

# MADRID, SPAIN

## JAROD COYER

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

**Jarod's Majors:** Spanish and Latin America, Caribbean and Iberian Studies

**Academic Life:** The Reunidas classes are taught by Complutense professors specifically for North American students, in which they try to implement a more American-esque classroom experience and teaching method. The Reunidas professors will go out of their way to talk slower and use more basic vocabulary, whereas facultad professors who teach Complutense classes are the total opposite. Do the readings, go to class, study a lot, prepare, prepare, prepare. 90% of all facultad exams are blue-book style exams that consist of one question that cover anything you may have covered in the classes and the practicas. As long as you do your work well, study hard, and become a familiar face to the professor, you will do well.

**How Study Abroad has Set you Apart:** I have experienced life outside of the U.S., and outside of my element. I have seen new people, a new social structure, an unknown society, and a new perspective on life. I have been able to take a step back and see our country from a new point of view, one that allows me to critique and appreciate all at the same time.

**Cultural Differences:** The biggest thing I noticed was the concept of time. The Spanish are very easy-going when it comes to schedules and time constraints. In Spain "hurry" and "rush" don't exist; it's all easy-going.

**Madrid as a Second Home:** A thousand times yes. I came back to the U.S. for Christmas to see my family under some unfortunate circumstances, and I remember getting back to Madrid on New Years Eve and it felt like I was coming home, even though I was technically just at home back in Wisconsin with my family. Madrid will forever be a home of mine.



Jarod with a fellow UW student exploring the rose garden in Parque

**“If you want an amazing academic experience, fused with a historical and cultural city, Madrid is the place for you.”**

