



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

**INSTITUTE FOR
GLOBAL STUDIES**

Dear Students,

In light of the evolving [COVID-19 pandemic](#) and closures of many public institutions and events within the U.S., the University of Delaware has decided to cancel the Spring 2020 Washington, D.C. internship program. This decision aligns with the University's recent suspension of classes and early spring break with the directive for students to return to their homes.

We understand that this decision may disappoint you, and hope you know that it was not taken lightly. As you may be aware, the novel (new) coronavirus, known as COVID-19, continues to rapidly evolve. While there is no immediate threat at this time, we are taking this action now out of an abundance of caution for your safety and well-being. The following email outlines our responsibilities to you, as well as important actions for you to follow:

- 1. Please depart Washington, D.C. and return to your permanent home as soon as possible.**
2. As you prepare to depart, we encourage you to **follow the [CDC's guidelines](#) for staying healthy.**
3. **Continue to monitor your UD email** on a daily basis.
4. Please **contact us upon your return home** at studyabroad@udel.edu or (302) 831-2852.
5. Remaining in your WISH housing in DC is NOT an option, as UD will not continue to support this program in the coming weeks. Please contact us if you are experiencing logistical difficulties to arrange your return. Next week, we will check in with students who do not inform us of their return home, in order to confirm their departure.
6. Please **do NOT return to the UD campus**; UD students will be departing campus for early spring break today, Friday, March 12, and the campus has moved to online learning.
7. Your faculty director, Professor Leanne Moore, will work with students to enable online learning options for all courses and ensure that students can earn credits as expected. Prof. Moore will be in touch with you after the UD spring break with more information about online learning.
8. As this is a very fluid and evolving situation, we cannot say whether a return to DC will be possible during this semester. At this time, please assume that return will not be possible.
9. Information on a partial refund of your UD program fee (DC housing) will be forthcoming. However, please understand that we are managing multiple program cancellations at this time. Our priority is your safe return to the U.S., and thus refunds may take several weeks or longer to be processed. Because you will be able to complete your coursework online and receive UD credit, UD tuition will not be refunded.





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It is natural to experience some anxiety during this time, even if you are feeling physically healthy. Remember that **UD's Helpline** is available to you 24/7, even while you are abroad: **302-831-1001**.

Again, please know that we share your disappointment in the cancelation of your program. You are a valued member of our community, and we are here to support you. For updates on the University's response to COVID-19, please visit the [UD website](#). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to [contact our office](#).

Sincerely,

Lisa Chieffo
Interim Director
Institute for Global Studies
University of Delaware

