Mercer County Community College
Faculty-led Study Abroad

VOLUNTARY ASSUMPTION OF RISK
& RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Student Copy
Keep for your Records

CAUTION: THIS IS A RELEASE OF LEGAL RIGHTS. READ AND UNDERSTAND IT BEFORE SIGNING.

Mercer County Community College is a non-profit educational institution. References to Mercer County Community College (“MCCC”) include Mercer County Community College, its officers, officials, employees, volunteers, students and agents.

RISKS OF TRAVEL/STUDY/WORK ABROAD: I understand that my participation in the Mercer County Community College Study Abroad Program involves risk not found in activities at Mercer County Community College. These risks include traveling to, within and returning from one or more foreign countries; foreign, political, legal, social, transportation, health and economic conditions; different standards of design, safety, maintenance of buildings, public places, and conveyances; local medical facilities and providers; and local weather conditions.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: I understand that MCCC is not an agent of, and has no responsibility for any third party which may provide any services including food, lodging, travel, or other goods or services associated with the Study Abroad Program. I understand that MCCC is providing these services only as a convenience to participants and that accordingly, MCCC accepts no responsibility, in whole or in part, for delays, loss, damage or injury to persons or property whatsoever, caused to me or others prior to departure, while traveling or while staying in designated lodging. I further understand that MCCC is not responsible for matters that are beyond its control.

PROGRAM CHANGES: I acknowledge that MCCC reserves the right to cancel the Study Abroad Program without penalty or to make any modifications to the itinerary and or academic program as deemed necessary. MCCC may, in its sole discretion, determine that circumstances within a foreign country may require the cancellation of the Study Abroad Program within that country. MCCC will provide me with as much advance notice as possible of its intention to cancel the Study Abroad Program in which I will participate. I also understand that MCCC, program providers, or the foreign government may prematurely terminate the Study Abroad Program.

If I leave or am expelled from the Study Abroad Program for any reason, there will be no refund of fees already paid. I accept all responsibility for loss or additional expenses due to delays or other changes in the means of transportation, other services, sickness, weather, strikes, or other unforeseen causes. MCCC bears no liability for any losses or claims incurred by me in connection with my own early termination from the Study Abroad Program or MCCC’s termination of its participation in the Study Abroad Program. If I decide to remain in the foreign country after receiving notice of MCCC’s intent to terminate the Study Abroad Program, I bear complete responsibility and liability for my own care and safety.

INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY: I understand that MCCC is not responsible for any loss or damage I may suffer when I am traveling independently or I am otherwise separated or absent from any MCCC activity. I understand that neither MCCC nor program leaders, nor tour arrangers will be supervising me at all times. I will have the opportunity to independently leave the group periodically, subject to program leaders’ requirements for participation in and attendance at required classes and other activities. In addition, I understand that any travel that I do independently on my own before or after the MCCC Study Abroad Program is entirely at my own expense and risk.
HEALTH AND SAFETY: I have been advised to consult with a medical doctor with regard to my personal medical needs. I state that there are no health-related reasons or problems that preclude or restrict my participation in this Study Abroad Program. I have obtained the required immunizations, if any.

I understand that I may be required to pay up front for any medical expenses that I incur while traveling and in the host country. Further, I understand that I am responsible to submit any medical receipts to my insurance carrier upon my return. I recognize that MCCC is not obligated to attend to any of my medical or medication needs, and I assume all risk and responsibility therefore. In case of a medical emergency occurring during my participation in this Study Abroad Program, I authorize in advance the representative of MCCC to secure whatever treatment is necessary, including the administration of an anesthetic and surgery. MCCC may (but is not obligated to) take any actions it considers to be warranted under the circumstances regarding my health and safety. I agree to pay all expenses relating thereto and release MCCC from any liability for any actions.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: I understand that each foreign country has its own laws and standards of acceptable conduct, including dress, manners, morals, politics, drug use and behavior. I recognize that behavior which violates those laws or standards could harm MCCC’s relations with those countries and the institutions therein, as well as my own health and safety. I will become informed of and will abide by all such laws and standards for each country to or through which I will travel during the Study Abroad Program.

I will attend to and assume responsibility for any legal issues or problems I encounter with any foreign nations or governments of the host country. MCCC is not responsible for providing any assistance under such circumstances.

EARLY DEPARTURE: If I decide to leave the Study Abroad Program before completing my course of study, I will provide MCCC with advance written notice of my intention to leave the Study Abroad Program. If I leave the Study Abroad Program prior to its completion, MCCC has no liability to provide or arrange for transportation, housing, dining or other services to me in connection with my early departure.

TRAVEL CHANGES: If I become separated from the Study Abroad Program group, fail to meet a departure airplane, bus, or train, or become sick or injured, I will, to a reasonable extent, and at my own expense seek out, contact, and reach the Study Abroad Program group at its next available destination.

PROGRAM CHARGES: I am responsible for any and all required payments and charges applicable to the Study Abroad Program. I understand the Study Abroad Program’s cancellation policies and fees, and I agree to abide by them.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY: Knowing the risks described above, and in voluntary consideration of being permitted to participate in the Study Abroad Program, I agree to release, indemnify and defend MCCC and its officials, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, sponsors, and students from and against any claim which I, the participant, or any other person may have for any losses, damages or injuries arising out of or in connection with my participation in this Program.