RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

In addition to the general travel risks outlined in the Study Abroad Risk Advisory, this program Australia — Urban to Outback (hereinafter “Program”) has specific activities which may pose a heightened level of risk for participants. UC Davis Study Abroad provides this information so that I may make an informed decision about consenting to participate in the Program. Participants in the Australia — Urban to Outback program will be expected to participate in these activities. If participants do not want to participate in an activity, they must inform the Faculty Leader or Program Coordinator immediately and ask to opt out. If participants do not ask to opt out, UC Davis Study Abroad will assume they consent to the risks associated with participating in the activities.

In some cases, an activity may be a required component of the Program (e.g. travel to another site) and if participants wish to opt out, they may not be able to participate in the Program at all. Because the Program travels as a group, it may be impossible for the decision to opt out to be kept confidential.

- **This Program includes transportation or tours on boats or other marine vessels.** These vessels may be public conveyances or private charters, subject to oversight by marine regulatory bodies of Australia. UC Davis Study Abroad cannot certify pilot training or licensure, vessel integrity, or mechanical service. UC Davis Study Abroad cannot anticipate water conditions but where possible will postpone travel or change itineraries under inclement conditions (may not be possible for public conveyance). All travelers should ensure appropriate life-saving/personal flotation devices are available before boarding, review and understand all safety procedures, and ask questions about the use of safety devices.

- **This Program includes non-traditional motorized transportation** both during Program hours and/or as the primary means of transportation for students during free time via:
  - Private motorcoach or van-for-hire (similar to a small public bus but may be operated by regulated or unregulated private drivers)

  This form of transportation is a common form of public transportation in the country abroad but may have limited or no governmental regulation. This means vehicles may or may not be inspected, drivers may or may not be licensed or certified, drivers may or may not have insurance, and safety standards (if they exist) may be significantly lower than those in the U.S.

- **This Program includes water-based recreational activities such as snorkeling or swimming.** Water sports and activities include elevated risk of injury or death due to weather or water conditions (currents, riptides, storms, lightning, etc.), drowning, hypothermia, equipment failure, contact with a water-borne bacteria or virus, as well as other water-based injuries. Travelers who participate in these activities must be able to swim, even if floatation devices are provided. A lifeguard may not be present at the activity site. Travelers assume additional responsibilities.
responsibility for assessing their own comfort and risk tolerance related to prevailing water conditions and equipment on site.

- **This Program includes hiking and/or camping.** Hiking and/or camping includes additional risk of injury or death related to physical exertion, accident, or exposure to insects/animals, the environment or weather. These activities are supervised, travelers will be provided with necessary equipment and will take place in relatively safe locations, but weather and environmental conditions are unpredictable and can change quickly. Travelers may be required to: hike/walk for distances of a few miles; hike/walk over uneven, slippery, inclining/declining, or rocky terrain (which increases risk of falls, accidents); carry or lift gear or supplies; shelter in tents/sleeping bags; share in group cooking/cleaning/camp preparation activities; and tolerate mild but possibly uncomfortable weather conditions (moderately hot or cold temperatures, rain, wind, very high or very low humidity, periods of sun without shade, etc.) While preventative measures are taken, travelers are nevertheless at elevated risk for physical injury, and exposure to water-borne illnesses, disease carrying insects, or poisonous plants or animals.

- **This Program includes a stay in primitive or rudimentary accommodations.** Travelers will be staying for one or more nights in non-traditional accommodations such as tents, rural villages, and/or primitive huts. These accommodations may not have traditional amenities such entirely enclosed rooms, close access to restroom facilities, air conditioning/heating, electricity, running water, phone access or cellular reception, traditional mattresses or bedding. Although these accommodations are not inherently dangerous, they require additional flexibility from travelers and may cause some degree of inconvenience or discomfort compared to a traditional hotel.

- **This Program requires the use of public transportation.** Travelers on this Program will be required to utilize public transportation (buses, trains, taxis, etc.) as the primary means of conveyance. Travelers may be provided with transportation passes as part of their Program fees. Public transportation services are regulated by local governments and are typically held to minimum standards of repair, safety, timely service and accessibility. Public transportation is often very safe and, in some areas, is the only means of transportation. However, local regulations may differ or be less than those for public transportation in the U.S. Use of public transportation include the risk of injury from accident (including operator negligence), transit delays, fines or penalties for improper use, impacts or shutdowns related to worker strikes, petty theft and assault, and minimal but elevated risk from terrorist activities.

- **This Program includes a prolonged stay in a remote, rural environment.** Although the Program site is not inherently dangerous, travelers will be staying in a remote area for a prolonged period of time. There may be limited or no access to immediate medical facilities (major incidents would require evacuation), pharmacy and grocery stores may be limited or non-existent
(travelers will need to bring their own personal supplies), transportation to and at the site may be limited and subject to weather or environmental conditions, and travelers may have limited or no access to phone/cellular/internet services or reliable electricity.

- **This Program includes a safari.**
  Part of this Program explores natural conservation efforts for wildlife and natural environments in the region. A portion of the Program will include travel via safari to protected conservation sites to view wildlife and participate in indigenous activities and/or conservation efforts. Activities include, but are not limited to: extensive walking in a wilderness environment, accommodations in tent-like facilities, travel by open-top Jeep (or similar) on unimproved dirt roads to specific game or plant sites, the possibility to interact with protected animals under the supervision of a local biologist, participation in “staged” indigenous activities such as spear or boomerang throwing and basket weaving, night-time wilderness tours to view nocturnal animals, etc. There are elevated risks associated with: physical injury/exertion, exposure or interaction with animals and insects, travel by unconventional vehicles, accommodation in primitive facilities, limited phone/cellular/internet access, etc.