



The safety and security of our program participants is of paramount importance, and our UW staff makes every effort to ensure that students are well-informed about safety issues in specific program sites. We have therefore included safety information for Kenya and important links to further safety information in the waiver form below.

Waiver for countries with U.S. Department of State Travel Warning Issued **Kenya**

I understand that the U.S. Department of State has issued a travel warning for the country in which I wish to study. I understand that most U.S. universities do not allow their students to travel alone or on organized group programs to countries with a State Department travel warning in place and that most also do not allow individuals to use financial aid when studying in such a country, even on their own.

I understand that it is *my* responsibility to research news articles related to safety issues in Kenya *before* applying to study abroad. I understand that a good source for these articles is OSAC (<http://www.osac.gov>) but that other sources are also available.

I certify that I have read ALL of the information provided at the following sites. I understand that I should monitor these sites during the months leading up to my study abroad experience:

- **U.S. Department of State**

The U.S. Department of State warns U.S. citizens of the risks of travel to Kenya. American citizens in Kenya and those considering travel to Kenya should evaluate their personal security situation in light of continuing threats from terrorism and the high rate of violent crime.

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_923.html (travel warning) and

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1151.html (Country-specific Information)

- **Canada**

Canadians are advised to exercise a high degree of caution because of the potential of terrorist actions against Western interests throughout Kenya.

http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/report_rapport-eng.asp?id=149000

- **Australia**

Australia has five levels of travel warning at the state and local levels. Levels include 1) be alert to own security, 2) exercise caution, 3) high degree of caution, 4) reconsider your need to travel and 5) do not travel. Kenya is listed at level three due to the high risk of terrorist attack, civil unrest and high crime levels. Within Kenya, Australia lists some neighborhoods outside of Nairobi at level four and the border regions with Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia at level 5. The Australian government is receiving an increasing number of reports that terrorists may be planning attacks against a range of targets in Kenya,

Waiver for countries with U.S. Department of State Travel Warning Issued

Kenya (continued)

- including Kenyan or Western interests. Western embassies, UN premises, shopping areas frequented by Westerners, hotels, tourist resorts, safari lodges and other places frequented by foreigners may be particular targets.
<http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/zw-cgi/view/Advice/Kenya>
- The **U.K.** Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against all but essential travel to some neighborhoods of Nairobi and to the border area with Somalia.
<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/travel-advice-by-country/sub-saharan-africa/kenya1>

I understand that armed attacks (especially attacks on occupants of vehicles) and other crimes are prevalent in Kenya and especially in Nairobi. I certify that I have read about the risks involved in traveling to Kenya and have reviewed the personal safety precautions (through the links listed above) which each individual will be expected to exercise. **I understand that taking safety precautions only reduces risk; it does not eliminate risk.** Risks and safety precautions are outlined in the travel advisories above.

I understand and acknowledge that my participation in a study abroad program located in a country with an issued U.S. Department of State Travel Warning is voluntary. Without reservation or limitation, I assume all risks associated with my participation in said program. I understand that there are always many unpredictable and serious risks associated with travel and study abroad, and that such risks are common in countries for which a Travel Warning has been issued. These risks can and do have many underpinnings, and I acknowledge that while the University may give me information on risks present in Kenya, it is my responsibility to further research and understand these risks.

Given the range of risks generally associated with travel and study abroad, and the likelihood that some or all of these risks are pertinent to an academic program located in a country with a U.S. Department of State Travel Warning, I hereby acknowledge that I assume all responsibility for my personal health, safety and welfare as a consequence of my voluntary participation in the program named below.

I further acknowledge that no person at UW Oshkosh has or can offer me any guarantees regarding my personal health, safety and welfare, and that I have not been provided with any assurances about local conditions in the country to which I will travel that I construe as such assurances.

I agree to attend ALL mandatory pre-travel orientations and academic classes. I understand that failure to attend these sessions will cause me to be administratively withdrawn from the program and that I will be responsible for full program costs (whether already paid or not) as stated in the withdrawal and refund schedule.

After reviewing this document and all other resources mentioned within this document, return this signed safety waiver to the OIE along with your study abroad application. If you have additional questions or concerns that have not been addressed, contact the OIE by email at oie@uwosh.edu, by phone at 920-424-0775 (to set up an appointment), or by stopping by Dempsey 146 **BEFORE** you sign this waiver.

Signature

Date _____

Print name