Guidance from City, University of London for students abroad during COVID-19

Update on International travel

As of Monday 23rd March, The Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) has advised British citizens travelling abroad to return to the UK now, if commercial flights are still available. International travel is becoming very limited as air routes close, land borders close and new restrictions are put in place that prevent flights from leaving. Other countries are issuing similar advice. On this basis, City strongly advises that you return to the UK or your home country, provided that you are able and it is safe to do so. Please also note the guidance in your host country and limits on travel currently in place around the world. If you decide to remain in your host country, you should continue to monitor the travel advice issued by the FCO or the government advice of your home country. You will also need to comply with any coronavirus (COVID-19) control measures put in place by your host country.

If you intend to return to the UK or your home country, you need to take account of the fast-moving situation and must follow the advice of local authorities and the latest travel advice set by the FCO or the government of your home country. You will need to plan accordingly, bearing in mind the fact there are currently fewer commercial flights available, and be prepared for border closures or lockdown measures being introduced at short notice. Please also consider accommodation and visa implications if you choose not to leave your host country now, which may result in increased delays at a later date. The FCO travel advice for people who are abroad and want to return to the UK also recommends checking their social media accounts for the country you are in.

Emergency help for UK nationals

If you are a UK national who needs emergency help from the UK government while overseas, particularly regarding not being able to get a return flight, you can contact the nearest British embassy, consulate or high commission or the FCO in London on 0207 008 1500 for help or advice 24/7. Before you travel, read the latest health advice and follow guidance for travellers to reduce your risk of exposure to coronavirus (COVID-19). Read guidance on what you can do if you need financial help and who you can contact for support when abroad.

Further information

You can subscribe to FCO email alerts for the country/territory you are in via the ‘Get email alerts’ link on each travel advice page. You should also consult the latest PHE Public Health matters guidance.

Please get in contact with your Student Exchange/Placements Coordinator, Work-Based Learning Advisor, or Cass Placements team immediately (if you have not already) regarding any updates or changes to your situation.