

**Agreement Governing Participation in a Bates Short Term Course  
while off-campus in the United States**

Participation on a Bates Short Term course with time elsewhere in the United States is an exciting opportunity. It is also a commitment to live and study off-campus in ways that are often fundamentally distinct from those on-campus. The objective of this form is to review some of the key aspects that can accompany an off-campus Short Term course. Your signature on this page confirms your acceptance of these terms of participation.

The field orientation of the course results in special expectations and responsibilities for students. Unlike enrolling in an on-campus course, participants make a commitment for a full-time involvement in the course while it is off-campus. Faculty may assign tasks to students to assist with the management of the course. Through all of this, students need to be flexible and appreciate that even the best organized plans often change in the field: buses break down, a hostel that looked fine on the web may not be, planned speakers may develop other plans, what appeared to be a short drive may become a drawn out venture, etc.

Health and safety concerns are magnified off-campus because of the change in routine, the demands of the different environment, tasks that may be part of the course, the distance from medical care, the lack of counseling services and other accommodations that are available on campus, etc. For this reason, students and a parent or guardian are required to complete a "Student Information and Health Form" for the faculty member leading the course. Students are expected to be cautious, to avoid risky behaviors and situations, and to follow the safety advice of the faculty. They need to understand that accidents are a greater threat and more difficult to manage off-campus with uncertain hospital care, travel on crutches, and the like. The careless behavior of one can undermine the experience of the entire group.

Independent travel plans must be approved by the faculty director, with public transportation required for all independent travel. Association with, use, or sale of illicit drugs places the entire group at risk and may result in expulsion from the program. Respect for faculty guidelines and safety pre-cautions is essential. Students should take an alternative course on campus if they cannot commit to this.

The anticipated extra cost of the course is listed online. A \$500 non-refundable deposit is assessed at the time you register. In addition to this deposit, students who withdraw after the registration period are charged for the non-recoverable expenditures made on their behalf. The extra cost charge pays for the course's travel and other costs while off-campus. Savings that result from lower than expected costs during the course are returned to the College to offset the subsidy that it provides for these courses.

The College may withdraw a student from the course at any time if their behavior is inconsistent with these expectations or their health is not suitable for the demands or location of the course. While off-campus, the responsibilities of the Deans of Students, Academic Standing Committee, and Student Conduct Committee are assumed by the Bates faculty leading the course. This individual (or individuals) has ultimate authority to adjudicate academic and social issues, with potential resolutions up to and including dismissal from the course with immediate return home, and no credit for the course.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (Parents/guardians sign if student is under 18)

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to the Faculty member who is teaching your Short Term course.**