

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences & Iowa State University – Uganda Program

Code of Conduct for Student Programs located in the Kamuli District, Uganda and with residence at Iowa State University’s Mpirigiti Rural Training Center

The goals of student programs offered in Uganda are to enhance student learning and foster student development. All students must comply with the rules and regulations of the program sponsor (Iowa State University) and any additional rules or regulations from their host institutions. If there are less requirements from another organization/institution, Iowa State University has greater authority regarding the Code of Conduct rules and regulations because the location of the student program and housing is at Iowa State University’s Mpirigiti Rural Training Center. The Code of Conduct applies to students enrolled at Iowa State University or Makerere University while completing activities in Service Learning Program or Semester Along the Nile Program. Please refer to the student life section of the ISU policy library for additional policies and procedures. <http://policy.iastate.edu/policy/student-life>

The Code of Conduct is established so that all participants may have a safe, enjoyable experience with learning at the core of the experience. Respect of Iowa State University’s and the host country’s rules are for participant safety and inform the principles of the Code of Conduct.

Drugs and Alcohol

- The possession and/or use of any quantity of illegal substance are strictly prohibited, including marijuana and other illegal drugs. This prohibition applies not only while students are in the company of fellow participants, but also while they are alone or with people not associated with Iowa State University or Makerere University. The consequences of substance abuse or other illegal activity at any time during the program and trip include immediate expulsion from the program or trip, forfeiture of all program fees, loss of any academic credit for the program – if applicable, and total responsibility for the cost of any legal fees and return trip to the Iowa State University or student’s permanent home.
- No alcoholic beverages will be allowed during the Iowa State University programs, including in ISU’s Mpirigiti Rural Training Center. Students must follow the rules of Iowa State University – students under the age of 21 are not allowed to consume alcohol at any time. Students under the age of 21 have not attained drinking age as stipulated in the laws of the State of Iowa.” (<http://policy.iastate.edu/policy/student-life>)
- Cigarette and tobacco use are strictly prohibited, including electronic cigarettes. This prohibition applies not only while students are in the company of fellow participants or at the ISU’s Mpirigiti Rural Training Center, but also while they are alone or with people not associated with Iowa State University or Makerere University.

Housing

- Students are expected to keep all facilities clean and well-kept for the duration of residence and overnight stay. Forms for check-in and check-out are required for housing, (see check-in and check-out document). A deposit currently is not required; however, any damage from abuse or destruction of property will be assessed to the student causing the damage. Normal use of the dormitory room should include careful use of furniture and the facility. Students are responsible for assisting with the facility's upkeep (see listing of responsibilities document for specific programs).
- A roommate agreement will be completed by all roommates living together in a dormitory room. It will be kept on file during the duration of the dormitory time period, (see roommate agreement document).

Vehicles and Travel

- All ISU and ISU-Uganda Program (ISU-UP) vehicles are to be used only for official business associated with university programs. Personal or private uses of the vehicles are not allowed. Students may not ride with others outside the program, and need to ride in a designated vehicle with an approved driver.
- Students may not depart the course and program's activities, unless on an official activity that requires departure from the course or program's plans, and with approval from a faculty leader in consultation with the ISU-UP National Director, Dr. Gideon Nadiope. If the faculty leader determines that the student may depart the course and program's activities, the National Director must be informed of the plans.

Field Trips

Faculty leaders must contact the ISU-UP National Director and CSRL Director to discuss the safety of the locations of all planned field trips. In addition, faculty need to search the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs for updated travel advisories in Uganda.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>

- Field trip sites or stops during field trips should be selected carefully and agreed upon by the National Director, Dr. Gideon Nadiope, who speaks local languages and understands local customs and current issues in Uganda.
- Sites of field trips should minimize to the extent practical time spent at crowded venues, including places such as those in the following list (U.S. Department of State, <https://travel.state.gov>).
 - o high-profile public events (sporting contests, political rallies, demonstrations – both occurring or planned, holiday events, celebratory gatherings, etc.)
 - o hotels, clubs, and restaurants
 - o shopping malls and markets

- o tourism infrastructure and tourist sites
- o public transportation systems
- o airports
- If visits occur to Ugandan national parks, managed by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) <https://www.ugandawildlife.org>, the following practices must be followed:
 - o UWA officials/guides will accompany the group on any game drives or walks. No private guides will be allowed and no game drives or walks will be allowed without a UWA official/guide. The number of officials/guides should be determined by UWA, and if given a choice, extra officials/guides always should be selected as the option.
 - o The group will strictly follow all UWA rules and additional suggestions while in the park.
 - o The team will not take boat rides unless it is determined that there are boats with sufficient size and engines.
 - o While driving in the park if more than one vehicle is in the student-faculty group, all vehicles should remain/“stick” together. There should be no separation of vehicles while taking game drives.
 - o If walks are scheduled with the UWA officials, all participants must remain together. If the number is larger, additional UWA officials should be scheduled and included.
 - o ISU faculty will participate in all game drives or walks and students may not participate without faculty.
 - o Students will not be allowed to leave the housing or “camp” at any time without permission from faculty and ISU-UP leaders.

Additional Program Expectations

- The “buddy system” will be used for any personal or program activities outside of the normal work hours of 7:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m. The “binational buddy system” is expected at all times.
- Students and faculty must be within the main walls of the ISU’s Mpirigiti Rural Training Center by 7:00 p.m. since daily sunset is at 6:45 to 7:00 p.m.
- Students and faculty may not walk along Kamuli Road, the main road between Jinja and Kamuli. Arrangements must be made with ISU-UP for transportation to and from Kamuli town and the Mpirigiti Rural Training Center to avoid walking along Kamuli Road. ISU-UP may require students and faculty to sign out and sign in at the vehicle gate when departing the Mpirigiti Rural Training Center.
- Students must wear closed-toed, closed-heeled shoes at all times outside of their bedrooms.
- Students are encouraged to not wear shorts or sleeveless tops outside of their bedrooms, due to cultural norms and especially when mosquitoes are most active (dusk and dawn).

- If the program requires interacting with youth, students must have passed a current background check for working with youth, which for ISU students is completed through Iowa State University. Students from Makerere University must meet their university requirements for background checks of working with youth.
- If the program requires additional training, such as First Aid, CITI, Food Safe 101, or others, ISU students will need to complete the training programs by the dates provided by the faculty instructors. Students from Makerere University must meet their university requirements for any additional or equivalent training by the dates provided by the faculty instructors. Note: Many training courses are available on-line and should be completed by both ISU and Makerere University students before the onset of the program.
- Students are expected to show respect to program leaders, Iowa State University and Makerere University faculty and staff, ISU-UP staff and support staff, and each other.
- Behaviors and communications that reflect positively on Iowa State University and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, are expected from students.
- Iowa State University and its College of Agriculture and Life Sciences follow guidelines for engagement in developing countries and these guidelines must be followed. The guidelines are found here: <https://www.cals.iastate.edu/content/guidelines-engagement-developing-countries>
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Procedures

All infractions will be reviewed by Iowa State and Makerere University faculty, or in their absence, the ISU-UP National Director.

If infractions of the Code of Conduct occur, university policy states that in all cases except use or possession of illegal substances, a verbal warning will be given at the first incidence. If behavior continues, the student will be given a written warning. If the behavior continues after a written warning has been issued, the student will be dismissed from the program and will incur any costs of returning to Iowa State University or their permanent home without remaining in the program's location. Students should remind each other of the Code of Conduct if serious concerns arise. For details, see [Study Abroad Conduct Code](#).