

Confirmation of Participation

By submitting the last page of this Confirmation of Participation form you agree to the following Conditions (i) and Release of Liability (ii) for studying abroad with the Autonomous University of Social Movements.

i. Conditions of Participation

PERIOD OF ENROLLMENT

The period of enrollment for students begins the day of the group's arrival in Cuba and concludes the day of the scheduled group departure for return to the US. These dates are published in the acceptance and orientation letters from Autonomous University of Social Movements (AUSM) program staff.

FEES

The fee, as billed by AUSM, covers most food and lodging, most ground transportation within Cuba, most books, and tuition during the period of enrollment. Participants are responsible for: travel from home to and from Cuba (exact arrival and departure points in Cuba depend on program); snacks and incidentals; baggage insurance (if desired); fees for passports, tourist cards, and identification cards; preprogram medical expenses (e.g., inoculations) and prophylactic medicines; expenses for some books and supplies, tips, laundry, telephone calls, postage, gifts, beverages that are not a customary part of meals, occasional meals that are not included in the program, and all other such expenses. Fees have been established based on all known circumstances at the time of calculation, and no change in them is expected. However, due to the nature of the AUSM Study Abroad Program and economics in Cuba, we reserve the right to change fees without notice. In the event of a fee increase, students will be provided with a reasonable amount of time prior to the scheduled group departure and not less than ten (10) days from the date of notice, in which to withdraw. In the absence of notice of withdrawal, students will be committed to the program. Late fees for expenses incurred by AUSM Study Abroad may be billed to the student.

PAYMENT

A \$500 deposit, credited towards the participant's program fee, must be received before a space on a program can be confirmed. The deposit is nonrefundable and may not be transferred to another semester. Full payment is due **seven (7) weeks prior to the start date of the program**.

Students are expected to pay the program fee according to this schedule. If full payment is not made by the payment deadline, an additional \$500 is added to the student's tuition. If full payment is not received by the program start date, an additional \$1000 is added to the student's tuition. If full payment is not received by the midpoint of the program, an additional \$1500 is added to the student's tuition. Exceptions will be made for financial aid payments issued by the student's home institution upon receipt of a completed Financial Aid Information Sheet. However, if financial aid payments from the student's home institution do not cover all tuition and fees costs, the student will be responsible for paying the remainder in accordance with the aforementioned deadlines and consequent fees. Transcripts and diplomas will not be issued until students have paid all outstanding balances.

WITHDRAWAL REFUND PROCEDURES

After acceptance to the program, refunds in the event of withdrawal from a program will be made according to the schedule below. Refunds will be calculated from the time AUSM Study Abroad is notified by the participant in writing or by the last date of association with the program, whichever is later. The amount of the total refund will be determined by AUSM Study Abroad. After the refund amount has been determined, balances will be refunded or invoices issued for outstanding funds. Participants withdrawing before the end of the second week of semester programs will realize an adjustment of tuition, room, and board, excluding the non-refundable deposit, according to the schedule outlined below. If a participant believes individual circumstances warrant an exception to these procedures, a written request with supporting documentation should be sent to AUSM Study Abroad.

Withdrawal Schedule:

Fall/Spring Semesters:

Before the day of departure from the US: 100% refund less \$500 deposit and less any scholarship awards.

By Saturday of the first week of the program: 80% of tuition and fees minus the \$500 deposit and less any scholarship awards.

By Saturday of the second week of the program: 60% of tuition and fees minus the \$500 deposit and minus any scholarship awards.

No refunds are available after the second week of the program; however, in case of medical or family emergencies, AUSM Study Abroad will consider, on a case by case basis, application of payment to another semester program.

Summer:

No refunds are available for the Summer semester programs after the first day of classes.

PROGRAM CHANGES

Although AUSM Study Abroad will attempt to maintain its programs as described in its publications, we reserve the right to terminate or alter a program at any time and for any reason, with or without notice. In the event of program termination or cancellation before the start date of the program, AUSM Study Abroad will fully refund tuition, room and board paid by the student. In the event of program termination or cancellation after the start date of the program, AUSM Study Abroad will refund based on the dates students participated in the program.

INSURANCE

The Cuban government requires all visitors to Cuba to have comprehensive travel insurance including medical insurance. Most airline flights include up to 30 days of insurance in their airfare. The description of the coverage can be found at [ESICUBA](#). Because of the U.S. embargo on Cuba, U.S. based insurances are not available for supplemental coverage. Participants may be able to arrange supplemental coverage with non-US based insurance companies, if desired. AUSM will purchase the economical or basic option from the Cuban issued insurance for the remainder of the program pass the first 30 days. Although AUSM can make no representation as to the availability or level of proficiency of medical care in all circumstances, in the event of accident or illness we will attempt to ensure that appropriate care is provided. Responsibility for medical treatment of preexisting conditions rests solely with the participant. Students are responsible for these costs. In some cases, student insurance policies will reimburse for these costs upon return to the US, but students are responsible for initial payments and will always be asked to show proof of services rendered with receipts.

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Participants are solely responsible for arranging transportation from home to Cuba at the beginning of the program and from Cuba to home at the end of the program.

PARTICIPATION

Students are required to participate fully and are not allowed to selectively participate in components of the program.

MEDICAL REVIEW

Failure to disclose complete and accurate information on the medical form can result in dismissal from the program. AUSM normally requires that all participants demonstrate medical and psychological stability, as determined by AUSM, for no less than six months prior to the group's departure date.

PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS AND DISMISSAL

Certain activities deemed potentially dangerous to individual safety and program integrity are not permitted and are grounds for dismissal. These include, but are not limited to, motorcycling, hitchhiking, driving, parachuting, bungee-jumping, hang-gliding, riding in private airplanes, rock climbing, white water rafting, riding on carnival rides, and scuba diving. Independent travel during the program is limited and restricted, and vacation plans must be approved by the program Director. Students traveling independently following the close of a program assume total responsibility for themselves. AUSM and its employees assume no liability for individuals once they are separated from the program. A student who leaves the scheduled program at any time without prior written authorization from AUSM will not be allowed to return and will be considered withdrawn. The normal refund schedule will apply, and travel expenses incurred due to a premature return to the US from abroad, either alone or accompanied, must be borne by the student. AUSM Study Abroad and its employees assume no responsibility whatsoever in connection with losses or other damages resulting from, and in its sole discretion reserves the right to dismiss any student for the following reasons: failure to participate fully in all program components, failure to observe published policies or procedures, failure to disclose material information requested by AUSM (e.g. health information), ill health that interferes with effective program participation, failure to comply with the provisions of local country laws, regulations and customs, or conduct that is, in the sole judgment of AUSM, improper or offensive to the host community, potentially detrimental to the health or safety of the student or other members of the program, or inappropriate for the program or for study in a cross-cultural environment. Examples may include, but are not limited to, the use of drugs, unacceptable sexual behavior, or excessive alcohol consumption. In the event of dismissal, the normal refund schedule will apply.

ii. Release and Indemnification Agreement

I, the undersigned, have agreed to participate in the Autonomous University of Social Movements' Study Abroad program (identified below as the "program"). In consideration of the Autonomous University of Social Movements' agreement to permit me to participate in the program, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby agree as follows:

1. I understand that my participation is wholly voluntary. I certify that I am 18 years of age or older.
2. I have read and understood (a) the Health and Safety guidelines ([link](#)), (b) the U.S. State Department Consular Information concerning travel to, in, and around Cuba ([link](#)) (the "Travel Advisory"), and (c) the Autonomous University of Social Movements Study Abroad "Conditions of Participation" (the "Conditions"). I understand and agree that I am responsible for consulting with my physician and making decisions concerning pre-trip medical preparations. I understand that I am responsible for

complying with the Conditions, any recommended or required precautions and procedures set forth in the Travel Advisory, and the policies and procedures of the Autonomous University of Social Movements Study Abroad Program as communicated to me from time to time.

3. Although the Autonomous University of Social Movements has made every reasonable effort to assure students' health and safety while participating in the Program, there are unavoidable risks in travel overseas, including (a) those identified in the Health Guidelines, the Travel Advisory and the Conditions, and (b) those associated with strikes, civil unrest, terrorism, war, criminal activity, force majeure, weather conditions, public health risks, acts of God, and other possibly dangerous conditions beyond the control of the Autonomous University of Social Movements. I am aware of and understand the risks and dangers of travel to, in, and around Cuba, including the dangers to my own health and personal safety posed by terrorism, crime, civil unrest and violence. I hereby assume, knowingly and voluntarily, each of the risks described above and all of the other risks which could arise out of or occur during my travel to, from, in or around Cuba.

4. I, individually and on behalf of my heirs, successors, assigns and personal representatives, hereby release and forever discharge the Autonomous University of Social Movements, their employees, agents, officers, trustees and representatives (in their official and individual capacities) ("AUSM Representatives") from any and all liability whatsoever for any and all damages, losses or injuries (including death) I sustain to my person or property or both ("Losses"), including but not limited to any claims, demands, actions, causes of action, judgments, damages, expenses and costs, including attorney's fees, which arise out of, result from, occur during or are connected in any manner with my participation in the Program, any related or independent travel, any activities or excursions, irrespective of whether they are sponsored, supervised or controlled by the Autonomous University of Social Movements, except for such Losses as may be caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of AUSM Representatives. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless AUSM Representatives from and against any Losses.

5. This Agreement and the Conditions of Participation represent the complete understanding with Autonomous University of Social Movements concerning AUSM's responsibility and liability for my participation in the Program. This Agreement and the Conditions of Participation supersede any previous or contemporaneous understandings with the Autonomous University of Social Movements, whether written or oral, and cannot be changed or amended except in writing and signed by an authorized officer or agent of the Autonomous University of Social Movements. Should any provision or aspect of this Agreement or the Conditions of Participation be found unenforceable, all remaining provisions of the Agreement or the Conditions of Participation will remain in full force and effect. Should there be any dispute concerning my participation in the Program that would require the adjudication of a court of law, such dispute or lawsuit must be filed only in a court in Chicago or in the United States District Court for the District of Illinois, to the exclusion of any other court or jurisdiction. This Agreement and the Conditions of Participation shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois (without regard to its conflicts of laws rules).

6. I have shared the above information with those other parties responsible for payment or with related interest and understand that, before signing this Agreement, I have the right to consult with the advisor, counselor, or attorney of my choice.

Confirmation of Participation

Participant Name: _____

Program Country/Semester/Year _____

By signing this document, I confirm that I have read and agree to the Conditions of Participation and Release and Indemnification Agreement for the AUSM Study Abroad Program indicated above.

X _____
(signature) (date)

iii. Deposit and Payment

Upon reading and completing this form, please do one of the following:

- Send us this page as a .pdf and
 - make your \$500 deposit at www.ausm.community/payment **OR**
 - Confirm that your deposit is waived by your institution

OR

- Print this page and return it with your \$500 deposit check made out to Autonomous University of Social Movements and mailed to our address below

Invoice Information

Tell us who we should bill for the remaining balance of your AUSM Study Abroad program fee

Name and/or Institution _____
(Prior approval must be obtained in order to bill your institution)

Address _____

City, state, zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

(Please make a copy of this agreement and keep with your records)