

**Title IX**

**Compliance**

**for**

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- Colleges and universities send more and more students each year to a myriad of different international higher education experiences.
- These experiences are a very important part of the educational experience for many students and almost all students have a positive and safe experience when they go abroad.
- A number of federal laws govern the study abroad experience for students.

# The Study Abroad Experience

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- Clarification of Title IX behaviors
- Legal liability for non-compliance
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# Objectives

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- Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Amended to Add Title IX in 1972

- Eliminates Barriers to Education and Employment Due to

# Gender Discrimination

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- To create a safe learning environment colleges must:

**Promptly help the victim**

**Eliminate future harm.**

- There is no geographical limitation. Includes off campus

# **Spirit of Title IX**

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A campus sexual assault study by the U.S. Department of Justice found that around 1 in 5 women are victims of attempted or completed sexual assault as college students, compared to about 1 in 16 college men.

The Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) reports that college-aged women are four times more likely than any other age group to face sexual assault.

In 90 percent of the reported cases, the victim knew her or his attacker.

## Current Statistics

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- Less than 5 percent of rapes and attempted rapes of college students are reported to campus authorities or law enforcement. A study done by the Center for Public Integrity revealed many barriers to reporting sexual assault, including inadequate university sexual assault policies.
- The extent of the problem remains hidden on campuses nationwide. The small number of cases reported on a campus likely does not mean that sexual assault is not occurring, but rather that there are barriers to reporting.

## **Barriers to Reporting**

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- Examples of Behaviors

- May involve

- Male on Female
    - Female on Male
    - Same Gender
    - Student on Student
    - Faculty/Staff on Student
    - Student on Faculty/Staff

# Who is Involved

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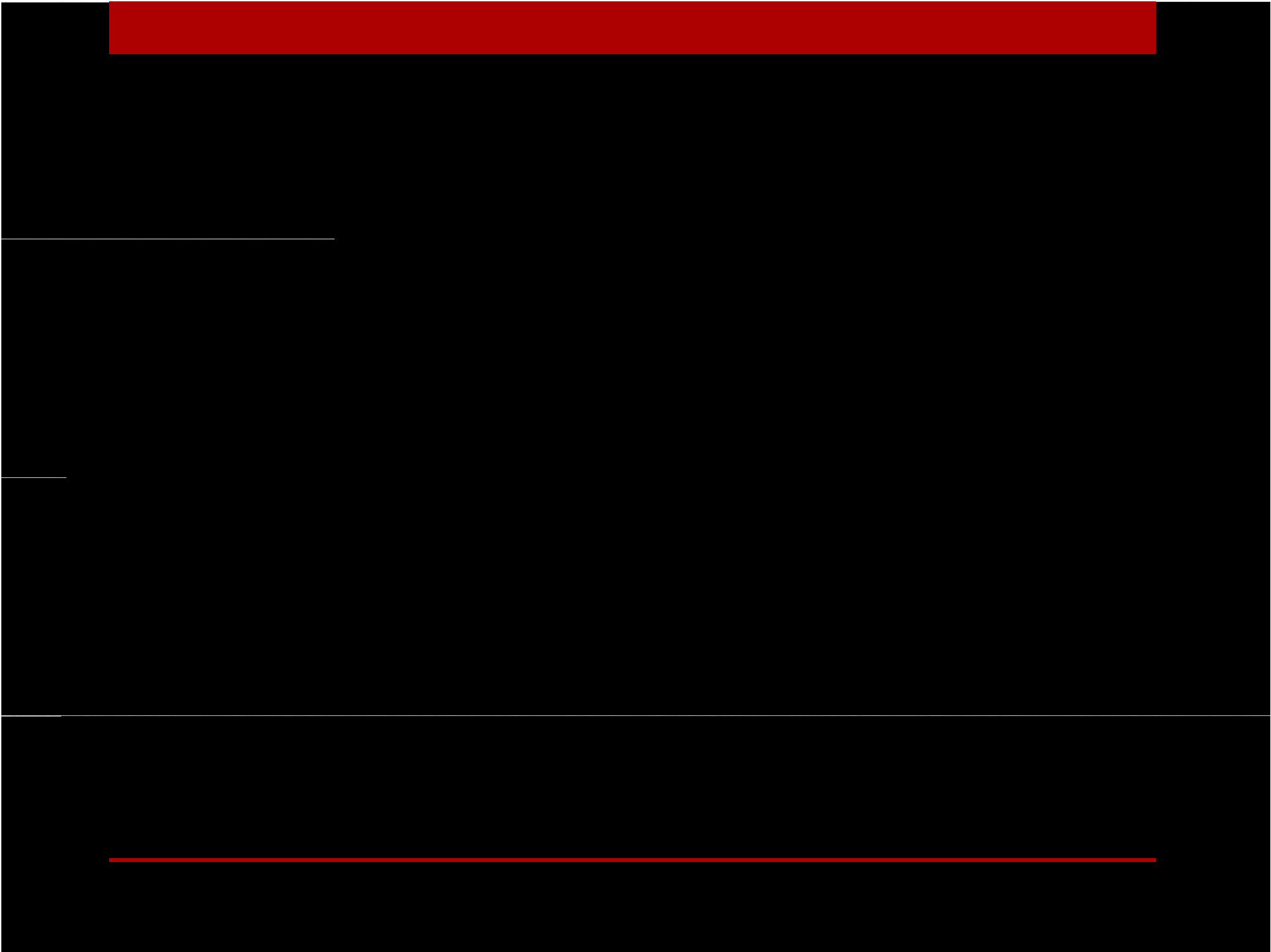
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# Title IX Behaviors

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- Who was involved?
  - When did the incident occur?
  - Where did the incident occur?
  - Who should be contacted?

# Critical Questions

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Who was

involved?

Student, faculty or staff member

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**When did the  
incident occur?**

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# Where did the incident take place?

On campus

Off campus - *VSU can intervene in off campus incidents*

Institutionally sponsored programs or activities

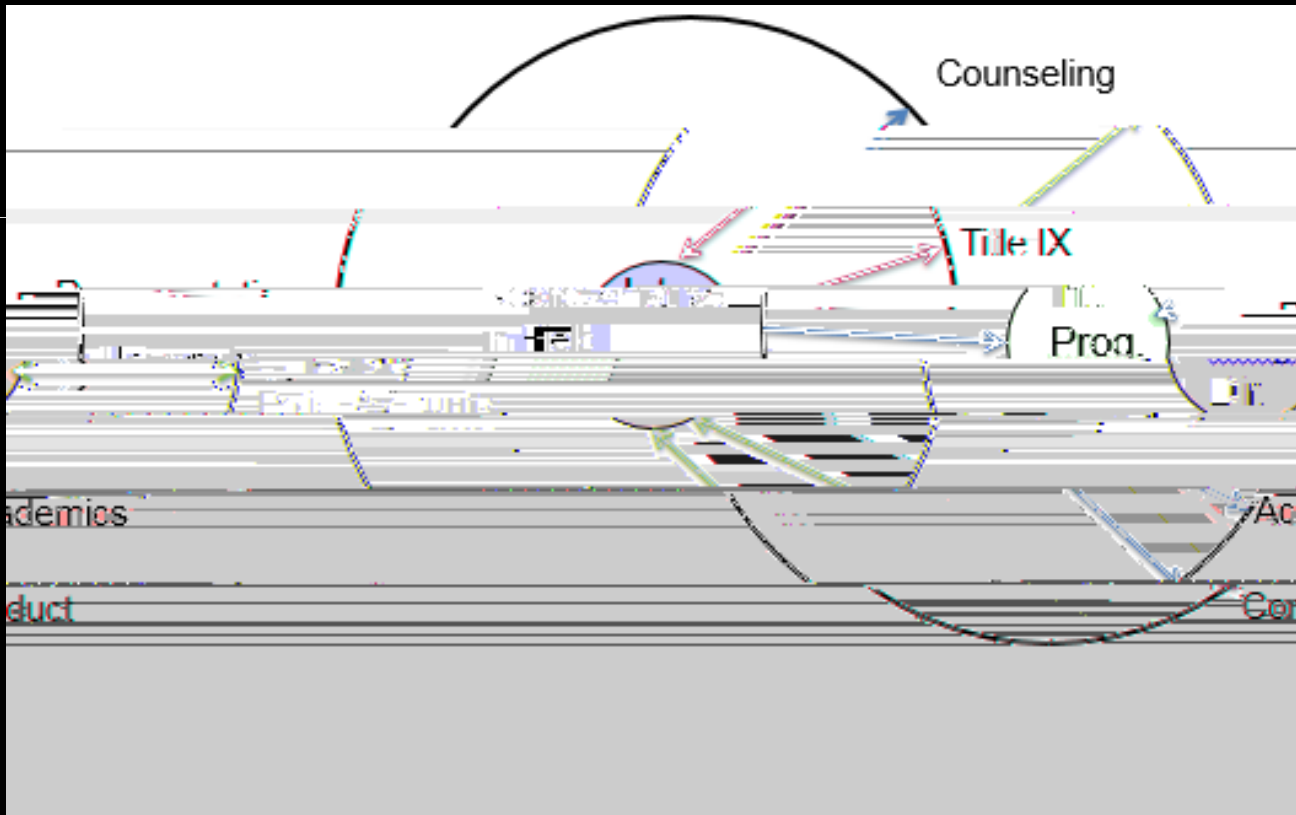
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**When I am in the  
field who should be  
contacted?**

International Programs Director

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# Title IX Response Model

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## Counseling Center

Dr. Tricia Hale, Counseling Center

229-333-5463

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# Campus Resources

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Sexual Assault Support & Help for Americans Abroad  
(SASHAA/AODVC): <https://sashaa.org>

# External Resources

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- **Institutional Liability**

- Litigation

- Loss of 2% of federal funding **per incident**

# Legal Liability for Non-Compliance

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- **Personal Liability**

- Litigation
- Personal connection to negative publicity for institution
- Possible loss of employment
- No such thing as reporting an incident too soon
- **However, a delay in reporting ...**

# Legal Liability for Non-Compliance

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# Reporting Obligations

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When an incident is reported:

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- Report everything – don't attempt to determine whether it's a Title IX incident or not
- Report immediately – very limited window of time for the University to address the incident

**Reporting Obligations  
Continued**

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- Only three professional practitioners can guarantee confidentiality:
  - Clergy (none on VSU payroll)
  - Counselors in the Counseling Center
  - Medical Professionals in the Student Health Center

## Who are Confidential Resources

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Reporting an incident does not automatically trigger a full blown investigation

Title IX Coordinator has the discretion to determine whether confidentiality on a need to know basis can be provided.

**What if the student  
pleads for confidentiality**

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- Due to confidentiality requirements you will not be informed of outcomes regarding Title IX incidents

## Reporting Outcomes

## Guidance in expressing reporting obligations

“Before you continue Jane/John, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to help you with what you are going through. Please know that if the information you disclose to me involves sexual or domestic assault/harassment, I will have to report it to the proper campus officials so they can take the proper steps to ensure your safety and the safety of others on campus. I cannot promise complete confidentiality, but depending on the exact situation, it is possible that you may be able to remain anonymous.”

# Script for Discussing Reporting Obligations

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- Report all Title IX incidents to Title IX Coordinator
- (through the International Programs Director)
- Complete all Title IX training (Online-Haven)  
--Required by federal law


## Supporting Institutional Compliance

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- Consider having all participating students complete the online Title IX training as a requirement for participation.
- New students (first time, full time) are required to completed online Title IX Training. (*Haven* and *AlcoholEdu*)


## Supporting Institutional Compliance

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- Joseph Storch, *Updated: The Clery Act and Overseas/Distance Study: New Developments and Compliance Guidance, 2016 Edition*, NACUANOTE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ATTORNEYS, VOL. 15, No. 1 (Sep. 26, 2016)

# Resources

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Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions regarding Title IX response and obligations.

229.333.5463

[mviveret@valdosta.edu](mailto:mviveret@valdosta.edu)

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# Additional Questions

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