October 1, 2012

Restriction on Student Travel to Honduras and El Salvador Extended
Due to continued concerns about personal safety and security, the University’s Risk Management Committee for Education Abroad has renewed the restriction on student travel to Honduras* and El Salvador. The restriction is the same as that placed on all undergraduate, graduate, and professional student travel to countries under a U.S. Department of State Travel Warning (University Policy on Student Travel).

The Committee has extended the suspension of University sponsored education abroad programs in the two countries. UVa sponsored programs include faculty-led education abroad programs as well as programs that provide funding for undergraduate research and service, e.g., the Jefferson Global Citizen, Center for Global Health and Harrison awards programs.

*An exception is student travel to Roatan Island in Honduras. Student travelers must fly directly to Roatan Island, depart from the island and may not visit the mainland. As is the case with all University sponsored student travel at UVa, travelers must register with the International Studies Office (ISO).

Restriction on Student Travel to Guatemala Revised
The restriction on travel for students participating in the UVa in Guatemala Initiative has been revised. Students are required to review their travel plans with the ISO and the Director of the UVa in Guatemala Initiative, read the most recent U.S. Department of State information on safety and security in Guatemala, complete an additional waiver and release of liability and register their travel with the ISO.

Proposals for UVa faculty-led programs to Guatemala, as well as requests to include travel to Guatemala as part of other UVa faculty-led education abroad programs in the region will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the University’s Risk Management Committee for Education Abroad.

Restriction on Student Travel to Nicaragua Lifted
The restriction on student travel to Nicaragua has been removed effective October 1, 2012.

Exemptions
Exemptions to the restriction on travel may be requested by undergraduate students participating in non-University of Virginia programs per student petition and additional waiver and release of liability. An undergraduate student wishing to request approval of participation in a non-University
of Virginia study abroad program in Guatemala, Honduras or El Salvador may follow the guidelines documented at: Procedures. The decision of the International Studies Office will be final.

Graduate and professional students may travel to the three countries if it is academically imperative for them to do so. Such study/research projects require written justification and the approval of the department chair, the dean, and the Provost.

University Risk Management Committee for Education Abroad
The University’s Risk Management Committee for Education Abroad is comprised of representatives from the Office of Risk Management, Office of the General Counsel, University faculty, Division of Student Affairs and the ISO. The Committee based its recent decisions on information from the U.S. Department of State, Overseas Security Advisory Council, FrontierMedex, and the Peace Corps. The restriction of student travel to Honduras and El Salvador and revised restriction on travel to Guatemala will be reviewed at the end of the 2012-13 academic year (May, 2013).

International Studies Office
208 Minor Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4165
434/982 3010 – telephone
434/982 3011 - fax
www.virginia.edu/iso

Resources
U.S. Department of State Travel Resources
U.S. Department of State International Travel Information: Country Specific Information, Travel Alerts and Travel Warnings
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
World Health Organization