Dear Study Abroad Students,

Soon, as you study abroad, you are going to embark upon what will likely be one of the most memorable and significant learning experiences of your life. Elon has taken great care to insure the academic value of this experience and, as much as is within our control, your safety and well-being. As you make final preparations for this Elon Experience, we wish to remind you that you, too, have a responsibility and a bargain to uphold. In addition to taking every step to live up to the highest academic standards, we expect that you will adhere to all of the principles and appropriate conduct of the Honor Code. Not only does your behavior reflect upon Elon and all U.S. citizens, it is also essential to the academic integrity of the program and the safety of yourself and the other students. Because the well-being of all students, as well as the integrity of the study abroad program, is so important, we will strictly enforce the Honor Code.

Students who are of legal age in the countries in which they are studying and traveling may consume alcohol in moderation only. A glass of wine with dinner, or a beer in a pub, for examples, might be appropriate. Drinking more than a few drinks (no more than 3 per night for most persons), and any alcohol if on certain medications, is never appropriate and is alcohol misuse. Using drugs not prescribed specifically to you, including marijuana, is considered substance abuse. Being prepared and alert for course activities and not jeopardizing the health and safety of yourself or others is of the highest priority while studying abroad.

Under no circumstances will the course professors and leaders ignore alcohol misuse. This refers to the immediate effects of alcohol as well as to any after effects (showing up late for class, sleeping through class, reeking of alcohol, hangovers, and so on). Alcohol and/or substance misuse/abuse may result in the immediate termination of your participation in the course. This would include receiving a grade of F in the course, forfeiture of all program costs, returning to the U.S. at your own expense, and being reported as an Honor Code violation to Elon’s Office of Judicial Affairs.

Finally, we wish to point out that while studying abroad students need to practice good safety habits at all times. Any risky behaviors, such as going unattended with strangers or bringing strangers back to your room, must be avoided, and may result in severe sanctions from Elon. Especially while studying abroad your behavior directly impacts your fellow classmates and professors; one lapse of judgment can have devastating effects for not only you, but for the entire class and your loved ones.

Your study abroad experience will likely be one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences of your life. Please partner with your professors and classmates to insure the positive outcome of this program. We wish you the best in your studies abroad!

Sincerely,

Woody Pelton
Dean of International Programs

Smith Jackson
Vice President and Dean of Students