

Cancellation of Fall 2020 Study Abroad Programs – May 12, 2020

It is with great disappointment that USD has decided to cancel our Fall 2020 single semester outgoing undergraduate study abroad programs. Given the evolving and unpredictable situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, this decision was made to ensure the health, safety and well-being, and academic continuity of our study abroad students.

Suspending our outgoing fall study abroad programs at this time eliminates the potential challenges that would arise as a result of last-minute program cancellations by host partners abroad, unexpected travel restrictions, closed visa and passport offices, international housing constraints and more. With the semester start at USD for Fall 2020 now scheduled to begin on August 17, and most of the study abroad programs begin in September, we are also trying to ensure that none of our students miss out on the start of classes at USD while the requirements in the host countries still remain unclear and are subject to change at any moment.

This decision was very difficult as USD is fully committed to the high value that experiential international experiences bring to the academic experience at USD. We are confident that there will be other opportunities for our students to go abroad in the coming terms. Study abroad and academic advisors will work individually with each student to review their academic plan and develop options for a future term abroad.

Again, we are so very sorry to share this disappointing news with our campus community. USD is nationally recognized for the percentage of our undergraduate students who study abroad. We will continue to prioritize international education through student mobility as well as through our curriculum and academic programs.

-The USD International Center