

Hello, SU students studying abroad in Europe and Emergency Contacts,

Response required

We hold our students' health and safety in the highest regard. This is why we have tried to communicate frequently with you this spring as the coronavirus situation has unfolded in Europe. These are difficult, and unprecedented times.

Tonight, the US President announced restrictions to travel from Europe beginning on Friday, March 13 for a period of 30 days. We do not know exactly what that will look like yet. We do know that US citizens have been permitted to leave countries with a level 3 warning in order to return home even with restrictions in place – from mainland China, for example. We are anxiously awaiting clarification.

For now, we must recommend that you leave your program within the upcoming days. It may become harder to find flights to leave the longer you stay.

We understand that the situation seems to be very different in different parts of the country, but we also have to follow the US Government and State Department's recommendations.

At this point in your semester, you have clearly met the GO requirements. You should be in contact with your on-site staff about your departure from the program site. Many of your programs have already indicated the opportunity to complete your courses online; you should ask them about these options, and we will reconfirm as well.

We think it is important that make plans to return home. You will need to coordinate with your airline to change your ticket, and at this point many airlines are waiving fees, so please inquire. If you experience financial difficulties changing your flight, please let us know. Please let us and your on-site staff know of your new departure date.

Because GO policy is that we do not permit travel to regions with a level 3 warning; we firmly believe that after Friday, the advisory level will increase, we are pro-actively asking you to leave.

If you do decide to stay on site, we will require you acknowledge that you do so at your own risk. That also includes any financial responsibility incurred due to the absence of flights and US restrictions. Of course we would still do what we could to be helpful to you after that, but you would no longer be officially in Europe on GO. We can discuss this further with you as needed.

Please reply to this e-mail with your new travel plans, or if you intend to stay at your program.

We know you'll have many questions and concerns and we continue to be here to help you as we all respond to this unfortunate situation.

Best,
Scott Manning, Dean of Global Programs
Molly Roe, Director of GO
Ariana Stuhl, Study Away Advisor