



*Cronin Office of  
International Education*

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Dear Bentley Students Abroad and Families,

We understand that many of you are concerned about the days and weeks ahead in your semester as the world continues to monitor the spread of COVID-19. While Bentley will not require students to depart a study abroad location unless there is an elevation to a Level 3 travel advisory by the Centers for Disease Control, please know that **it is always within your own control to make a personal decision to depart and return home at any time. No student is required to stay in a study abroad program.**

We know that many students and their families are wondering what early departure would mean for their credits and what opportunities may exist to continue coursework via remote learning. Like at Bentley, all of our university partners are planning for what options may be possible for students to complete coursework if campuses move to remote class meetings. Early departure will impact students differently depending on their host institution, or in some cases, depending on the individual course.

**Bentley continues to communicate and advocate with our partners to put remote learning into place should students depart.** Because we do not directly control the courses offered through partner institutions and affiliates, awarding of academic credit is determined by the partners and affiliates and therefore cannot be guaranteed by Bentley. We know that your host institutions will share more information as soon as developments occur.

**It is in your best interest to share your own questions and concerns in person and in writing directly to your professors and advisors on site, especially if you expect that you may choose to depart early from your host university.** Just like at Bentley, significant input from all stakeholders including exchange students and their families plays an important role in universities' future plans.

Bentley and the Cronin Office of International Education continues to advocate for you with all of our ability. In the case that distance learning would not be possible for some or all credits, Bentley is determining what future alternative academic credit opportunities can be available. This is a fluid situation. Please know that we are working diligently to support you and your personal decision.

All university updates related to COVID-19 and study abroad updates from the Cronin Office of International Education can be found at [www.bentley.edu/coronavirus](http://www.bentley.edu/coronavirus). If you have immediate questions, please contact your study abroad advisor. We will continue to communicate with you as any new updates are made available. The health and safety of Bentley students, faculty and staff at home and abroad remain the university's top priority.

Sincerely,

Natalie and the International Education Team

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