

**Student Travel Authorization, Medical Information, Liability  
Release, and Field Trip/Field Course Policy Statement  
for all students participating in Geology course-related field trips**

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<b>Name</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>Course/ Instructor</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>EID</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>TA</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Date(s) of Trip</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>Destination</b>	<input type="text"/>

**Your Home Address** (in Austin)

  


**Medical Information**

In the space below, list any medicines that you are allergic to, any medications you are currently taking, and any special health needs and conditions, such as severe allergies, asthma, knee or ankle braces, migraines, etc.

  
  
  


**Insurance Information**

Students taking trips for thesis or dissertation research and those enrolled in *field courses* must supply their own medical insurance. For other course-related field trips, the Department will provide insurance for the period of the field trip only if students do not already have insurance.

**I have medical insurance.**      \_\_\_\_\_ **YES**      \_\_\_\_\_ **NO**

**Insurer**     **ID #**     **Group #**

**If "NO", then we need your DOB**

**Liability Release and Indemnification**

I, the above named student, am eighteen years of age or older and have voluntarily applied to participate in the Activities or Trips listed above. I acknowledge that the nature of the Activities or Trips may expose me to hazards or risks that may result in my illness, personal injury or death and I understand and appreciate the nature of such hazards and risks. In consideration of my participation in the Activities or Trips, I hereby accept all risk to my health and of my injury or death that may result from such participation and I hereby release The University of Texas at Austin, its governing board, officers, employees and representatives from any and all liability to me, my personal representatives, estate, heirs, next of kin, and assigns for any and all claims and causes of action for loss of or damage to my property and for any and all illness or injury to my person, including my death, that may result from or occur during my participation in the Activities or Trips, whether caused by negligence of The University of Texas at Austin, its governing board, officers, employees, or representatives, or otherwise. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless The University of Texas at Austin and its governing board, officers, employees, and representatives from liability for the injury or death of any person(s) and damage to property that may result from my negligence or intentional act or omission while participating in the described Activities or Trips.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT TO BE A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION FOR MY INJURY OR DEATH OR DAMAGE TO MY PROPERTY THAT OCCURS WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES OR TRIPS AND IT OBLIGATES ME TO INDEMNIFY THE PARTIES NAMED FOR ANY LIABILITY FOR INJURY OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CAUSED BY MY NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL ACT OR OMISSION.

**I accept the terms of this agreement.**

Your signature.

**In case of accident, injury, or illness, I hereby authorize you to arrange for emergency medical care and to notify the person named below.**

Name

Address

Phone (include cell)

## Field Trip and Field Course Policies

The Department of Geological Sciences conducts numerous field activities (field trips, field geology courses, and field research). Because students are exposed to a variety of situations and experiences that are different from those found in the classroom, special rules of conduct are necessary.

Traveling and field work involves hazards and risks, so each person must exercise care to avoid personal injury to others. Examples of dangers specific to field work are the use of geologic picks, poisonous snakes, tick bites, toxic plants, falling, and slippery rocks encountered when hiking on steep slopes or crossing streams. Other dangers, as well as damage to property, may be created by carelessness.

The Department has access to certain private properties and use of private facilities whose future availability will depend upon proper consideration for these resources by everyone. Students who abuse University or personal property during a field trip, or who jeopardize the health and safety of other people, will be required to leave the field trip immediately. These persons will be subject to appropriate academic evaluation and possible disciplinary action by the Office of the Dean of Students.

### The Department has the following rules and recommendations which apply to field activities.

1. **Liability and Waiver.** The University requires all students to sign a liability release form (this form). This form must be signed and returned before a student is allowed to participate in field activities.
2. **Medical Care.** A medical form must be filled out by all students. Any student who has medical problems (e.g., asthma, diabetes, metabolic disorders, allergies, trick knees) should inform the field trip leader or supervising professor. If you require special medications, it is your responsibility to insure that they are available when needed. Field activities are sometimes in very remote areas, and immediate medical assistance is not possible.
3. **Health Insurance.** Every student taking a *field course* must have medical insurance. Student health insurance is available at minimal cost through the Student Health Center (471-4955). Students taking field trips as part of normal classes who do not have health insurance will be provided with insurance for the field trips only.
4. **Clothing and protective cover.** Wear suitable clothes. We recommend wearing a hat, long pants, and good hiking boots in some areas. These help prevent sunstroke, insect bites, and bad encounters with cacti or thorny shrubs. You may want to bring insect repellent, and we also suggest the use of sunscreen. Consider significant possibilities of rain or cold weather.
5. **General field hazards.** Insects, poisonous snakes, and toxic plants may be found on any field trip or course. Wearing suitable clothing and boots helps reduce these hazards. Remember to check yourself for ticks which can transmit diseases such as Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Lyme disease, etc. Ticks should be removed immediately; be sure to remove the body with head intact. Do not use a match to kill the tick first. Watch for, don't play with, and avoid snakes. Five students on Department trips have been bitten by rattlers since World War II; try not to be the sixth. If you are allergic to such things as bee stings, you must bring appropriate medication. A few other common sense rules: stay out of the water if you can't swim; stay out of thunderstorms, particularly at high elevations, and out of flashflood-prone areas in any rain. Some field areas have steep cliffs that you are not required to and should not climb; use common sense and follow your instructor's advice in such areas.
6. **Head and eye protection.** We recommend eye protection when using, or around someone using, a geologic pick, hammer, or other tools. Hard hats should be used in mines, quarries, steep road cuts, or other areas where rock falls or blows to the head could occur; some sites may require these protective devices. Safety glasses and hard hats can be checked out from the Department storeroom.
7. **Firearms.** Possession of firearms or facsimiles at any time during any field course or field trip is forbidden.
8. **Drugs and alcohol.** Use or possession of illegal drugs at any time is forbidden. Alcoholic beverages may NOT be consumed at any time while traveling in a University vehicle.
9. **Department equipment.** Take care of Department property. Our equipment normally gets hard use and current budgets are tight, so treat it as you would your own.

***I have read and agree to follow the Field Trip/Field Course Policies for departmental field activities.***

Your signature.