



Study Abroad

UC San Diego

Dear UC San Diego Community,

Last week Chancellor Khosla sent a campus-wide statement regarding the recent murders of **George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery** and the ensuing protests and violence that has swept the nation. We want to be sure you received his message and also state our commitment to the values of the UC San Diego community. We in Study Abroad are heartbroken, horrified, and angered by these blatant acts of racism. **Black Lives Matter** and we stand in solidarity with our colleagues, students, and community to listen, learn and challenge ourselves to be better.

International Education is one way in which Americans of all races can critically learn to examine their own identities at home and abroad. While studying in their host country, some students learn about its local history of oppression and racism. As a result, they can develop a deeper understanding of and ability to dialogue about the systemic racism, oppression, and inequality that exists in the United States, however, this does not always happen. **We are committed to improving pre-departure orientations and returnee programming by including more formalized discussions on these topics.**

Complicated and deeply ingrained systems of oppression require committed citizen allies who are willing to listen to and hear each other, empathize, and take action in both small and large ways in order to change the trajectory of violence and hate. Study Abroad UC San Diego's Mission is to make academic and co-curricular international experiences accessible to our diverse student population. Our staff are readily available to talk through students' goals and aspirations at UCSD, whether they end up including study abroad or not. **We are dedicated to recognizing our Black students and Black communities at large and will work together to use our voice to extend this stance to our international communities.**

-Study Abroad UC San Diego