

# MADRID, SPAIN

BAILEY JAWORSKI

**Program:** WIP Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Year

**Bailey's Majors:** Communication Arts & Spanish

**Academic Life:** There were two different types of classes you were required to take: Reunidas and Complutense. Reunidas classes were classes designed for American study abroad students and followed a syllabus similar to the type of classes in the States (assignments, midterms, papers; more work outside the classroom). Classes at the Complutense were classes with other Spanish students. Generally with Complutense classes there are fewer assignments out of class, but your final grade is based on the grade you get on the final exam. I liked that I had the flexibility to take a variety of different classes that could count for credits other than just Spanish.

**Housing:** I lived in a neighborhood called Argüelles about 15 minutes from the University. My apartment (piso) I shared with two other Spanish students. I loved the central location, easy access the bus lines/metro, and proximity to Parque de Oeste and the Temple of Debod.

**Advantages of Study Abroad:** Studying abroad will really set me apart when looking for a future job because it shows that I haven't just learned Spanish in a classroom, but I've actually applied what I've learned to real life scenarios and lived and thrived in a Spanish speaking country for 9 months. I also made many great connections in Madrid and through my travels that I hope to utilize at some point in the future.

**Advice for Someone Considering Madrid:** It's a beautiful cosmopolitan city and you'll never be bored because there's always something to do. Your Spanish will improve significantly because you're thrust into the epicenter of the Castellano language and are part of one of the most academically rigorous programs in Spain! It's one thing to study or visit a country for a vacation, but it's another thing to actually live in another culture and experience day to day life.



Bailey out for the evening celebrating Halloween in Madrid.

**“I’ve gained a unique cultural perspective by living in a foreign country for nine months.”**

