

Communication to Purdue-WL Students (February 24, 2020)

The recent Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak reminds us of the importance of health and safety exercised in an interconnected world. Safety and security of students is our highest priority and we are confident in the support of our partners both overseas as well as on-campus.

Multiple staff members of the Office of Programs for Study Abroad are involved with monitoring the situation, doing so in conjunction with a community of campus entities (e.g. Security and Risk Assessment Committee, Public Health Emergency Planning Team, Risk Management, Purdue Police). We regularly learn updates from reputable external sources as well, including the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)), US Department of State [Travel Advisories](#), and Johns Hopkins COVID-19 [map](#).

There are currently no Purdue-WL students in China on study abroad programs. China study abroad programs for spring break and summer have been suspended as well, related to Purdue University actions.

Please know that all other spring break, summer, and fall 2020 study abroad programs are active, coupled with ongoing attention to student well-being. Students should feel comfortable discussing any questions or concerns with their program leader. We continue to encourage students to heed the advice of program staff, civil authorities, and healthcare agencies. Ultimately, individuals taking precautions will help maintain personal health plus that of those around them.

The Purdue University Office of Programs for Study Abroad has a web page dedicated to [Safety & Health](#) resources website resources and I would welcome direct communications if useful. We wish all 2020 Purdue study abroad students all success; coupled with confidence that significant planning is in place.

Respectfully,

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Brian D. Harley, Ph.D.
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