

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT WHEN IT OCCURS ABROAD

St. Cloud State University is concerned about the safety and well-being of its students studying both on-campus and off-campus. If you experience any type of sexual violence while on a study abroad trip, know that you have options, you have rights, and you have support services to help you decide how to respond as well as how to begin the healing process.

St. Cloud State University Policy prohibits sexual violence, including harassment, stalking, and relationship violence. Students studying abroad are covered under this policy and the procedures and services it provides. If something happens while studying abroad, you can contact the Gender Violence Prevention Program by email at leladue@stcloudstate.edu or by phone at 320-308-3995. This service is confidential and can provide information on your options. As the accessibility of resources and applicable local laws and policies vary abroad, the Gender Violence Prevention Program can provide victim-centered services that help guide you through decisions that only you can make and help find resources where you are located. If you have access to a computer, you can get more information by visiting the Women's Center website: www.stcloudstate.edu/womenscenter. If you need to contact campus after hours, you can call Public Safety 24 hours a day at 320-308-3333.

If you are a survivor of any of the crimes listed above, know that what happened to you was not your fault. Consider talking to a faculty on your program and asking them for help. Do know that they are required by law to report any of the above crimes to the SCSU's Title IX Coordinator. The job of the Title IX Coordinator is to make sure you are aware of your resources and ensure you are receiving needed assistance as well as investigate if it is within the university's purview. It is always your choice who you decide to tell and what resources you seek out. Below are some possible options you may want to consider.

Assessing your Safety and Others

If your immediate safety or others' safety is at risk, please consider calling the local emergency contacts or local law enforcement agencies. This is a situation in which we would strongly encourage you to inform a faculty or staff on your program so they can help you develop a safety plan.

Assess Medical Needs

Sometimes after an assault, the survivor is in a state of shock and may be totally unaware of possible injuries. You may also want to be tested and discuss treatment and prevention options for sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy. In addition, the country you are in may have forensic exams available to collect evidence in case you may want to report the crime. Medical services vary from country to country so it will important that you ask questions so you can make informed decisions.

Reporting Options

Find out if your host country has sexual assault or crime victim advocacy services. If you need help with this, you can contact the Gender Violence Prevention program at Saint Cloud State University. If you are considering reporting to local law enforcement, find out what the local laws are and how much input you will have in the process and what rights you may or may not have.

For more information, you can contact the US State Department Victim Assistance at 1-888-407-4747.

If the accused is a member of the St. Cloud University community, then SCSU has the ability to investigate and impose sanctions. If the accused is a member of the host university, enrolled in another school's study abroad program or a citizen of that country, SCSU would not be able to investigate or impose sanctions but always will provide services to the victim/survivor.

Staying or Returning Home

Some students may choose to complete their study abroad experience while others feel their recovery will be aided by returning home. SCSU Study Abroad office can help you if you choose to return to the U.S.

Confidential Emotional Support

Gender Violence Prevention Program – 320-308-3995

leladue@stcloudstate.edu

www.stcloudstate.edu/womenscenter

International Directory of Domestic Violence Agencies: Global list of abuse hotlines, shelters, refuges, crisis centers and women's organizations, plus domestic violence information.

<http://www.hotpeachpages.net/>

Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN): Toll-free 24/7 hotline for sexual assault counseling and referrals: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673). RAINN also offers a hotline that provides live, secure, anonymous crisis support for victims of sexual violence, their friends and families over RAINN's website. The online hotline is free of charge and available 24/7.

<https://www.rainn.org/>

Sexual Assault Help and Support for Americans Abroad (SASHAA): Phone, email or live chat with staff in the Crisis Center: SASHAA Provides sexual assault prevention and response regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or location worldwide.

<https://sashaa.org/>

24 hour Contact number for St. Cloud State University

Public Safety dispatch can help you contact people from campus and they are available 24/7. Be aware that they are not a confidential resource but are trained in assisting students studying on campus and abroad.

320-308-3333.