

## **All international students are strongly advised to plan ahead when traveling.**

International students are advised to notify the Office of International Programs anytime they are going to be departing the United States, even if it is only for a short vacation. By notifying the Office of International Programs, you are protecting yourself and your status. In the event of an emergency, we will be able to confirm whether or not students are present in the United States. Furthermore, if a student experiences a problem in obtaining or renewing a visa while they are in their home country, the Office of International Programs can use the travel information to update your SEVIS record appropriately and protect your status from potential violations.

**LTU International Programs DOES NOT support students traveling while class is in session. This includes students who return late, leave early, or travel during the middle of the semester. Students are expected to arrive on time for the start of the next semester. If a student travels while classes are in session, they accept full responsibility for any academic or immigration issues that may arise as a result.** If you choose to return late, you must get approval from your professors PRIOR to traveling. Students who travel while classes are in session may be dropped from classes if the professor feels they have missed too much material.

### **Please travel with the following documents:**

- Valid passport (must be valid 6 months into the future)
- Valid visa
- Valid I-20 for travel showing current program information. The travel signature is valid for one year for all students in a program of study. If you are currently on OPT or OPT STEM, travel signatures are only valid for six months. *If you want an advisor to verify the signature, scan & email it to [international@ltu.edu](mailto:international@ltu.edu)*
- If you are already registered for courses for next semester, it would be a good idea to print a copy of your schedule. This is not required, but is additional proof that you will be returning to maintain your F1 status after re-entry.

**Students should submit a Travel Notification to the Office of International Programs prior to any travel outside of the U.S. The Travel Notification is now available to be completed online at <https://goo.gl/forms/1E9RfDoHwYc0Fkip2>**

Students who are planning to travel outside the United States are advised to secure the documents required to return to the U.S. BEFORE they leave. Students who do not contact the Office of International Programs well before their travel may experience problems in obtaining the necessary documents before they leave.

Students who do attempt to return to the U.S. without the proper documents will experience problems at the border and may be denied entry to the U.S. Students are advised not to leave before the semester ends and to make sure they will return before the next semester begins.

If you have any questions regarding international travel, please email [international@ltu.edu](mailto:international@ltu.edu)