



## New Program Information

**Name of host institution:** The Center for Cross-Cultural Study – University of Alicante

**Location:** Alicante, Spain

**Website:** <http://www.spanishstudies.org/AlicanteSpain-id-318.html>

**Accreditation/Recognition by:** Forum on Education Abroad, QUIP Review, *Instituto Cervantes*

**Number of international students:** 1,500 **Local students:** 34,000

**Most convenient way to reach host country from Atlanta:** Direct international flight to Madrid, local flight Madrid-Alicante; a high-speed train will be available in 2012 – 2 hours from Madrid

**How students reach host institution from airport:** Taxi, Bus

**Visa information:** Studying in Spain for over 90 days requires a visa. Students are encouraged to make an appointment with the Spanish consulate in Miami as soon as possible, as appointments fill early. It is necessary for the student to submit visa documents **in person at the Miami consulate**; these documents and information on scheduling an appointment are available on the consulate's website, <http://www.conspainmiami.org/>.

**Residence permit:** n/a

**Point of contact in International Students Office:** Pepa Vives Aragonés, R.D.

**# of staff in Visiting Students Office:**

**After hours emergency phone number:** +34-690-774-830

**Terms of study:**

fall  spring  summer  other (explain)

**Approximate dates of terms:**

Intermediate and Advanced Spanish Studies Fall Semester: early September to late November

Semi-Integrated Spanish Studies Fall Semester: early September to late December (there will be a week's overlap of the intensive month-long course and beginning of university classes)

Integrated Spanish Studies Fall Semester: early September to late December

International Business Program in English Fall Semester: early September to early December

Intermediate and Advanced Spanish Studies spring semester: early January to late March

Semi-Integrated Spanish Studies spring semester: early January to late May (there will be a week's overlap of the intensive month-long course and beginning of university classes)

Integrated Spanish Studies spring semester: early January to late May

International Business Program in English spring semester: early January to early May

Summer Term 1: early June to early July

Summer Term 2: early July 1, 2011 to end of July

### Application Process

**Application form** (online, paper, how to obtain): [www.spanishstudies.org](http://www.spanishstudies.org)

**Requirements for participation** (gpa, references): 3.0 overall GPA in Spanish, Personal and Academic Evaluation Form, Spanish Language Assessment Form

**Application fee:** Waived for all locations at present.

**Deadlines:** Alicante Spring Semester application deadline: October 15<sup>th</sup>, Summer Term 1 /1&2 application deadline: April 15<sup>th</sup>, Summer Term 2 application deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>, Fall Semester/Academic Year application deadline: May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Alicante Spring Semester final payment deadline: November 15<sup>th</sup>, Summer Term 1 /1&2 payment deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>, Summer Term 2 payment deadline: May 15<sup>th</sup>, Fall Semester/Academic Year payment deadline: July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Other:**

### **Academics**

**Credit system** (e.g. ECTS) & **US equivalent:** credits are converted to US system by CC-CS (10 Spanish = 1 US credit); classes take place at the Centro Superior de Idiomas at the University of Alicante

**Academic advising** (how do students register for classes): Pre-registration approved by Academic Director CC-CS and on-site with Resident Director Pepa Vives

Programs are integrated, semi-integrated and Spanish studies

**Course articulation:** See attached pages with suggested equivalencies between the classes taught at the Universidad de Alicante and those at Berry College. They mostly concern the Spanish major. Some similar courses taught in Sevilla (also a CCCS program) have been accepted for credit by other departments. Should the situation arise, the student should confirm with the department in question whether or not a given course would be accepted from Alicante, as well. This would also apply to the Integrated Courses, where students would be taking courses in disciplines other than Spanish at the Universidad de Alicante in conjunction with Spanish students.

Students may take music lessons (as part of their load; but if this puts them over the maximum the cost is €30), sing in the choir, join groups such as flamenco or writing, get involved in university sports and become certified in scuba.

**Are there any courses/departments study abroad students are excluded from?** No

**Do any classes require additional fees?** Yes, some *Living the Culture* courses have additional fees.

**Average course load** (# of courses & credits): 12-18 credits

**Instruction** (lecture, seminar, tutoring, online): lecture, tutoring, seminar.

**Internship opportunities:** Yes

**Form of course assessment:** Both AD and RD advise students during the application process.

**Support** ("learning center," etc.): Daily office hours with UA professors, RD continuous assistance, private tutoring if necessary.

**Resources** (library, IT): UA Libraries: Science, Law, Economic, Education, Philosophy and Letters, Geography, Technical and Nursing. Public hours: from 8:30 am to 9 pm. Upon arrival, CC-CS students get a student card that makes them full right users of every UA facility including the library. This card allows them to use any library service: reading rooms, work rooms, microform reader/printer and computing for public use, CD Rom databases, electronic journals. Home loans of books, DVD's, music...

**Should student bring a computer?** Not necessary. If they don't bring their computers, the UA has many internet labs to use freely only with CC-CS UA student card. They are open from 8:00 am to 9:00pm. If they bring their computers they will be able to use it all over the campus because it is provided with wireless system.

**Major differences in educational system:** It depends on the program the student chooses.

Intermediate and Advanced Spanish Studies: No major differences. This program has been designed according to the U.S. educational system: small class size (6-15), personalized attention throughout the program; continuous evaluation of student's academic performance; and strong encouragement to participate in class. Differences: these classes are attended by international students. This means that CC-CS students interact with students from France, Germany, China, Japan, Russia, etc. This varied cultural component gives a different atmosphere to classes. Spanish is the only language used for instruction and communication.

Integrated Spanish Studies Program with local students may have many differences in relation to their host university's system. Main differences: average size of classes: from 10-60 students. Students are supposed to be more autonomous. After the Bologna Plan, the educational system in Europe is being modeled according to the American educational system, meaning that classes should be less lecture-oriented and have more participation, mandatory assistance, partial exams with less material covered, practical seminars... RD works very close with students to choose those courses that fulfill their expectations and requirements.

**Average size of classes:** 10-15 students (Intermediate and Advanced Spanish Studies). 10-60 (Semi-Integrated and Integrated Spanish Studies)

**Transcript & grading system** (explain US equivalents, avg. length of time between end of term and issuing of transcript)

For Semi-Integrated Studies and International Business Program (UA equivalents)

SPANISH GRADE		ECTS GRADE
Matrícula de Honor (9-10)	The most outstanding performance	A
Sobresaliente (9-10)	Excellent performance	A
Notable (7-8.9)	Very good performance	B
Aprobado (5-6.9)	Average performance	C
Suspense (0-4.9)	Insufficient performance	F
No presentado	Exam not done by the student	No grade

For Intermediate and Advanced Spanish Studies (UA-CCCS equivalents)

A+: 10; A: 9-9.5; A-: 8.5-8.9; B+: 8-8.4; B: 7.5-7.9; B-: 7-7.4; C+: 6.5-6.9; C: 6-6.4; C-: 5-5.9; F: below 5 (Fail)

### **Student Support & Life**

**On-site orientation** (length, items covered): Saturday-Sunday at a centrally located hotel in Alicante. Orientation materials: Student Handbook, program activities calendar, homestay orientation, illness and emergencies procedures, safety, everyday useful information (cell phones, schedules for banks, post office..), transport in Alicante. First week at the UA: tours around UA facilities, daily RD-group meetings to follow up on academic and personal issues.

**What is the English proficiency level of the resident director?** Professional Working Proficiency

**Excursions/activities (indicate additional fees):** The program offers a varied activity calendar with no additional fees: local trips (Valencia, Orihuela, Elche...) Weekend trips (Granada, Barcelona), Cultural activities (urban itineraries, visits to museums, cultural meetings: lectures, films, one day workshop...) The UA also offers a wide range of activities for university students at a very reasonable price.

**Is there a language partner program? If so, describe:** This mandatory program has been established with the UA Language Center only for CC-CS students, and meetings take place once per week. CC-CS has developed a pre-departure on-line test to better assess students' linguistic capabilities before arrival to Alicante. Students are placed together according to their language levels, studies, hobbies, etc. The Speaking Partner Program begins with a Welcome Session where American and Spanish students are introduced in a very informal atmosphere. They are expected to meet once a week and share their time in both languages. They may meet on campus or in the city. They may have coffee, go to a museum, go to the movies, or go shopping. Spanish students are invited to CC-CS cultural activities. The program is followed up with a document that both parties have to sign every time they meet. A mid-term activity (excursion, "merienda"... ) is offered to get everyone together as well as a farewell activity.

**Health/counseling facilities:** CC-CS students have private insurance that covers every need related to health. Also the UA has an urgency service on campus for every student (including international students). The UA also has a Counseling Office to help the students with every need they may have: psychological help, special transport for handicapped students...

**Are these available in English?** Some

**Accommodation for students with disabilities:** Yes, notify CC-CS early

**Student societies:** Sports, Volunteering, Theater, Choir...

**Sport/Recreation (indicate additional fees):** UA offers many facilities for the university community. Sporting Centre: Tennis, basketball, hockey, soccer, rugby, athletics fields, handball, badminton, volleyball courts, rock climbing wall, and heated swimming pool, squash, fitness room, and a group fitness area. CC-CS students pay the same as the rest of UA students. If they practice sports on a daily basis, they are recommended to get the University Sports Card for the semester (35 Euros) that allows them to use all the facilities throughout the week and weekends.

**Drinking policy:** Drinking alcohol is not permitted in any of the CC-CS host meetings: orientation, Speaking Partner welcome-farewell meetings, homestays, and meals during CC-CS study trips.

**May students work? No If so, what restrictions are there and what is the process (special visa, work permit, etc.)?**

**Opportunities for volunteer service:** Yes

**Other:** Internships, English Tutoring for children: students will go to children's houses 1-4 hours/week and receive €8 per hour plus cost of transport; Volunteer for Cultural Activities with local schools (Halloween and Christmas in the US), Workshops (Spanish Cuisine, Spanish Dance, Theatre, Photography, Painting...), Sports (University teams, scuba diving, soccer, basketball, rugby, hockey, rowing...)

### Housing

**Application process:** As much as possible, students' housing preferences are accommodated. The process is controlled from the beginning by RD. Families are chosen according to prior evaluation. If the student wants to change families, RD will quickly investigate the situation with the UA and make a decision.

**Damage deposit:** n/a

**Options:** Only with families

**May students remain in residence hall during breaks?** n/a

**If host family, how are families selected?** UA Housing Department and CC-CS work together to provide our students the best housing options. CC-CS families are evaluated twice: during and after each program by the UA and by CC-CS RD. There is constant communication between families and RD to follow up on the student. If any incident happens they immediately contact the RD. RD informs CC-CS AD and CC-CS US office.

**If residence hall, are intl. & host country students mixed?** n/a

**Are genders mixed?** n/a

**Is there a curfew?** n/a

**Furnishings (linens, pillow, etc.):** provided by host families

**Avg. distance between institution and student housing:** 30 minutes

**How do students reach campus from housing:** bus, tram

**Atmosphere of neighborhood where students live:** They are all placed within the city center, very close to each other. These neighborhoods are very safe and inhabited by middle-class families with middle-high cultural levels.

**Financials**

**Tuition:** Students pay Berry tuition; Berry academic scholarships apply

**Room:** Fall 2011 Room and Board: \$3,480, includes full board and laundry once per week.

**Do students pay additional housing costs during orientation?** Orientation: \$375. This fee is included in billed program costs. The orientation fee includes accommodation during orientation.

**Room deposit:** n/a **Is this refundable?** n/a

**Board:** included in Room and Board fee

**Other** (lab, materials, computing fees): Fall 2011 General Education Fee: \$1,037, Study Tours: \$310, Health Insurance: \$88

**Personal expenses** (books, spending money, etc. – approximate):

2011 Fall Semester Spending Estimates: Books: \$325, Daily Newspapers: \$180, Bus Transportation: \$250, Everyday and Going Out Expenses: \$1,810, Theater/Concert Tickets: \$75, Weekend Trips On Your Own: \$1,295, Miscellaneous: \$805, Flight Expense: \$1,200. Total Estimated Spending: \$5,940

	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>
Books	\$265	\$85
Daily Newspaper	\$145	n/a
Monthly bus passes	\$200	\$75
Every-day & going out expense	\$1480	\$335
Theater/concert/evenings	\$65	n/a
Weekend trips on your own	\$1060	\$425
Miscellaneous	\$680	\$150
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3895</b>	<b>\$1070 (per term)</b>

**Scholarship opportunities:** CC-CS offers scholarship award opportunities to students attending CC-CS programs. These Merit-Based and Diversity scholarships offer awards of up to \$2,500 for a semester program, and up to \$500 for a short-term program.

**Refund policy:** CC-CS Refund Policy:

Penalties for withdrawal from the program are assessed based upon the length of time between the notice of your withdrawal and the start of the program. In any case, the \$300 deposit is always non-refundable.

Withdrawal from the program between:

- Final Payment Due Date and 30 days prior to the start of the program has a penalty of \$500
- 30 days prior to the start of the program and the day of arrival has a penalty of 25% of the room and board fee and 100% of the tuition, study tours, orientation, and general education fees.
- No refund will be issued for any portion of the program after the program start date.