What’s the deal with...

STUDY ABROAD?

According to GW Policy, students must be in good disciplinary standing at the time of application and remain in good standing prior to departure. While abroad, if students do not follow GW’s “Code of Student Conduct” or the “Code of Academic Integrity” the policies of the host university, or the laws of the host country, they risk being dismissed from the study abroad program.

But what does that mean?

Study abroad programs ask the Office for Study Abroad to certify that each student applying to an overseas program is in good disciplinary standing. To do this, the Office for Study Abroad requires all students interested in studying abroad to complete a Policy Acknowledgement Form. This form is sent to the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities and the Office of Academic Integrity and a background check is performed on students to see if they have a non-academic disciplinary record or a record of academic dishonesty.

While abroad, if students fail to abide by GW’s “Code of Student Conduct” or the “Code of Academic Integrity” the policies of the host university, or laws of the host country, the Office for Study Abroad will notify the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities. The University will then take appropriate disciplinary action, which could include dismissal from the study abroad program.

How does that affect life at GW?

If anyone tells you a disciplinary incident will not affect your chances of studying abroad, he or she is wrong! Do all you can to keep a clean disciplinary record.

Did you know...

- Use or possession of illegal drugs while abroad is cause for immediate dismissal from the program without refund
- Students must abide by GW’s “Code of Student Conduct” and “Code of Academic Integrity” even when they are overseas
- You can be charged with a disciplinary violation at GW even when you are studying abroad
- Behavior that disrupts a study abroad program is considered inappropriate and may result in disciplinary action

What if I have a Disciplinary History?

If you have had a disciplinary record, but it has been administratively expunged, you may apply to study abroad.

If you have a disciplinary record, but are not currently on Disciplinary Probation and you have not received more severe sanctions, you may apply to study abroad.

If you are on Disciplinary Probation at the time of application, but the probation period expires prior to the start of your study abroad program, you may petition to study abroad. Your petition will be reviewed on several criteria to include a review of your current disciplinary standing. Petitions are considered on a case-by-case basis and the University reserves the right to deny your petition.

If you are on Disciplinary Probation and the probation period expires after the start date of your intended study abroad program or you have received more severe sanctions, you may not study abroad. You will need to wait and apply for study abroad once your Disciplinary Probation period has expired or you are back in good disciplinary standing with the University.

If you are placed on Disciplinary Probation or receive more severe sanctions after being granted approval to study abroad, you may no longer study abroad.