

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Safety Department

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SAFETY



TRIP ASSESSMENT

- All International trips are assessed using information obtained from the **U.S. State Department** & foreign government websites (i.e. U.K., Canada, Australia).
- **Acknowledgement & Release Agreement (ARA)** form.
 - *Required for all trip participants.*
 - *Transfers liability to participants.*
 - *Signed originals must be provided to Safety prior to departure for safekeeping/retention.*
 - *Must be signed in ink – Not Pencil.*

TRIP ASSESSMENT



U.S. Dept. of State website:

- <http://www.state.gov/>
- Home page – under [Quick Links](#) - click on [Travel Advisories](#)

Advisories page:

- [Travel Advisories alphabetical list](#); choose the country
- [Search for Travel Advisories](#); type in country and click on go

TRIP ASSESSMENT

[Travel Advisories page:](#)

- [Travel Advisory Levels:](#)
 - *Level 1: Exercise Normal Precautions*
 - *Level 2: Exercise Increased Precautions*
 - *Level 3: Reconsider Travel*
 - *Level 4: Do Not Travel*
- [Interactive color-coded map:](#)
 - *Travel Advisory Levels*
 - *Embassy & Consulate Locations*

TRIP ASSESSMENT

- Travel Advisory Levels:

- ***Level 1: Exercise Normal Precautions***

- *Lowest advisory level for safety & security risk.*

- ***Level 2: Exercise Increased Precautions***

- *Be aware of heightened risks to safety & security.*

- ***Level 3: Reconsider Travel***

- *Avoid travel due to serious risks to safety & security.*

- ***Level 4: Do Not Travel***

- *Highest advisory level due to greater likelihood of life-threatening risks.*
- *Do not travel to the country or leave as soon as safe to do so.*

TRIP ASSESSMENT

- Risk Indicators:

- *C: Crime*
- *T: Terrorism*
- *U: Civil Unrest*
- *H: Health*
- *N: Natural Disaster*
- *E: Time-limited Event*
- *O: Other*

TRIP ASSESSMENT

Risk Indicators:

- **C: Crime**
 - *Widespread violent or organized crime*
- **T: Terrorism**
 - *Terrorist attacks have occurred and/or specific threats*
- **U: Civil Unrest**
 - *Political, economic, religious, and/or ethnic instability*
- **H: Health**
 - *Health risks including current disease outbreaks or crisis*

TRIP ASSESSMENT

Risk Indicators:

- ***N: Natural Disaster***
 - *A natural disaster or aftermath poses danger.*
- ***E: Time-limited Event***
 - *Short-term event, i.e. election, sport event, etc.*
- ***O: Other***
 - *Potential risks not covered by other risk indicators.*

TRIP PREPARATION

- Trip Organizers
 - Register on-line via the State Dept. **STEP** program
 - Smart **T**raveler **E**nrollment **P**rogram
 - <https://step.state.gov/step/>
- Enroll with STEP Email Notification (country-specific):
 - <https://mytravel.state.gov/s/step>
- Provide up-to-date trip itinerary & contacts list to
 - Study Abroad Coordinator
 - Dean, VP, Provost, Campus Police
 - Trip Participants – plus embassy/consulate phone #s/addresses



TRIP PREPARATION

- Consult the TSA Prohibited Air Travel Items list:
<http://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all>

TSA = Transportation Security Administration

TRIP PREPARATION

Prohibited Items include (*but ain't limited to*):

Item	Carry-On	Checked
Scissors (metal w/pointed tips & blades over 4")	No	Yes
Knives (except for plastic or round bladed butter knives)	No	Yes
Mace/Pepper Spray (one 4 oz. w/safety cap)	No	Yes
Flammable Liquids, Gels, Aerosols	No	No
Non Flammable Liquids, Gels, Aerosols (≤ 3.4 oz. / 311 Rule)	Yes	Yes
Non Flammable Liquids, Gels, Aerosols (> 3.4 oz.)	No	Yes

3-1-1 for Carry-ons

Prepare for Take-off →

3

3.4 ounces or smaller containers of liquid or gel

More than 3.4 ounces permitted in checked baggage

Container size is a security measure



1

1 quart-size, clear plastic, zip-top bag holding 3.4 ounces or smaller containers

Bag limits total volume per person



1

1 bag per traveler placed in the security bin

Isolating liquids speeds screening



Transportation
Security
Administration

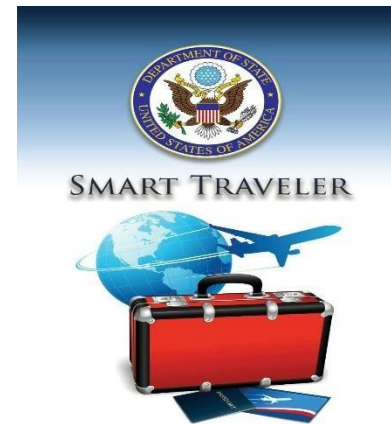
www.tsa.gov

THERE'S APPS FOR THAT

- My TSA



- Smart Traveler (Dept. of State)



BEFORE YOU GO

- Thoroughly review the “Risk Assessment”
 - U.S. and other government websites
- Consult TSA Prohibited Air Travel Items List
- Make copies of documents
 - *Passport, tickets, driver’s license, credit cards, etc.*
 - *1 copy @home / 1 copy with you*
- Prescriptions
 - *Original containers / medical alert bracelet*

AIRPORT/TRAVEL SAFETY

- **Mark your baggage**
 - *Name & address – outside & inside*
 - *Checked & carry-on bags*
 - *Use "TSA recognized" baggage locks*
- **Thoroughly inspect & clear your bags!**
- **Don't joke about**
 - *Hi-jacking, Terrorism, Weapons, Ebola, Zika, etc.*
- **Don't agree to hold a stranger's belongings or leave yours unattended**
 - *Baggage / Packages*



PERSONAL SAFETY

Protect yourself

- *Dress appropriately*
- *Stay alert/aware of surroundings*
- *Stay together/2 or more/never alone!*
- *Avoid "traps" – i.e. someone needs "help"*
- *Avoid "distractions"/pickpockets work in teams*
- *Never accept food or drinks from strangers &*
- *Never leave your food or drink unattended*

Protect your belongings

- *Limit valuables*
- *Use money belt/passport pouch*
- *Don't "flash your cash"*
- *Guard your credit cards*
- *Exercise caution using ATMs*



PERSONAL SAFETY

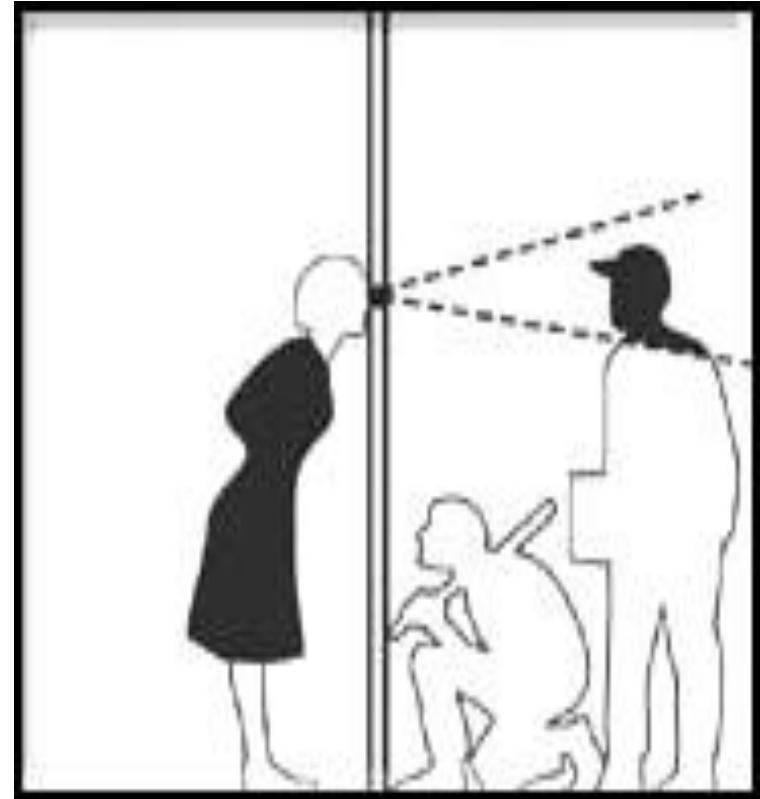
Robbery/Assault

- *Your safety is 1st!*
- *Give up wallet, purse, etc.*
- *Report thefts / suspicious activity - If ya see something'...say something'*



LODGING SAFETY

- Keep doors & windows locked
- Keep curtains closed after dark
- Report
 - inoperative locks
 - lost or stolen keys
 - damaged smoke alarms
- Don't open door to strangers
 - Verify identity (ID card, uniform).
 - Confirm with front desk / security
- Know your Exit Plan
 - Identify Primary & Secondary Exits
- *Tip: Emergency "Go Bag"*
 - Documents, Valuables, Prescriptions, Phone, Flashlight, Water, Snacks, etc.



COMMUNICATIONS

- **Phone**
 - *Contact your provider @trip*
 - *Keep phone charged (at all times)*
- **Credit Cards**
 - *Notify providers - to avoid account deactivation*
 - *Add provider numbers to phone contacts*
- **Identify “Safe-Place”** - alternate meeting location
 - *Hotel, Police Station, Embassy, Hospital, etc.*

EMERGENCIES

- *Monitor local media*
- *Follow directions*
 - *U.S. Embassy/Consulate*
 - *Local Authorities*
- *Communicate status with*
 - *University contact(s);*
 - *Dean, VP, Provost, Study Abroad Coord., Campus Police*
 - *Friends & family*

EMERGENCIES

Active Shooter Situation; per Dept. of Homeland Security

■ **RUN**

- *Have an escape route & plan in mind*
 - *Note ; be cautious when evacuating to avoid being trapped*
- *Leave belongings behind (except "go bag")*
- *Keep hands visible when encountering law enforcement*

■ **HIDE**

- *Hide in an area out of shooter's view*
- *Block entry to hiding place and lock doors (rubber door stop)*
- *Silence cell phone (vibration may be heard by assailant)*

■ **FIGHT**

- *As a last resort - if life is in imminent danger*
- *Attempt to incapacitate the assailant*

FBI.GOV “GAME OF PAWNS”

AVOID ENCOUNTERS OF THE COVERT KIND

- FBI Warning - especially for long-term study abroad
- Be cautious of citizens seeking friendship
- Never accept money or gifts
 - *i.e. for favors or information*
- “Game of Pawns” video @ www.fbi.gov
 - *American student Glenn Shriver*
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glenn_Duffie_Shriver
 - *Took @\$70,000 from Chinese government operatives*
 - *Pled guilty in 2010 (age 30); conspiracy to commit unlawful conveyance of national defense information.*
 - *Sentenced to 4 years in federal prison*

DoS SAFETY & SECURITY

Common Cautions

Demonstrations / Protests:

- Most meant to be peaceful, but can become violent & unpredictable.
- Avoid demonstrations & protest.
 - *Be alert and aware of surroundings.*

Transportation/Taxis:

- Use reputable, licensed transportation
- Book via Hotel (or travel agent)
 - *Hotels often have business cards with address & phone#*

DoS SAFETY & SECURITY

Crime:

- Robberies, purse snatchings & pickpocketing are common
- Especially in larger cities and crowded locations – i.e. airports, trains, train stations, restaurants, etc.