
Important Update: Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

1 message

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To: "cumminll@whitman.edu" <cumminll@whitman.edu>

Whitman OCS

Dear Spring 2022 OCS Students,

You may have already heard the sad news that Russia invaded Ukraine last night. Our thoughts are with the Ukrainian people and all of the people in neighboring countries and the region who may be negatively impacted. We realize that this turn of events may be worrisome for Whitman students currently studying abroad, especially those of you in Europe. Please know that your program and Whitman are here to support you.

We wish to remind you of the many resources and support systems that are available to you as an OCS/study abroad student.

Resources for OCS Students:

1. AlertTraveler Activation. Be sure to activate the AlertTraveler system that Whitman subscribes to help keep you safe while traveling. This system will keep you informed of critical events that may impact you while abroad and will allow Whitman College to better assist you in the event of an emergency.

Follow the instructions [here](#) to download and activate the AlertTraveler app.

This is the link to activate AlertTraveler: <https://myocs.whitman.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=ALERTS.materialAppActivation>

2. Independent Travel. If you are planning any independent travel while abroad, be sure to check with your OCS in-country program staff first about the safety of that destination and inform your program staff of your itinerary. Before finalizing travel plans, check the country information in AlertTraveler (see #1) and the US Department of State website for country-by-country updates and travel warnings by clicking <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>

To get support from US foreign service staff in the event of an emergency in the countries you are traveling in, US citizens should register their travels with the US Department of State's STEP (Smart Traveller Enrollment Program) <https://step.state.gov/>. Whitman international students should register with their home country's embassy in the destination countries.

3. OCS Provider and Whitman Support. If you would like to talk with someone about concerns related to the invasion of Ukraine or other matters on your mind, please contact your OCS Provider's student affairs staff or reach out to Whitman OCS at offcampusstudies@whitman.edu. Or you may email your OCS Adviser directly - Susan Holme (holmesl@whitman.edu) or Barbara Hoffman (hoffmabb@whitman.edu).

Please let us know if we can assist you and take care.

Sincerely,
Susan

Susan Holme

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