

December 22, 2014

Dear Hampshire Students Studying Abroad,

As the fall semester winds down and you begin to prepare for your Jan-term and spring semesters abroad, we want to recognize you as an important part of our community engaging around the globe. We trust that your experiences will challenge you to grow by expanding your sense of self, academic knowledge and understanding of the global community. Study abroad often serves as a life-long touchstone for inspiration and investigation.

Hampshire College is committed to ensuring student safety during this process of transformation. We are writing with an important update on emerging travel concerns arising out of the December 15, 2014 terrorist attack in Sydney Australia. As a result of that incident, the US State Department has issued a worldwide travel alert to all US citizens traveling abroad. Please note the precautions suggested in the travel alert, located online here:

<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings/worldwide-travel-alert.html>

In addition, we ask you to complete these steps in preparing for your travel abroad:

- 1) Register your travel in Hampshire's own travel registry in [HampGOES](#). If you have already created a travel registry profile in HampGOES, please be sure you update it with both an in-country and US based emergency contact. Once you have solidified your travel plans, please be sure to add your flight itineraries along with any other accommodations and travel information as needed.
- 2) Register in the [AIG Travel Guard Portal](#) to receive up-to-date travel information and alerts specific to the country/countries to where you are going.
- 3) If you are a US citizen, please register with the US State Department through their DOS Smart Traveler Enrollment Program <https://step.state.gov/step/>.
- 4) Be sure you have all necessary emergency contact phone numbers as well as your Emergency Red Card that you received from the Global Education Office, filled out with appropriate information.

In the event of an emergency, please be in contact with your host institution or program provider, your family, and the Hampshire College Global Education Office by calling 001.413.559.5542 or emailing geo@hampshire.edu. Please note that Hampshire College will be closed for the holidays beginning on Wednesday, December 24, and will reopen on Monday, January 5, 2015. During this time, if you have an emergency and need immediate assistance, please call the Hampshire College Switchboard at 001.413.549.4600 and ask to be in touch with the Global Education Office. Please be prepared to leave a phone number where you can be reached and someone from the Global Education Office will return your call as soon as possible.

We hope that you are having an educationally enriching, challenging, and transformative experience abroad. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Global Education Office at 001.413.559.5542 or geo@hampshire.edu.

Sincerely,
The Global Education Office