The Study Abroad Standard

By enrolling in an Academic Center Abroad, a student assumes not only the rights and privileges of membership, but also the duties of citizenry associated with maintaining the values of New York University and respect for the culture, customs and laws of the nation in which the student is a guest. Each student studying abroad is expected to show both within and without the University such respect for order, morality, personal integrity, and the rights of others as is expected of good citizens. Failure to adhere to this Standard will be sufficient cause for disciplinary action and possible removal from the University and Study Abroad Programs.

The Study Abroad Standard is applicable in a variety of situations. Actions which may be in violation of it include, but are not limited to:

- Behavior which causes injury to one’s self or others or creates a condition that presents a credible threat to the health and safety of one’s self or others;
- Behavior which unduly compromises the psychological or academic well-being of others;
- Property damage and attempts to damage University, third party or public property;
- Theft of University and non-University property, such as street signs, furniture or personal belongings;
- Forgery, plagiarism or cheating;
- Sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct;
- Harassment or other misconduct predicated upon the victim’s gender, gender identity, race, religion, ethnicity, marital status or another protected status;
- Misrepresentation in seeking financial aid, University housing, or other University benefits;
- Misuse of University computer equipment or systems;
- Behavior which reflects negatively upon the University or compromises the University’s interest and/or relationship with the host community in which it is located;
- Behavior involving the misuse or abuse of alcohol or drugs;
- Sending threatening or obscene messages to another student via the Internet, e-mail, telephone or voice-mail;
- Behavior that represents a serious affront to the culture, laws, or customs of the host community in which the site is located.

Because of the global nature and individual customs of NYU Study Abroad Programs, there is no absolute common response or penalty which applies to violations of the Study Abroad Standard. Infractions may lead to penalties ranging from formal warning and community service to dismissal from the site. In each case the determination as to the appropriate intervention may take into consideration the following: the nature and seriousness of the offense not only in terms of University policy but also with respect to the laws and culture of the community in which the site is located; the impact of the behavior upon the campus and local community; the motivation underlying the offense; precedents in similar cases; the behavioral record of the student(s) involved; and any unique mitigating and/or aggravating factors associated with the matter.

Students who are involved in incidents at an academic center may be charged with violating not only the applicable site specific policies but also with violating the fundamental principles of the Study Abroad Standard. Students determined to have violated the Study Abroad Standard, whether or not expelled from the site at which the violation occurred, may have admission offers to future study abroad sites rescinded at the sole discretion of the University.