



Dear Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance to the University of Miami Program Abroad! The university has a strong commitment to support a diverse student body encompassing students with all types of abilities. This includes students who may require auxiliary aids, academic accommodations, or specialized services, in order to fully access the programs available at the University of Miami. As part of your preparations to study outside of the United States, we encourage any student with a documented disability to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) and visit our website at www.umarc.miami.edu.

The Office of Disability Services is responsible for overseeing accommodations across all programs and works in conjunction with the Study Abroad Office to coordinate services. Any student requesting services related to a medical condition, physical limitation, vision or hearing impairment, psychological disorder, learning disability, or attention disorder, should contact us well in advance of their arrival, as some accommodations may require extensive planning. Students must be registered with ODS prior to departure. Student already registered with the office should contact the Accommodations Coordinator to discuss accommodation abroad.

ODS requires current and comprehensive documentation describing the nature and extent to which the disability impacts a major life activity. Documentation should clearly identify the need for a specific service. This requirement extends to all persons seeking services, even when the existence of the disability is readily apparent. The guidelines for submitting documentation are listed on our website or may be requested by contacting our office. ODS will review the documentation and schedule an appointment with the student to discuss the availability of those accommodations while abroad.

I encourage any student who requires specialized support due to a disability or medical condition to contact the Office of Disabilities at disabilityservices@miami.edu or call 305.284.2374 (Voice), 305-284-3401 (TDD). It is important to discuss the accommodations available to you while studying abroad. **Accommodations must be requested within 10 business days** of the acceptance letter to allow UM adequate time to coordinate with the appropriate office abroad. All information provided to this office related to a disability remains **confidential**. All of us here at Disability Services welcome you to the University of Miami Study Abroad program.

Mykel Mangrum Billups, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean, Academic Support Services
University of Miami

