

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY, RELEASE AND AUTHORIZATION TO
PARTICIPATE IN STUDY/TRAVEL ABROAD PROGRAMS

I, _____ (*print name*) hereby indicate my desire to participate in the _____ (*name of program here*) study abroad program or travel abroad sponsored by Teachers College, Columbia University (“TC” and/or “College”) during the period of _____ (*dates inclusive*). My participation in this program is completely voluntary. If and/or when I am offered and accept a place in the above-name study abroad program, I agree as follows:

1. I assure the College that I have consulted with a medical doctor with regard to my personal medical needs such that I can state that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude or restrict my participation in this program.
2. I realize that accident and illness insurance, as well as insurance for medial evacuation and repatriation that are applicable outside of the United States are required for my participation in the program and that I am responsible for obtaining appropriate insurance coverage for the duration of the program. I also understand that the College encourages me to have appropriate insurance coverage for the entire time I am abroad, even during independent travel before or after the program period.
3. I agree that the College cannot be and is not responsible for attending to any of my medical or medication needs, I assume all risk and responsibility therefore and that if I am required to be hospitalized while in a foreign country or in the United States during this program, the College cannot and does not assume any legal liability for payments of such costs.
4. I agree to abide by the TC Student Code of Conduct during and in connection with my participation in the program. I understand that violation of the Student Code of Conduct may result in removal from the study abroad program. In addition to any action outlined in the Student Code of Conduct policy, I agree to act responsibly and appropriately at all times. I also agree to conform to all applicable policy, rules, regulations, and standards of conduct of any host institution and/or foreign affiliate. I accept termination of my participation in the program by the College and take full responsibility for transportation costs home if I fail to maintain acceptable standards of conduct. In addition, I agree that I will only

receive a refund of tuition and fees, if appropriate, pursuant to the College's and program's policies. I understand that the faculty and/or staff member(s) conducting the program are in accordance with this provision.

5. I understand that as a visitor in a foreign country, I will be subject to the law of that country. I agree to comply with those laws. I understand that being charged with any infraction of the laws of the host country is grounds for immediate removal from the program, with refund of tuition and fees, if appropriate, pursuant to the College's and program's policies. In addition, I understand that should I have any legal problems in the host country, I will be responsible for legal costs incurred as a result. Teachers College cannot provide legal counsel in such circumstances.
6. At all times during my travel with the program, I agree to be in possession of a valid United States passport and if not a United States citizen, a valid foreign passport, or official travel documents and any visas (e.g. tourist or student visa) or other immigration documents (e.g. U.S. "green card," Form I-20) required for entry into a foreign country and re-entry into the United States. In the event that I am prevented from traveling with the group at any time due to my failure to be in possession of all necessary documents, I understand that I shall bear responsibility for all costs incurred to seek out, contact, and reach the group, obtain accommodations during periods of delayed departure from any location, or return home. I have attached a photocopy of each and every necessary travel document referenced above that is required for my participation in this trip.
7. I understand that activities or independent travel conducted when I have free time before, during, or after the program, shall be unsupervised by TC, its agents or employees. I agree that TC, its agents, and employees shall have no responsibility or liability for any injury, damage or loss suffered by me during such periods of independent activity or travel, and this Release shall remain in full force and effect during such times.
8. I agree that in the event I become detached from the group or am unable to remain with the group for any reason not within the control of the College, I will bear all responsibility and costs incurred to seek out, contact, and reach the group at its next available destination.
9. I understand that the College reserves the right to make cancellations, changes or substitutions to the program at any time for any reason, with or without notice, and the College shall not be liable for any loss whatsoever to program participants as a result of such changes. I understand that TC has the right to cancel and/or discontinue the program due to hostile activity, acts of war or terrorism, or in the event of social or civil unrest.

Any refund of tuition and fees, if appropriate, shall be issued pursuant to the College's and program's policies.

10. I understand that if I voluntarily leave the program for any reason, including illness, I will be responsible for any and all costs associated with my return home and that there will only be a refund of tuition and fees, if appropriate, pursuant to the College's and program's policies.
11. I agree that if I require an accommodation due to disability and/or religious observances in order to fully participate in the study abroad program, I will follow (or have already followed) the proper procedures for assessment and approval of such accommodation by the necessary College parties as reasonable. Such approval of accommodations must be granted prior to participation in the program.
12. I authorize TC, its employees, agents, and representatives to act in any attempt to safeguard and preserve my health and/or safety during my participation in the program, including authorizing medical treatment on my behalf and at my expense, and returning me to the United States at my own expense for medical treatment in case of emergency. I understand and agree that TC assumes no responsibility for any injury or damage which might arise out of or in connection with such authorized emergency medical treatment.
13. I agree for myself, my heirs and my personal representatives, to hold harmless, and forever release and discharge Teachers College and its officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action, on account of damage to personal property, personal injury, or death which may result from my participation and transportation activities in connection with the study abroad program.
14. I understand that I will be provided an itinerary and orientation materials by the faculty member(s) conducting the program. I agree to carefully read those materials and attend any in-class orientation session scheduled by the faculty member.
15. I acknowledge that I have read this entire document and understand its terms.
16. This Release shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of New York. Any litigation regarding this Release or the study abroad program shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the County of New York, State of New York.

Participant Signature

Date