STUDY ABROAD
PARENT WEBINAR
Education Abroad Team

- Karli Webster, Director
  - Health & safety policies for study abroad
  - Partnership management

- Megan Pavlic, Education Abroad Coordinator
  - Advises students in arts & sciences, communications and education
  - Sibanye Cape Town

- Millie Lor, Education Abroad Advisor
  - Advises students in business, engineering, health sciences, nursing and law

- Tia Langnes, Program Coordinator
  - GeoBlue insurance, study abroad course placeholder & STEP enrollments, Project GO & non-credit programs
  - For departing spring 2023 Spain applicants: facilitates the Spain Group Visa Process
By the Numbers

- In J Session and Spring 2023, **246** students will be studying abroad in **26** different countries.
Overview

- Students’ orientation
- Important documents your student should have
- Flights & arrival
- Communications while abroad
- Culture & managing culture shock
- Academics (at Marquette & abroad)
- Finances
- Health and safety
- Packing
Your students’ orientation process

- Online orientation modules & quizzes:
  - Culture (special guest from Counseling Center)
  - Health & insurance (COVID-19)
  - Safety
  - Sexual violence prevention training
  - Emergency procedures
  - Learning outcomes and goal setting

- 'In-person' Orientation
  - Review of important online modules
  - Focus on health & safety, and policies
  - Meeting with program-specific alumni, if available

- Encourage all to view the OIE *Preparing to Depart* website: https://www.marquette.edu/study-abroad/preparing-to-depart.php
Documents and Copies

- **Valid Passport** (general rule: valid for SIX (6) months AFTER return date/program end) 
  
  *more info at [https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply.html)*

  - Apply or renew ASAP
    - Strongly recommend to expedite process (there is an additional fee (~$60))
    - Marquette nor OIE can guarantee that your student will receive their passport prior to departure for program if student has not yet started or it is currently in process

- **Visa** (if needed)
  
  - Process in U.S. – NOTE: Group visa requirement for all Spring 2023 Spain students
  - Process abroad – Host institution will provide additional details prior to arrival or once on-site

- **Make copies of everything!**
  
  - Credit cards, passport, visa page in passport, phone #’s; emails
Flights and Arrival in Host Country

- Booking flight
  - AFTER accepted by program (should be accepted by MU already – exception: spring break)
  - Arrive morning or midday, when possible
    - Host institution will provide any recommended arrival date(s)/time(s) – student should check with partner
  - Arrival/return dates should be inclusive of any program on-site orientation, final exam schedules, and host country entry requirements (testing, quarantine, etc., if applicable)
    - Dates are provided directly to the student. If unsure, student should reach out to the host institution to confirm.
  - Outside of this, the OIE does not dictate when and how students should return home (unless part of a mandatory group flight)

- Be mindful of your student’s visa status (if applicable)
  - Legal process established by host country government
  - Advising on visas – OIE staff are not visa officials/immigration officers
  - Length of stay: what is the period of eligibility to remain in country?
Communications While Abroad

- Communication plan
  - Arrival touch base
- Cell phones
- Laptops
- WIFI availability
- Calling/texting apps
  - WhatsApp, Viber, Kakao Talk, Line
Host Culture

- Respect and open-mindedness
- Resources – *(not limited to this list!)*
  - CultureGram (general attitudes, appearance (clothing), greetings, gestures, dating and marriage)
  - InternationalSOS country report – focuses on safety & travel
  - Hofstede Cultural Dimensions – comparison of cultures on six aspects
  - Host institution on-site orientation
Culture Shock

Possible Symptoms:

- Extreme homesickness
- Feelings of helplessness/dependency
- Depression and sadness
- Sleeping and/or eating disturbances (too little or much)
- Critical reactions to host culture
Culture Shock: Managing Symptoms

Encourage your student to:

- Develop patterns or routines
- Explore the surroundings
- Find people to interact with
- Set and achieve small goals
- Focus on language acquisition
- Express feelings (to friends, in journals, etc.)
- Exercise
- GeoBlue offers virtual counseling (Global Wellness Assist)
Academics

Academic environment overseas
- Professor relationships
- Course structure (syllabus, evaluations)
- Grading

Registration
- Study abroad placeholder course
- Classes abroad – process varies by program
- Classes at MU the following semester

Policies
- Course approvals and transfer
- Grades (transfer policy and expectations)
- Maintenance of full-time status (equivalent of 12 credits)
Finances

- **Tuition and Payments**
  - Varies by program type – reference program-specific budget sheet on MUGlobal Portal
  - Tuition & GeoBlue insurance: paid through CheckMarq
    - Marquette tuition rate
  - Non-tuition expenses: paid directly to host university or third-party provider

- **Financial Aid**
  - MU & FAFSA aid eligibility varies depending on term and program type
    - If paying MU tuition to participate on study abroad experience, aid may be eligible
  - Recommended to your student to sign up for Direct Deposit
  - Timeline for Disbursements

- **Additional considerations**
  - Power of Attorney; HIPAA (GeoBlue)
  - FERPA exceptions

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<th>Billing Statement Date (initial e-bill)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<td>January 10, 2023</td>
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Example of budget sheet
Finances Abroad

- Notify bank(s)/card provider(s)
- Have local currency upon arrival
- Cash vs Cards
  - International fees (transaction, transfer, etc.)
Safety: Marquette Security Measures

- GeoBlue International
  (marquette.edu/study-abroad/health-and-safety/insurance)
  - Individual Login

- SOS International
  (www.internationalsos.com/)
  - Member Log In: 11BSGC000025

- State Dept S.T.E.P. enrollment

- AlertTraveler app

Your student should:
- Let others know where they are
- Keep emergency contact numbers on them at all times
- Monitor Marquette email regularly
- Avoid demonstrations
- Make multiple copies of their documents
- Safeguard cash, documents, and valuables
- Be smart, be alert, be safe
Health: COVID-19

- Expect that your student's study abroad experience may be slightly different
- Have a conversation: expectations vs. reality
- Follow all guidelines for international travel & in-country
  - Students have/will receive country-specific entry requirements either from the partner or our office
- Return to Marquette: as of November 14, 2022 -
  - COVID-19 Testing No Longer Required for U.S. Entry as of June 12, 2022
- GeoBlue covers COVID-19 medical expenses incurred after an official positive test result and limited lodging and transportation expenses related to quarantine (a strict isolation imposed by a Government authority or Physician when testing positive for an infectious disease).
- Marquette's COVID-19 Protocol: *What happens if your student tests positive?*
Health: Immunizations

- All routine vaccines should be current
  - MMR, DTP, Varicella, Polio, flu shot, COVID-19 (booster if eligible)
  - Some are multiple shots, known as a "series" (start early!)
- Refer to [CDC.gov website](http://CDC.gov) for additional recommended immunizations
- **Talk with regular general practitioner**
- **MU Medical Clinic Travel Clinic**
  - Schroeder Health Complex, Lower Level
Health: Medications

- Pack in carry-on luggage
- Enough to last entire program (or more)
- Keep in the original container
- Keep copy of doctor’s Rx
- Confirm it’s legal in the host country
- Discuss with doctor:
  - Time change adjustment
  - Alternative medications if yours is not available/legal
  - Consultation while abroad

Do **not** stop taking a medication abroad, without a doctor’s permission!
Emergency Procedures

The program will provide students with on-site emergency contact information.

1. **Seek medical attention if necessary**
   - Marquette faculty program leader(s)/director(s)
   - GeoBlue Global Assistance (Direct: 610-254-8771)

2. **Contact Marquette University**
   - MU Police, 1-414-288-1911 (outside of business hours; monitored 24/7)
   - OIE at 1-414-288-7289 (during business hours)

3. **File claim with GeoBlue for medical expenses (next slide)**
Insurance Abroad

GeoBlue Insurance:
- Mandatory for all Marquette students going abroad
- No network limitations
- No deductibles
- $45/month billed through Marquette’s Office of the Bursar

Plan details:
- Students will be automatically enrolled based on program dates
- Additional information: https://www.marquette.edu/study-abroad/health-and-safety/insurance.php
Safety: Phone #’s

- Emergency Card
  - In-country fire, ambulance, police
  - Add Local Numbers:
    - Reliable Taxi Service
    - Program Contact
    - Housing Contact
- Add #’s in phone if taking it abroad
- MUPD (24-hrs): 414-288-1911
Packing

- Over-packing
- What is functional and appropriate
- Research seasons
Thank You! Any Questions?

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

BE THE DIFFERENCE.