Merrimack in Seville, Spain A Partnership with the University of Seville

http://interstudent.es/

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

<u>University of Seville (Universidad de Seville)</u>

Founded in 1505, today the University of Seville is one of the top-ranked universities in Spain, and it is marked as one of the most enriching centers in the country. Located in the beautiful city of Seville, the University is within the capital city of Andalusia and is close to many popular destinations in Southern Spain. While studying at the University a student will discover architectural history, research in technology and science, and artistic culture at its finest.

The study abroad program is in collaboration with InterStudent Language Programs, which is a center dedicated to teaching the Spanish culture and language to students. As described in the center's mission, all participants will have the opportunity to expand their global knowledge, better their Castellano (Spanish) language skills, understand cultural diversity, and create lasting friendships through cultural exchanges. InterStudent Language Programs pride themselves on offering personalized attention for their students, which contributes to the student's personal and cultural growth. The Programs also allow the option for students to volunteer or intern with local companies in Spain.



Application Process

- Check application deadlines. Some programs have limited spaces available. As they are reviewed on a rolling basis, make sure to apply well ahead of the application deadline. We will contact you by email within two business days upon Interstudent's receipt of your application. Late applicants may be considered on a space-available basis.
- Fill out application form
- Meet with your Study Abroad Advisor about your plans. Discuss a tentative academic program. Keep in mind that it is rare to be able to match exactly a particular course in your home university/college with its replica at the University of Seville. Near matches, courses that enhance, enrich, or complement your U.S. coursework, are widely available.

Program Dates

FALL 2013 TO SPRING 2014

Fall 2013			
Arrival	1 September		
Orientation Classes	3 September		
Welcome Session at University	20 September		
Classes	23 September to 12 December		
Midterm exams	29, 30 October		
Finals	11, 12 December		
Spring 2014			
Arrival to Seville	9 January		
Orientation Classes	10 January		
Welcome Session at University	31 January		
Classes	3 February to 8 May		
Midterm exams	12, 13 March		
Finals	7, 8 May		

ACADEMICS

- Your studies in Seville are divided into two distinct parts: an **orientation** period (1) and the **semester classes** (2).
 - Orientation a three week long program that combines classes and cultural excursions. Attendance is **mandatory** to all classes, meetings, excursions, and any other organized activities. When you arrive at Interstudent, you will have to take a placement test. Do not fret about this test and do not worry about its results. The purpose of the test is not to give you a grade, but rather to know your real level of Spanish. You will have four different classes in the morning, which cover three areas of study that are designed to facilitate the student's transition to living and studying in Seville: Advanced Grammar, Advanced Conversation, Spanish Literature and Spanish History and Culture, with a focus on Andalusia and Seville. Classes begin at 9:30a.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. Each class is 50 minutes long, with a 10-minute break between classes.
 - Semester Classes held over 12 weeks of instruction. There are three types of semester classes open to all interstudent students, all of them taught in Spanish by native instructors. The three types are: seminar, cursos concertados, and University of Seville classes. Specifics of each type are on a diagram on the next page.
- Students also have the opportunity to participate in internships, most of which can be available as a credit option. At the end of the internship, students will write a research paper that is evaluated by a sponsored-faculty member of Merrimack College, the director of the internship, and the InterStudent resident director. Internships are typically divided into four groups. They are as follows:
 - Healthcare internships in rehabilitations and dental clinics, as well as work with a surgeon and emergency room services are available.
 - Education internships with all grade levels and in the Guidance, Pediatric Psychologist's or Special Education offices are available at two centers: Los Padres Blancos Elementary School and Santa Joquina de Vedruna Elementary School.
 - Marketing Entitled "We Love Spain" interns gain experience in marketing and in public relations.
 - Journalism Interns will write opinion articles for the digital journal, Lasemana.
- Students may also apply for non-credit internships and volunteer opportunities, for which the student will receive a certificate issued by the sponsoring institution or business at the end of the semester/year.

	SEMINAR	CURSOS CONCERTADOS (International program at the University of Seville)	REGULAR CLASSES
Size	5-10	15-30	Varies greatly
Type of Students	Only Interstudent program students	Foreign students from any study-abroad program in Seville	Mostly Spanish University students, but open to international students
Location	Dos Hermanas (Seville)	University of Seville	University of Seville
Instructors	Interstudent	University of Seville	University of Seville
Advantages	 Small class size Participation is encouraged Approachability of instructors Instructors are acquainted with the U.S. college system and are used to teaching U.S. students Classes are designed specifically for the semester 	You can meet other international students The instructors are used to and enjoy teaching international students Classes are designed specifically for the semester.	You can meet Spanish students You will living the experience of taking the classes that are meant for Spanish students – this is the most authentic university experience.
Disadvantages	Only Interstudent students	Classes may be fairly large	 Classes are fairly large Faster paced Classes are not designed specifically for the semester and you may have to get permission and arrange evaluation procedures directly with your instructor
Level of Difficulty*	Medium	Medium- Hard	Hard

HOUSING

The most common housing accommodation is to stay with a host family. Families are chosen carefully by the program staff, and continuous contact is maintained with them. How this works:

- Students may live alone or with another student from the program with the same family
- The family provides three meals a day and also takes care of the laundry

Occasionally students may be able to opt for alternative housing options, though a home stay is encouraged as it is an integral part of the program in allowing the student to gain full immersion in the Spanish culture. When available, alternative options include:

- Sharing an apartment with other students. InterStudent pays for the rent and gives the students a fixed amount to pay for maintenance of the apartment. InterStudent has continuous contact with students to make sure they are comfortable in the apartment. Students must take on most responsibility in this housing accommodation, however, as they must purchase their own food and care for their own laundry. Students will receive a meal stipend from Merrimack to pay for their food.
- Living in a residence that is offered through the collaborations between InterStudent and residences in the city.

TRAVEL

Passport

- You **must** have a valid passport in order to travel abroad
- You need to renew your passport if it will **expire in less than a year**
- For first time passport applicants:
 - o http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_83o.html
- If you need to **renew** your passport:
 - o http://travel.state.gov/passport/renew/renew/833.html
- Passport photo requirements
 - Scans are not acceptable. Consulates will not accept scanned, photocopied, or pixilated photos, despite what their websites say.

Visa

- · You will need a student visa for this program
- You can find the requirements for a student visa at the following link as well as other travel FAQ
 - o http://www.seville-traveller.com/student-visa-spain.html
- You can find the student visa application at the following link:
 - http://www.maec.es/subwebs/Consulados/Chicago/en/MenuPpal/Documentaci nRequisitosparaServiciosConsulares/RequirementsEntrSpainVisas/Documents/ STUDENT%20VISAS.pdf
- Your visa will be submitted to a U.S. Embassy where you will present your application. To find the U.S. Embassy closest to you, visit the following:
 - o http://travel.state.gov/visa/embassy/embassy_4825.html

General Travel

- Students are responsible for **booking their own transportation** to and from the host country
- Major airports near Seville, Spain:
 - o The nearest major airport is San Pablo Airport (SVQ/LEZL). This airport has international and domestic flights and is 11km from the center of Seville, Spain.
 - o Another major airport is Jerez Airport (XRY/LEJR), which has domestic flights from Jerez De La Frontera, Spain and is 95km from Seville, Spain.
- For more travel information, visit: http://www.lonelyplanet.com/flights/

FINANCES

As a reminder, students will **pay tuition**, **room**, **board**, **and an insurance and study abroad fee to Merrimack College**, and students will be eligible to all financial aid.

Extra costs that are not included:

- Airfare
- Passport and visa
- Books and supplies
- Local Transportation
- Personal items
- Travel expenses while abroad

Check out the **local currency** at http://www.xe.com/currency/eur-euro

HEALTH AND SAFETY - IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Who/What	What for	Telephone
Emergency (as in 911)	any emergency	112
National Police	major crime	091
Ambulance	medical emergency	061
Fire (Bomberos)	in case of fire	080
Municipal/Local Police	minor crime; city traffic	092
Guardia Civil	accidents outside of cities	092
Police: Dept. of Extranjero	police help for foreigners	954 249 496
Red Cross (<i>Cruz Roja</i>)	humanitarian	954 351 400
Farmacia de Guardia	locate 24 hr. pharmacy/chemist	902 522 111
American Express	lost or stolen card	915 720 303
Master Card	lost or stolen card	900 971 231
Visa	lost or stolen card	900 974 445

How to call from Spain to the U.S. and vice versa:

• http://www.phonecardmall.com/call/usa from spain.html

Merrimack College Office of International Programs: (978) 837 – 5210

Merrimack College Police Department: (978) 837 – 5555

Medical Insurance

All students will be covered through HTH WORLDWIDE: http://www.hthstudents.com/

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Seville Traveller – Blog with all you need to know about traveling to Seville, Spain!

http://www.seville-traveller.com/index.html

InterStudents **Frequently Asked Questions** – Everything you need to know about the weather, the area, the program and more!

• http://interstudent.es/fag/

Important Travel Tips Regarding Cell Phones, Health Insurance and Safety

• http://interstudent.es/travel-tips/

Oh, the places you will see! **Recommended excursions!**

http://interstudent.es/free-time/

TESTIMONIALS

As quoted from the InterStudent Language Program Website:

- "The program is a lot of fun. I learned a lot about the Spanish culture and improved my Spanish skills vastly" – Student from USA
- "I loved the program! Before going, I barely knew more than five words in Spanish and now I feel comfortable trying to speak and communicate on the streets, in stores, and elsewhere! Everyone was so helpful, welcoming, and kind! I would recommend this program to anyone! I plan on coming back too!" Erin from USA
- "The best way to learn a language or culture is to be thrown in without a life jacket but the professors and family helped me stay afloat!" Anonymous
- "The program is great. I love the small size of the classes because you really get to know the professors and they get to know you. It is more one on one attention so you get to learn more at your own pace. The teachers are awesome as well! My experience has been great!" Gina from USA
- "I loved every minute!" Faye from USA