The following hypotheticals are examples to help Northwestern Graduate students and their faculty supervisors determine whether or not their international travel is university-sponsored.

1. Nancy has received Northwestern funding for a documentary film project in Germany. Afterwards, she plans to go to Italy to help a classmate finish his project. Nancy will use personal funds to cover travel cost to Italy.

   The Germany portion of travel is University-supported. The travel to Italy is personal. However, Northwestern strongly suggests the student obtain a GeoBlue leisure travel plan to cover the rest of her travel abroad.

2. Lee is taking a course on Latin American poetry. He decides to go to Mexico during spring break to conduct some outside research at a library in Oaxaca. The travel is not required for the completion of the course assignment and Lee has not received any university funds to support the travel (or any promise of reimbursement of funds). In fact, his professor is not even aware of the trip.

   Lee’s trip is not University-supported.

3. Jun saw an advertisement in Lund Hall for a full-time, paid graduate student internship with NBC news during the upcoming summer Olympics in Japan. Northwestern does not participate in the selection process, but he submitted a recommendation from his faculty advisor and a copy of his transcript. He was hired and unenrolled from Northwestern for winter quarter in order to participate.

   Jun’s travel is not University-sponsored.

4. A number of Northwestern graduate students were hired by NBC for an internship during the upcoming summer Olympics in Japan. While Northwestern does not participate in the selection process, it agreed to allow the students to obtain “internship credits” for the experience (which are degree requirements), so long as they participate in a course associated with the experience (and complete any corresponding, assigned academic work).

   The students’ travel is University-sponsored.

5. Professor Jones is writing a book about slavery and plans to visit Ghana during spring break to conduct research. She has invited two graduate students to travel along and assist with data collection. She offers to reimburse the students the cost of their airfare upon their return from the trip.

   The students’ travel is University-sponsored.
6. Arun is a citizen of India. He has completed all his Ph.D. course requirements and has returned to his hometown of Mumbai to collect data and write his dissertation while teaching at a local university. He plans to return to Evanston only to attend his dissertation defense and walk in graduation ceremonies. 

Arun’s travel is not University-sponsored.

7. Sissi is a citizen of Ukraine. She’s a graduate student in anthropology and her dissertation is on comparative attitudes towards western practices of adoption in Romanian and Tanzania. She has received a grant to conduct field work in Romania, and Northwestern will match the grant so she can also travel to Tanzania. She plans to be gone for about 10 months.

Sissi’s travel is University-sponsored.

8. Amanda graduated from Northwestern with a Master’s of Science in Journalism and received a Fulbright to teach English and Journalism in Colombia. While she was a student, the Office of Fellowships assisted her with the application, but her teaching program begins after graduation from Northwestern.

Amanda’s travel is not University-sponsored.