GLOBAL AMBASSADOR POLICY GUIDELINES & BLOGGER CONTRACT

Congratulations on being selected as an UMKC Global Ambassador!
Please read the following information carefully, as it will familiarize you with the goals of the project, what you can expect to get out of it and what we expect from you.

Our Objectives for the UMKC Abroad Study Abroad Blogs are:

- To foster communication between students thinking of studying abroad and students currently studying abroad.
- To provide a forum for students to share their academic and intercultural experiences with staff and faculty in their departments, as well as friends, family and prospective Roos.
- To better illustrate to study abroad candidates what to expect during their time abroad.
- To encourage reflection on the nature of study abroad.

With that in mind, we’d like to remind you that this is NOT a personal blog – you are representing UMKC Study Abroad. Students interested in writing a blog that is about more private matters can find other sites, such as travelpod.com.

We hope you will enjoy the personal benefits:

- A reflective tool to document your time abroad.
- An effective way to keep friends and family back home informed of your thoughts and adventures
- Great training for the many times you will need to write a case statement, essay, etc.
- Resume builder for job interviews or graduate school.

Some Words of Wisdom

Blogging is a very public activity. Anything that gets posted on the internet stays there. Forever. Deleting a post simply removes it from the blog it was posted to, but copies of the post may exist scattered all over the internet. As such, never link to something you haven’t read – when you link to something, you should make sure it is something that you really want to be associated with, and always keep in mind that you are representing UMKC Study Abroad. If you are unsure about posting something, ask! You shouldn’t post anything you wouldn't be comfortable with anyone, from your parents to potential employers, viewing. Overall, what we’re trying to say is: Think before you post!
Here are some considerations to keep in mind, which may help keep you on track:

- Maintain a clear focus on topics
- Remember: your blog is NOT a public venting space
- Reflections on the political landscape are welcome, but political rants are not
- Always review comments, analysis, spelling and grammar before posting
- Ask for people’s permission before you write about them
- Start simple, find your groove, and develop your voice.

**What We Expect From You**

We are confident that you will exemplify personal responsibility in your postings. You are free to post content to your blog, but avoid content that may be illegal, obscene, defamatory, threatening, infringing of intellectual property rights, invasive of privacy or otherwise injurious or objectionable. You may not use the UMKC Study Abroad name to endorse or promote any product, opinion, cause or political candidate.

We would like you to write at least once prior to departure, to provide a sense of what you are thinking and how you are feeling as you prepare to leave. While abroad, we ask you to post once a week. Also, we ask you to post at least once after you have returned, covering re-entry issues and adjusting to being back home and back on campus.

Name ___________________________________________  Date ______________________

Signature _________________________________________