

STUDENT TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION, MEDICAL INFORMATION, LIABILITY RELEASE, AND FIELD TRIP/FIELD COURSE POLICY STATEMENT

for all students participating in Geology course-related field trips

PLEASE HAND IN COMPLETED FORMS TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR OR TEACHING ASSISTANT

ATTENTION TRIP LEADERS:

- All travel-related forms should be submitted to the appropriate DGS staff member **at least two (2) weeks in advance of the departure date.**
- The Student Travel Authorization and Medical Information, Liability Release, and Policy Statement Forms are to be kept on file for 3 years and disposed of in accordance with the UT Handbook of Business Procedures, Part 20. Records Management:
http://www.utexas.edu/business/accounting/hbp/20_records/.
- All student personnel and medical information is to be kept confidential in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Texas Health and Safety Code.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Course/Instructor: _____

EID: _____

TA: _____

Date(s) of Trip: _____

Destination: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Students taking trips for thesis/dissertation research and those enrolled in *field courses* must supply their own medical insurance. For other course-related field trips (*more than 25 miles from campus only*), the Department will provide insurance for the period of trip if the student does not already have coverage.

Do you have medical insurance? YES _____ NO _____

If selected NO, please provide your date of birth: _____
MM/DD/YYYY

Insurance Provider: _____

ID #: _____

Group #: _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Allergies: _____

Current Medications: _____

Special Health Needs (e.g., severe allergies, asthma, knee or ankle braces, migraines, etc.):

All medical and personal information will be kept confidential in compliance with all applicable UT, state and federal policies.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of accident, injury, or illness, I hereby authorize you to notify the person named below.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

I, the undersigned, do hereby authorize The University of Texas at Austin and its agents or representatives to consent, on my behalf, to any medical/hospital care or treatment (including locations outside the U.S.) to be rendered upon the advice of any licensed physician. I agree to be responsible for all necessary charges incurred by any hospitalization or treatment rendered pursuant to this authorization. The effective dates of this authorization are for the above listed trip dates.

I am eighteen years of age or older, have read the above authorization, and confirm that the information contained therein is true and accurate.

x _____
Signature of Student

Date

LIABILITY RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION

I, the above named student, am eighteen years of age or older and have voluntarily applied to participate in the above Activity or Trip. I acknowledge that the nature of the Activity or Trip 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 Activity or Trip, 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 Activity or Trip, 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 Activity or Trip.

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 ACTIVITY OR TRIP 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 HAVE READ AND ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT.

x _____
Signature of Student

Date

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.

DEPARTMENT'S RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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. 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 ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT.

X _____
Signature of Student

Date