Siena Abroad
Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

At Siena College, we are committed to the health, safety, and well-being of all students traveling abroad. The staff at the Center for International Programs is well-equipped to prepare, manage, and support students during this time of uncertainty.

Recognizing the impact the COVID-19 pandemic currently has on international travel, we have limited our study abroad opportunities for the 2020-2021 academic year. Please review the table below for the status of upcoming terms and study abroad programs, as well as further information and resources on the next page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term / Program</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Short-Term 2020-2021 | Suspended
Short-term faculty-led academic study tours and international service and advocacy trips for the 2020-2021 academic year have been cancelled. |
| J-Term 2021          | Suspended                                   |
| Spring 2021          | Running
Students are still able to study abroad for the Spring 2021 semester, dependent on changes to existing U.S. Department of State travel advisories, CDC travel notices, and individual countries’ travel restrictions. |
| Summer 2021          | Running
Students are still able to apply to study abroad during Summer 2021, dependent on changes to existing U.S. Department of State travel advisories, CDC travel notices, and individual countries’ travel restrictions. |

For more information or to speak with a study abroad advisor at the Center for International Programs, please email international@siena.edu and we will be happy to help.
Frequently Asked Questions

How do you monitor the safety of study abroad in the global pandemic?

In addition to following Siena College guidance regarding off-campus travel, we utilize the following resources to determine the safety and stability of our study abroad programs and locations:

- U.S. Department of State Guidances on International Travel (and Country-Specific Travel Advisories)
- CDC Travel Notices
- CDC Guidelines on COVID-19
- WHO Guidelines on COVID-19
- Study Abroad Program-Specific Guidances (by either the foreign university or study abroad partner organization)

What happens if I apply to study abroad and can no longer go / choose not to go due to the pandemic?

In the face of uncertainty, we are providing a series of assurances should your study abroad plans change. These include maintaining your on-campus housing (for resident students), dual-enrolling in on-campus courses (for semester abroad students), and limiting the risk of losing finances. For more information, please contact the Center for International Programs staff.

What happens if there is a spike in COVID-19 when I am abroad?

Prior to students’ departure for study abroad, we review important emergency preparedness information and the resources available to them for support. Should an increase in COVID-19 occur while students are abroad, we will maintain communication with the student and their study abroad program to discuss academic and financial concerns and determine any necessary course(s) of action.

How might study abroad look differently for the next year or so?

We can expect study abroad will face some changes, such as: limitations on study abroad programs / locations (based on our analysis of program safety and stability); restrictions on independent travel while abroad; remote or online coursework; shortened semester or adjusted academic calendar; and changes student life abroad (i.e. housing, programmatic excursions).

As a result, we may need to reimagine what study abroad looks like for the time being, but we recognize the importance and the value of hands-on international experiences and look forward to bringing students the opportunity to learn and engage in cultures and communities outside of their own.