

Updated Safety Information

The US Department of State has [recently updated their travel safety guidelines](#) provided to US citizens. The Office of Study Abroad uses these guidelines as a source of information used in determining approved program locations. Student safety is important to us. Please note that students must now petition to attend certain programs due to safety concerns.

Travel guidance is provided for each country; each country information page includes detailed OSAC ([Overseas Security Advisory Council](#)) information on risk indicators for Crime, Terrorism, Civil Unrest, Health, Natural Disasters, Time Limited Events, and other issues not able to be readily categorized.

Each country also has a security level indicator. Here are the levels:

Level 1: Exercise normal precaution.

Level 2: Exercise increased caution. (Including description of dangers and actions to be taken to mitigate risk)

Level 3: Reconsider travel (Advised to avoid travel to the location.)

Level 4: Do not travel (Life threatening risks present.)

Check the levels [here](#). Note that there may be regions in a country that have a different security level than the country as a whole.

Special Considerations for semester or year-long study abroad:

Countries Considered Clear to Travel:

Level 1-2 on State Department list with no advisories including “Do not Travel” areas and no areas of the country marked by Level 3 & 4 regions.

Countries to Which Citizens are Cautioned Against Travel:

For level 3 countries, or level 1-2 countries with regions marked “Do not Travel” or marked by Level 3 & 4 Regions, there is an additional approval process. *Students hoping to study abroad for a semester in these locations should submit a petition by February 1 or September 1 and seek approval through the Director of Study Abroad. Email studyabroad@washjeff.edu for specific guidance.* The decision to approve or not approve travel to these locations will be rendered as soon as possible.

Countries to Which W&J does not Permit Study Abroad and Travel

Level 4 countries on the State Department Advisor list are not approved for study abroad or travel under any circumstance; petitions will not be considered. If a location for which approval has been previously granted is elevated to the level 4 list, the approval will be revoked.