Augsburg College
Center for Global Education & Experience

Safety Notice: Mexico

January 20, 2016

The U.S. State Department last updated the Travel Warnings for Mexico January 19,2016. Although the travel warning advises against travel to certain locations within Mexico, it does NOT restrict travel to the locations where Augsburg’s Center for Global Education and Experience (CGEE) educational programs but to exercise caution. Moreover, it states:

“Millions of U.S. citizens safely visit Mexico each year for study, tourism, and business, including more than 150,000 who cross the border every day. The Mexican government dedicates substantial resources to protect visitors to major tourist destinations, and there is no evidence that organized criminal groups have targeted U.S. visitors or residents based on their nationality. Resort areas and tourist destinations in Mexico generally do not see the levels of drug-related violence and crime that are reported in the border region or in areas along major trafficking routes.”

We encourage people to [review the full text of the travel warning](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html).

Augsburg’s faculty and staff in Cuernavaca closely monitors all reported violence in Cuernavaca, the State of Morelos, and throughout Mexico. There has been no evidence of violence or kidnappings directed at international students, foreign tourists, or foreign residents in any area where CGEE currently does programming.

While students are responsible for planning independent and personal travel, they are urged and advised to read the latest U.S. State Department information to avoid travel to areas of high risk identified in the current Travel Warning. They are also required to inform CGEE-Mexico staff of independent travel plans and contact information. The Center recommends that all U.S. citizens participating in the its programs in Mexico [enroll in the State Department’s Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/step.html) which provides the latest updates and travel information from the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Augsburg’s Center for Global Education and Experience staff will continue to monitor the situation in all areas of our programming and will not hesitate to cancel or reroute programs, if needed, to secure the safety of students and travel seminar participants.

Please contact us at: + 1 (800) 299-8889, +1 612 330-1159 or globaled@augsburg.edu if you have questions and want additional information.