

## Pamplin College International Programs' Conduct Policies

You should conduct yourself in class, on visits, and outside of class in conformance with the VT Code of Conduct and the cultural/academic objectives of the Program. Assessment by the Program leaders and IES staff can include your recognition of, and respect for, the host culture, honorable representation of VT and the USA, and your efforts to interact knowledgeably and respectfully with the host culture in ways that reflect affirmation of that culture's traditions and values. You shall conduct yourself in a manner that is respectful of your fellow students, faculty, citizens of Switzerland (Spain), and all people you encounter during your time in Switzerland (Spain) or other countries visited.

Students who disrupt the program's ability to meet its objectives, are detrimental to its functioning, or besmirch the reputation of the program or VT, in the sole discretion of the program leaders or ZHAW (IES) staff, through their actions **during scheduled** activities or **during their free time** can be dismissed from the program immediately. Such actions include but are not limited to:

- Alcohol and other drug related actions:
  - Abusing alcohol or other substances
  - Public or private intoxication and misconduct influenced by intoxication
  - Using or obtaining illegal drugs or being in the company of others using or trafficking in illegal drugs
- Disorderly conduct (alcohol related or otherwise)
- Complaints that result in police, civil guard, or military interventions
- Being arrested
- Stealing, shoplifting, robbery or similar offenses (whether arrested or not)
- Violating the laws of the host country (e.g., Switzerland, Spain).

**Failure to fulfill any of the requirements outlined above may result in termination from the program, Honor Court, or Judicial Review proceedings.**

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### Specific Behavior Considerations

- Use as much of the local language(s) as possible. This is common courtesy as well as an opportunity to practice (ie, homework) and learn.
- Dress appropriately for the location whether business visit, church, museum, family home, or public restaurant
- Do not attend class or make visits drunk or so hung over that you cannot pay attention or stay awake
- Avoid drawing attention to yourself as an American foreign tourist. This is part of being culturally sensitive and representing VT well, and it will avoid attracting the attention of thieves, muggers, pick pockets, political dissidents, and terrorists.
  - Don't yell across local squares in English (or German or Spanish either)
  - Observe and try to behave and dress like locals
    - Do not be loud and boisterous or "show off" (stereotypically American)
    - Be especially quiet at night coming back home
  - Do not wear:
    - American flags on clothing, backpacks, hats, purses, book covers, etc.
    - Clothing with English words or obvious reference to US teams, schools, locations
    - Baseball style hats (especially not turned backwards or sideways)
    - Shorts (except at the beach)
    - Baggy trousers
    - Bling – ostentatious jewelry, watches, or other adornments
- Avoid civil disturbances and public political demonstrations – do not participate in the demonstrations or even be an [observer of the disturbances](#) or events that are known to turn into civil disturbances.
- These are safety issues (for you and for the group) as well as learning issues.