The University

The Universitat de Valencia is an old and distinguished institution, founded in 1499. It offers a broad range of courses in the humanities and sciences. It is the third largest university in Spain with 65,000 students and 4,500 faculty and administrative staff. Made up of three campuses, the Universitat de Valencia houses studies devoted to social sciences, biomedical sciences, and the humanities. The University has many overseas links and sends over 1,000 students on international exchange programs each year. It is therefore prepared to meet the demands of OU students who are abroad for the first time in Spain.

The university has three separate campuses. Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Pharmacy and Technical Engineering are on the Burjassot campus. The central Blasco Ibañez campus has Philosophy, Education, Psychology, Geography and History, Languages, Physical Education, Nursing and Physiotherapy.

The City

The city of Valencia is located on the Mediterranean coast and has a population of over 800,000. Founded in 137 BC, Valencia has a diverse historical and cultural background where the traditional and contemporary are blended together. There are many examples of Gothic, Baroque and Modern architecture as well as collections of 18th and 19th century paintings and sculpture in many museums. The warm climate makes outdoor activities such as sailing and windsurfing very popular. There are wonderful festivals such as the world famous Las Fallas in the spring. Valencia has connections by train, bus and plane to the rest of mainland Spain and Europe. Madrid and Barcelona are only 350km away. Cuisine is typically Mediterranean with “paella valenciana” well known all over the world.

Academic Calendar

Classes and exams: End of September through end of January
Second semester classes and exams: Mid-February through end of June
The first 15 days in February and the last 15 days of June are examination periods. Students may attend for one semester or one academic year but one semester stays must be for spring semester.
Am I eligible for this program?
All applicants for study abroad must have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5. Students must have completed four semesters of college-level Spanish or the equivalent. All courses are taken in Spanish with the regular Spanish university students. Students with strong Spanish skills at the time they apply will be given preference, all other factors begin equal.

What could I study?
Students from a wide variety of majors can find classes here. In the past OU has sent students with majors ranging from Spanish to environmental science to Health and Exercise Science.

It’s important to know that Valenciano, a regional language of Spain, is spoken in Valencia and the surrounding region. Although this occasionally causes minor frustrations for OU students, as long as they avoid courses taught in this dialect, they do not have problems. OU students will not be expected to learn Valenciano or function in it during their stay at this university.

What about academic credit?
Grades received on reciprocal exchange study abroad programs through the University of Oklahoma are posted by the Office of Admissions as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) on the OU permanent record. These grades are not factored into the participant’s Grade Point Average. Because each student is enrolled in 12 credits per semester while abroad, participants are expected to enroll in an equivalent number of credits at the host university. Academic systems around the world vary in what equals 12 OU credits. The decision about awarding credits is made in the Office of Admissions at OU.

Where would I live?
University of Oklahoma students usually live in shared flat with other students that they find after arrival in Valencia. While there are “residences” for university students, they are always more expensive. Students stay in hostels while searching for an apartment. The English language guide for exchange students has an extensive section on hostels, residences and “flats” or apartments. The link is at the end of this program information.

How much does it cost?
Costs at OU: All students participating on semester or academic year reciprocal exchange programs are enrolled at OU for 12 credits each semester abroad. Tuition and fees are billed through and paid directly to OU at the appropriate resident or non-resident rate. Fees are charged at the Arts and Sciences College rate, even if the
student’s major is in a different college. All participants pay a $10/credit hour study abroad fee.

The English language Guide for Exchange Students produced by the International Relations Office at the Universitat de Valencia is a good source of information about costs and daily life in Valencia.

Meals in student cafeteria: Approx. 4.50 Euros
Rent Average 200 Euros/month

How do I apply?
Instructions for applying to any semester or academic year exchange program may be found in the “how to apply” section of our website. Please note that students wanting to attend this university during a spring semester must apply one cycle early during our spring semester, meeting the February deadline for applicants. This is the Universitat de Valencia’s rule and there are no exceptions.

For more information please contact:
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