# Study Abroad to Spain (Level 3) Mitigation Plans (for [Electronic Petition Form](https://esign.wwu.edu/forms/education%20abroad/_req_except_official_trav_2.aspx))

## Form Section IV, Second Text Box

### Summarize the purpose of travel and the compelling academic rationale for traveling to this location (as opposed to a location not subject to a Travel Warning):

I have applied to and been accepted to the Global Experiences (GE) internship program in Barcelona, Spain for Fall 2021. The dates will be September 12th 2021 through December 4th 2021. I will also be registering for the class INTL205 for 12 credits to receive credit/notice on my transcript for this internship; this will be elective credits and count towards my International Business Minor. This is my last chance to take advantage of this study abroad program/internship, as I need to have student status in order to move forward with this internship/in order to be able to enter Spain (this is a recent change I have been notified of from the GE program). I will be graduating in Fall 2021 as well.

## Risk Mitigation Plan (attach to Esign form your risk mitigation plan, below is an example):

### The student provides proof vaccination of an FDA Emergency Use COVID-19 vaccine.

* Please see attachment for “COVID-19 Vaccine Card”

### **The Travel Advisory is Level 3 primarily because of COVID-19 incidence** and not for other common risk indicators, such as political violence, famine, civil unrest, etc.

* From the US Department of State: “Reconsider travel to Spain due to COVID-19. Exercise increased caution in Spain due to terrorism and civil unrest.” <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Spain.html>
* From the CDC: “Level 3: High Level of COVID-19 in Spain…Make sure you are fully vaccinated before traveling to Spain” <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/covid-3/coronavirus-spain>
* Spain has a low security risk: “Violent crime rates are low and racial, sectarian or political violence or civil unrest is uncommon. If terrorism is a threat, groups have limited operational capabilities, and acts of terrorism are rare. Security and emergency services are effective and infrastructure is sound. Industrial action and transport disruption are infrequent.” <https://www.travelriskmap.com/#/planner/map/security>

### **The host country’s healthcare infrastructure is resilient** (resource: [SOS International](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.travelriskmap.com%2F%23%2Fplanner%2Fmap%2Fmedical&data=04%7C01%7Cyauk2%40wwu.edu%7Cd6f3cb065f774bbf326808d92af885ed%7Cdc46140ce26f43efb0ae00f257f478ff%7C0%7C0%7C637588069184989974%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=JevBYIbUpUPWFX06VirVbQniJQih2aHiIcd0jeWDVh4%3D&reserved=0))

* Spain’s medical risk (in terms of health care and pre-pandemic status) is low. “Quality medical care is available throughout the country. Specialist care, emergency and dental services, and quality prescription drugs are widely available. Low risk of infectious diseases.” <https://www.travelriskmap.com/#/planner/map/medical>

### **The host country’s COVID-19 case rate is moderate** (resource: [Brown School of Public Health](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fglobalepidemics.org%2Fkey-metrics-for-covid-suppression%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cyauk2%40wwu.edu%7Cd6f3cb065f774bbf326808d92af885ed%7Cdc46140ce26f43efb0ae00f257f478ff%7C0%7C0%7C637588069185000122%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=4jXPVUaO9scqkmYqEmOcm5edKk2RxqpLVs2MaaVByY0%3D&reserved=0))

* According to the Brown School of Public Health, Spain’s Covid Risk Level is Yellow
	+ As of Wednesday June 9th, 2021, Spain has about a 7-case average per 100,000 people <https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/>

### **The host country’s COVID-19 vaccination rate is moderate** (resource: [University of Oxford](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fourworldindata.org%2Fcovid-vaccinations&data=04%7C01%7Cyauk2%40wwu.edu%7Cd6f3cb065f774bbf326808d92af885ed%7Cdc46140ce26f43efb0ae00f257f478ff%7C0%7C0%7C637588069185010232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=fU8U8lTNKBsCEzrFjSRygPlD5gE6IYf1%2FwW0u2OrKI4%3D&reserved=0))

* According to the University of Oxford, as of June 8th, 2021, about 43% of Spain’s population has received at least one vaccine dose. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>
* Spain has delivered around 31 million doses, has about 11.6 million people fully vaccinated, and about 25% of the country is fully vaccinated <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations?country=OWID_WRL>

### **The host country’s quarantine requirements are reasonable** (resource: [US Embassy Directory](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftravel.state.gov%2Fcontent%2Ftravel%2Fen%2Ftraveladvisories%2Ftraveladvisories.html%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cyauk2%40wwu.edu%7Cd6f3cb065f774bbf326808d92af885ed%7Cdc46140ce26f43efb0ae00f257f478ff%7C0%7C0%7C637588069185010232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=AwZJZM6oCX79wMmK5%2FOLMluaXtqV%2BfccI2EoumnPZ1k%3D&reserved=0)).

* “Travelers to Spain are not currently subject to any quarantine requirement unless directed by Spanish authorities upon arrival in Spain due to specific circumstances.” <https://es.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>
* **“**Effective June 7, 2021, vaccinated U.S. citizens and their minor children can travel from the United States to Spain if they present the following documents upon arrival in Spain: QR code generated through the Spain Travel Health Advisory AND a Vaccination Certificate” <https://es.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

### The student studies with an approved study abroad provider (e.g., CIEE, USAC, API, etc.) ISEP, or exchange partner.

* Global Experiences (AIFS Abroad)

### **Write anything about how you and X program/university will do to maximize protecting yourself/students from COVID19**, such as being vaccinated, masking in crowds or tight spaces that have poor ventilation, hand sanitizing, improved ventilation in classrooms, having international health insurance, etc. Most providers or universities will have COVID19 on their website that explains what steps they have taken to protect students.

* Personally, I am fully vaccinated, will wear masks pretty much everywhere, continue washing my hands or using sanitizer if that is the only thing available. I will avoid large crowds in tight spaces. I will practice distancing while I am there.
* Per my program (Global Experiences) <https://www.globalexperiences.com/educators/health-and-safety/>
	+ Medical and travel insurance is included in the price of program tuition: “All participants on any AIFS Abroad program (study abroad, internship or custom faculty-led) are covered by a very robust Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) travel and medical insurance as part of their program inclusions.”
	+ “As COVID-19 concerns persist, participants are also signing an Assumption of Risk document indicating that they will abide by local government rules and regulations as well as AIFS Abroad policies. Violations of these policies can result in removal from the program. Participants can expect additional information provided in pre-departure orientations and welcome orientations.”
	+ They will require students to quarantine if mandated by the local government – failure to do so will lead to program expulsion
	+ GE will work with housing providers to ensure the health and well-being of participants – this could mean daily check ins, meal delivery…
	+ Housing accommodations are being requested for single occupancy in locations that will allow it
	+ Students who test positive for Covid will be subject to immediate quarantine with meals and groceries delivered safely
	+ Students are required to bring enough masks to get through the first few weeks of their program. Once they become familiar with the area, they can purchase PPE locally or communicate with program staff to get additional PPE as needed
	+ If the location requires proof of negative testing for covid, that will be required by the program as well
	+ AIFS/GE requires students for fall 2021 and beyond to be fully vaccinated before departing
	+ More information can be found here: <https://www.globalexperiences.com/educators/health-and-safety/> <https://www.globalexperiences.com/policies>

### **Highlight Academics & Timing** - list classes you plan to take and how they impact your degree process. Is this a last chance opportunity for study abroad prior to graduation?

* I will be enrolling in INTL 205 to receive credit/have this international internship show up on my transcript. This is my last chance opportunity for a study abroad, as I will be graduating in fall 2021. Spain also requires student status at this time to enter, so this is even more reason for me to stay enrolled at Western and get credit for this internship. This will count towards my International Business minor as an elective.