# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU CLAIRE

# **Study Abroad** Faculty-Led Immersion



# EARLY CHILDHOOD IN PRAGUE SUMMER 2018

Program Guide

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**CONGRATULATIONS** on being accepted to the UW-Eau Claire (UWEC) Czech Republic study abroad program in Prague during Summer 2018! Living and studying in a foreign culture is both an exciting and a challenging experience. Past participants of study abroad report that the many advantages of international study include:

Building upon existing foreign language skills Gaining new perspectives on a chosen academic field Increasing understanding of different cultures Enhancing personal development Developing different perspectives on U.S. culture Gaining self-confidence and independence Learning skills for the future international job market

It is up to you to determine how you can best benefit from these possible advantages. This is your experience!

This program guide is to be used together with the Faculty-Led Study Abroad Handbook. The Handbook has information that is valid for all faculty-led, short-term study abroad programs. This guide will provide you with specific information for the Czech Republic Summer 2018 program. It is designed to complement the Study Abroad Handbook, study abroad orientation and your individual pre-departure preparations.

Please realize that although this guide was written to help you better prepare for your time abroad, and that all of the information available at the time of printing has been used, it is impossible for any single resource to answer all of your questions. We strongly encourage you to contact your faculty leaders, the Intercultural Immersions staff, and students on campus with your specific questions. You should also make use of the additional written and web resources listed towards the end of this guide.

Basic questions only you can answer include:

1) What are YOUR goals for this experience? Common objectives of students abroad include advancement in future profession; wish to expand personal and academic horizons; need for a change; wish to challenge oneself with immersion in a new culture.

2) Given the way the program is set up, how can you best prepare to meet your goals? For example, if one of your goals is truly being immersed in the local culture, yet the program is quite short. How can you best meet your goal?

The information in this guide was current at the time of printing, though changes may occur at any time.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **The Program**

This faculty-led study abroad program is intended to promote a broader understanding of the early childhood profession through cultural immersion in a small country with an uncommon spoken language. Interaction within a social, educational, and economic environment that is totally different from the United States will provide an experience that mirrors that of families/children whose home language is other than English. Students will volunteer at the only English Immersion primary school endorsed by the Ministry of Education in Prague.

Early Childhood in Prague is intended to provide the opportunity for students to critically analyze and reflect upon their behaviors and attitudes related to teaching children from diverse linguistic, ability, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. Participants will have the unique opportunity to meet with the author of the recent special education legislation in The Czech Republic. The experiences will broaden student understanding of inclusive early childhood and the global impact of high quality early and special education. Individual students will stay with Czech families for 15 days allowing them to be immersed in family's experiences and become more familiar with Czech culture.

#### The Location

The country was formally established in 1993 when Slovakia and The Czech Republic peacefully "divorced" and dissolved the former Czechoslovakia. Although it is a newly established country that is a parliamentary democracy, the history of this region has been heavily influenced for centuries by monarchies, communism, socialism, Nazi invasion and recently a struggling economic development. The Czech Republic currently faces similar issues of the 1960's and 70's in the United States. Special education is in its infancy and the Gypsies are viewed as unequal by many in the country. Being able to filter struggle in the US for equal educational opportunity, social equity and access to services and systems for people with disabilities and those from racial, socioeconomic. linguistically and diverse backgrounds through first-hand experiences will create learning that is not possible in a familiar environment where our assumptions are difficult to challenge.

#### **Tentative Academic Calendar**

\*Please do not book your international flight until after orientation on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

The program runs from June 5-29, 2018. This means you will leave the U.S. on June 4 and depart from Prague on June 29.

June 4	Depart USA
June 5	Arrive in Dresden, Germany
June 5-9	Activities in Dresden, Germany
June 9	Travel to Prague, meet host
	families
June 10	Orientation
June 12-16	Practicum in Intensive English
	Schools
June 17-18	Free weekend with host
	families
June 19-23	Practicum in Intensive English
	Schools
June 23-25	Visit to Cesky Krumlov
June 25-29	Activities in Krakow,
	Auschwitz study tour
June 29	Travel Home

# **ACADEMICS**

#### **Program Prerequisites**

To participate in this immersion program, you must **be in good academic standing and have the minimum 2.75 GPA required.** We check grades at the end of the spring semester prior to departure. If you are on probation, we will need to check with the faculty leader to see if you will be allowed to participate. If you have been suspended, you will not be allowed to participate in the program.

#### **Pre-departure Orientation & Academic Planning**

Attendance at the March 10<sup>th</sup> orientation plus five preparation sessions during fall and spring semester required. Times and days will be announced by your Faculty Leader. You will be doing some reading, research, and preparing presentations throughout spring semester.

Upon successful completion of the program, you will earn 6 credits total: **UEC 324** *Language and Cultural Diversity in Early Childhood (3 credits) and* **UEC 493** *International Early Childhood Experience (3 credits).* 

**For students in catalog years through 2015-16**, UEC 493 course fulfills 3 credits of Foreign Culture upon successful program completion.

For students in catalog years 2016-17 and later, UEC 493 course fulfills the Responsibility Outcome 2 (R2): Global Perspectives requirement upon completion of all course assignments.

#### **Credits and Grades**

Class attendance and participation in spring class meetings, and in program lectures, practicum in schools, and excursions while in Czech Republic is required of all students and will be considered for your final course grade. Since this is a shortterm program, the academic structure has been adjusted so that you can get a valuable immersion experience in the host country in about three weeks. The program in Czech Republic will include a combination of lectures by local faculty, practicum in local schools, and cultural sites. Learning will take place through all these methods.

Credits earned abroad on this program are considered UW-Eau Claire resident credits. The class you take abroad will count towards the total credits needed for graduation, **and the grade will be figured into your GPA.** You cannot take any credits pass/fail.

The UW-Eau Claire Faculty Leader will issue grades for the course using the usual UW-Eau Claire A-F grading scale. Grades are typically not available until late summer after you have submitted your final assignment.

# **MONEY MATTERS**

Information about how payments are made, when they are due, and the withdrawal/refund deadlines, financial aid, scholarships, budgeting and ways to bring money abroad is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

#### Costs Paid to UW-Eau Claire

The **estimated** UNDERGRADUATE Wisconsin resident cost paid to UW-Eau Claire for summer 2018 study on the Czech Republic program is \$2,176.

Tuition/Fees (WI Res, 3 credits)	\$2,146
Program Fee	\$2,000

Application Fee	\$30
Subtotal	\$4,176
FLIIE Funding	-\$2,000
Total Paid to UWEC	\$2,176

Minnesota residents add reciprocity; non-residents add non-resident fees.

#### **Estimated Additional Costs**

Meals	\$200
Personal Expenses	\$300
Passport/photo	\$135
Airfare MSP to Prague	\$1,500
Total Additional Costs	\$2,135

#### **Total Cost Estimates**

If you add up everything you will pay to UW-Eau Claire, and estimated additional costs, the total is around \$4,311 **for an undergraduate Wisconsin resident student.** All costs are estimated and may change at any time.

#### **Program Fee: What does it cover?**

- Airport pick-up for those arriving at designated time
- Practicum in local schools
- Housing with host families
- 3 meals/day while with host families
- In-country transportation
- All activities, entrance fees, and site visits in the program itinerary
- International travel insurance with CISI

**Not included:** the cost of a passport, airfare, some meals, or personal expenses and independent travel.

#### FLIIE Funding

This program is supported by Blugold Commitment FLIIE Funding for undergraduate UWEC students. While students are encouraged to participate in multiple high-impact immersion programs, each student is eligible to receive BCDT funding for only one FLIIE experience. Blugold Commitment funding is not able to cover the costs of tuition, but will include \$2000/student towards the program fee in 2018.

#### Souvenirs & Personal Travel

The amount of personal funds to cover souvenirs and personal travel will vary based on your shopping habits, off-program entertainment, personal spending habits, etc. We do not expect you will spend a lot on personal travel as you have limited opportunities to travel during the program due to a full calendar, though you might have time before or after the official program dates.

#### **Program Refunds from UW-Eau Claire**

The \$30 application fee is non-refundable. The \$150 deposit is non-refundable except in the case of a documented medical or family emergency.

The withdrawal deadline for the program is March 1. No refunds are available after March 1, and if you withdraw after March 1, you will be required to pay all program costs and any funds already committed on your behalf, up to the full program cost. All withdrawals must be in writing.

Undergraduate students who withdraw will lose their FLIIE funding. As such, they will be expected to pay ALL non-refundable program costs paid to UW-Eau Claire. A student who withdraws after the refund deadline would be responsible for paying the \$2000 estimated cost, which is the true cost of the program without the FLIIE subsidy. FLIIE program support is based on student enrollment and can only benefit students participating in program.

#### **Currency Exchange**

The currency of Czech Republic is the Koruna. The exchange rate as of February 2018 was about 20.42 koruna per U.S. dollar.

#### Credit Cards

In addition to the information on credit cards in your *Study Abroad Handbook*, you should be aware that **credit cards are not as widely accepted in Czech Republic as they are in the U.S.** Only major stores, tourist hotels, and travel agencies are likely to take them. Students have mentioned in the past that they carry more cash in Czech Republic than we do in the U.S., so be prepared to have more cash on you than you may be used to.

#### ATMs: Credit/Debit Card Use

24-hour ATMs are plentiful in the large cities you will be traveling to. The most commonly accepted U.S. cards are Visa and MasterCard. You can also draw cash as soon as you land at the airport. You should compare the international transaction fee charged by your different banks; the fee can range from 1-3%.

#### **Financial Aid**

To receive summer financial aid, you must be enrolled for at least six credits during the 11week interim/summer period. With at least six credits, you have "half-time or more" status for aid. Room and board can then be considered in your budget, and you may be eligible for a Direct Ford Loan. Consult the Financial Aid Office if you have questions about summer financial aid for study abroad.

# HEALTH & SAFETY

Additional information on these issues, as well as information on CISI insurance, is included in the Health Issues and Safety Abroad sections of your Study Abroad Handbook.

#### *Immunizations*

The CDC recommends that travelers to the Czech Republic discuss several vaccinations with a doctor at least 4-6 week prior to travel. Per the CDC, all routine vaccinations should be up to date prior to travel to any location. The CDC recommends that most travelers to Czech Republic receive the following vaccines due to risk associated with contaminated water and food:

• Hepatitis A

For a full list of immunizations suggested, please visit the <u>CDC page for Czech Republic</u>.

There are very few required vaccinations for travelers anywhere in the world. Requirements can only be placed by the government of the particular country, because such and discourage requirements often tourists. governments are reluctant to establish them. CDC recommendations should be taken very seriously. However, since many of the recommendations depend on the type of travel you anticipate doing, or the length of time you are staying, you need to meet with a doctor to determine what's best for your individual situation.

UW-Eau Claire's Student Health Services offers immunizations (IG, tetanus, Hepatitis B, etc.) and health education on international travel for a small fee. Tel. (715) 836-5360. Often, your health insurance will cover the cost of immunizations. If your immunizations are not covered by your health insurance and you receive financial aid, you may want to meet with the Office of Financial Aid to inquire if these can be added to your total financial aid budget.

#### More info on Health & Safety in Czech Republic

Detailed information on crime, road safety, drug penalties, and terrorist activity in Czech Republic is included in the <u>State Department Consular</u> <u>Information Sheet</u>. It is highly recommended that you read through that information carefully before travel to Czech Republic. Safety in-and-around Prague will be discussed during orientation. You can find the Consular links for Germany, Austria and Poland through the same link.

#### **Other Keys to Staying Healthy**

- Wash your hands frequently, using soap.
- If you are buying food from street vendors, stick to breads or fruits that you peel yourself. (The knives used might be dirty.) Fruits that cannot be peeled, fruit juices diluted with water, raw vegetables and salads that have not been washed with disinfected water should be avoided.
- In addition to bringing anti-diarrhea medication, some students experience the opposite effect. It is a good idea to bring along fiber snacks or constipation medication.

#### **Medical Facilities**

Prague has many nearby medical facilities should you need them. Our in-country partners and host families can help recommend quality doctors or hospitals.

#### **Emergency** Contacts

General emergency procedures are described in the *Study Abroad Handbook*, and the UW-Eau Claire faculty and local staff are available if difficulties arise. You will receive an emergency contact card prior to departure; be sure to keep it with you at all times. The information is also on the <u>Contact Names & Addresses</u> page of this guide.

#### Sexual Harassment & Assault

**Harassment:** Female travelers have reported everything from staring, lewd and suggestive comments to catcalls, and groping. Often these incidents occur in crowded areas such as market places, bus/train stations, and public streets. Women travelers in Czech Republic are advised to respect local dress and customs as a way to minimize harassment.

**Assault:** Crimes against women including rape have also been reported in various places in Czech Republic. Suggestions to maintain stringent security precautions include:

- Avoid public transport after dark without the company of known and trusted companions.
- Restrict evening entertainment to well-known venues.
- Avoid isolated areas any time of day.
- Keep your hotel room number confidential.
- Lock your hotel room and use deadlocks/door chains while in your room.
- Hire only reliable cars and drivers. Avoid traveling alone in cabs at night.
- Keep conversations with unknown men short—getting involved conversations with unknown men can be interpreted as a sign of sexual interest.

# **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

#### **Passport**

General passport information is found in your *Study Abroad Handbook*, but you will need a valid passport with an expiration date more than six months after the end of the program.

#### Visa

A visa is official permission to visit a country and is granted by the government of that country. U.S. citizens do not need visas for any of the countries visited on the seminar since you will be staying for less than 90 days.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, or you plan to travel in other countries while you are abroad, you should verify visa requirements for each country by contacting the nearest consulate or your travel agency. Most European nations do not require U.S. citizens to have a visa for tourist travel of less than three months.

# **PACKING TIPS**

In addition to the general packing information in your Study Abroad Handbook, you should know the following about Czech Republic.

#### **Clothing & Weather**

For clothing, bring the minimum that you can mix and match and layer for both informal and formal occasions. You should plan to wear the same clothes more than once (or twice)! Europeans, especially Central Europeans, generally dress more conservatively and formally than do Americans. Please leave <u>torn</u> jeans and baseball caps at home. You may have to dress for the whole day when you leave the hostel/hotel early in the morning, as there may not be time to go back during the day. Think about how you will deal with this. Either bring clothes that will be comfortable during the day and dressy enough for evening activities, or bring wrinkle-free clothes and different shoes in a day pack. Please also bring professional clothing to work in the schools.

**Plan for all types of weather**. It may be extremely hot, or cool and rainy: bring an umbrella and a jacket as well as clothes that are comfortable in hot weather.

We will be traveling by train, so remember to **pack light**! You will need to carry everything with you on and off the train, on public transits in the city, and up and down stairs at the hostel or hotels. Please make sure that you are ready and able to carry everything that you pack.

#### Specific Items to Pack

The following is a partial list of recommended items to pack. Feel free to add to this list as your situation warrants.

**Clothing:** Professional clothing for working schools.

**Shoes:** Flip-flops for showers; good walking shoes (in addition to the ones you are wearing); a pair of "school shoes" (shoes that have not been worn outside and reserved only for wearing in the school). Make sure all shoes are well broken in!

**Sleepwear:** A lightweight bathrobe and pajamas--something which you can wear going down the hall from your room to the bathroom, since you will rarely have a private bathroom in the hostels/hotels.

#### Health:

- Basic over-the-counter medications you typically use for headache or digestive disturbances.
- Sunscreen
- Band-Aids
- Any prescription medication, in original container
- Clear, legible copies of prescriptions, with generic name of drug, for any medicine that you are taking

**Personal Hygiene:** In addition to usual personal hygiene items, you will want to bring the following

- Feminine hygiene products (different and not always easily available in Europe)
- Soap holder with soap (not Ivory, which is too soft and will be used up too quickly)
- Small container of laundry detergent
- Washbasin plug
- Toilet paper (part of a roll, flattened)
- "Wet Ones" in envelopes
- Large plastic/cloth bag for dirty laundry
- Towels and washcloths, 2-3 light-weight, that will dry quickly (hostels do not always provide them)

#### **General Travel:**

- Day-pack (book bag) for short day trips
- Durable water-bottle, one that can be refilled and used for the entire trip
- Money belts
- A plastic ID holder is useful for multiple-use tram tickets etc. which need to be kept handy and pulled out at a moment's notice
- Plastic storage/sandwich bags for small articles

- Duct tape for emergency repairs
- Flashlight with batteries
- Battery alarm clock
- An extra battery for your camera
- A sewing kit (needle and thread), safety pins

#### Class Materials (as needed):

• You will receive more information from faculty about necessary class materials to bring during the spring semester

#### **Appliances**

The standard electric current in Europe is 220 volts. U.S. appliances such as hair dryers and razors run on 110 volts. If you plan to bring these appliances, you will need to buy **both a converter and plug adapters for the various countries.** Travel hair dryers and razors, which are relatively inexpensive, usually are convertible and need only a plug adapter.

Handy-Dandy Packing Tips from the Faculty Most students have a hard time thinking about what to bring for a whole month of traveling. The idea of fitting everything in a small bag for the train is a bit daunting. You may want to think of simply packing one week's worth of clothing nothing more—and then simply know that you will do laundry while you are there. You will learn to love the one pair of jeans that you bring and the other pair of nicer pants or the one skirt that you bring. Who cares if you have worn something almost every day; we are all in the same boat and I'm sure you will look marvelous—just like the rest of us!

Remember to pack light, plan to mix and match, and layer. Pack for cool weather, warm weather, and rainy weather. But keep in mind we will be on the move A LOT! And whatever you pack, YOU will be the one to lug it around! Finally, you might want to be a bit more formal than you might normally be around campus. Most people in Europe dress up a bit more. Most Europeans do not wear short shorts. They usually consider sweatshirts to be extremely informal unless they are stylish ones.

#### **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS** *Fox Travel*

All students on faculty-led immersion programs sponsored through UWEC are required to purchase their international flights through Fox World Travel. Please contact a Fox World Travel agent (open 7:00am-5:30pm on weekdays) through one of the options below:

- Call toll-free 866-230-8787 (option 4)
- Email <u>uwgroups@foxworldtravel.com</u>

Have ready:

- Name exactly as it appears on your passport
- Passport number and expiration date
- Credit card number to charge

#### Arriving in Dresden, Germany

It is your responsibility to make **travel arrangements to Dresden airport**, **arriving on June 5 between 1pm and 4pm local time** (this means leaving the U.S. on **June 4**). The UW-Eau Claire faculty members will already be there and will meet you at the airport. If you are planning independent travel prior to the program, the faculty will tell you where and when to meet the group.

#### Departing from Krakow

You should **plan your return flight departing** from John Paul II Airport in Krakow on the morning of June 29, 2018. You may wish to purchase **travel or trip cancellation insurance** when you purchase your ticket, in case your plans change unexpectedly. Discuss your options with your travel agent and be sure you know exactly what the policy covers. Many policies are very restrictive in what they will reimburse.

# **SETTLING IN**

#### Housing

In Europe, you will stay in hostels and inexpensive hotels, in addition to your homestays. Generally, two-four students of the same gender will share one room. Some rooms may have an attached bathroom; in other cases, you will experience the European tradition of the bathroom down the hall.

Our partners in Czech Republic arrange accommodations with carefully selected host families. In general, only one student is placed per family but some homestays might have two UW-Eau Claire students. The cost of room and three meals a day (except when traveling) is included in the cost of your program.

Information about your family (name, address, telephone, ages of family members) will be sent to you during spring semester, and we will forward it to you. You may **want to write or call your family** after you receive the information, to introduce yourself.

#### Meals

During the homestay portion of the program, your host family will provide breakfast, dinner and one snack during the weekdays, and you will be eating lunch at the school. During the weekends, your host family will provide all three meals and one snack. During other portions of the trip, breakfast at the hostel will be provided, but you will be responsible for paying for other meals.

Unless you have an actual food allergy, it is only polite to try whatever you are offered in the homestay. Do not expect your family to prepare special meals for you--remember that you should expect to be treated as part of the family, not a special guest.

Meals are considered family time, unless the work/study schedule makes it necessary to bring your lunch along. Some U.S. students are in the habit of taking their meals to their rooms at home; this is not acceptable behavior in Czech Republic.

#### "Your" Room

Even if you have your own room in your homestay, the concept of a private room is different in Czech Republic than in the U.S. A messy room reflects poorly on you and your upbringing. In addition, it will reflect poorly on your host family, as the messy room is part of their house. Keep your room neat, make your bed every day before leaving home, and you will avoid tensions that could otherwise arise. Just closing the door is not acceptable. In addition, be aware that **it is never proper to entertain guests, regardless of their gender, in your bedroom.** 

You should only invite visitors to your house if you have first cleared this with your host family. Visitors should never be invited for meals or to stay overnight without prior family permission.

#### **Telephone**

Telephone rates are very high in Czech Republic, and every call, local or long distance, is charged by the minute. Some families forbid the use of the telephone, and **all prefer that students use a pay phone rather than the phone at home**. The phone is primarily an instrument used briefly to set up times/places for meeting with friends. If you find it absolutely necessary to use a phone at home, and your family approves, limit yourself to **ONE 3-minute call** per day.

Never make a long-distance call from your host family's home unless you make it COLLECT or if you're using an international calling card. Ask someone in the family to help you do this. Long distance calls are often not billed until two months later, and the bills may not be itemized. It is therefore not practical or polite to offer to pay for a long-distance call.

At first it will be easier for you to call home than for your parents to call you. However, once you get situated, it is cheaper for your parents and friends to call you. You may want to set a specific time and day so that you are by the phone. In Czech Republic, you can call the U.S. using the internet cafes. They allow you to talk in real-time (with a pause of a fraction of a second) and are very inexpensive.

#### **Checking In**

Host parents may be more protective, even of university-age students, than are their U.S. counterparts. This may feel intrusive to you, particularly if you have been living on your own for a while. Remember that this is a cultural adjustment and respect your host family's wishes. Let them know if you are going out, particularly in the evening, where you are going, with whom, and what time you will be back. Be aware that they will most likely not go to sleep until you have returned. If they ask that you be back by a particular time, be sure that you are. If you will be gone overnight, be sure to inform your family well in advance.

#### The Refrigerator

The refrigerator and kitchen cupboards are offlimits. You should never just help yourself to between-meal snacks unless specifically invited to do so by your host family. You are allowed to keep your own "special food" in the refrigerator. Be sure to talk with your host mom prior to putting it in there. You cannot eat the other food in the fridge. Note: the younger children in the house may eat your special food, as they may be used to having access to all food in the refrigerator.

#### **Keep Lines of Communication Open**

If you have questions about what your family expects of you, or you feel they do not understand your behavior, talk with them! Open lines of communication are important in building trust in any relationship.

# **CULTURAL NOTES**

It is appropriate to greet each person one time formally each day. Females should wait for males to initial the greeting. If this is not done, the females should initiate the greeting following a pause giving the opportunity to the male. The universal greeting is "dobry den." The informal greeting is "chow."

It is also important to remember than in many circumstances there are differences in social interactions between different classes of workers. It is very important that all adults are treated equally within the school setting and within host families.

All individuals in homes as well as in school in the Czech Republic will need house/school shoes that are not worn outside.

While dress in typically modest, the idea of how one is clothed within the home may be less modest. It is possible that you may find host family members moving about the home in underclothes.

Drinking of beer and wine in the home and over dinner are typical and students who are 18 or older might choose to have a drink at dinner if offered. It is inappropriate to become drunk.

Food is not to be wasted in homes. The food is generally fresh and whole with the use of preservatives becoming increasingly used. It would be rude to accept a large portion and then not eat the food. If you are unsure of a new food, please remember to ask for a small portion to begin and then be sure to eat it all.

# **COMMUNICATION**

Information on accessing your UW-Eau Claire email address, which you need to check while abroad, is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

#### E-mail

There are internet cafes in all the cities you will visit, so you can be in touch with family and friends through e-mail. You can also use social networking sites like Facebook to keep in touch.

All the hostels also have Ethernet and/or Wi-Fi connections in house if you choose to bring a smartphone or a tablet. In past years, some students brought their smartphone or tablet and found it useful, but we advise that you carry it around with you in a backpack or purse and do not leave it in your hotel room. We advise you **NOT to bring a larger laptop** because it could be too difficult to carry with you.

#### Snail mail

International airmail takes 7-10 days to cross the Atlantic in either direction. You may get home before your postcards do, but people will still enjoy receiving them!

#### **Telephone Information**

Some students have brought cell phones with them to Europe. If you would like to do this, make sure that it is a cell phone that has the capacity to work on the European system. You need to ask the manufacturer of a phone whether a phone has that capacity and normally have to unlock it before leaving the United States. You can purchase an international plan from the U.S. that will allow you to call home from Europe, or you can use internet-based phone programs such as Skype (www.skype.com) that allow you to call U.S. phones for about 2 cents/minute from your tablet/iPhone with Wi-Fi.

You can also wait until you get to Europe and buy a new chip for the phone and use a European plan like Vodafone. Those two options are often expensive though.

# **CONTACT NAMES & ADDRESSES**

GENERAL UW-EAU CLAIRE & CISI CONTACT INFORMATION IS IN YOUR STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK

#### **UWEC ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Shanti Freitas Intercultural Immersion Coordinator <u>freitasb@uwec.edu</u> Schofield Hall 226G Phone: (715) 836-6037 Fax: (715) 836-4948

#### <u>UWEC</u>

Dr. Cathy Thorsen Faculty Leader for 2018 Special Education Centennial 3623 <u>thorseca@uwec.edu</u> Tel: (715) 836-2575

Dr. Kirstin Rossi Faculty Leader for 2018 Special Education Centennial 3719 <u>rossika@uwec.edu</u> Tel: (715) 836-2712

#### **UW-Eau Claire After Hours Numbers**

(715)839-4972 or (715)577-9045 In an after-hours emergency, please call University Police at (715) 577-9045. Calls can be made to this number 24 hours a day. You may get an answering machine; however, an officer is alerted as soon as you have left your message. Be sure to give the officer the phone number you can be reached at, as well as what type of assistance you require.

#### LOCAL CONTACTS

Tomas Ruda or Misa Rudaova Okorska 430/11 181 00 Prague, Czech Republic ruda@rudito.cz Rudova.michaela@gmail.com

Marek and Elaine Mudrick upwordenglish@gmail.com emmudrik@icloud.com

#### **OTHER RESOURCES**

The U.S. Department of State offers useful travel information on the "Travel and Living Abroad" section of their Web site-<u>https://www.state.gov/travel/</u> Check the "Travel Tips" section.

# WEB & PRINT RESOURCES: CZECH REPUBLIC

GENERAL WEB TRAVEL RESOURCES ARE IN YOUR STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK

#### GERMANY

State Department website for Germany http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/g ermany.html

U.S. Embassy Berlin Clayallee 170, 14191 Berlin Tel. (49) (30) 8305-1200 (routine calls, 2-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday) Emergency After-Hours: (49) (30) 8305-0 Fax: (49) (30) 8305-1215 ACSBerlin@state.gov

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

State Department website for Czech Republic http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/c zech-republic.html

The U.S. Embassy in Prague Tržiště 15, 118 01 Praha 1 - Malá Strana Prague, Czech Republic Telephone: (420) 257 022 000 Emergency After-Hours: (420) 257 022 000 Fax: (420) 257 022 809 http://www.pragueexperience.com/

#### AUSTRIA

State Department website for Austria http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/a ustria.html

U.S. Embassy in Vienna Consular Section, Parking 12a Telephone: 43- 1-31339-7535 Emergency After-Hours: +(43) (1) 31-339 Fax: 43-1-512 58 35 <u>http://www.austria.info/us/</u> Vienna, Austria <u>http://www.wien.gv.at/english/</u>

#### POLAND

State Department website for Poland <u>http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/p</u>oland.html

U.S. Consulate General Krakow Ulica Stolarska 9, 31-043 Kraków Telephone: (48) (12) 424-5100 Emergency after-hours: (48) 601-483-348 Fax: (48) (12) 424-5103 http://www.experiencepoland.com/

Auschwitz http://auschwitz.org/en/