



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Study Abroad

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND TITLE IX: RESOURCES AND REPORTING

The University's Title IX protection and procedures apply to WMU students and members of the University community on and off campus, including international programs, study abroad opportunities, and university-sponsored trips.

WMU is committed to providing an environment free from harassment and violence and will take prompt corrective action to prevent, mitigate, and remedy the effects of such behavior. Information and resources are provided below. Every attempt will be made to maintain confidentiality in the investigation of sexual harassment/violence complaints. All documentation and files remain in the investigating office, unless the University deems the release of information necessary as mandated by applicable legal requirements.

If you experience and want to report sexual and gender-based harassment and violence, intimate partner violence, or stalking while abroad, please notify WMU Director of Study Abroad Dr. Lee M. Penyak immediately at lee.penyak@wmich.edu.

RESOURCES AND REPORTING:

- Medical care (including mental health) while abroad is available through GeoBlue insurance. GeoBlue has “direct pay” agreements with many international healthcare providers or will reimburse you for services rendered. A victim of sexual assault is encouraged to request a Sexual Assault Nurse Exam (Forensic Exam). Since not all hospitals have this capability, please call GeoBlue at +1 (610) 263-2847 and request the name of an appropriate provider in your area. This exam should be performed as soon as possible and within 120 hours of the incident.
- You may file a report and call (collect) the WMU Department of Public Safety at (269) 387-5555 to activate the Haenicke Institute's emergency response protocol. Even if you choose not to report it now, you may change your mind and report it later. You also have the option to file a report without pressing criminal charges. We will provide you with assistance in notifying law enforcement if you so choose.
- If you have experienced harassment or violence, you have a right to file a sexual misconduct complaint through the Office of Institutional Equity at (269) 387-6316. WMU's "Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy and Procedures" outlines the process through which a complaint is investigated and resolved. An online reporting form is available at wmich.edu/sexualmisconduct/report.
- The YWCA of Kalamazoo staffs a 24-hours sexual assault crisis line at (269) 385-3587. Volunteers throughout the community provide supportive services to sexual assault victims through Nurse Examiner facilities.
- If necessary, WMU can work with the host university and you to make changes to living accommodations and class schedules to ensure your safety and well-being.
- A no-contact directive may be issued from a University official to prohibit contact between a complainant and respondent while abroad and upon return to campus, if necessary.