Warm greetings to you all during these times of separation and uncertainty, but also of innovation, solidarity, and creativity. While the ways in which we live, study, work, and interact with one another have been changed by the global pandemic, what has not changed are our core values: The University of Chicago continues to believe that through international education and experience, we can not only enrich our knowledge and understanding of others, but also contribute to solving the world’s most pressing and enduring challenges.

From the very beginning, international engagement has been central to the mission of the University of Chicago and has remained a part of our collective identity over the last 125 years. While much remains unknown for the immediate future, we would like assure you that we remain committed to our distinctive Study Abroad programs and are working closely with our faculty and international partners as we plan for the months and years ahead.

Prominent among our Study Abroad offerings are the quarter-long, UChicago faculty-led programs. You can immerse yourself in Civilization core sequences in Athens, Barcelona, Beijing, Cairo, Dakar, Granada, Hong Kong, Jerusalem, Oaxaca, Paris, Pune, Rabat, Rome or Vienna, fulfilling requirements as you are guided by University of Chicago faculty who have deep engagement with these great cities. We also offer a wide variety of faculty-led programs in subjects ranging from the humanities to the social sciences to the natural and physical sciences, which allow you to earn core, general education, major, or elective credit. Global Health in Paris, Human Rights in Vienna, and Economics in Hong Kong are just a few examples.

Our select direct enrollment opportunities allow you to complete coursework in your choice of academic areas at premier partner institutions in Chile, China, France, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Russia, and Spain. The University’s global centers in Paris, Beijing, New Delhi and Hong Kong provide even greater connection with the people and the cities that you will come to know.

Summer is also an important opportunity for international experience through the University of Chicago, which offers financial support for your individual summer language study, research or internship (see Summer International Travel Grants, International Experience Grants, and Metcalf Internships). Students who participate in Study Abroad or craft their own international experience are often excellent candidates for Rhodes, Marshall and Fulbright awards that feature post-graduate study and research abroad.

You can see the full range of our programming on the Study Abroad website, which also features student photos and writing. In the words of Dean John W. Boyer, “Our challenge is to continue to undertake an internationalism appropriate to our time, in the hopes that […] we and our students will experience, vividly and without timidity, the potential for our own intellectual growth that must result from thoughtful encounters with other cultural and educational traditions.” We look forward to partnering with you on the journey ahead.

Wishing you good health, and looking forward to meeting you,

Sarah Walter
Director of Study Abroad
Associate Dean for International Education