



Supplemental Materials

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Evaluating Accessibility In Iceland: A Case Study For Increasing Accessibility Information On WPI Project

Sites

ID 2050: SOC SCI RES-IQP - Reykjavik, Iceland

Advisors: Dr. Sarah Stanlick and Jeff Solomon

Sponsor: Dr. Aaron Sakulich

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A: Consent Forms

Survey Consent Form

Informed Consent Agreement for Participation in a IQP Project

Investigators:

Adina Palayoor, Arnav Sacheti, Miguel Duran, Jack Tervay

Contact Information:

gr-iqp-iceland-accessibility@wpi.edu

Title of IQP Project:

Accessibility in Iceland

Sponsor:

Aaron Sakulich

Introduction:

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Before you agree, however, you must be fully informed about the purpose of the study, the procedures to be followed, and any benefits, risks or discomfort that you may experience as a result of your participation. This form presents information about the study so that you may make a fully informed decision regarding your participation.

Purpose of the study:

The purpose of this study is to understand what students have experienced while traveling abroad for their IQP. The study dives into particularly what barriers exist for students who want/need accommodations while participating in IQP. This includes but is not limited to a persons disability, but also includes gender and religious identity.

Procedures to be followed:

This survey will ask questions about the experience of finding an IQP along with their lived experience. This includes but is not limited to a persons disability, but also includes gender and religious identity. We expect the survey to take between 10-15 minutes.

Risks to study participants:

There is a possibility of discomfort for the participant if they have had a tough experience with applying for/participating in their IQP. This includes but is not limited to a persons

disability, but also includes gender and religious identity. Participants should note that they may discontinue the survey at any point in time if they no longer feel comfortable answering questions.

Benefits to research participants and others:

This study will benefit the research participants as it will inform students about an IQP site's dietary, mobility, religious, and gender restrictions in a more concise way.

Record keeping and confidentiality:

The research group will have access to the survey responses and all responses will be kept confidential. This will be done by keeping all survey results within a password protected website, Qualtrics, where only study investigators have access. All survey responses will be deleted within 3 weeks of the end of this IQP (November 4, 2022). Records of your participation in this study will be held confidential so far as permitted by law. However, the study investigators, the sponsor or it's designee and, under certain circumstances, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Institutional Review Board (WPI IRB) will be able to inspect and have access to confidential data that identify you by name. Any publication or presentation of the data will not identify you.

Compensation or treatment in the event of injury:

None/Not Applicable. You do not give up any of your legal rights by signing this statement.

Cost / Payment to Participant

No cost to participants. Upon completion of the survey there is a link to a external survey where participants will be entered into one of 4 \$10 Amazon gift cards.

For more information about this research or about the rights of research participants, or in case of research-related injury, contact:

Contact the research team via email: gr-iqp-iceland-accessibility@wpi.edu
IRB Manager (Ruth McKeogh, Tel. 508 831- 6699, Email: irb@wpi.edu)
Human Protection Administrator (Gabriel Johnson, Tel. 508-831-4989, Email: gjohnson@wpi.edu).

Your participation in this research is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty to you or any loss of benefits to which you may otherwise be entitled. You may decide to stop participating in the research at any time without penalty or loss of other benefits. The project investigators retain the right to cancel or postpone the experimental procedures at any time they see fit.

By consenting below, you acknowledge that you have been informed about and consent to be a participant in the study described above. Make sure that your questions are answered to your satisfaction before signing. You are entitled to retain a copy of this consent agreement.

Interview Consent Form

Informed Consent Agreement for Participation in a Research Study

Investigators:

Adina Palayoor, Arnav Sacheti, Miguel Duran, Jack Tervay

Contact Information:

gr-iqp-iceland-accessibility@wpi.edu

Title of Research Study:

Accessibility in Iceland

Sponsor:

Aaron Sakulich

Introduction:

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Before you agree, however, you must be fully informed about the purpose of the study, the procedures to be followed, and any benefits, risks or discomfort that you may experience as a result of your participation. This form presents information about the study so that you may make a fully informed decision regarding your participation.

Purpose of the study:

The purpose of this study is to understand what students have experienced while traveling abroad for their IQP. The study dives into particularly what barriers exist for students who want/need accommodations while participating in IQP. This includes but is not limited to a persons disability, but also includes gender and religious identity.

Procedures to be followed:

This interview will ask the participant questions about the experience of finding an IQP along with their lived experience. This includes but is not limited to a persons disability, but also includes gender and religious identity. The interview will take place on zoom in which there will be one interviewer and one note-taker present. We will not be recording the interview and we expect it to take about 30 minutes.

Risks to study participants:

There is a possibility of discomfort for the participant if they have had a tough experience with applying for/participating in their IQP. This includes but is not limited to a persons disability, but also includes gender and religious identity. Participants should note that they

may ask the interviewers discontinue the interview at any point in time if they no longer feel comfortable answering questions.

Benefits to research participants and others:

This study will benefit the research participants as it will inform students about an IQP site's dietary, mobility, religious, and gender restrictions in a more concise way.

Record keeping and confidentiality:

The research group will have access to the interview responses and all responses will be kept confidential. All interview responses will be deleted within 3 weeks of the end of this IQP (November 4, 2022). Records of your participation in this study will be held confidential so far as permitted by law. However, the study investigators, the sponsor or it's designee and, under certain circumstances, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Institutional Review Board (WPI IRB) will be able to inspect and have access to confidential data that identify you by name. Any publication or presentation of the data will not identify you.

Compensation or treatment in the event of injury:

None/Not Applicable. You do not give up any of your legal rights by signing this statement.

Cost / Payment to Participant

No cost to Participant. Upon completing a interview over zoom with the survey team, the participant will be entered into a raffle for one of 4 \$5 Amazon gift cards. This raffle is on top of the raffle from the survey and it is possible for one person to win both.

For more information about this research or about the rights of research participants, or in case of research-related injury, contact:

Contact the research team via email: gr-iqp-iceland-accessibility@wpi.edu IRB Manager (Ruth McKeogh, Tel. 508 831- 6699, Email: irb@wpi.edu) Human Protection Administrator (Gabriel Johnson, Tel. 508-831-4989, Email: gjohnson@wpi.edu).

Your participation in this research is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty to you or any loss of benefits to which you may otherwise be entitled. You may decide to stop participating in the research at any time without penalty or loss of other benefits. The project investigators retain the right to cancel or postpone the experimental procedures at any time they see fit.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have been informed about and consent to be a participant in the study described above. Make sure that your questions are answered to your satisfaction before signing. You are entitled to retain a copy of this consent agreement.

B: Project Center Director Interview Guide

Q: To start, what are your titles within the project center? What project center do you direct and how long have you been directing?

Q: What roles do you carry out for the project center?

Q: How often do you receive emails from future IQP students looking for more information about project sites? What concerns/questions are common?

Q: Have you had to research in order to answer questions from future IQP students about project destinations? When these situations arise, who do you contact for help? Where do you look to find the answers to these questions? How long does this typically take?

Q: Have you ever had any student(s) NOT go to an abroad IQP location because of issues related to accessibility?

Q: Do you feel that certain project sites are more accessible than others? If so, how might we best convey that difference in accommodation levels to students?

Q: What are the processes behind posting/updating information on eprojects? Is there a standardized template or procedure?

Q: How often do you find yourself reaching out to the Global Experience Office with questions and/or clarifications related to project sites

C: GEO Interview Guide

Q: To start, what are your roles within the Global Experience Office?

Q: What roles do you carry out on a day-to-day basis?

Q: How often do you receive emails from future IQP students looking for more information about project sites? What concerns/questions are common?

Q: How often do parents raise concerns/questions about IQP sites?

Q: What is your experience with students with accommodations and/or disabilities going abroad for IQP?

Q: Have you ever had any student(s) NOT go to an abroad IQP location because of issues related to accessibility?

Q: Have you noticed any trends in project sites where students with disabilities/dietary restrictions/etc. choose to apply for IQP?

Q: What are the processes behind posting/updating information on eprojects? Is there a standardized template or procedure?

Q: How often do you find center directors reaching out to the Global Experience Office with questions and/or clarifications related to project sites?

D: OAS Interview Guide

Q: To start, what are your roles within the Office of Accessibility?

Q: What does a typical day look like for you in the Office of Accessibility?

Q: Have students ever come to your office with concerns about IQP (whether it be about project sites, the application process, or the project itself)?

Q: Have you ever encountered any students that chose not to go to an abroad IQP location due to accommodations/disabilities?

Q: What is your experience with students with accommodations and/or disabilities going abroad for IQP?

Q: What measures do you currently have in place to support students who are interested in going away on IQP but aren't sure if they will/can be accommodated?

Q: How might those concerns be alleviated?

Q: How do you think we, as an IQP team, can best put our project research to use for future students?

Q: Is there anything we missed that you think may be relevant?

E: Student Interview Guide

Q: If you feel comfortable talking about your accessibility issues, can you share how it impacts your daily life? (optional)

Q: Which project site were you in for your IQP? (optional)

Q: What was your experience with your accessibility issues, while away on IQP? Did you feel like you needed to change your day-to-day basis due to the accommodations, or were they satisfactory?

Q: Were you able to find information regarding these issues either in the eProjects website or on the web?

Q: Did you request any accommodations from GEO or OAS for your IQP? If you feel comfortable sharing, what was it?

Q: Did you not apply to any project sites due to lack of information or accommodations available on eProjects or the web?

Q: Did you have to change your selected project site due to accommodation availability?

Q: Could your IQP experience have been better?

Q: Would you find it helpful if each project site had an accessibility section in eProjects?

Q: What would you like to see in that section?

H: Guiding Checklist

This checklist is designed to get project center directors thinking about what issues are important to consider in regards to disabilities and accommodations. The incorporation of these issues, and the information that pertains to them, into their eProject site will create an avenue for students to advocate for themselves long before the IQP term begins.

Dietary Restrictions	✓ if Applicable		
Is there a kitchen available?	Red	Yellow	Green
Are vegan options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Are vegetarian options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Are halal options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Are kosher options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Are allergy (Nuts/Gluten/Shellfish/Whitefish) free options available? I. Grocery Store II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Do food products have English labels ? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green
Mobility Accessibility	✓ if Applicable		
Are ramps available? I. Housing II. Sponsor Buildings III. Grocery Store IV. Restaurants	Red	Yellow	Green

<p>Are elevators available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Housing II. Sponsor Buildings III. Grocery Store IV. Restaurants 			
<p>Are sidewalks present?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Curb Cuts? II. Accessible Pedestrian Signals 			
<p>Is public transport accessible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Kneeling busses II. (Un)Loading Ramps III. Assistive device storage space 			
<p>Do restaurants have accessible seating options?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Accessible payment counter 			
<p>Do grocery stores have accessible payment options?</p>			
<p>Is accessible housing available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. First floor II. Accessible Bathroom III. Fire Escape Route 			
<p>Are there device rental places?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Device repair shops? II. Bike shops 			

Sensory	✓ if Applicable		
<p>Is housing accessible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Distinguishable steps II. Fire escape route 			
<p>Are sidewalks low-vision friendly?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Accessible pedestrian signals (beeping crosswalks) II. Tactile crossing bumps III. Contrasting colors for ramps 			
<p>Are Service Animals allowed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Country II. Housing III. Grocery Stores IV. Restaurants 			
<p>Are interpreters available?</p>			

I. Hearing aid guide II. Closed caption system			
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Medications	✓ if Applicable		
Can Prescription Medications be brought to the project site? I. Doctors Note II. Supply Quantity			
Can Over the counter Medications be brought to the project site? I. Doctors Note II. Supply Quantity			

I. Guiding Checklist (Iceland specific)

Checklist

Dietary Restrictions	✓ if Applicable
Is there a kitchen available?	
Are vegan options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Most vegan friendly small country according to google trends
Are vegetarian options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	
Are halal options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	
Are kosher options available? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	
Are allergy (Nuts/Gluten/Shellfish/Whitefish) free options available? I. Grocery Store II. Restaurants	
Do food products have English labels ? I. Grocery Stores II. Restaurants	Labels are in Icelandic which requires translate app

Mobility Accessibility	✓ if Applicable
Are ramps available? I. Housing II. Sponsor Buildings III. Grocery Store IV. Restaurants	
Are elevators available? I. Housing II. Sponsor Buildings III. Grocery Store IV. Restaurants	
Are sidewalks present? I. Curb Cuts? II. Accessible Pedestrian Signals	Sidewalk is present, however is not smooth everywhere which could be problematic

<p>Is public transport accessible?</p> <p>I. Kneeling busses</p> <p>II. (Un)Loading Ramps</p> <p>III. Assistive device storage space</p>	<p>Requires users to be able to secure their own assistive devices and get on the bus by themselves</p>	
<p>Do restaurants have accessible seating options?</p> <p>I. Accessible payment counter</p>	<p>TravAble app</p>	
<p>Do grocery stores have accessible payment options?</p>		
<p>Is accessible housing available?</p> <p>I. First floor</p> <p>II. Accessible Bathroom</p> <p>III. Fire Escape Route</p>		
<p>Are there device rental places?</p> <p>I. Device repair shops?</p> <p>II. Bike shops</p>	<p>Sjalfsborg provides a device rental service and has tools to help repair devices, along with a multitude of bike rental shops as well</p>	

Sensory		✓ if Applicable
<p>Is housing accessible?</p> <p>I. Distinguishable steps</p> <p>II. Fire escape route</p>	<p>Steps not fully distinguishable Fire-escape is a small staircase</p>	
<p>Are sidewalks low-vision friendly?</p> <p>I. Accessible pedestrian signals (beeping crosswalks)</p> <p>II. Tactile crossing bumps</p> <p>III. Contrasting colors for ramps</p>		
<p>Are Service Animals allowed?</p> <p>I. Country</p> <p>II. Housing</p> <p>III. Grocery Stores</p> <p>IV. Restaurants</p>	<p>Service Animals cannot be brought into country unless 4 week quarantine is abided by, which can be problematic for a 7 week IQP</p>	
<p>Are interpreters available?</p> <p>I. Hearing aid guide</p> <p>II. Closed caption system</p>	<p>Icelandic to ASL has not been found in our research, but English is everywhere so CC system could be all that is needed</p>	

Medications		✓ if Applicable
<p>Can Prescription Medications be brought to the project site?</p> <p>I. Doctors Note</p> <p>II. Supply Quantity</p>	<p>100 day supply for some medication, 30 days for others</p>	
<p>Can Over the counter Medications be brought to the project site?</p>		

<p>I. Doctors Note</p> <p>II. Supply Quantity</p>	
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J. Prototype eProjects Website Updates

Transportation

Taxis are extremely expensive in Iceland, and ride-hailing services are banned by law. The most common forms of transportation will either be walking, or the public transportation system. Students will be provided with a monthly bus pass. The nearest bus stop is no more than a 10 minute walk from the housing. Daily commutes to sponsors will vary, but generally speaking, entail a 30-minute bus ride (at most) and less than one mile of walking.

Public Transport: The bus system here is very different from what we are accustomed to in Worcester, striking a more similar resemblance in reliability to the Boston subway network. This service dramatically shortens students travel time, allowing them to get further with some using it to even go hiking. The bus system also has taken steps to provide resources for certain groups of disabled people. For those with limited mobility, they provide extendable ramps to help connect raised platforms to the bus and have a section dedicated to fastening wheelchairs, however this requires that users should be able to embark and disembark on their own and fasten their wheelchair themselves. They also partner with a blind focused organization to provide free entry to members.

Climate

Medical Care

Travel Risks

Language

Student Recommendations

Dependent at time of application

Visa Requirements

Visa Not Required for US Citizens -
International Students Should Confirm
Personal Status

Accessibility Information

Ramps	●
Curb Cuts	●
Audible Crosswalks	●
Sidewalks	●
Elevator	●
Service Animals	●
Medication Access	●

Dietary Information

Vegan	●
Vegetarian	●
Gluten Free	●
Lactose Intolerant	●
Celiac Friendly	●
Nut Free	●
Kosher	●
Halal	●
English Labeling	●

[View Center Web Site](#)

Program End Date

Friday, October 14, 2022

Housing Closes Date and Time

Friday, October 14, 2022 - 12:00pm

Departure Airport

KEF

Ground Floor Apartment/Room

Not Available

Elevator

Yes

Air Conditioning

Not Available

Single Room

May Be Available

Mixed-Sex Apartment

May Be Available

Beds in Bedroom

2

Bedrooms in Apartment

2

Non-Billable subtotal:	
Total:	

Housing



Housing Dates

August 24, 2022 - October 14, 2022

Suite Information

- 2-4 Rooms per Suite
- 1-2 Beds per Room
- Fully-Stocked Kitchen
 - No Freezer
- No Air Conditioning
- No Safe Available
- Sheets and Towels Provided

Amenities

- Laundry Room in Basement
 - 2 Washers
 - 2 Dryers
 - Ironing Board and Iron
- Elevator
- Weekly Cleaning
- Free Wifi