to your location/s
- Schedule an appointment with an in-country doctor or mental health provider before you even leave
- Check if medications are available / prescriptions can be filled while abroad

**WHILE ABROAD**
- Use in-network providers:
  - no out-of-pocket cost, no bill
- Use out-of-network providers:
  - Pay out-of-pocket, submit receipt for reimbursement
- Telehealth apps for medical consultation or mental health counseling

**OTHER NOTES**
- Can call GeoBlue collect while abroad for 24/7 assistance: +1.610.254.8771
- If deciding to purchase GeoBlue:
  - non-UMRT should select “Personal / Leisure” plan
  - UMRT should select “Study Abroad” plan

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
General Emergency Protocols

TEND TO YOUR IMMEDIATE SAFETY / MEDICAL NEEDS

CONNECT WITH LOCAL CONTACTS AND SUPPORT NETWORKS

CONTACT U-M TO UPDATE ON YOUR STATUS & TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS
Emergency Contacts

Program points of contact abroad

In-country collaborators, such as:
- Social contacts
- SA program contact
- Host institution contacts: professor, advisor, etc.

Know where the nearest U.S. Embassy / Consulate is and how to contact.

University Resources - Emergency Matters:

U-M Division of Public Safety and Security (DPSS), A2 campus
- +1 734-763-1131

Ask for UM Emergency responder for international travel

University Resources - Non-Emergency Matters:

You can email / call the Global Engagement Team at umich-itoc@umich.edu AND/OR or your U-M unit contact.

Examples:
- Lost or stolen passport
- Non-emergency illness / injury
Resources

- Global Michigan website:
  - Travel FAQs
  - Additional Considerations for International Travel
  - Resiliency videos and strategies
  - Travel checklists
  - U-M Travel Abroad Health Insurance
  - In Case of Emergency

- U.S. Embassy COVID-19 Country Specific Info Page

- CDC, STEP, and other government resources
FINANCIAL AID
and Non-UM Programs

Monet Tiedemann
Assistant Director for Special Programs,
Office of Financial Aid
Can I get financial aid for a non-UM program?

- Yes, but ONLY federal aid (Pell grant, federal loans). You must have a FAFSA on file.
- You must have at least 6 credits transfer back to UM in order to be eligible for any aid.
- You will not be able to use any institutional financial aid, as you will not be an enrolled UM student for that term.
In order for the Office of Financial Aid to process your federal aid, you must have an approved Consortium Agreement on file with us.

- Part I completed by you, the student
- Part II completed by your academic advisor here at Michigan
- Part III completed by your host institution

You must also register your travel on M-Compass.
How do I get an approved Consortium Agreement?

- Email finaid.abroad@umich.edu to set up a meeting with a study abroad financial aid advisor (Zoom or in person)
- Complete and submit the agreement to our office
- Register your travel on M-Compass, purchase GeoBlue insurance
Frequently Asked Questions

“When will my financial aid pay?”
- Aid pays at the beginning of the U-M term
- We encourage students to set up direct deposit before traveling abroad
- There are no advances of financial aid for study abroad

“Will I get more aid because my costs are higher?”
- Unfortunately, no. Aid eligibility is based on your FAFSA, not educational costs
TRANSFERRING CREDITS
from Non-UM Programs

Clara Kawanishi
Academic Advisor and Coordinator of International Student Affairs
Newnan LSA Academic Advising
Can I get graduation credit for a non-UM program?

- Yes, if the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (OUA) decides that the class meets transfer credit criteria

- LSA’s transfer credit criteria
  - Accredited institution
  - Similar academic content and rigor
  - Grade of C or higher
    - Note that the grade doesn’t appear on your U-M transcript
How do I find out if a class is transferable or not?

- OUA’s Transfer Credit Equivalency (TCE) study abroad database includes classes that have already been evaluated
  - Most other U-M units use this database, but always check with your specific college
  - Important exception: Engineering has maintains its own TCE database and transfer credit approval form (TCAF)

- If the class is not listed in the database, then submit a pre-evaluation request BEFORE the class starts
  - Evaluation takes several weeks, so plan ahead
  - Pre-evaluation demo
Transfer Credit Terms

Example: Microeconomics class at another school

- Equivalent Credit
  - Non-UM class is very similar to UM class
  - Listed in TCE database as “ECON 101”

- Departmental Credit
  - Non-UM class teaches material in a different way
  - Credits are still transferable, but not as equivalent to specific UM class
  - Listed in TCE database as “ECON DEPT”
  - On UM transcript:
    - Intro level - “ECON 101X Departmental”
    - Upper-level - “ECON 301X Departmental”
Can I fulfill specific requirements with a non-UM program?

- Meet with a department advisor for major/minor approval
  - Policies and procedures vary between departments
  - Gather course info such as course descriptions and/or syllabi
  - Retain course materials for post-completion evaluation

- Meet with a general advisor for distribution approval for “departmental” credit
  - Check LSA Course Guide for *distribution* designation of equivalent classes
  - Written petitions required for Quantitative Reasoning (QR) and Race & Ethnicity (RE)
  - Upper Level Writing Requirement (ULWR) must be fulfilled in-residence

- After transfer credits appear on your UM transcript, follow up with appropriate advisor to have exceptions entered into your student record
VISAS

Jake Koelzer
Program Advisor, Global Engagement & Education Abroad
International Center
Visas for Non-UM Study Abroad Programs

- While the International Center provides some visa advising services (navigating consulate/embassy websites, obtaining required documents for appointments, etc.), we are not experts on every country's visa process.
  - For the most accurate and up-to-date information, we recommend that you directly contact the consulate/embassy that serves Michigan or your home state.
  - You can also contact your study abroad provider for additional support.

- Visa required documents from universities
  - Proof of enrollment letter ([Enrollment Verification](#) at U-M)
  - Spain: Letter from University/School in the US explaining that “credits obtained by student in Spain will be transferred to the University in the US towards student's graduation"

- Known issues
  - Spain: Challenge getting visa appointments
  - UPDATE: The Chicago Consulate is accepting [mail-in visa applications](#) until Nov 12
  - Work with your provider!
QUESTIONS?

Health & Safety
Wyatt Boykin (wboykin@umich.edu)
Website

Credit Transfer
Please reach out to your academic advisor

Financial Aid
Monet Tiedemann (finaid.abroad@umich.edu)
Website

Other Non-UM Study Abroad Questions
Jake Koelzer (ic-abroad@umich.edu)
Website