



INTERNATIONAL Field Trip Policies and Liability Waiver



TO: Students & Invitees Participating in Earth Sciences Field Trips
FROM: Chairperson of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department
SUBJECT: Field Trip Policies and Liability Waiver
FIELD TRIPS: GEL490I Geology of the European Alps & Surroundings – A Field Course

All participants **MUST INITIAL & SIGN** this **LIABILITY WAIVER** in order to be eligible for registration!

- Complete and upload to CANVAS once the course is online and available -

All students or invitees participating in field trips taught by the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences should be aware that there is always an element of risk in such trips. These risks involve travel by vehicles, including commercial, state, and private vehicles, and in certain cases travel by canoes and rafts, walking as pedestrians on or near roadways, as well as strenuous hiking in mountainous terrains which are sometimes in remote areas. Instructors will use all reasonable precautions and trip participants need to exercise prudent behavior during field trips, but even then there exists the possibility of an accident. Trip participants need to assess their own physical abilities and not exceed their capabilities. Trip participants must be alert and aware of possible risks and dangers during field trips.

Policies, Rules & Regulations for ALL Participants *Read carefully and **initial each item** on the line provided. Your initial indicates FULL understanding and acceptance of each policy, rule &/or regulation.*

All trip participants are under the professional responsibility concerning the consumption of alcohol, as well as impairing drugs and medications. Drinking and Driving is a serious offense in Europe with many countries invoking draconian punishments even for first time offenders.

Since we are traveling through many countries, a ZERO tolerance policy concerning recreational / medical drugs (e.g. Cannabis) and their derivatives (e.g. Cannabis oil) is enforced. While many countries in Europe have legalized, some have not. If caught with possession, even for smallest quantities, you may be incarcerated for a long time, e.g. Brittney Griner.

Smoking will NOT be permitted within cars or lodging accommodations, only in designated areas as allowed by foreign laws of the country visited. Because of possible fire dangers in the many areas visited, absolutely NO smoking will be allowed during field hikes or outside designated areas. Trip participants who smoke must be considerate of nonsmokers.

There will be strict enforcement of “quiet hours” according to hotel / hostel regulations. During this time, there will be no loud music, boisterous activity, or other disturbance allowed.

Trip participants with medical problems, including but not limited to asthma and allergies, **must** consult with instructor prior to participating in field trips. Such participants **must** carry appropriate medications with them AT ALL TIMES. In case of a medical emergency during the field trip, such participants must be prepared to pay for expenses incurred for their evacuation.

Trip participants will exercise good common sense at all times and will ASK the instructor or other knowledgeable personnel when in doubt.

Covid restrictions may be in place which may include social distancing, a specific type of mask properly worn, possible curfews and requirements for vaccinations / negative Covid tests. Participants must abide by regulations of the host country.

Trip participants who violate any laws of the host country or who violate any of the field trip policies or stipulations or who fail to conform to directives from the instructor may be immediately dismissed from the field trip. The instructors have the right to terminate any participant found in violation of these responsibilities, and such actions will terminate him or her from continuing on the trip. The fees already submitted shall be non-refundable in such cases. Terminated participants must fly home on their own expense and are liable for any additional charges. Such enrolled students may also be subject to a failing grade in the course, be required to withdraw from the course, and be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

Compliance with Trip Policies, Rules & Regulations *Read carefully and **initial each item** on the line provided. Your initial indicates FULL understanding and acceptance of each policy, rule &/or regulation.*

I, the undersigned, will exchange US\$ 20.00 upon entry for “Restroom” coins. It is my, the participants, responsibility to secure restroom accessibility.

I, the undersigned, will bring an internationally capable cellphone with appropriate international coverage or I will purchase an operational phone upon arrival. I, the trip participant, will share my contact number immediately with the instructor and other trip participants.

I, the undersigned, do understand the rules concerning alcohol, recreational / medical drugs and smoking policies and declare that I will abide by these rules and regulations.

I, the undersigned, will abide by the Covid rules & regulations of the countries and places visited. I do understand that costs for masking and testing, if required, are my own responsibility and expense. I also declare that I will be FULLY VACCINATED for the trip in accordance with the host countries Covid requirements.

I, the undersigned, will abide by decency laws in the host country. This includes, but is not limited to pyjama use for dorm rooms, appropriate clothing for visiting cathedrals (Girls NO shorts or tank-tops; boys NO see through sports jerseys), etc. I, the participant, also understand that certain events, such as visiting an opera in Europe, require formal wear and in case of noncompliance might not be admitted to these events, regardless of my payment.

I, the undersigned, understand the refund policy and my fiscal obligations for this international trip. I understand that the trip fee collected does NOT include airfare, meals or tuition.

Policies, Rules & Regulations for Drivers of Vehicles in Foreign Countries

*Read carefully and **initial each item** on the line provided. Your initial indicates FULL understanding and acceptance of each policy, rule &/or regulation.*

All drivers must be at least 25 years of age and must have an International Driver’s License.

All drivers must abide by a ZERO alcohol / drug policy during the whole trip. NO EXCEPTIONS! If you can NOT abide by this law, do NOT volunteer as a driver.

All drivers must take responsibility for the rented vehicle assigned to them, including but not limited to making sure the vehicle is gassed up, has correct tire pressure, has the trash taken out, etc.

In consideration of my being permitted to participate in this activity, I, the undersigned hereby release and hold harmless the Trustees of Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, and respective employees, from all claims, losses, damages, or expenses because of property damage or personal or bodily injury incurred or caused by me during or in conjunction with the above mentioned activity. In filling out this form, I acknowledge that I fully understand the risk that is inherent to off-campus activities. Furthermore, I have fully read and understand the department policies and my liability and do accept the restrictions.

Print Name

Student ID #

Sign Name *(your typed name HERE counts as your signature)*

DATE