Undergraduate Study Abroad

It has been the Johns Hopkins University’s general policy and practice to encourage undergraduates to study abroad and to travel to countries with different cultures in order to learn and discover more about these cultures and the world generally. In the last few years -- even before September 11, 2001 -- there has been increasing concern about the safety and security of travel abroad in many instances, and in particular, concern within the University about having undergraduates study in countries in which there appear to be particular concerns by the government for safety and security. At the present time, the State Department issues Travel Warnings for those countries where avoidance of travel is recommended.

In view of the fact that the State Department issues Travel Warnings only for those countries where it recommends people avoid traveling, it is the general policy of The Johns Hopkins University that our undergraduate programs and our support for undergraduates doing research or other activities in foreign countries should not take place in a country for which a Travel Warning has been issued and is in effect.

The University also recognizes that, at times, extenuating circumstances exist -- either in terms of the country itself or in terms of the situation in a particular country -- that may reasonably permit travel to a particular country, or to some portion of a country, for which a Travel Warning has been issued. Therefore, a director of any program or a faculty member intending to lead undergraduate students to a country for which a Travel Warning is in effect, or an undergraduate who wishes to study with or under University support in such a country, may appeal to the Provost for an exception from this policy in order to permit the desired travel. The appeal should set forth the academic justifications for the trip, the duration of the program in that country, and all reasons why the program director, faculty member, or undergraduate student believes that it is reasonably safe to travel to that country, during the time period intended, despite the Travel Warning.

Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be addressed to your division dean or to the Provost’s Office.