Overview

Homepage
Information for incoming exchange students
Semesters Available: Spring, Academic Year
   Fall semester approved only in rare cases
GPA Requirement: 3.0
Language of Instruction: Catalan and Spanish
Academic Calendar:
   Fall: mid-September to February
   Spring: mid-February to July

Autumn Semester 2013 (detailed information here)
   9 September 2013 – 7 February 2014

Spring Semester 2014 (detailed information here)
   10 February 2014 – 4 July 2014

Through an agreement between UAB and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at Cornell University, CALS undergraduate students may apply to enroll directly in Facultat de Veterinaria courses for a semester or a year. Courses outside the Facultat de Veterinaria are allowed to be taken. Students study alongside UAB and International students and are eligible to participate in the many activities sponsored by UAB and its student body.

This exchange program is open to undergraduate CALS students of sophomore or higher standing, and is awarded on first-come, first-serve basis. CALS students pay their current Cornell tuition with no additional fees. Housing, food, visa, travel, health insurance, books, and other personal expenses are paid separately.

Barcelona is an open-minded cosmopolitan metropolis located on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea; a city which leaves no visitor indifferent. One of its greatest virtues as a city dating back to Roman times is its ability to mix the old with the new. It is also rich in architecture, where one can find Modernist buildings such as the Sagrada Familia and Parc Güell designed by Antoni Gaudi, and other architectural masterpieces by Jean Nouvel, Arata Isozaki, Ricardo Bofill and many others. The mild Mediterranean climate and different landscapes make it possible for you to take advantage of its numerous beaches, while the beauty of the Pyrenees Mountains, with several ski resorts and natural parks, is only an hour’s drive away.

Campuses

The main UAB campus is located in Bellaterra, close to the town of Cerdanyola del Vallès, only 25 minutes in public transport from central Barcelona.

UAB makes up an important scientific and technological cluster thanks to its proximity to high level research institutions and advanced technology industries. In addition to the Bellaterra campus, the university also offers courses at its Sabadell campus and in Barcelona at the Sant Pau Hospital (though these are not open to exchange students)

Areas of Study

Biology
Business
Economics
Environmental Science
Food Science and Technology
Medicine
Management Computing/Systems Computing
Veterinary Medicine
And much more!

Course Selection

The first thing you should do is find out the content and objectives of each course by reading the different syllabi. To browse the available courses, go here.
Like everywhere else in Catalonia, the language of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona is Catalan, which shares the status of co-official language along with Spanish. Students can submit their work and exams in either Catalan or Spanish and, for some courses, in English.

Assessments & Grading

UAB makes use of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System), developed by the European Commission to provide common procedures guaranteeing academic recognition of studies abroad and thereby facilitating international mobility programmes. The ECTS is based on the student workload required to achieve the objectives of a programme, objectives which are preferably specified in terms of the learning outcomes and competences to be acquired.

Language Classes

At the Bellaterra Campus Catalan and Spanish courses are offered, in both intensive and non-intensive formats. These are available before the academic year begins and also during term time. The basic and elementary level Catalan courses are fully subsidized for members of the UAB community, and Spanish courses are partially subsidized for UAB Socrates-Erasmus students (the cost is approximately 530 Euros per semester).

The Barcelona Campus offers year round Spanish intensive courses and tailor-made Spanish courses for groups. These courses take place at the art nouveau building UAB-Casa Convalescència, part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the centre of Barcelona.

Read more about language courses here.

Orientation

The UAB Welcome Programme (Programa d’Acollida) is a project aimed at helping students from outside Catalonia. The program provides in our university information on the social and cultural realities in Catalonia, guidance on life at the campus and support on any matters arising that may be of use during your stay in our university. As part of the Welcome Programme (Programa d’Acollida), a number of activities are organized (day trips, debates, social events with students from Catalonia and other countries, etc).

Cultural Learning

INTRODUCTION TO CATALONIA TODAY: This course provides an introduction to the social, political and cultural situation in Catalonia today. There is one course per semester and enrollment takes place at the same time as registration in the Faculty. It carried six ECTS credits (3 US) which can be included in the academic record.

First Steps

The International Welcome Point (IWP) provides information for students, lecturers and administrative and services staff from other countries. At the IWP you can get the UAB international student card which enables access to the UAB libraries, Internet, language courses discounts, among other services. You can also apply for the Student residence permit; get advice about financial aid and receive information about UAB academic life, services and cultural and leisure activities.

Accommodation

Off campus housing options

University Village

The University Village (Vila Universitària) is strategically located, offering comfortable accommodation for students or members of faculty who come from outside the area. The 640 residential units vary in size, providing accommodation for a total of 1,806 people with a wide variety of available services and benefits.

It is a real on-campus city, with parks, leisure areas and all the basic services that residents require (laundry, bakery, supermarket, etc.) and regular road and rail connections with Barcelona, Sabadell, Cerdanyola del Vallès and Sant Cugat del Vallès.

The Village provides residential units to suit all requirements, designed to offer both comfortable living conditions as well as the best possible environment for study.

Student Visa

You must obtain a Type D student visa (Visado D Estudiante - Abierto) before leaving the United States. You can apply for a visa through your nearest Spanish Embassy or Consulate. Without the visa you cannot obtain the Student Residence Card you need to be a legal Spanish resident. Keep in mind that a Type D visa is limited to 180 days and cannot be renewed once you are in Spain. If you are planning to stay more than six months, you will need to obtain a Type D student visa before leaving your country.

Program Costs

Students are billed their regular CALS tuition, with no added administrative fees. Students purchase plane tickets and pay remaining costs such as housing, meals, student visa application fees, local travel, and personal expenses.

Some partner institutions charge student activity fees and/or health insurance plans which students are also responsible for.
Financial Aid

If you currently receive financial aid, your package will be adjusted based on your determined level of need and the projected costs for your study abroad program. Financial aid for study abroad is needs-based, consistent with university and government policies, and covers all costs related to study abroad (including program tuition, all mandatory program fees, housing, meals, and round-trip airfare).

University grant aid and loan awards may either be increased or decreased to meet study abroad needs. The normal work-study component of aid packages are converted to student loans.

Application Process

Students apply to the exchange after attending CALS Study Abroad 101 and meeting with the CALS Exchange Coordinator to discuss plans. All application materials will be returned to CALS.