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# INDIANA UNIVERSITY BICENTENNIAL

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

March 21, 2020

On March 13, IU canceled all summer study abroad programs with a departure date on or before May 15. The university has now made the difficult decision to cancel all remaining study abroad programs for this summer. This action was based on the following considerations:

- On March 19, the State Department issued a worldwide Level 4 Travel Advisory (Do Not Travel). Pursuant to IU policy, we do not offer or support study abroad programs in countries given Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisories by the State Department, and no exemptions will be considered for Level 4 countries. It is impossible to predict when this Advisory will be lifted.
- As of this writing, more than 50 countries have implemented entry restrictions barring travelers from the United States. Others have instituted mandatory quarantines for all arriving travelers. The duration of these restrictions is not clear, but may very well extend into the summer.
- Many of IU's summer study abroad opportunities rely on support from local partners, including universities, communities, and businesses. Many of these partners have suspended or curtailed their own operations, and it is impossible to predict when normal operations will resume.
- A clear determination regarding these programs will allow students who had planned to engage in summer study abroad to register for other summer courses or make alternative plans.
- Both academic units and individual students have already begun to incur non-refundable expenses in connection with summer study abroad programs.

We regret the circumstances that led to this decision.

Hannah L. Buxbaum  
Vice President