

Participant Interview Protocol

As an Academic Program Leader, you have the option of interviewing all of your program's applicants to determine if students understand the nature of the program and to assess their suitability for the travel experience. This allows you, the leader, to establish the academic and behavioral standards of the program in advance. The interview also allows you to answer student questions or concerns and to help them arrive at realistic expectations for all areas of the travel experience.

Participant Interview Questions:

1. How will you profit both academically and personally from this study abroad experience?
2. How will this experience fit into your overall educational plan?
3. What will you want the citizens of the visiting country to learn about you? About the United States?
4. In what way(s) would you have a positive influence on your group?
5. What do you perceive your responsibilities to be as a member of your study abroad group?
6. Have you ever been lost? How did you deal with your circumstances?
7. What would you do if you wanted to take a shower but there was only cold water? What would you do if you could not identify the food at the dinner table one evening?
8. How do you feel about public displays of affection between group members?
9. What kind of personal safety precautions do you believe to be necessary during your travel?
10. Have you had any direct contact with other cultures? In what way?
11. How did you get interested in this program? What appealed to you most about the program when you first heard about it?
12. How do you envision a typical day during the program?
13. What differences do you expect to find between your culture and the one(s) you will be visiting?
14. Do you understand the University policies on travel abroad, including alcohol consumption? Do you understand that violation of any portion of the policy is a reason to terminate you from the program (send you home)?
15. Have you successfully experienced periods of time away from technology tools such as phone, IPOD, etc.?
16. Is there anything that would interfere with your full participation in the travel opportunity? For example,
 - a. Being in confined spaces for lengthy periods of time?
 - b. Sitting for lengthy periods of time?
 - c. Climbing stairs without handrails?
 - d. Walking on uneven terrain for distances of 1 mile?
 - e. Sharing a bedroom and bathroom with a same-sex roommate?
 - f. Lifting 50 pounds?
 - g. Lack of immediate accessibility to toilet facilities?
 - h. Exposure to head, cold, smog?
 - i. Food or other allergies? For example, insect bites?
 - j. Difficulties with high altitudes?
 - k. What about your ability to adapt in a non-English language environment?