Dear Parent or Guardian,

The health and safety of every Global Seminar student is our highest priority. Last year, over 1,000 UCSD students safely studied abroad all over the world (including the Middle East). Students in the International Public Health Global Seminar will live and study in Amman, the capital of Jordan. That part of the world is not well known so we thought we should describe it further. Jordan is a stable country ruled by a constitutional Monarchy since 1946. It is very welcoming to westerners and has friendly diplomatic relations with the United States, the West and all neighboring countries. The US State Department closely monitors activity on the world scene. There has been no travel warnings or alerts anywhere in Jordan in recent memory and there are no restrictions against travel there. http://travel.state.gov

UCSD would not sponsor a program in a country with a State Department travel warning. If a warning is issued prior to departure to this or any other Global Seminar destination, then students will receive a full refund.

Professor Wael Al-Delaimy, M.D, Ph. D. is leading this Global Seminar. Dr. Al-Delaimy is a Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of California, San Diego Medical School, where he is Chief of Global Health. A noted expert in international public health and epidemiology, he has previously lived and practiced medicine in Amman, Jordan. As a fluent Arabic speaker, Dr. Al-Delaimy knows the local culture, customs, and has extensive contacts in the local medical community. Al-Delaimy is familiar with the country and knows his whereabouts in most parts of the city since he lived there. He will be available to advise students on site. Amman is safer than most US cities and crime rates are very low.

Students will receive pre-departure and on-site orientations that will address health, safety and cultural adjustment. There will be 24/7 health and safety support from our study abroad provider. These full-time professionals are Jordanians, and they understand the local culture. They will serve as a resource to the students on issues of health, safety, and cultural adjustment. The student housing is located in a middle class neighborhood will offer internet access so you can stay in touch with your student.

All students will be covered by international student health insurance, and by the University of California business travel insurance plan. In the event of a natural disaster or geopolitical emergency, this insurance would pay to evacuate the students from Jordan. We have never had to use this service. While we do not expect to need to use this insurance, you should feel confident that we have closely considered safety and security when we selected and as we prepare the
Global Seminar in Jordan. We believe that the learning opportunity that awaits students in Amman, Jordan will be truly remarkable.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
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