



## Center for Study Abroad Student Conduct Agreement, Statement of Responsibility, and Liability Release Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (Legibly print your name) have enrolled in Cross-Cultural Experience, Juniors Abroad. I recognize that this opportunity to earn academic credit in this course, which includes travel abroad, carries with it special responsibilities over and above full participation in other academic activities. I recognize that George Fox University (GFU) travel-related study is a privilege. I further understand that, while participating in Juniors Abroad, I am to conduct myself in all matters of social and moral conduct as though I were a resident on the GFU Campus. I understand that the University cannot replicate all the conditions and services available on the home campus. I am also 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.

1. **Program Participation:** I will assume responsibility for my personal preparation for the program and participate fully in all class activities. I acknowledge and agree that class attendance is **mandatory**. I understand that I am not permitted to miss class without the explicit permission of the course instructor. I further understand that I will be granted such permission only in unusual circumstances that are generally out of my control. I acknowledge and agree that I am expected to, and will participate in all activities planned for program participants both in class at GFU and on the travel portion of the course. The travel portion of the trip must be completed in its entirety to receive a grade and credit for the course.
2. **Free Time:** I will follow the program policies for keeping tour leaders informed of my whereabouts and well being. I understand that unsupervised "free time" will be available but limited. I will follow the instructions of my faculty or staff leaders with regard to the special conditions placed on this unsupervised time. In particular, I commit to always go in a group of two or more during this free time. Participation in high-risk activities (e.g., bungee-jumping, "extreme sports") is done at my own risk. Use of motor vehicles is prohibited.
3. **Cultural Expectations:** I will be respectful and sensitive to the culture and norms of the country(ies) in which I travel. I will obey local law and customs and behave in a manner that is respectful of the rights and well being of others. I understand that in the event I violate any law of another country and am arrested, imprisoned or prosecuted, neither George Fox University nor the United States of America can necessarily bring to bear an amelioration or reversal of judgment in any such situation.
4. **Travel:** I realize that George Fox University has the right to cancel this program or to alter or modify the itinerary and/or academic program as deemed necessary by the University or course leaders.

I also understand that if I choose to stay beyond the return of the study group that I am solely responsible for my travel arrangements and all that occurs, and that the University's responsibility ends upon departure of the main group. Therefore, I release GFU from any liability for my safety and that of my property in my post-program activities and/or travels.

**4. Responsibility:** I understand:

- That the tour has been designed as an economical tour through taking advantage of local transportation and modest accommodations and that any individual additions to or deviations from the tour itinerary are my responsibility regardless of the reason. I further understand that the directors of the program are committed to assisting in any reasonable manner but will encourage independence and self-motivation since they are necessary to the educational purpose of the tour.
- All arrangements for travel accommodations and other necessary services are made by the duly appointed faculty and staff of George Fox University with the goal of serving the best interests of the participants. The University shall not be held liable for claims arising from such arrangements and services.
- That the University takes no responsibility for any official personal documents that are not in order.
- If a person carries contraband across any border, the University will be absolved of any responsibility for such act.

I further understand that the University will not be held responsible for:

- Loss, theft, or damage of personal property (including train passes and passports) at any time during the travel-related Study.
- Personal injury or illness incurred during the tour including but not limited to injury or illness incurred as a result of riding in any public conveyance (e.g. bus, ship, or aircraft) or as a result of natural disasters, war, or negligence not directly attributable to the gross negligence of George Fox University or its duly appointed employees.
- Consequences of my own negligence, carelessness, or failure to follow University policy or instructions.

5. **Housing:** I understand that I, along with my roommates, will be held equally accountable for any damage that occurs to the room, its furnishings, or property to which I am assigned as my residence during my trip. Students who are found to be responsible for damage, will be charged for the full amount of the necessary repairs, replacements, or custodial services. Students may also face disciplinary action from George Fox University. I further understand that my portion of damage-related charges will be added to my account at George Fox and that a hold will be put on my records until those charges are paid.

**6. University Policies:** I understand:

- That I am responsible for my personal conduct at all times and agree to comply with all expectations of George Fox University including the George Fox Life Style Standards as given in the George Fox University Student Handbook.
  - That in the interests of the entire group, the appointed faculty or staff of GFU reserve the right to send a person home at that person's expense for reasons of disciplinary action or if the person is unable due to injury, illness, or other circumstances, to maintain the tour itinerary. For behavior outside of the GFU lifestyle statement your grade will be lowered at least one letter grade. The faculty/director of Juniors Abroad also reserve the right to fine a person, up to an amount equal to the University's cost of the trip. I will not be entitled to a refund from the University in the event I am required to leave the program and return home.
  - That I must have a C- or above grade the week before travel begins or I will not be allowed to travel and will not receive credit for the course.
7. **Fees:** I will pay all fees associated with my participation in Juniors Abroad on the due dates as provided in the Juniors Abroad Instructions. I understand that my failure to pay the required Juniors Abroad fees will result in my being dropped from the course and no longer being eligible to travel with Juniors

Abroad and will not receive credit for the course. I also understand that I will still be responsible for the entire student cost of the trip once I submit the deposit.

8. **Health:** I am fully aware of the fact that I am responsible for all of my personal medical needs. I am responsible to have major medical insurance. George Fox University will provide travelers emergency insurance. Further, I am responsible for any costs not covered by the George Fox insurance. The faculty or staff leader of your Juniors Abroad course will provide information about disease risks in the area to be visited. I agree to abide by his/her requirements/recommendations concerning immunizations, oral medications, etc. or I will not be allowed to participate in Juniors Abroad. I understand that I will provide an honest and accurate medical history to the George Fox Health and Counseling Center for their review, and abide by all of their recommendations.

I understand while studying abroad, accommodations, travel, and basic living will be very different than at home. For example, many towns, communities, and institutions abroad are not easily accessible for those with certain disabilities. I understand that traveling with a group on a demanding itinerary will be stressful. Rest and private time will be limited. Further, I understand that some trips involve strenuous activities, including a large amount of walking, climbing and strenuous hiking.

The Center for Study Abroad and the George Fox Health and Counseling Center will seek to advise students about particular activities that may cause concern for some students with physical and health related limitations. However, I understand that I am ultimately responsible for all health related issues before and on the trip. I understand that it is my responsibility to inform the George Fox Health and Counseling Center if I have any physical (e.g., diabetes, food allergies) or mental health (e.g. depression, anxiety, eating disorder) issues that might affect traveling abroad. I understand if I have to return home while on the trip that I am responsible for all costs.

10. **Liability:** I fully understand that there are dangers, hazards, and risks inherent in off-campus study activities, which could include serious or even mortal injuries and property damage. I realize that George Fox University does not require me to participate in this program, but I wish to do so in spite of the dangers and risks.

In consideration of and in return for the services, facilities, and other assistance provided to me by George Fox University in this program, I release George Fox University and its board of trustees, officers, employees, and agents (in their official and individual capacities) from any and all liability, claims, and actions, damages, expenses and costs that may arise from injury, harm, death, or damage due to participation in this program.

11. **Legality:** The construction, validity, and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state of Oregon, and any actions or suits that arise out of it shall be settled in a court of general jurisdiction within the United States. If any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, it shall be struck and the remainder of the terms and provisions shall be binding and enforceable. I also understand that this Agreement binds my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns.

**I have read and understand this entire Agreement, and I will abide by its terms and conditions.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_