

March 2, 2020 International Travel Update

CDC/ US DOS Level 3 Travel Warning

On February 28th, the U.S. Department of State raised the travel advisory for Italy to a Level 3: Reconsider Travel due to an increase in the number of new cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), particularly in northern Italy. Similarly, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reissued its travel notice for Italy, encouraging all travelers to avoid nonessential travel to the country until further notice. In light of these developments, the Center for International Programs has decided to suspend all Spring, Summer and Fall 2020 programs in Italy.

For those students currently in Italy, we recognize that the decision to return home is a personal one, and want all students to know that we are a resource for those who choose to stay in Italy or return to the United States.

The Center for International Programs and the College are honoring the actions of your host institution and will continue working closely with our partners in regard to student health and safety and course offerings.

We are committed to ensuring the continuity of your education and will work to facilitate academic programs remotely so that you can complete the semester.

As of this moment, we recommend that students return to their personal homes in the United States to complete their courses online.

Saint Mary's College is in contact with public health agencies and, based on their advice, the College has established the following protocol. Students returning from Italy must self-isolate for 14 days from their return date and be symptom-free prior to returning to campus so as not to increase potential exposure of the coronavirus to the larger campus community. If a student returning from Italy develops symptoms at any point, they should contact their medical provider for further guidance given their travel history and specific symptoms. If a student has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within the 14 days of self-isolation, they must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine before returning to campus and their regular activity.

To learn more about how the coronavirus has impacted Italy, please reference credible sources like the ones below:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [Department of State's Travel Advisory](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

Additional information about Saint Mary's sponsored travel can be found on the Center's [International Travel Guidelines](#) page.

[Visit SMC's Responding To The Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update Page](#)

For additional information about Coronavirus (COVID-19), please see:

- [CDC: About Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Globally Confirmed Cases can be viewed on the map below](#)
- [For information about cases in the United States](#)

Campus health updates are available at SMC's [Health and Wellness Center](#). For more information about student, faculty, or staff travel to or from the United States, please contact Susie Miller Reid, Senior International Officer, Saint Mary's College [Center for International Programs](#) at 925-631-4316 or msm9@stmarys-ca.edu.