CALS International Exchange Program

**University of Buenos Aires** *(Facultad de Agronomía) [Argentina]*

A street art tour is a “must do” while living in Buenos Aires!

**Overview**

**Semesters Available:** Fall, Spring, or Academic Year  
**GPA Requirement:** 2.5 GPA or higher  
**Language of Instruction:** Spanish. Students are required to have equivalent to 4 college-level semesters of Spanish. If participating in “Course Training in Research for Agriculture, Food & Environmental Science” students may use some English.

**Academic Calendar**  
**Course Training in Research:**  
*Fall:* August to December; *Spring:* March to July  
**Regular Academic Calendar for coursework at University:**  
*Fall:* July to December; *Spring:* March to July

Located in the capital and largest city in Argentina with a population of 2.9 million people.  
According to Fodor’s: “Incredible food, fresh young designers, and a thriving cultural scene—all these Buenos Aires has. Yet less tangible things are at the heart of the city’s sizzle—for one, the spirit of its inhabitants. Here a flirtatious glance can be as passionate as a tango; a heated sports discussion as important as a world-class soccer match. It’s this zest for life that’s making Buenos Aires one of Latin America’s hottest destinations.”

Buenos Aires, the capital and largest city of Argentina, has something for everyone: from green parks to street art, beef dinners to healthy vegetarian, Tango to hip hop, antique to modern, you will find a pleasant surprise around every corner. Often referred to as the “Paris of Latin America,” we found it to be a bit Barcelona, a bit Paris, and of course, quite a bit Latin American. The Spanish spoken by locals sounds like the Italians have their influence too. Nevertheless, the city is definitely and distinctly Buenos Aires. Three million inhabitants live within 48 neighborhoods (barrios), and it can be your city for a semester or a year on exchange.

Located in the Agronomía barrio, within the bustling and vibrant city of Buenos Aires, students will welcome the park-like atmosphere and unique personality of the School of Agronomy’s campus (FAUBA). Created more than 100 years ago, the University of Buenos Aires’ FAUBA offers CALS’ students a wide variety of subjects from which to choose. Well-respected and research intensive, FAUBA is a solid choice for students who want to have an enriching academic experience, while enjoying all that cosmopolitan Buenos Aires has to offer.

Friendly dogs welcome students to the FAUBA campus.
Course Training Semester in Research for Agriculture, Food & Environmental Science

An alternative to coursework (or in addition to general coursework in some cases) is an intensive research-focused program in which students benefit from working directly with FAUBA’s PhD professors in one of the following areas:

- Applied Biology and Food
- Economy, Development and Agrarian Planning
- Agriculture Engineering and Land Use
- Quantitative Methods and Information Systems
- Animal Production
- Plant Production
- Natural Resources and Environment

The program is open students who wish to boost their curricula with a comprehensive academic experience. Some background in environmental science and agriculture are strongly recommended. Previous field work experience is not required.

Some of the specific research areas include:

- Ecophysiology of winter crops
- Ecophysiology of corn crop
- Ecophysiological basis for the improvement of grain crops
- Ecophysiology of seed
- Quality of grains
- Weed ecology
- Epidemiology and ecophysiology of diseases in wheat
- Crop production systems
- Introduction to Plant Biotechnology
- Plant cell walls. Characterization of Polysaccharides and Applications
- Dairy production in pastoral environments

Areas of Study - Coursework

- Agriculture & Crops
- Animal Science
- Animal Production (rabbit, beef, avian, pig)
- Dairy Production
- Environmental Sciences
- Fisheries
- Fruit growing
- Gardening
- Landscape Planning and Design
- Plant production & protection
- Plant Science & biotechnology
- Floriculture
- Organic Vegetable Production
- Rural Tourism
- Water management
Courses

Students should keep in mind that classes are organized by years 1-5, and the difficulty and course load of each course increases each year.

Example from past student: “I am in 2 classes (Produccion lechera y Forrajes) that are 5th year courses. Because of this, the difficulty may or may not be high for a Cornell student given what classes they have taken previously (for me, the dairy class is very basic because I have a background and class history in it, but Forrajes is more difficult due to my lack of experience in the field and the language factor as well). In addition, both of these classes require a group project that is an evaluation of a farm from the standpoint of that class. This takes quite a bit of time and effort, in that you must travel to the farm to evaluate it, and write up a large paper in your group and then present it.

Most classes include multiple optional times for field trips to farms, and students are required to go on 1 or 2 per class.

Any dairy students should definitely take the Postgrado Produccion lechera class with Dr. Rossi. It is a great way to meet people in the industry who have experience, as well as round out your understanding of dairy farming in Argentina. It is every other weekend on Friday and Saturday from 9am to 6pm, which seems like a lot, but is not when considering the benefits you gain. We will also be taking at least one field trip for a weekend to Santa Fe, a wonderful opportunity to see more of the industry outside of the close surrounding areas of BA.”

Course Registration

Course registration will not take place until you are in Buenos Aires. You, along with the help of FAUBA’s international office staff, will plan your course schedule during orientation. While we are sure that your time abroad will be rewarding, you must be aware of some of the challenges inherent in dealing with the Argentinian educational system. For example, it may take you the first couple weeks of the semester to thoroughly establish your course schedule. In many cases, current course listings are not available until you arrive on site.

Language

Students need an equivalent to 4 college semesters of Spanish prior to going to FAUBA. Unless a native Spanish speaker, students will also need to take Spanish for Foreigners while abroad. This can be in the form of a one month pre-semester intensive course or a semester-long course. Visit http://idiomas.filo.uba.ar/ for more details.

Transportation

Train

- General Urquiza line, from Federico Lacroze station to General Lemos station, which is the nearest station. Get off at Pedro Arata station.
- Train frequency from F. Lacroze station from Mondays to Fridays: every 8 minutes - Length of journey: from F. Lacroze to Arata, 5 minutes.

Subway

- Los Incas subway station belongs to line B which is the one that takes you near the School.
- The journey from L.N.Alem station to Los Incas takes 22 minutes.
- If you are living near another subway line (A-C-D-E), in line B, station Carlos Pellegrini is the point to change to lines D and C.
- Once you arrive at the station, you can walk approximately one mile to get to the School or you can take buses 80 or 87 and get off at Av. Los Incas in the crossing with Av. Constituyentes or simply go on foot.

Urban buses

The bus stops are located in front of two School exit doors. You can take any of these bus lines: 47 - 57 - 78 - 80 - 105 - 111 - 113 - 123 - 133 - 146. Remember that you should have coins since the ticket is sold on the bus by a machine accepting coins only.
Accommodation

Many students live in an adjacent rooming house or in nearby "agro-homestays." International Relations at FAUBA maintains a database of accommodations, which has generally been used for exchange students and teachers, but according to reports from our students, tends to be more expensive than finding housing on your own.

Due to safety concerns, students strongly suggest not living in Once neighborhood.

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 travels with students going abroad. Students must complete with grades equivalent to a Cornell “C” or better. Financial aid for study abroad is need-based, consistent with university and government policies and covers all costs relevant to study abroad, including tuition, all mandatory program fees, housing, meals, books, personal expenses, and round-trip airfare. If you are currently receiving financial aid, your aid package will be adjusted based on your determined level of need and the projected costs for your study abroad program. University grant aid and loan awards may be either increased or decreased to meet study abroad need. The normal work-study component of aid packages will be converted to student loans.

How to Apply

You will apply to the exchange after meeting with the CALS study abroad and exchange advisor in 140 Roberts Hall. All application materials will be returned to CALS—not the university directly.