

**OZARKS TECHNICAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM
CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

The purpose of studying abroad is to engage in a unique learning experience that combines academic achievement with the goal of gaining a deeper understanding of another culture. Cultural learning through study abroad promotes tolerance, fosters collaboration and establishes friendships among individuals, institutions and nations. I understand that while participating in an Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) Study Abroad program I am a representative of my college, community, and country.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in an OTC Study Abroad program, I, _____, hereby understand and agree to the following conditions of participation:

1. **OTC Student Policy:** As a participant in an OTC study abroad program, I am subject to the standards of student conduct detailed in the OTC Student Handbook. I fully understand that failure to comply with these standards could result in immediate dismissal from this program at my own expense.
2. **Academic Policy:** Because this is an academic program, I am responsible for participation in the online classes and for completing assigned work. Failure to participate fully in the program may constitute academic misconduct and result in dismissal from the program, without refund. I understand that a failing grade for the coursework during the semester will prevent me from going on the trip.
3. **Pre-Departure:** In addition to classes related to the study abroad academic program, I realize that I am responsible for attending all pre-departure and orientation meetings required to participate in this program. Such pre-departure requirements include the mandatory safety and security presentation by the Program Instructor. I agree to respond within 36 hours to all emails concerning trip arrangements and payments. I understand that failure to do so may result in my being dismissed from the program, forfeiting the \$500 deposit.
4. **Host Country Laws:** As a visitor to a foreign country, I will be subject to the laws of that country. It is my responsibility to obey the laws in all countries I visit during the study abroad program. Violations of the local law of the host community or country are referred to and handled by the appropriate local law enforcement authorities. OTC will not assume expenses of or interfere with the legal process.
5. **Behavior in Host Country:** As a foreign study participant I am a guest in the country being visited. Behavior that may seem harmless in another setting may be considered offensive in the host culture. Such behavior could harm relations and result in curtailment of the program. It is essential that all participants respect norms of conduct patterns of behavior, which may be different from standards at home. Such norms will be discussed at orientation meetings. Repeated behaviors offensive to the host culture may result in the student being sent home at his or her expense.

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6. **Illegal Use of Drugs and Alcohol.** The use of illegal drugs during the entire period of the program is strictly prohibited. I understand that if I am found intentionally using or possessing drugs considered illegal by the United States, in any form, I will be subject to immediate expulsion from the program and will be returned at my own expense. (Example: while the use of some drugs considered illegal in the United States may be legal in the Netherlands, any student found using these drugs during a study abroad trip there would be immediately expelled.) Likewise, if I am under the legal drinking age for the state of Missouri, for the purposes of this study abroad program I will not be allowed to drink alcohol in the host country even though the local laws may permit me to do so.

7. **Disruptive Conduct:** Conduct which is disruptive to the program, offensive to the host culture, or which endangers myself or others, may result in dismissal. Violent behavior, sexual harassment, racial or ethnic harassment, will not be tolerated and will be dealt with severely. Offenses such as abuse of alcohol, abusive language toward fellow participants, program faculty and staff, or citizens of the host country, or the student's refusal to follow the rules and requirements of program instructors, may also result in the student being sent home at his or her expense.

8. **Free Time:** I assume responsibility for my choice of activities during unscheduled program time. Even during my free time I understand that I will not depart the program area without approval from an authorized OTC staff or faculty member. All standards of conduct apply to free time as well as scheduled program activities. I understand the need to carefully consider the consequences of accidents or injury arising from my choice of activities or travel destinations during free time. If I become ill, injured or am the victim of crime or violence, while traveling outside the study site during my free time, I understand that the program will have very limited ability to assist me and that the program cannot pay or the costs of providing assistance.

9. **Financial Responsibility:** My participation in the program is contingent upon making all payments or financial aid arrangements by the stated due dates and completing and submitting all required forms before the start of the program. I further understand that failure to submit forms or payments in a timely manner may result in my being dismissed from the program, and forfeiting the \$500 deposit. If airline tickets have been purchased, it is the responsibility of the participant to negotiate a refund. OTC is not responsible for refunding airline tickets.

10. **Voluntary or involuntary departure** from the program before its completion does not automatically result in academic withdrawal. I am responsible for resolving my enrollment status if I leave the program early. I further understand that I am solely responsible for any and all costs arising out of my own voluntary or involuntary withdrawal from the program prior to its completion, including withdrawal caused by illness or disciplinary action.

Student signature

Date

Program Instructor

Date