

Study Abroad and Off-Campus Programs Potter's clay

Statement of Conduct and Behavior

Instead of trying to develop a long detailed list of acceptable and unacceptable behavior, we believe general statements and philosophies are more effective. If everyone follows these general concepts of conduct and behavior, there is no need for more than a few specific rules. The success of the course and/or the trip is based upon everyone adhering to four general rules: ***Community, Civility, College and Safety.***

Community. This trip is an exercise in group travel. The success of any individual on the trip is based upon the success of the group. The needs of the community must, therefore come before the desires of the individual. When anyone on the trip is considering an action, he or she should always consider the impact on the quality of the trip of the entire group, our community. Whatever threatens the well-being of the group and the success of the trip is unacceptable; whatever contributes to the well-being of the group and enhances the success of the trip is encouraged. Therefore, everyone should always look out for the needs of the others in the group. Always think of how you may assist another person on the trip.

The trip is a time of service to others and community-building with other C of I students. Students promise to abstain from the use of alcohol and illegal drugs during the trip.

Civility. In order to promote the good of the community, everyone must show civility (respect and kindness) to all members of the group, as well as to those we encounter in our travels. We do not ask everyone in the group to be best friends with everyone else in the group. However, we do expect everyone in the group to treat every other individual with respect, kindness and thoughtfulness. Therefore, no one should speak ill or unkindly about others on the trip. Help out those in need. Invite someone you don't know well to tea or to explore together during free time. Civility and respect must also extend to the people that we meet during our travels. As guests, we should act respectfully towards our hosts. Loud, obnoxious, angry, complaining public behavior is unacceptable behavior.

College. We must all remember this is an official College of Idaho sponsored trip. Being off campus does not mean the norms of the campus or the classroom are suspended. "Program time" consists of actual travel, sponsored activities, trips and group experiences. You are expected to participate in all sponsored activities. Everyone should treat program time the same as if they were in a class session. Because the activities of the trip are so important, any student who misses a programmed event or activity could be penalized, including, when applicable, through grade reductions in your final grade. The exceptions to this rule are, of course, student illness inhibiting activity or serious extenuating circumstances over which the student has no control. During non-programmed time students are strongly encouraged to immerse themselves in the local culture. Students, as representatives of the C of I are expected to act as if they were on campus, including following the local laws and the Student Handbook's Code of Conduct.

Safety. Like anywhere in the world today, including the United States, there are dangers that are to be and can be avoided. The first concern of the trip leader(s) and the College is the safety of the students. To that end, the trip leaders require that students familiarize themselves with safety information covering travel warnings, health, and other precautions; and sign the Student Responsibilities for Off-Campus Study & Acknowledgment of Risks and Release of Responsibility form and the Verification of Health Insurance Coverage and Emergency Information form. Students must conduct themselves in terms of safe and sensible behaviors in clubs and other entertainment establishments, especially the avoidance of the ingestion of "date rape" drugs; protecting yourselves from pickpocket thieves who can be circumvented by carrying small amounts of cash in money belts, neck pouches or interior pockets and leaving passports and credit cards in safe places in the hotel; and generally avoiding dangerous or unpleasant situations by traveling only in groups, especially after dark. No one should go anywhere alone without permission from the trip leader, and everyone should operate by the "buddy system" with your roommate being your primary buddy. No one should leave a fellow student alone in a club or other establishment late at night. The trip leader or a fellow student who can report to the trip leader should know your whereabouts at all times. Students are to be aware of local conditions that might present health or safety risks when making daily decisions and promptly express health or safety concerns to the trip leader. Any student who becomes injured or is the victim of theft or any form of violence must notify the trip leader immediately who will take action on the student's behalf. Students may not ever drive while abroad and must avoid illegal drugs and excessive or irresponsible consumption of alcohol. Students must make arrangements to transport necessary medications and must continue to take them as prescribed for the durations of the off-campus experience. Students will maintain regular contact with the trip leader and should maintain regular contact with family members at home. Following these simple guidelines will help ensure the safety of all and the continuity of the group.

Violations of these rules and principles can lead to anything from a reduction in grade, to being suspended from inclusion in all group activities, to being sent back to campus, to going before the Honor Council, at the discretion of the trip leader.

Potter's Clay: The College of Idaho

I have read the Statement of Conduct and Behavior for the trip, and I agree to abide by its rules and principles.

Name: _____ Sign: _____ Date: _____