

Statement on field courses during Covid-19

The University of Manchester aims to run advertised field courses in the 20/21 Academic Year and we very much hope that students will be able to enjoy the field course experience in the usual way.

The ability of field courses to proceed, and whether any changes to proposed field courses might be necessary, will remain subject to the current global situation and factors such as the:

- rules and guidance on travel and activities implemented and published by the UK and overseas governments;
- outcome of any risk assessments conducted by the University;
- educational value and student experience of the fieldwork, if significant changes to the proposed fieldwork would be necessary;
- availability of appropriate insurance cover; and
- availability of appropriate travel and accommodation and any significant changes to their financial costs.

We will therefore assess on a regular basis the viability of any travel and field courses and communicate any decisions to our students at the earliest possible opportunity. Any field course that does go ahead will be subject to a rigorous risk assessment process and the implementation of any protective measures identified by the risk assessment to ensure the health and safety of all of our students and staff. If the field course does not go ahead as planned then the School's focus will be on seeking to offer a suitable alternative and ensure that the Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) of the programme are met.

Associated documents:

- <u>Safety Guidance for undertaking field courses during Covid-19</u>
- <u>General risk assessment for essential field courses during Covid-19</u>

Division of Teaching, Learning and Student Development, October 2020