BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
Off-Campus Study Abroad Program
STUDENT PARTICIPANT CONDUCT AGREEMENT
AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have applied for, and have been chosen to participate in, a Ball State University-sponsored off-campus study program. I recognize that this opportunity to earn academic credit in this program abroad carries with it special responsibilities over and above full participation in all academic activities. I understand that the University cannot replicate all the conditions and services available on the home campus. I am aware that my health and safety overseas is greatly influenced by the decisions I make before and during the program and by my daily choices and behavior.

Responsibilities and Expected Conduct of Student Participants

1. I will assume responsibility for my personal preparation for the program and participate fully in orientations.

2. I will be respectful and sensitive to the culture and norms of the country(ies) which I enter. I understand that my very admission into the host country(ies) is entirely at the discretion of the immigration officer at the port of entry.

3. I will obey local law and custom and behave in a manner that is respectful of the rights and well being of others.

4. I understand that in the event I violate any law of another country and am arrested, imprisoned or prosecuted, neither Ball State University nor the United States of America can necessarily bring to bear an amelioration or reversal of judgment in any such situation.

5. I understand that the legal use of alcohol exposes me to heightened risk in a foreign setting. If I choose to use alcohol legally, it will be in a responsible manner.

6. I understand that use or possession of illegal drugs will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from the program. I will bear the cost of any additional expenses resulting from such dismissal.

7. I understand that I, along with my roommates, will be held equally accountable for any damage that occurs to the room and its furnishings to which I am assigned as my residence during my program and my housing for any overnight trip that is program-related. I further understand that my portion of damage-related charges will be added to my account at Ball State and that a bursar’s hold will be put on my records until those charges are paid. A bursar’s hold will result in the student not being able to register for classes for the next semester nor being able to receive his/her grades.

8. I understand that I, along with my roommates will be held equally accountable for damages to any property resulting from any destructive behavior that occurs in my room. I further understand that my portion of damage-related charges will be added to my account at Ball State and that a bursar’s hold will be put on my records until those charges are paid.

9. I understand when individual responsibility cannot be determined for damages in common housing areas, such as the kitchen, dining room, computer room, TV room, bathrooms, the damage costs will be prorated among all students of the program. When a particular student(s) is found to be responsible for damage, he or she will be charged for the necessary repairs, replacements, or custodial services. The student may also face disciplinary action under BSU’s vandalism policy. Failure to pay damage charges will result in having a bursar’s hold placed on my record until those charges are paid.
10. I understand that the management of my program housing and any housing assigned for overnight trips that are program-related, have the right to expel me for damaging their property. Neither property managers nor Ball State University will reimburse me the balance of my housing costs. I further understand that if I am expelled from my housing, I am responsible for finding replacement housing and paying its rent out-of-pocket.

11. I will be aware of local conditions when making daily choices and decisions, and promptly express any health or safety concerns to the program staff or other appropriate individuals.

12. I understand that unsupervised “free time” and independent travel is an opportunity to enhance my understanding of my host country(ies) and may be a feature of this off-campus study. I will follow the instructions of my program leader with regard to the special conditions placed on this unsupervised time. These conditions will include, but are not limited to, filing a written itinerary with the program director which will include destinations, dates, and lodging details, if known.

13. I will follow the program policies for keeping program staff informed of my whereabouts and well being.

14. When traveling on my own during unsupervised “free time” I acknowledge that the following activities are highly discouraged:

   A) rental and use of automobiles;
   B) rental and use of motorcycles;
   C) hitchhiking;
   D) participation in high-risk activities; e.g., bungee-jumping, “extreme sports”.

15. I acknowledge and agree that class attendance is mandatory, and I will use my best efforts to attend all of my classes while participating in the program. I understand that I am not permitted to miss class without the explicit permission of the program director. I further understand that I will be granted such permission only in unusual circumstances that are generally out of my control.

16. I acknowledge and agree that I am expected to and will participate in all activities planned for program participants, including activities that do not take place during regular class hours. I understand that free time will be provided for me to use as I choose for such activities that may include, but are not limited to, studying, sightseeing, and travel.

17. I will pay all tuition, fees, charges and other expenses associated with my participation in this program prior to its commencement. I understand that my failure to pay such tuition, fees, charges and other expenses will result in the termination of my enrollment in the program. I will be solely responsible for all fees, charges and other expenses I incur while participating in this program. I understand that Ball State University does not assume any responsibility for any debts incurred during the course of my participation in this program.

18. I acknowledge that the agents of Ball State University have the discretion to require me to leave the program if they feel that I am jeopardizing the safety, legality, or integrity of the trip. In such an event, I will be liable for all costs associated with my dismissal.

19. I will accept responsibility for my own decisions and actions.
20. I understand and will comply with the terms of participation and codes of conduct of the program.

I have read and understand this Agreement, and I will abide by its terms and conditions. I knowingly and voluntarily sign this Agreement.

________________________________________________________________________

Date                      Signature of Participant

Responsibilities and Authorization of Parents/Guardians

1) I have read and understand the attached conduct agreement that my child has signed and will uphold its terms and conditions.

2) I will engage my child in a thorough discussion of this agreement.

3) I voluntarily sign this agreement.

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Date                      Signature of Parent or Guardian

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Signature of Parent or Guardian