**Study Abroad FAQs**

(last updated 4.22.2020)

**General Questions:**

*How can I make an appointment with a study abroad advisor?*

You can schedule an appointment through SSC Campus/Navigate. Information on how to schedule an appointment can be found under the “Announcements” section on the study abroad main page, [www.utc.edu/studyabroad](http://www.utc.edu/studyabroad).

After you have scheduled an appointment, be on the lookout for an email from a study abroad advisor. The study abroad advisor will schedule a Zoom meeting or your appointment and will send you the invite. We look forward to meeting with you – remotely – to discuss how we can make study abroad a reality for you.

*Can I stop by the Office of Study Abroad/Center for Global Education?*

At this time, all Center for Global Education staff are working from home. The best way to get in touch with the Office of Study abroad is via email or by scheduling an advising appointment (see above).

**Spring 2020 Study Abroad Students:**

*I’d like to study abroad again, what are my options and how might a CGE scholarship work?*

First of all, we are so sorry that your Spring 2020 study abroad program has been impacted and that you’ve had what we can only call a unique study abroad experience! We are, however, here to assist you with ALL future study abroad needs.

We’d love to try to make another study abroad opportunity available to you. We encourage you to schedule an advising appointment with a study abroad advisor to discuss different options for a future study abroad program.

*What are my options for flight change fee reimbursements?*

The Office of Study Abroad has create a [survey](#) in which students can report any non-refundable flight fees they may have incurred as a result of study abroad program cancellations. You will need to upload proof of the flight change fees.

Please make sure to check with your provider (if applicable) first to see what refunds/reimbursements are available to you. You will need to upload proof of contact with provider or a copy of your provider’s policy.

*What are my refund options?*

Students who have had their programs canceled and had to return to the US should work with their program provider/host university to determine what, if any, refunds will be available. We ask that you please be patient as many of these providers are working with thousands of program cancellations. Please know that they are working on announcements and you should hear something soon if you haven’t already.

For students participating on a Spring 2020 UTC exchange program, the Office of Study Abroad will be working with both the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships and the Bursars Office to review any financial aid impacts and to have the Spring 2020 UTC tuition charges removed from your UTC account. Our office will update you when these charges
have been removed. Please work with your host university regarding any other refund options for items such as meal plans, housing, etc.

How is cancellation going to impact my financial aid?

The Office of Study Abroad has communicated student status to the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships. If you have elected to remain enrolled in your current courses and will maintain full-time status (meaning you are enrolled in the equivalent of 12 UTC credits), you should not see any impact on your UTC financial aid.

If you elect to withdraw from some, or all, of your Spring 2020 courses there may be an impact on your UTC financial aid and scholarships.

The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships is working with impacted students. Please arrange an appointment with Kelly Griffin (Kelly-griffin@utc.edu) to discuss any concerns you may have.

I’m continuing my courses online, will they still count for credit?

Yes! If you remain enrolled in the classes you originally planned to take abroad, then your courses will count for the same credit as they would have had you taken them abroad. If you have changed classes from what you ORIGINALLY had pre-approved, then you will need to complete a new course pre-approval form and make sure you communicate any course changes with your study abroad advisor!

Summer 2020 Study Abroad:

What is the status of UTC’s Summer 2020 study abroad programs?

UTC has made the difficult decision to cancel all Summer 2020 study abroad programs. This means that the Office of Study Abroad will NOT be supporting any UTC students for study abroad during the summer.

I was supposed to study abroad in Summer 2020 and I want to defer my program, what should I do? Will I have to completely re-do my application(s)?

We are happy to help you defer your program. If you have not done so already, please fill out this survey which will let us know you wish to defer and what term you are deferring to.

You can defer to the same program for another term or change your program completely.

If you choose to study abroad with the same provider, your application materials (including application fee and deposits) will apply to the new program and term you have selected.

If you choose to change providers, you will need to withdraw your application from the originally provider and apply to a new provider.

You will NOT need to redo your UTC TerraDotta application.

I was supposed to study abroad in Summer 2020 and I have decided to withdraw from my program, what should I do? Will I get refunds on any of the fees I’ve already paid?
If you wish to withdraw from a program, you will need to contract your program provider to withdraw your application. Fee refund policies are determined by the provider. You will also need to fill out this survey to let us know that you have chosen to withdraw. We will then withdraw your UTC TerraDotta application.

Can I still study abroad if providers have not canceled their programs for Summer?

While UTC has canceled all summer study abroad programs, that does not necessarily mean you cannot elect to independently participate in a program. If you choose to independently participate it’s important to understand that you cannot use any UTC financial aid and/or scholarships. You can still apply for provider scholarships and, potentially, some national scholarships.

Additionally, your study abroad transcript will have to be sent directly to the UTC Admissions Office. The Admissions Office will evaluate the transcript for transfer credit. You may have to petition for credits to apply if you need them to count for certain degree requirements. We advise that you check with your provider to see what type of transcript you will receive for the study abroad program; will it be issued by the host university abroad or by a US institution? This could impact how the Admissions Office will process the transcript. If the transcript will come from a university abroad, check with Admission to see how they will process it (or if you will need to have a transcript evaluation done before they will process the foreign transcript).

Fall 2020 Study Abroad:

I am supposed to study abroad for Fall 2020, is that still happening?

At this point, Fall 2020/AY 2020 – 2021 study abroad programs are continuing as planned. We are asking that students who are considering studying in Europe, China, and Japan to have a back-up study abroad location in mind, in case their first choice program is canceled (either by the program provider or by UTC).

Are there any Fall 2020 programs that are canceled at this time?

All Fall 2020 programs are continuing as planned, at this time. We will provide updates in the coming weeks on any programs that may be canceled.

We are asking that students who are considering study abroad in Europe, China, or Japan to have a back-up program in mind.

What happens if I get admitted to a program and Fall study abroad ends up canceled?

UTC and your program provider will work with you on a case-by-case basis regarding potential program fee refunds (for fees already paid). We are advising all Fall 2020/AY 2020-2021 students to also register for UTC courses for the Fall semester in case programs are canceled. The Office of Study Abroad will let students know when they can safely register for study abroad placeholder courses and drop their UTC courses.

I plan on studying abroad fall 2020, should I still register for UTC classes?

The Office of Study Abroad is advising all Fall 2020 study abroad students to register for UTC courses for the Fall semester in case programs are canceled. We will let students know when they can safely register for study abroad placeholder courses and drop their UTC courses. Students will be responsible for fully withdrawing from their UTC on-campus/online courses before the semester starts.

Will it be safe to study abroad in Fall 2020?
UTC is committed to student health and safety; we will cancel all travel to any country where we do not believe students will be safe. During the Fall semester, certain regions of the world may still be disrupted by the effects of COVID-19 and we ask that students remain aware of these disruptions and how that might impact their study abroad. We will continue to work in conjunction with guidance from our program partners, the US Department of State, the UTC Safety and Risk Management team, and other experts in determining the best course of action for our Fall 2020/AY 2020-2021 programs.

**What about Study Abroad 103? Do I still need to attend?**

Yes! All Fall 2020/AY 2020-2021 study abroad students will need to attend a Study Abroad 103: Pre-Departure Orientation session.

Make-up SA 103 session dates will be scheduled for some time in June, 2020. Please continue to check your UTC email for communication on make-up sessions.

**Should I still apply for on-campus housing, even if I am currently planning on studying abroad for Fall 2020/AY 2020-2021?**

Based on guidance we received from Housing, they are recommending that you NOT apply for UTC housing if you are planning on studying abroad in the Fall 2020 semester. You can apply once you know if you have an on-campus housing need.

**If Fall 2020 study abroad programs are NOT canceled, what steps would I need to take to cancel my UTC on-campus housing? What are the deadlines?**

Complete the cancellation form through “Manage My Housing.” Before May 1, students will get a full refund of the $400 pre-payment. Cancellations done from May 1 – June 1, students will get a 50% refund. Cancellations done after June 1 will not receive a refund.

**What is the UTC housing deposit fee? Would that be refundable if I withdrew from Fall 2020 study abroad?**

If a student cancels after the deadline because they are unable to study abroad, they can submit an appeal to get the $400 pre-payment back. The appeal will be reviewed by committee members from across campus.