

Fall 2023

PRE-DEPARTURE GLOBAL ORIENTATION



[Click here to
access the
Recording!](#)



ORIENTATION OVERVIEW



Global Orientation

You're Here!



Location Orientation

August 16-18



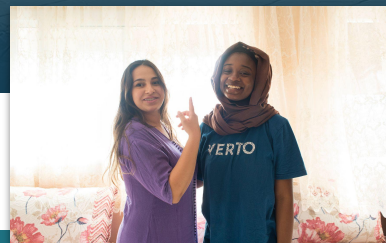
Care Team Circle

August 23 -25



Welcome

TO THE VERTO COMMUNITY





WHAT WE'LL COVER

1

Community
at Verto

2

Academics
and College
Counseling,
Advising, and
Transfer
Services

3

Health and
Safety

4

Next Steps

5

Breakouts by
Location



Questions? Use the Q+A
feature in Zoom!

MEET YOUR SPEAKERS

July 31



Matteo Travers
Community Manager



Steven Mockler
Assistant Director of
Academic Affairs



Steph Collens
Assistant Director of
Student Life



James Lorello
Dean Of Students



Analee Giordano
Program Coordinator Of College
Counseling, Advising & Transfer Services



Kara Dudley
Student Onboarding
Advisor



Stuart Robbins-Butcher
Student Onboarding
Advisor



Share Out in Chat

What's your favorite book? What makes it a story worth reading?



Also mention your name, pronouns, where you are from, and where you are going for your study abroad experience!



Community AT VERTO



James Lorello

Dean Of Students



VERTO COMMUNITY VALUES & FOUNDATION

Compassion

Vulnerability

Responsibility

Transformation

“A healthy community is one in which essential but often competing values are maintained in tensioned balance”
~ Ernest Boyer

Community is a laboratory of self discovery, as such Verto Discovery is our method of establishing community at Verto.

These values inform all aspects of student life, including programming delivered through Verto Discovery.

VERTO DISCOVERY

Our Mission

Verto prepares global leaders and transforms access to higher education through a coming-of-age first-year start to college abroad.

A community framework anchored in self-discovery.

Students develop deeper personal, community, and global connections through curated activities and interactions with staff mentors.



Two semesters of unique programming that consider the program site and student development.



A variation of First-Year Experience programming adapted for study abroad environment.

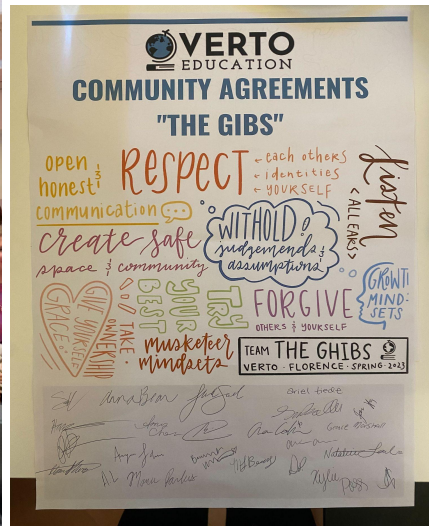
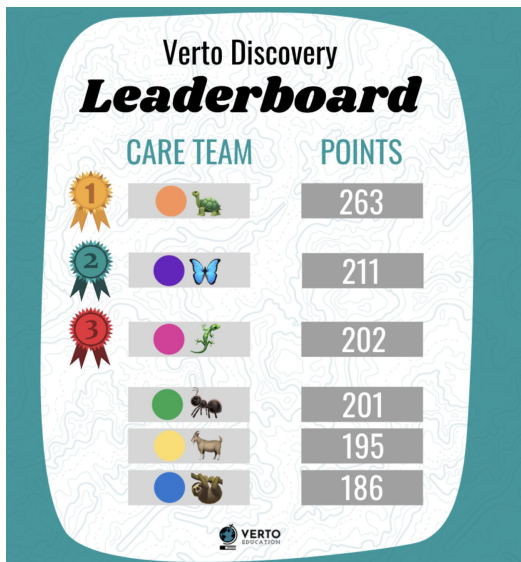


Opportunities for staff to guide, and students to take agency of their experiences and develop life skills.

VERTO DISCOVERY

A community framework anchored in self-discovery.

Students develop deeper personal, community, and global connections through curated activities and interactions with staff mentors.



MINI-BREAK OUT

Share Out in Chat

Why did you choose
to write your story
with Verto?



“The main reason why students fail instead of succeed, is because they give up what they want the most for what they want in that moment.”

~Anon.



OUR CODE OF RESPONSIBILITY

What do you think are our top violations?

Without accountability we can't build the community we want!

Goal of our process is transformative and educational.

Model our values, support each other and build a transformative community together.



PRIORITIZING HEALTH & SAFETY WHILE ABROAD

To make the most of your Study Abroad experience, it's important to be informed about Health and Safety Issues

- Respect Local Rules & Laws
- Physical & Mental Health
- Responsible Independent Travel
- Alcohol Use & Impaired Judgement



ALCOHOL USE & IMPAIRED JUDGEMENT

Choosing to Drink or Use Illegal Drugs in a Foreign Country:

Consequences of Drinking Too Much

- Accidents and Injuries
- Alcohol Poisoning
- Assault

Make smart choices

- Know your limits - alcohol may be stronger than you're used to at home
- Plan your journey home ahead of time
- Never leave your drinks unattended or accept drinks you've not seen being made
- Stick together - never leave a friend alone
- All forms of drug use is illegal on a Verto Program



STUDENT SUPPORT AND FERPA

- This is your story!
- The world beyond high school
- College Life
- Aligning Expectations
- What is FERPA?



MINI-BREAK

Share Out in Chat

Vulnerability:

What are you most nervous about in writing your story?



Verto Fall 2023 Experience

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE & ASSISTANCE



Overseas Insurance & Assistance (CISI)

- Medical/Health Insurance
- 24/7 Assistance, Travel Support (AXA)
- Emergency Evacuation

All Verto Students Automatically Enrolled in Coverage

- Students Pay out-of-pocket + file a simple claim for reimbursement (globally)
- Medical assistance and payments for significant medical needs
- CISI confirmation - in your Email about 2 weeks prior to departure
 - CISI Portal + CISI Traveler App available with username and password (in confirmation email)



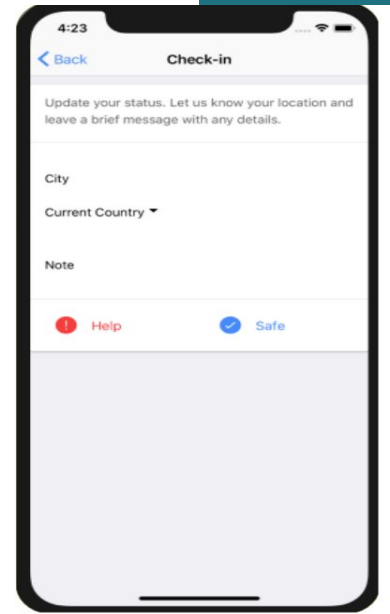
CISI Traveler App

- Download CISI Traveler App once you have received your CISI registration and log-in information (1-2 weeks prior to departure)

CISI Traveler App is an essential tool to enhance the safety of our Verto students and to log a response in an emergency situation. The App can also provide important safety alerts and provide instant access to medical and safety resources.

CISI benefits include:

- **Safety and check in notifications:** Receive instant notifications and instructions from Verto through CISI when emergencies occur, and check in so Verto staff/ CISI know you are safe.
- **Emergency help:** contact CISI/AXA 24-7 in addition to Verto's on site and HQ emergency lines quickly for help in an emergency.
- **A Travel Log:** You will be asked to fill in the **Itinerary feature** on the app every time you participate in independent travel to another city/region outside the program. This is so if you have or if there is an emergency in that city/region, CISI can provide you with emergency assistance quickly.



Verto Fall 2023 Experience

PRE-DEPARTURE STUDENT HEALTH PREPARATIONS

Student Portal Steps - action required!

- Health and Medical History (and Add/Update Emergency Contacts!)
- Allergies; Dietary Restrictions

Student Personal Health - action required!

- Consult with your health care provider/routine before you travel - if you are able to continue with the same practitioner/routine abroad, this is the most ideal scenario!
- Prescription Medications - be sure you bring enough for entire semester in original containers with prescription
- Anything else? Email your Student Onboarding Advisor or Deanofstudents@veroteudcation.org for appropriate guidance



HEALTH & SAFETY Reminders

- **Have hard copies of travel Documents**
 - Passports, visas, card information, vax/medical docs
- **STEP Enrollment (US. Dept. of State)**
- **Seek guidance from on-site staff and fill out the Independent Travel Form when applicable**
 - Health, Crime and Safety

Useful Links/Resources:

- STEP – US State Department Travel Advisories/Warnings
- US Embassies Abroad
- US State Department Tips for Students Traveling Abroad
- Department of State Country Specific Information
- CDC Country Information



TOP TIPS:

- Keep your phone charged
- Separate your money and cards - avoid carrying/storing all in one place
- Keep your health insurance card with you
- Have the on-site emergency number saved, know the 911 local equivalent emergency number

Verto Fall 2023 Experience

STUDENT SUPPORT

If you need to report a situation that concerns you, an unsafe situation, or an experience that has impacted yourself or others, please reach out immediately to your onsite staff or contact Verto via email: deanofstudents@verttoeducation.org

Words of advice:

- Practice good self-care and give yourself time to learn about your new community
- Pay attention to situational awareness
- Always tell someone where you are going





ACADEMICS

The Verto Experience



POP QUIZ

- Verto's Academic Provider is _____.
- Verto aims to have 20% of class time dedicated to _____ activities.
- True/False: Attendance can impact my grades, but does not have an impact on my visa and/or immigration status.
- What does CCATS stand for?
- *Look for the * asterisk to find the correct answers*



STUDY ABROAD

ALL VERTO PARTICIPANTS ARE

- Matriculated at the University of New Haven
- Enrolled in the Associate of Arts of General Studies Degree
- Upon successful completion, you are 2nd semester freshman/first semester sophomores
- (Most) can participate in Verto for two consecutive semesters



ACADEMICS PROVIDED BY



University of New Haven

ZOOM IN ON ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN GENERAL STUDIES

Category	Course	Credits Required
Core Competency 1.1 Written Communication (choose one)	ENGL 1112 Academic Inquiry and Writing	3
Core Competency 2.1 Oral Communication and Presentation	COMM 1130 Principles of Communication	3
Core Competency 3.1 Mathematical and Quantitative Literacy (choose one)	MATH 1104 Quantitative Reasoning, MATH 1110 College Algebra, MATH 1115 Precalculus, MATH 1117 Calculus I	3 or 4
Core Competency 5.1 Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	BUSA 1000 Introduction to Business and Entrepreneurship, INTS 1141 Diversity and Social Justice	3 or 4
Choose one Tier 1 course from: Core Competency 4: Scientific Exploration Core Competency 6: Historical Perspectives Core Competency 7: The Individual and Society Core Competency 8: Global and Intercultural Awareness Core Competency 9: Perspectives on Creative Arts	BIOL 2253/5 Introduction to Biology with Lab; CHEM 1115/7 General Chemistry I with Lab, ENVS 1101/2 Environmental Science with Lab; HIST 1100 Inventing Our Modern World; HIST 1102 Modern Societies, PHIL 1101 Introduction to Philosophy	3
Any Tier 1 or Tier 2 course from any competency	Choose one	3
Any Tier 2 course from any competency	Choose one	3
UNH Core Curriculum (21 credits)		21
1 course that fulfills Writing Across the Curriculum requirement	DIET 1175 - Food, Nutrition, and Culture (online asych)	3
Electives (12 courses or 36 credits needed)	Any course not fulfilling a competency above will count as elective	36
Electives (39 credits)		39
TOTAL (60 credits)		60

Transformation

THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

- Discussion-Based Classes
- A Diverse and Inclusive Curriculum
- Differentiated Instruction
- Holistic Education
- Experiential Learning

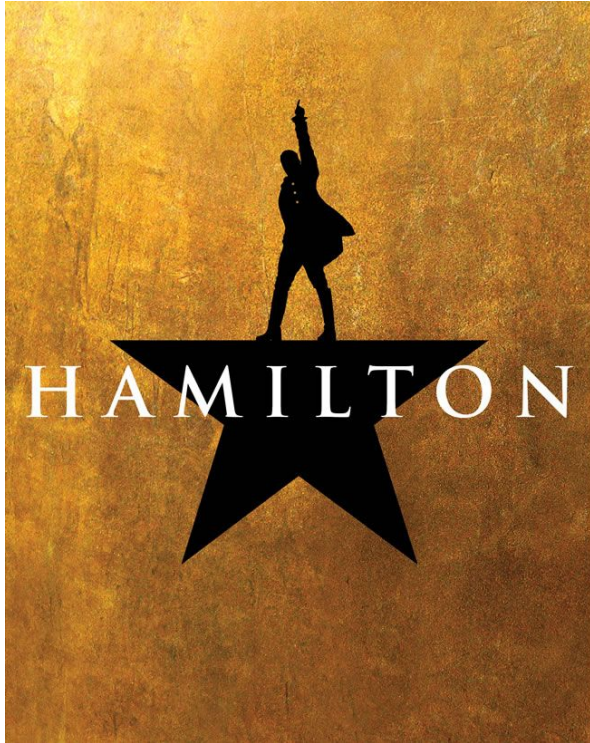


Learning is the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience.



David Kolb, PhD in
Social Psychology,
Father of
Experiential
Learning

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH HAMILTON



Cycle of theorizing, doing, reflecting, and learning

- **Theorizing:** “I wonder how the ‘Hamilton’ soundtrack is different from the show?”
- **Doing:** *watches Hamilton on Disney+*
- **Reflecting:** “I knew the music was good, but I had no idea that they would rotate the whole set! How cool!”
- **Learning:** “I actually really like musicals, and I want to make sets spin, too. I’m going to see what it takes to become a set designer!”

Experiential learning* makes up at least 20% of all Verto courses. Real Verto examples have included:

- Seeing a theatre show in London's West End and writing a theatre review
- Visiting the Uffizi Gallery in Florence and drawing its facade
- Presenting a speech in Seville's Plaza de España to the public and discussing the experience in class as a group
- Calculating how many trees it takes to offset your class' travel footprint in Turrialba and planting those trees on campus



QUICK SHARE

Share Out in Chat

What are your
responsibilities
as a student?





Responsibility

COLLEGE EXPECTATIONS

- **Shift in Responsibility: Parent > Student**
 - De jure (legally) & de facto (realistically)
 - Official Records like FERPA & Accommodations
 - Owning time management and course/homework
 - Practicing vulnerability and asking for help
- **Verbo Difference**
 - Sage on the stage > Guide on the side
 - Active & respectful engagement
 - Curiosity, creativity, & critical thinking skills



WHAT VERTO PROVIDES:

Course Supplies

- Academic Systems Access
 - Canvas
 - Cengage
 - myCharger
- Lab supplies
- Costs related to experiential learning excursions and activities

ACADEMIC SYSTEMS

Canvas

- Learning Management System (PACE)
- Access and submit assignments
- See grades
- Communicate with Faculty

Cengage Unlimited

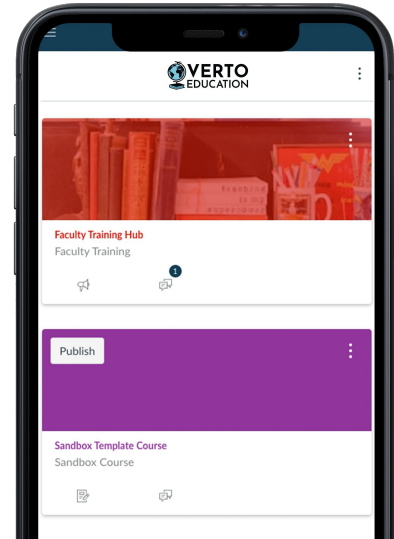
- Accessed through Canvas
- Textbooks, assignments, and more

myCharger

- Accessed using your UNewHaven Login
- Access ePay, library resources, FERPA form, Accommodations, etc.
- Access final grades
- Verto Participant Resource Page:
<https://www.newhaven.edu/academics/verto-education-study-abroad/participant-resource-page.php>



canvas
BY INSTRUCTURE



WHAT YOU NEED TO PACK

Course Supplies

All Students:

- Laptop with charger & adapter
 - If you do not have a working laptop, please complete the Laptop Loaner form in your student portal
- Starter supplies (1-2 notebooks, planner, pack of pencils/pens)

Photography Students:

- Recommend purchase: Canon EOS Rebel T7 / EOS 2000D / EOS 1500D
- DSLR or mirrorless
- At least 24 megapixels with a normal kit lens.
- Very limited number of cameras available if needed.



Compassion

ATTENDANCE POLICY*

- **Why is it important?**
 - You can't keep pace if you do not attend all classes and course-related excursions
 - Must maintain full time student status (enrolled in 12 credit hours) for visa and immigration requirements
- **Impact of Excessive Absences**
 - Absences determined by the # of times a course meets,
 - Impact totaled at the end of the semester, can include:
 - Grade penalties
 - Removal from a course
 - Removal from the program (without a refund).



ATTENDANCE POLICY

Number of Times Class Meets Per Week	Allowable Number of Absences without Penalty	Number of Absences that will Result in Full Letter Grade Penalty	Number of Absences that will Result in an F grade or Course Removal
Once	1	3	3.5
Twice	3	5	7
Three or more	4	6	10



Imagine: Caponata, Big Bird's cousin studying in Seville, has an A- in Spanish 2202 Intermediate Spanish II, a 3 credit course

# of absences	12 Credit Hours	13+ Credit Hours
4	B+	
5	B-	
6	C+	
7	F & Program Removal	F & Course Removal

IT'S PRETTY HARD TO MISS THIS MUCH CLASS:

- Seeing the city through experiential learning & SL activities
- Classes that meet 2x a week usually meet M/W or T/Th
- 1 hour of class = 2 hours of homework
- Be sure to apply for accommodations, if you need them
- Opportunity to practice responsibility, vulnerability, and self-advocacy

Vulnerability

COLLEGE COUNSELING, ADVISING, AND TRANSFER SERVICES (CCATS)*

As a student you can expect:

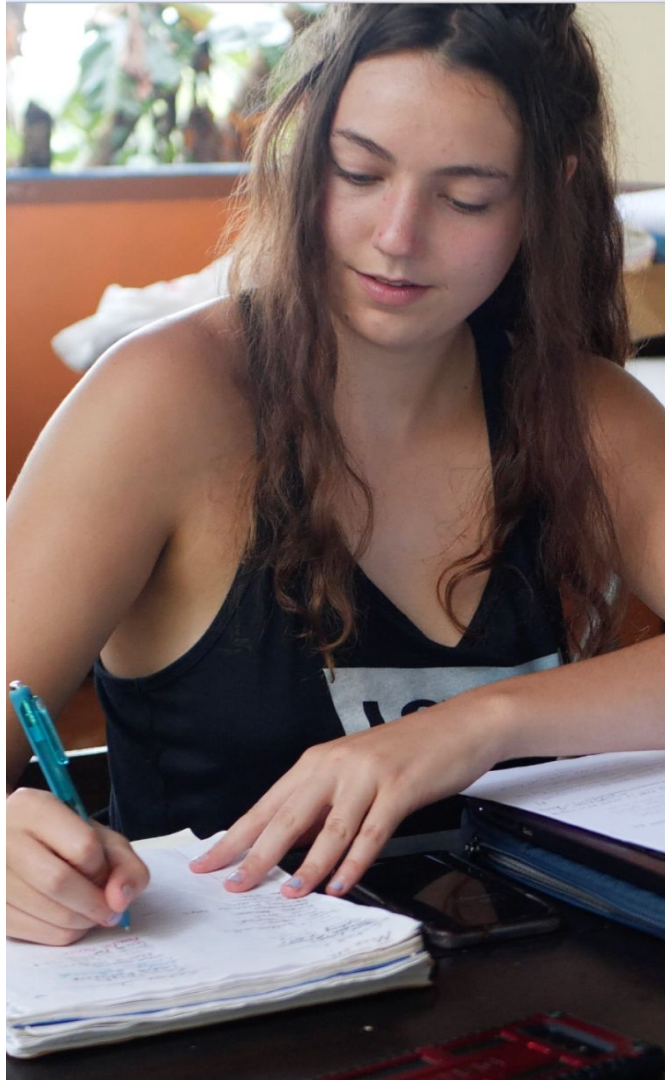
- Personalized advising to help you identify, apply to, and enroll at a “best fit” college
 - Includes access to Verto’s growing consortium of 70+ partner colleges and universities
- Guidance in your self-exploration and in developing YOUR best fit plan for life after Verto
 - Example: **TypeFinder** for Career Planning!
- Support towards your continued success, if your plans for life after Verto change.
 - Example: **Academic Safety Net** for alt. plans



Responsibility

CCATS EXPECTATIONS

- **Channel Students (Invited by a partner college to participate in Verto)**
 - Complete your Typefinder for Career Planning Assessment
 - Review your FAQ in your Campus Groups student portal
- **Traditional Students (Found Verto Independently, may need support with academic plans)**
 - Complete your Post-Verto Planning Form, found in PACE
 - Complete your Typefinder for Career Planning assessment
 - In collaboration with your ASC: identify & apply to partner colleges by stated deadlines





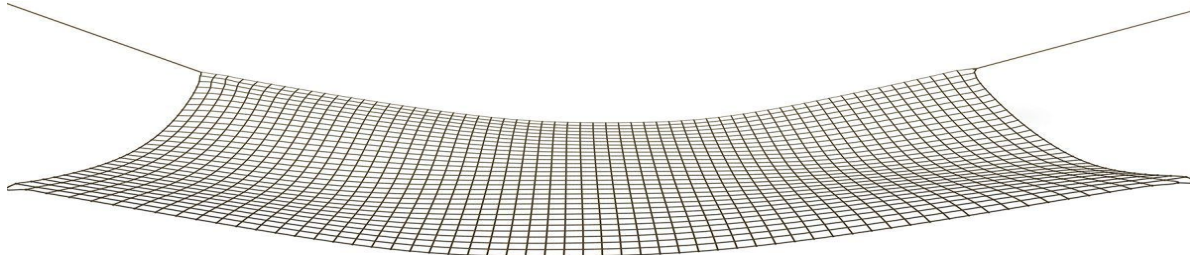
THE ACADEMIC SAFETY NET

All students will have options to continue their education regardless of final GPA at the end of the semester. Students, parents, and partners can be assured that students will have a post-Verto destination that will allow them to continue towards graduation.

There are three versions of the Safety Net- [Internal Safety Net](#), [Channel Safety Net](#), [Traditional Safety Net](#)

Options include:

- Continuing with Verto for a 2nd semester (GPA 2.0 or higher)
- Transitioning to the main campus of the University of New Haven (below a 2.0 GPA)
- Transferring to a local Community College



POP QUIZ

- Verto's Academic Provider is _____.
 - The University of New Haven
- Verto aims to have 20% of class time dedicated to _____ activities.
 - Experiential learning
- True/False: Attendance can impact my grades, but does not have an impact on my visa and/or immigration status.
 - FALSE
- What does CCATS stand for?
 - College Counseling, Advising, and Transfer Services



Verto Fall 2023 Experience

KEY MILESTONES



Location Orientation & Care Team Circle

- Meet onsite academic team



Schedules

- No later than two weeks prior to the start of classes
- Automatically added to courses on Canvas



Discovery Week

- Complete Typefinder for Career Planning by August 28.
- Placement Exams available through August 31, the Thursday before Add/Drop Week.



Add/Drop Week

- Sept. 4-8, 2023



SUPPORT TEAM

Your On-Site Community



Who Will Be There **TO SUPPORT YOU?**

- **Program Director:** Provides day-to-day leadership for the program
- **Academic Leadership:** Provide support from HQ to ensure academic success and goals
- **Faculty:** provide dynamic instruction and mentorship
- **Student Life Coordinators (SLCs):** Provide logistical and social-emotional support and mentorship
- **Academic Success Coordinators (ASCs):** Provide academic support and mentorship



WHO DO YOU GO TO AND FOR WHAT?

Student Life Coordinators (SLCs):

- Support students' wellbeing and development
- Help plan student engagement activities throughout the semester
- 1:1 coaching and mentorship
- Create community and foster a sense of belonging for each student



WHO DO YOU GO TO AND FOR WHAT?

Academic Success Coordinators (ASCs):

- Support students with academics throughout the semester
- Support habits that will serve students throughout college
- Collaborate with faculty to ensure students are supported and learning at high levels
- Provide 1:1 check ins, tutoring, success plans, study halls, workshops and resources



WHO WILL GREET YOU UPON ARRIVAL?

- Your Student Life Coordinator will meet you at the airport
- Submit your Flight Itinerary ASAP
- Be sure to wear your Verto t-shirt (if you have one) This makes it easier for your SLCs to find you!
- Arrival Instructions during Location Orientation



Check out the Flight Buddies Form to see if you share a flight route with a Vertoan!

MINI-BREAK

Share Out

What are you most excited about?

What is the name of this chapter?

Also mention your name, pronouns, where you are from, and where you are going for your study abroad experience.



QUESTIONS

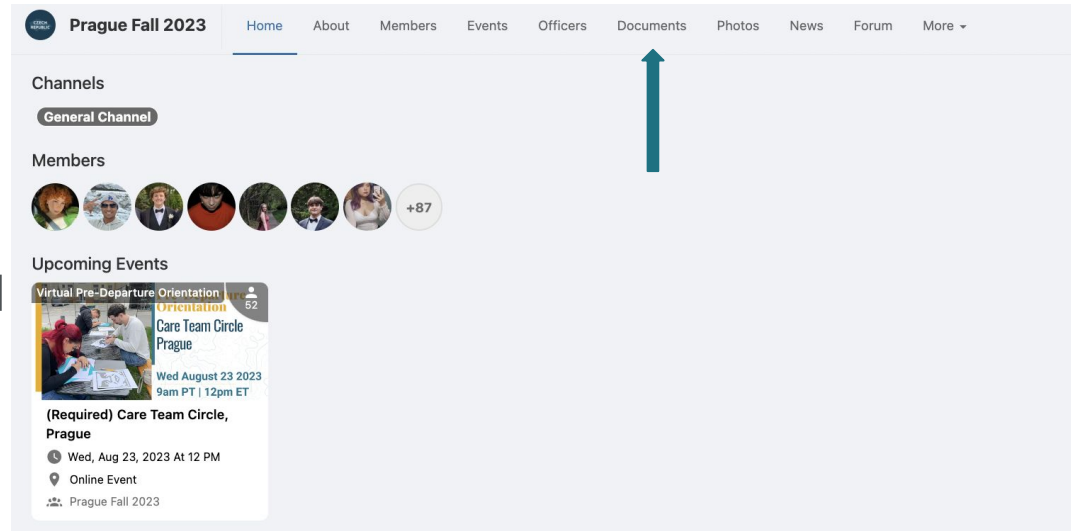


VERTO
EDUCATION

PRE-DEPARTURE DOCUMENTS

These can be found in on the Student Portal Documents section:

- Pre-Departure Resources, including:
 - Packing List
 - Using Your Phone in [Location]
 - Mail and Package Guidelines
 - Verto [Location] Study Center
 - Visiting Your Student in [Location]
 - Code of Responsibility
- Arrival Guide
- Money Abroad
- Verto Housing Overview
- Verto Discovery Week Overview (General)



 Documents (5)

 Pre-arrival Documents (1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Checklist

DUE TODAY - Avoid Unenrollment!

- Upload your Flight and Passport
- Submit your final, official transcript and additional academic records
- Remain in good financial standing by Aug 1
 - Payment in full OR
 - First 2 payments if on Payment Plan
- Upload Health History Form

The screenshot shows a web dashboard with a navigation bar at the top containing 'Home', 'Groups', and 'Events' (with a notification badge '80'). The main content area is titled 'Passport and Flights' and features a 'Filter Tasks' dropdown set to 'Show All' and a progress indicator showing '100%' completion. Below this, a purple banner contains the text: 'You MUST apply for an expedited passport ASAP, if you have not done so already. Starting Saturday March 25th, US Dept of State has increased Passport Processing times. Expedite is now 7 to 9 weeks. Don't forget that it can take up to 2 weeks for applications to arrive at a passport agency or center and up to 2 weeks for you to receive it once the passport has been processed.' Below the banner are three task cards: 'Passport Upload: Due Date - June 15th' (100% complete), 'Flight Arrival & Departure Window' (100% complete), and 'Arrival and Departure Window for Program' (100% complete). The 'Arrival and Departure Window for Program' card includes details for 'Airport Code: SVQ (San Pablo- Seville Airport)', a note about flight routes to Seville, and an arrival window of 9:00am - 8:00pm local time on August 28, 2023. A 'Submit Form' button is visible in the bottom right of this card.



Italy / Spain / Czech: Received your passport WITH your student visa? Let your SOA know ASAP!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Required Events

Location Orientation Dates - Choose 1 Date

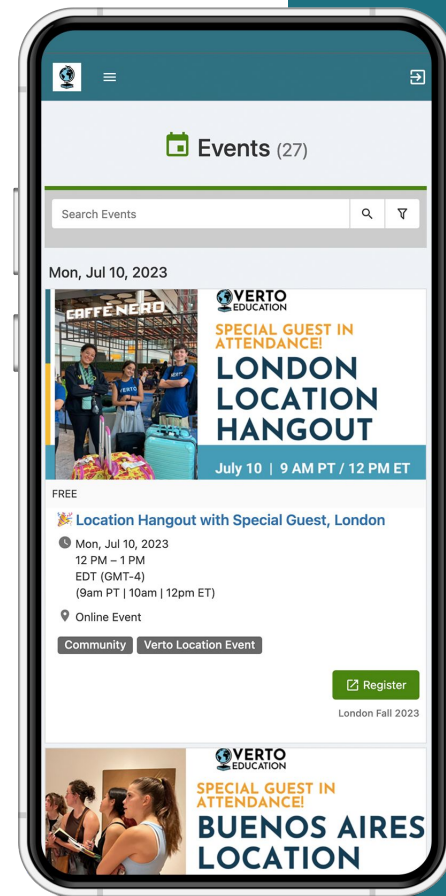
- Wed August 16 2-3pm ET
- Thur August 17 11a-12pm ET
- Fri August 18 12pm-1pm ET

Care Team Circle Dates - only 1 date

- August 23: Costa Rica, Seville, Florence, Prague
- August 24: Buenos Aires

And then ... Discovery Week!

- August 29 - September 2



MARK YOUR ATTENDANCE



IMPORTANT: Report Your Attendance
before the end of the Session



To access, visit
bit.ly/vertoattendance23



Welcome

TO THE VERTO COMMUNITY

