

**POLICY 1.53 – Safety Abroad**

<b>Policy Category:</b>	General
<b>Subject:</b>	Student Safety Abroad
<b>Approving Authority:</b>	Board of Governors
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
<b>Responsible Office:</b>	Western International
<b>Related Procedures:</b>	<a href="#">Safety Abroad Procedures</a>
<b>Related University Policies:</b>	<a href="#">International Academic Partnerships</a>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	November 20, 2014
<b>Supersedes:</b>	(NEW)

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**1. Purpose**

This Policy sets standards to help ensure undergraduate and graduate students who travel internationally as part of a university activity. The policy and its accompanying procedures are meant to offer assistance in managing the risks associated with University-sanctioned international programs and activities and to provide processes to undertake the following:

- a) Approval of student international travel for University sanctioned activities and programs
- b) Risk assessment of travel locations, regions and/or countries
- c) Centralized and accessible risk management resources to enable University travelers to be informed of and manage the risks associated with travelling abroad

**2. Definitions**

- 2.1. “DFATD” is the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development
- 2.2. “Activity Sponsor” refers to the Western faculty or staff member who is actively organizing or coordinating the University Activity, or if there is no such person, the Unit Head.
- 2.3. “Unit Head” is the head of the academic or administrative unit that approves and is responsible for the University Activity, sponsors the University Activity or gives academic credit for the University Activity.

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- 2.4. “Student” means individuals enrolled in a program of study or registered in credit or non-credit undergraduate or graduate program and/or courses at the University
- 2.5. “University Activity means any approved international activity:
  - 2.5.1. Undertaken by a student to fulfill a requirement for academic progress at the University; or
  - 2.5.2. Officially organized by the University; or
  - 2.5.3. Paid for in whole or in part from University funds, including without limitation, third party research or other funds administered by the University.

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