Argentina: Transnationalism and Comparative Development in South America
Fall 2016

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Luggage
Please pack lightly and include only necessary items. You should be able to carry all your luggage significant distances on your own. Try to minimize both the number of bags and weight of your bag(s) since you will likely be acquiring more belongings while abroad. Usually only one carry-on is permitted on the plane; we recommend a small daypack, which will also be useful for short excursions when on the program.

Remember to pack lightly!

If carrying prescription medications, you should carry a letter from your doctor to prevent any concerns at customs or in transit. (Please see the “General Health Tips” section in the Safety, Security, and Health pre-departure document). Please check the current requirements of the Transportation Security Administration (http://www.tsa.gov) as well as those of the airline on which you are flying for domestic and international baggage restrictions.

Clothing Guidelines
While informal dress is acceptable and common in most settings, it is essential to keep a neat, clean appearance. Jeans with holes, sloppy T-shirts, and tank tops are discouraged. People in offices and development agencies are apt to be much more open and responsive if the visitor shows respect by dressing accordingly. It is not necessary to be fashionable, just neat and clean. It is very important to have at least one set of clothes for formal occasions.

It is a good idea to bring clothes for all seasons. You will need warm clothes for both the spring and the fall semester. Dressing in layers is the most sensible solution to the varied seasonal and geographic climates that you will encounter. Pack a fleece sweater, warm pants, and boots for Buenos Aires, as well as some summer clothing for a few of the excursions. Convertible pants (with zippers that can make long pants into short pants) are very practical. For the excursions, bring clothes that are easy to wash, no iron needed, and lightweight. Some comfortable trekking shoes may also be useful.

Computers and Other Electronics
It is strongly recommended that you bring a laptop computer. If you bring a laptop, the computer will be your personal property and responsibility and...
it is recommended that you insure it. SIT is not responsible for theft, loss, or any duty tax you may have to pay when you enter the country. Students will have access to free wireless Internet at the program center (IDES) and may also use the program computer and printer from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Former students have brought their laptops to take advantage of the easy Internet access not only in our offices but also in local cafés that are available throughout the city and at very reasonable prices. Students are required to type all of their assignments and load them in the Moodle system.

Please see the following website for information about electricity, voltage, and electrical adapters: http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/

It is also advised to bring a digital recorder for interviews.

Gifts
As you might imagine, it is best to be prepared with a gift to offer your homestay family in gratitude for their hospitality and as a means to share a part of your culture with them. We suggest one or two gifts that the whole family can enjoy; you do not need a gift for each member. You may also wish to consider gifts for people outside your homestay family. Try to choose gifts that represent you or the part of the country and/or community you live in. Think about what your city, state, or local artisans produce. Draw upon your personal interests or hobbies for ideas. Pack a couple of small gifts for children, such as small games, bubbles, or a Frisbee. Even if your homestay family does not have small children, chances are that you will engage with children in your homestay community. Once you are on the program and learn more about the local culture, you will discover other ways to thank your family. Remember to bring pictures of your friends and family to share.

What You Can and Cannot Obtain in Country
Buenos Aires is a well-developed cosmopolitan city that has all the amenities of any large city in the United States. Therefore, it will be quite easy to find the majority of familiar products. However, please note that in order to stick to a favored brand; you might pay elevated prices due to import taxes.

If you have further questions, please contact your admissions counselor and/or ask an alumni mentor: http://studyabroad.sit.edu/pn/admitted-students/contact-a-former-student/.

Please See the Packing List on the Next Page
These packing guidelines are based on suggestions from past students and your academic director. The clothing you bring may be adapted to your own style, within cultural norms of acceptable dress.

Remember to place all valuable items and prescriptions in your carry-on luggage while traveling and all sharp items in your checked luggage.
Suggested Packing List

Clothing

General
- 4–5 shirts
- 1–2 pairs of shorts
- 2–3 pairs casual pants
- 2–3 pairs of jeans
- 1 business casual/dressy outfit (for important meetings or family events)
- Supply of cold-weather clothes
- 2–4 sweaters or warm tops
- 2-week supply of underwear
- Socks
- Pajamas
- Slippers
- 1 pair walking shoes
- 1 pair sneakers
- 1 pair sandals
- Swimsuit
- Raincoat/jacket
- 1–2 beach towels

Women
- 1–2 dresses or skirts

Men
- Tie

Travel Documents
- Passport
- Immunization Record or Yellow WHO Card (see the Safety, Security, and Health document for more information)
- 2 photocopies of your passport, stored separately from your actual passport
- Photocopy of visa (if applicable)
- Copy of electronic ticket
- Photocopy of Brazil visa
- 3 passport-sized photos to obtain visas for excursions

Health/Toiletries
- Sunscreen (at least SPF 15)
- Sunglasses and hat
- Adequate supply of any medications you use regularly, including birth control
- Small first aid kit with Band-Aids, hydrogen peroxide, moist towelettes, and over-the-counter drugs for minor pain, diarrhea, anti-itching, and motion sickness, as approved by your doctor.
- Extra eye glasses or contacts (saline solution is available but expensive)

Other Important Items
- Spanish/English dictionary
- Travel alarm clock
- Flashlight/headlamp
- Homestay family gifts
- Small tape recorder for interviews
- Fold-up umbrella
- Durable water bottle

Optional Items
- Travel guide if you plan to do post-program travel (Lonely Planet is recommended)
- Camera and film
- Voltage and plug adaptors
- College or university ID
- Waterless anti-bacterial hand soap
- Ziploc storage bags
- Dryer sheets (to keep your luggage smelling fresh)