IUHPFL Honor Code

The IUHPFL is an “Honors” Program. As such it outlines clear norms of conduct for its students to follow. The IUHPFL relies upon the individual student’s sense of responsibility and honesty to understand and abide by the IUHPFL Honor Code. By participating in the Program, the student agrees to abide by the following norms:

1. **Language Commitment**: The students' commitment to speak only the foreign language during the length of the Program is the key to their success and the pillar of the Program. Only the foreign language is to be used in the school, by the host families and the students outside the school and home at all times, except in case of an emergency. For this reason, telephone communication with family and friends is limited and access to the Internet is restricted to one hour per week.

   A. **Communication** with family and friends is limited to one call home within several days of arriving to the host country. No other calls to family or friends should be made, except for in case of an emergency and only with the authorization from the instructor team onsite.

   B. **This commitment** implies no personal electronic devices shall be used abroad to access the Internet (e.g. iPhone, other smart phone, iPod Touch, etc.). The Program disallows the use of personal cell phones abroad, even as a camera, dictionary or music player, as it proves detrimental to the students' ability to fully immerse in the language and culture of the host country. Use of laptops or tablets abroad is also prohibited.

   C. **This commitment** implies that students are not able to read or listen to music on their own in English during the Program. Should students have summer reading assignments that need to be completed for their high school coursework, the reading either needs to be completed before the Program begins and/or once the Program ends, but not during the Program. Alternatively, students may purchase the books for their summer reading in the language of the country in which they will be studying with the IUHPFL.

   D. **IUHPFL students** will be provided with a Program pay-as-you-go cell phone for the duration of their time abroad that comes with a limited amount of usage time. Students will be required to carry the Program cell phone at all times as well as maintain a certain amount of usage time on the phone with the intention to be reached by their host families and instructor teams in case of an emergency and vice versa. Use of the phone to place calls or texts beyond the purposes for which the Program intends are prohibited; in the case that a student uses the phone for such purposes, it will be up to the student to incur such costs. The Program phone is property of the IUHPFL; should students lose or damage their phones, they will be responsible for incurring the cost to replace it. Students should not loan their Program phone to other students and are responsible for their own phone at all times.

2. **Restrictions on Dating Pledge**: IUHPFL students may not date abroad as they may be accustomed to doing in the U.S. not only because dating customs are different in other countries but also because focusing on one person can be counterproductive to the unity of the group of students, the interaction with the host family and the learning experience. This applies to relationships with other Honors Program students or with a member of the host culture.

3. **Prohibition of the Use of Alcoholic Beverages, Drugs and Tobacco**: Even though the laws of other countries may differ from those of the U.S. with regard to the consumption of alcohol, drugs and tobacco, Honors Program students are to conduct themselves abroad as minors from the state of Indiana. That is, students are not allowed to buy or accept alcoholic drinks at any time, including in their host family. Additionally, students may not take alcohol home with them to the United States. Students also may not purchase, possess or use drugs which are not prescription medication dispensed for their own specific medical condition. Honors Program students are not permitted to smoke.

4. **Risky Activities**: Driving a car or other motorized vehicle is forbidden. Riding passenger on a motorcycle is prohibited. Honors Program students are only permitted to ride passenger in a car with an adult driver who is a member of the host family or has been authorized by the host family or the onsite staff. Any risky athletic activity that could result in physical injury can only be practiced with the authorization of the students' parents and that of the staff. Honors Program students are not permitted to receive tattoos or piercings during the Program.
5. Weeknight and Weekend Activities: IUHPFL students may spend one to two hours (depending on the Program site) after the classes and activities in the afternoon socializing in the town center, provided they have informed their host families of their whereabouts and have received their permission. During weeknights, students may go out only with their host families, provided they have informed the onsite staff and are home at a reasonable hour, an hour determined by the onsite staff, so as to prepare well for classes the following day.

To go out on weekends, students must have special permission from the onsite staff. They may not go out alone or solely with other students, but must be accompanied by their host parents or an instructor. Additionally, students are to return home by the curfew established by the onsite staff. Discos and other establishments whose primary business is serving alcoholic beverages are prohibited to Honors Program students at all times.

When students are not under the direct supervision of their instructors or host families, they are required to stay in groups of three as often as possible.

6. Pledge to Adhere to Host Family Norms: Honors Program students are to treat their host families with respect and courtesy, making every effort to follow the norms established by the family. Students are to follow suggestions presented to them at Orientation in an effort to abide by host family norms.

7. Travel: There shall be no unaccompanied travel outside of the host town. If students wish to travel with their host families a reasonably far distance outside of the host town, students must receive permission from the onsite staff. Overnight trips with host families shall not interfere with the class schedule as academics are the Honors Program’s top priority.

   A. Honors Program students are not to host U.S. or international friends or family in the study site while the Program is in session. The Honors Program session officially ends the day of the students’ scheduled departure from the host country for the U.S.

8. Academic Honesty: All IUHPFL students must pledge to maintain the highest level of academic honesty, refraining from any academic misconduct, defined by Indiana University’s Code of Student Responsibilities as “any activity that tends to undermine the academic integrity of the institution,” in which human, hard-copy or electronic resources may be misused.

9. Post Program Language Commitment: All IUHPFL students must pledge to help their school’s language program in any way possible, as well as continue studying their foreign language during their senior year in high school or at a local university. If such an opportunity is not available at the student’s school or local community to continue classes in the foreign language, the student must simply pledge to help the school’s language program in any way possible.

10. Honors Program Pledge to Excellence: Above all, IUHPFL students pledge to follow the above Honor Code in order to facilitate maximum language learning while abroad and to ensure their safety. Honors Program students shall maintain a positive attitude and strive to make the most of their unique opportunity abroad. Students will receive an IUHPFL Final Evaluation based on their performance on the Program. Students that complete the Program will earn an IUHPFL diploma.

In the IUHPFL model, the strength of the Program as a whole is only as strong as its individual constituents. This means that the pledge to adhere to the Honor Code is as much a group pledge as it is an individual pledge. Consequently, in making the pledge, the IUHPFL student not only agrees to fulfill the pledge him or herself, but also agrees to hold his or her peers accountable for maintaining the pledge as well.

- The adherence to these norms is of critical importance. Infractions of the Honor Code will result in repercussions, the most severe of which could be expulsion from the program.
- Any infraction of the Honor Code will be recorded by the onsite staff in an official Incident Report and immediately communicated to the guardians of the IUHPFL student, the staff in Bloomington, and to the student’s host family (if relevant). Repeated infractions are grounds for re-evaluation of the student’s participation in the Program. Any infraction deemed egregious by the onsite and Bloomington staff will result in immediate expulsion from the Program.
- Please note that if a student receives an Incident Report, it will be noted on his/her Final Evaluation.
- Please note that the actions of the majority may sometimes affect the whole group. In the event that the Honor Code is violated by a large number of students collectively, the consequences may apply to the entire group of students. For this reason, students are highly encouraged to hold one another accountable for their actions and for adherence to the Honor Code.