

Seville, Spain – Spring 2009 Program Handbook

Congratulations on being selected to participate in the study abroad program in Seville, Spain!

This program is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in partnership with the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE). Throughout the course of your study abroad experience you will be communicating with both IAP and CIEE staff. It is essential that you pay close attention to all information provided to you from both organizations. This IAP Program Handbook supplements handbook(s) or materials you receive from CIEE as well as the IAP Study Abroad Handbook and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of printing. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

CIEE handles the program's day-to-day operations. Generally, questions about aspects of your program abroad should be directed to CIEE (e.g., program housing options, program facilities abroad, cultural tours offered as part of the program, etc.) Questions relating to your relationship with UW-Madison or your academics should be addressed to International Academic Programs at UW-Madison (e.g., course credits, equivalents, UW Madison registration, etc.)

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Contact Information

CIEE On-Site Contact

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CIEE Pre-Departure Contact

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CIEE – Spain Programs

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UW-Madison Information

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Emergency Contact Information

In case of an emergency, call the main IAP number **(608) 265-6329** between 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; after-hours or on weekends call the IAP staff on call at **(608) 516-9440**.

In an emergency, you or a family member can call CIEE 24 hours a day at 1-800-40-STUDY (from the U.S.) or 207-553-7600 (U.S. and overseas). This number is monitored 24 hours per day and will put you in touch with CIEE program staff in Maine.

Embassy Registration

Program participants who are U.S. citizens must register at the U.S. Embassy before departure as this will help in case of a lost passport or other mishap. You can register online at <<https://travelregistration.state.gov>>. If you are not a U.S. citizen, register at your home country's embassy or consulate.

U.S. Embassy of Madrid
Serrano 75
28006 Madrid
Tel: (34) 91-587-2240
Tel: (34) 91-587-2200 (emergencies after hours)
Fax: (34) 91-587-2303
Web: <http://www.embusa.es/indexbis.html>

U.S. Consulate in Seville
Plaza Nueva 8-8 duplicado
2ª planta, E2, No 4
41001 Sevilla
Office hours: 10:00-13:00
Tel.: (34) 95-421-8751
Fax: (34) 95423-2040

Program Dates

Spring Semester

Early January to mid-late May or late June/early July. Please refer to your CIEE information for additional information regarding program dates.

CIEE classes and program activities end in mid-late May, but please note that those taking regular university courses may be required to stay until late June-early July to complete their exams.

Preparations Before Leaving

Refer to the Pre-Departure Checklist on pages four and five of the IAP Study Abroad Handbook as well as your CIEE handbook for essential information.

Immigration Documents

All U.S. citizens will be required to obtain a Spanish student visa prior to going to Spain. Please read the CIEE forms on the visa process and follow the directions carefully. It is recommended that you proceed with applying for your student visa as early as the process allows. Contact CIEE with questions regarding the visa process.

Travel and Arrival Information

Travel and Arrival Information will generally be provided by CIEE.

The Academic Program

General Information

Students participating on the CIEE **Liberal Arts Program** enroll in courses offered by the Universidad de Sevilla Cursos Para Extranjeros (SECE - offered to all foreign students), CIEE Study Center courses (CSCS – For CIEE participants only), and Universidad de Seville and Universidad de Pablo de Olavide courses for Spanish students. All courses meet two times a week for 90 minutes or three times per week for 45 minutes

Students participating on the CIEE **Advanced Liberal Arts Program** enroll in courses offered by the Universidad de Sevilla, Universidad de Pablo de Olavide, and CIEE Study Center courses (CSCS).

Founded in 1551, the Universidad de Sevilla is one of Spain's oldest universities. It is a public institution under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education. The University is comprised of 15 faculties and nine colleges. The faculties offer programs in the humanities, law, medicine and science. The colleges teach business administration, education, nursing and engineering technology. The University of Seville offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs and degrees.

Established in 1997, the Pablo de Olavide University of Seville is one of the youngest public universities in Spain. Situated in the historical area of Fuentequintillo, the university falls within the boundaries of three municipalities (Seville, Dos Hermanas and Alcalá de Guadaíra). The campus, situated in parkland, offers a variety of services in addition to teaching. These include social functions, research centers, residencies and sporting facilities, all of which contribute to a well rounded education.

Students who take Universidad de Sevilla or Universidad Pablo de Olavide courses should note that their semester will go longer until late June. See your CIEE acceptance information for additional information.

Course Information

Liberal Arts Program Cycle I Courses

Students are required to take the language intensive course during Cycle I. Students will receive 3 UW-Madison credits for this course. Students will receive the next level in the Spanish language sequence when completing this course.

Liberal Arts Program Cycle II Courses

You may choose any combination of CIEE Study Center courses (ending with CSCS), Cursos Para Extranjeros (ending with SECE), regular University of Seville and University of Pablo de Olavide courses.

Advanced Liberal Arts Program Cycle I Courses

Students are required to take a language intensive course during Cycle I. Students will receive 3 UW-Madison credits for this course. Students who plan to take most of their classes in the social sciences and humanities and who score more than 70% on the language placement exam are required to take Social History of Contemporary Spain. Students who plan to take classes exclusively in business and economics are required to take Intensive Spanish for Business and Economics. Students whose language skills are below average based on the results of the language placement exam are required to take Intensive Advanced Spanish Grammar in order to prepare them for direct registration in regular university classes with Spaniards. Students may also be required to take Advanced Grammar and Writing during the regular session if the results from the Intensive Advanced Grammar show that they need further Spanish language support.

Advanced Liberal Arts Program Cycle II Courses

During the remainder of the semester, students take a total of four courses: three must be from the Universidad de Sevilla and the Universidad Pablo de Olavide (UPO) and the fourth course may be taken either from the Universidad de Sevilla and UPO offerings or a CIEE Study Center (CSCS), Teaching Development (CSCS) or Business and Society (SEBS) courses designed for CIEE participants only.

Registration

Registration information will be provided by CIEE. In general, CIEE will communicate with you by email. You will receive detailed information on courses and requirements in your online CIEE acceptance materials. Read all of the CIEE materials carefully and return all CIEE forms directly to CIEE by their deadline date.

It is recommended that you make a photocopy of your CIEE Course Pre- Registration form for your records so that you can utilize this document during the final course registration period that occurs onsite.

Spanish Majors: when planning your course of study both abroad and at the UW-Madison, please keep the following information in mind:

- 1) You must take at least 15 credits of the 223 level and above in Spanish "in residence" (that means, here on campus or in programs sponsored by UW-Madison).
- 2) You must have at least 15 credits of Spanish AT ANY LEVEL taken while physically present in Madison. This is to prevent a student from transferring a large number of credits in Spanish from another institution, then taking the rest of the Spanish major with our abroad programs, thus virtually taking no courses in Madison.

3) You must take at least 6 credits of Spanish at the 300 level or above while physically present at UW-Madison.

If you would like more information or clarification on the Spanish major, please contact Karen Thompson (klthompson3@wisc.edu), Undergraduate Spanish Advisor. For course equivalent issues please contact Professor Steve Hutchinson, (shutchin@wisc.edu) and for questions about practical issues on this program contact Andrea Muilenburg (muilenburg@bascom.wisc.edu).

Equivalents and Course Equivalent Request Form (CERF)

Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison “equivalent” course in order for your grades and credits to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Request Form (CERF). Information on the UW course equivalent process is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

In consultation with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, IAP has established the following guidelines for assigning course equivalents:

Spanish 223 and 224: Students should make an effort to take at least one of these classes on the UW-Madison campus before studying abroad if at all possible since they provide good background. In addition, these survey level courses are difficult to find abroad. If students decide to take a survey-type course abroad, they should find out what the department teaches in the particular class and look for as close a match as possible. Students should check with the Spanish Department before taking the class. If students decide to take these courses when they return to UW-Madison, they may receive credit for a more advanced literature class (e.g., Spanish 326) and then return to take Spanish 224. Students who take this route still find the survey-level classes interesting.

Credits

The typical course on this program is worth 3 UW-Madison credits. Students studying on the Liberal Arts and Advanced Liberal Arts Seville Programs through IAP are required to take a minimum of 15 credits and a maximum of 18 credits each semester. The 15 credit requirement will consist of 3 UW-Madison credits during Cycle I and 12 credits during Cycle II.

Pass/Fail/Drop/Audit

Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies. Please be aware that there are no pass/fail privileges for pre-session courses.

Grades and Grade Conversions

Please note that there is no grade inflation in Europe. Thus, students are expected to work very hard from the very beginning of classes and read all recommended texts in order to get the best grade in their classes. CIEE uses the following scale to translate students’ numerical final grades to the US letter grade system:

Spanish Grade	CIEE Grade	UW-Madison Grade Equivalent
10.0 - 9.00	A	A
8.99 - 8.75	A -	AB
8.74 - 8.25	B+	AB
8.24 - 7.50	B	B
7.49 - 7.00	B -	BC
6.99 - 6.00	C+	BC
5.99 - 5.00	C	C
4.99 - 4.00	D	D
3.99 - 0.00	F	F

Living Abroad

Educate yourself about your host country. Read the Preparing to Live in Another Culture section of the IAP Study Abroad Handbook. Consult the following resources as well as travel books and program binders in the Study Abroad Resource Room (250 Bascom Hall). Remember- it won't be possible to prepare yourself completely. There will be situations you will not have anticipated and your flexibility will determine in great part the kind of experience you will have while abroad.

Websites of Interest:

UW-Madison International Academic Programs (IAP) website:
<http://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu>

CIEE website:
<http://www.ciee.org>

CIEE Seville program website:
<http://www.ciee-seville.org>

U.S. State Department:
<http://travel.state.gov>

Center for Disease Control (CDC):
<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>

Portals to the World
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/hispanic/spain/spain.html>

Variety of Information on Spain:
<https://www.tuspain.com>

Useful Travel Books

Fodor's Guides

Let's Go

Lonely Planet

Michelin Guides

Rough Guide

International Travel Health Guide by Stuart R. Rose, MD., 2001

Spain: A Traveler's Literary Companion by Peter Bush and Lisa Dillman, 2003

Communication

When making calls, keep in mind time zone differences

(www.timeanddate.com/worldclock). To make an international call to the United States, dial the access code for the country from which you are calling plus the United States country code (always "1") followed by the appropriate U.S. area code and local number. To call internationally from the United States, dial "011", the country code, city access code (if necessary) and the phone number. Country and city codes can be found online (www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/dialing.html). Some of above steps can vary if you are using a calling card.

Refer for your CIEE handbook for detailed information regarding communicating via telephone, email, and mail while in Spain.

Student Testimonials

The testimonials below are from past participants; they reflect various students' experiences and are included to provide different perspectives. IAP does not endorse any specific view expressed in this section.

Preparations Before Leaving

I wish I had brought a good travel book, and I should have left half my clothes at home. You will want to go shopping in Seville, especially since the sales season takes place right when you arrive.

I didn't anticipate the cold weather that occurred during the first month. It's chilly outside, and the pisos in Seville are cold. I wish I would have brought a warmer jacket and thicker pajamas.

Buying an all-purpose tote to carry my wallet, a water bottle, camera, umbrella, and any other necessities was one of the best things I had with me for traveling.

I was so happy that I brought slippers, especially for the first few months when my piso was cold.

I should have brought a pair of thong sandals.

Telling students to bring stomach settlers (like Pepto Bismol or Tums) would have been beneficial to help adjust to a completely new diet.

I used debit and credit cards. I wish I had made a budget BEFORE I left. There were ATMs available pretty much everywhere. Many places did not accept credit cards, so make sure you have cash on you at all times.

Travel and Arrival Information

I recommend traveling around Spain and Europe as much as you'd like, but don't forget to check out all of the amazing sites in Seville, especially la Plaza de España, la Catedral, and el Alcázar.

The bus isn't that bad. It's cheaper and sometimes faster than going by train (because you don't have to change lines).

I neglected to realize the travel opportunities that would be available to me during my semester. I wish I would have been a little more organized with planning a budget for these expenses.

I brought about \$50 initially and this was enough. There are currency exchanges everywhere.

Debit cards are the easiest way to get money. Traveler's checks don't work well, and you get a bad exchange rate.

When you take out money at the ATM, take out quite a bit because the surcharges at your bank back home will probably be \$2 to \$4.

Homestays, excursions, and cultural activities all helped me gain a better understanding of the Spanish culture. The academic program was also good.

Academic Program

The orientation was very well organized. I enjoyed the tour of the city and night activities that were planned.

I spent less time studying, but I also received lower grades.

I had three final exams on the last two days of classes. Plan ahead.

I had difficulty registering because some of the classes were at the same time, so I got stressed out and ended up without all of the classes I wanted. I wish I would have considered more alternatives before registering.

I had no problems whatsoever with registration. I came in knowing what I needed to take and I was able to register for all of them.

I thought the Cross Cultural Workshops were helpful and interesting to hear other people's ideas and perspectives.

I didn't know what to expect, but the staff was very flexible and friendly, and I felt secure in knowing that they were there.

The grading system is quite different and the fact that some of my classes only had one exam at the end made it difficult for me to receive the grade I wanted for the effort I put into the class.

I felt like the instructors were more vague than U.S. instructors about the requirements of papers or presentations.

Living Abroad

The best way to meet students for me was to set up an "intercambio" through CIEE. I met with a Spaniard wanting to learn English once a week to help them improve their language skills. We would spend half of the time speaking English and half of the time speaking Spanish. It helped me improve my Spanish and gave me better insight into Seville's culture.

I enjoyed spending my free time with my Spanish friends. I felt like I was really part of the culture when I was with them.

You have a choice: hang around with your American friends and have fun in English or make Spanish friends and engage in their culture.

Doing everyday things, like walking around the city, shopping, going to cultural events (like flamenco shows), eating tapas, and engaging with Spaniards are fun and will give you the cultural exposure that you desire. There's never a dull moment.

My biggest regret was not interacting more with Spanish students. I spent too much time with Americans. If I would have made more Spanish friends, I would have learned more about the Spanish language and culture of Seville.

My host family was very accommodating. My señora made me feel very comfortable in her house.

Women- Always walk in a group and never respond to catcalls.

I often felt uncomfortable being a blonde woman here in Spain. At times, I felt disrespected by the men.

The culture is very different in Spain with regards to gender. Men treat women differently in Spain, and women are expected to act more submissively than in the U.S. I was at first thrown off by the "cat calling" done very frequently in Seville. Nothing happened that was really offensive though.

Internetía (internet center) is great. It has a lot of computers and is near the University, but it's expensive. There are cheaper internet centers near the university and in Triana. Check out other options.

I would recommend that students not live in the residencia. I started my semester in Spain there and was highly disappointed at the quality of meals provided. I felt that it was more beneficial to live with a host family or a señora.

Students should communicate openly with their señora from the beginning because that's the best way to have a good home stay. If a student assumes his or her señora knows what they want, etc., then miscommunication can occur. Don't be afraid to talk to them!