# SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE FOR UIB STUDENTS GOING ON EXCHANGE

#### PRIOR TO THE EXCHANGE

- Pay the semester fee and register as a student at the University of Bergen within the deadline
- Apply for preliminary recognition of the subjects that you plan to take while on exchange
- Set up a budget and make sure you have the necessary funds to finance your stay abroad
- Check whether you need a visa or a study permit for the country where you are going to study
- Acquire a travel and health insurance which covers the whole study abroad period
- Find out whether you need or are required to take any vaccines. In certain countries entry to the country is only granted if visitors have taken the required vaccines in advance. If you fail to take the vaccine prior to departure, you might be required to take a vaccine shot at the airport.
- Take your state of health into consideration when you choose where to go on exchange. If
  you take prescription medicines, you are advised to bring a statement in English from your
  GP as proof that you need these medicines because drug laws in certain countries require
  such proof.

#### **DURING THE EXCHANGE**

- Register your address in the country where you are on exchange and your telephone number as well as the contact information of your next of kin on StudentWeb.
- You might like to register with your home country's embassy or consulate in the country where you are on exchange.
- Keep your family updated on your travel plans and your contact information.
- Should your study abroad period be extended or disrupted you must inform the University of Bergen immediately.
- Check your UiB mail account regularly.

### **AFTER THE EXCHANGE**

- Submit a report about your study abroad period at uib.no/studentrapport
- Apply for recognition of the subjects you took abroad and for credit transfer.

## **USEFUL ADVICE**

Get acquainted with local customs and rules.

Get acquainted with the differences between your own culture and the culture of the receiving country.

Get acquainted with the surrounding areas. Find out whether there are areas or activities which should be avoided. The host university can usually give you useful tips about that.

Follow the political state of affairs in the country where you are studying on local media. You are advised to avoid riots and political demonstrations.

If a state of emergency such as a natural disaster, pandemy, or a terror attack should occur, follow the advice given by the local authorities.

If an emergency situation should occur, contact the local police/fire brigade/emergency ward.

Find out what assistance your home country's embassy or consulate in the country where you are studying can offer you should you be in trouble.

If a calamity should occur while you are abroad, contact your family to tell them that you are safe. You should do that even if you are far away from the area where the calamity occurred. Your family might not have detailed knowledge of the geography of the country where you are.

If you need to contact the University of Bergen during an emergency, please call +47 55 58 80 81.

If a disaster occurs in the area where you are, the University of Bergen will contact you to make sure that you are safe and sound. It is very important that you reply.