Passports & Visas
Obtaining a Passport (US)

A passport is needed to leave and enter the US

- First time passport: apply at least 3 months before departure
- Passport renewal: check the expiration date
  - It should not expire within 6 months of your return from your trip abroad, or else you should apply for a renewal at least three months ahead.

WHERE?

- Texas A&M Study Abroad Programs Office (SAPO) is a passport facility for US passport applications. Visit studyabroad.tamu.edu/Passport-Services
- US Post Offices: some locations process passport applications
- Other Passport Acceptance Facilities: Where to Apply
Visas and Non-US passport

• Visit Travel.State.Gov for valuable information

• **Visas**: some countries may require that you obtain a visa (entry permit for a limited amount of time)
  – Check with your provider and embassies to see if you need one
  – Start the process early
  – You will need a valid passport before you can apply for a visa

• If you will be traveling with a **non-US passport**, you may be required to obtain a visa for your destination
  – Research and work with the appropriate embassies or consulates
Checklist for Study Abroad

✓ Passport
  ✓ Check expiration date
  ✓ Apply/Renew by 3 months prior to departure at the LATEST!!!
  ✓ Expedite if needed

✓ Funding
  ✓ Visit Texas A&M Scholarships and Financial Aid (SFAID)
  ✓ Check “Funding” page on SAPO website
  ✓ Talk to your department/college

✓ Purchase airfare

✓ Make sure you are up to date with vaccines
  ✓ Check Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), visit the Beutel Health Center, or consult your primary care doctor for country specific requirements

✓ Work on study abroad portal checklist