Hanoi University
Arrival Instructions

Print a copy of this and include with your travel documents.

**Important!** Do not apply for a visa until you get a visa approval number from UCEAP. All students participating in the Vietnam program MUST enter the country on the student visa arranged by our local sponsor, Hanoi University. Students entering the country on tourist visas or visa exemptions for overseas Vietnamese WILL NOT be able to participate in the program. Make sure your travel agent knows that you will be receiving a student visa, and that you will not need either a visa or a visa exemption.

Make travel arrangements to arrive in Hanoi on the Official UCEAP Arrival Date. Students who arrive late are subject to dismissal from the program. Refer to the program calendar posted on the UCEAP website.

**Clearing Immigration and Customs**

Immigration has changed a lot in recent years. Nowadays, immigration officers are honest and generally pleasant (sometimes they even smile!). Overseas Vietnamese should not feel compelled to slip money into their passports to ease the immigration process.

As far as customs goes, make sure you pick up all your bags, go through the "Nothing to declare" line, and head for the door. Note that Vietnam airline agents may be checking your luggage just before you exit the baggage claim area. This just means you’ll have to dig out your original ticket with the luggage information on it so they can compare it to the tags on your bags.

**Arrivals Lounge**

Once you’re through the arrivals gate, look for someone holding a sign with “EAP” printed on it. If you’re arriving in a group, we’ll wait for everyone to arrive before heading out the door and onto a bus. If you’re arriving singly or in a smaller group, we may ask you to wait until the next group arrives and we can all leave for the university together. Whatever happens, though, someone will be there to meet you, so keep looking around until you find the “EAP” sign.

**Money Exchange**

If you’re just arriving in Vietnam, your first task is to get some local currency. There are ATMs and banks where you can change money pretty much everywhere you look in the arrivals lounge. The rate of exchange is legit, there’s no service fee for the money changers, and they’ll all give you the same rate. Either change US$100, or take the rough equivalent out of an ATM (let’s say VND 2 million). This will be more than enough to see you through your first few days (or weeks, depending on your spending habits).

**At the University**

Depending on traffic, the ride to Đại Học Hà Nội (Hanoi University, or HANU) will take about 45 minutes to one hour. We’ll head south towards the city, cross over the Red River, take a broad arc around the city, and end up at HANU’s International Dormitory.

**If there’s any problem**

If something unforeseen happens (e.g. you miss your connection and no one’s there to meet you), once you get to the airport, call Ginger or Thao on their mobile phones:

- 0984701818 (Ginger)
- 1689905736 (Thao)

And if after calling Ginger and Thao, it turns out you have to make your own way to HANU, the address is:

Ký túc xá D11
Đại Học Hà Nội
KM 9 Đường Nguyễn Trãi
Thanh Xuân
Hà Nội

Updated: May 31, 2012