



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Master International Land and Water Management
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	30/08/2021 until 28/01/2022
Country (exchange)	Spain
City (exchange)	Córdoba
University (exchange)	Universidad de Córdoba
Faculty (exchange)	ETSIAM

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

After finishing all my master courses in the first year, I did not immediately want to start with my thesis or internship, as due to COVID this would maybe be online. Therefore, I decided to do an extra semester abroad in a country where all the education was on-campus. Besides this, I wanted to study in Spain as I wanted to improve my Spanish. This because in the future I also want to do my thesis and/or internship in a Spanish speaking country.

What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

As I said before, I wanted to study in Spain to improve my Spanish. I also looked at other universities in Spain, but I found the courses in Córdoba most interesting for my study.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

I really wanted to go by train to Córdoba, for environmental reasons. However, I only knew I could go to Córdoba two weeks before leaving (as Spain first still had the orange travel code). Therefore, I looked at options to go by train, but this would take me a few days in total. And with not that much time to plan the whole travel, I decided to go by plane.

4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
1	Riegos y electrificación de explotaciones agropecuarias	6	About the different types of irrigation and the technical part of irrigation (similar to the course Water Delivery in Wageningen)	4	
2	Energías Renovables	4,5	About the different types of renewable energy, also the technical parts of the energies	4	
3	La dehesa y otros sistemas agrosilvopastorales	4,5	About agroforestry systems and systems that combine crops with cattle	4	
4	Desarrollo rural	4,5	About rural development	3	
5					
6					

How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

In Córdoba the courses are divided over two semesters, so you have like 4 or 5 courses at the same time and then in January you have all the exams. The academic level for me was maybe a little bit lower than in Wageningen, but still the level was quite high and also the workload was quite the same as in Wageningen.

What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)

In my opinion the lecturers and local students are very approachable. Of course if you do not speak Spanish maybe it is a bit more complicated, but if you speak Spanish, the students and teachers are super interested in getting to know you.

What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)

At the ETSIAM faculty, everything is being offered to the students. The campus offers cafeterias, sport facilities, swimming pool, train/bus station, etc.

5.Housing-travelling-living

What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)

I found my house via a friend of mine who also studied in Córdoba, so I cannot tell a lot about the other availabilities to sign up for a room.

What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)

The Spanish culture is of course a bit different than the Dutch culture. The cuisine is way different and the hours for eating are later. Besides this, the Spanish people (especially in the south) take their 'siesta' really serious!

Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?

In Córdoba: 200 – 300 eu per month

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)

In general, the public transport prices are lower than in the Netherlands. Taxis are quite cheap and also the bus and train are not expensive.

6. Free time

What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)

In Andalucía, there is a lot to see as it is a really pretty region. Other cities that could be visited are for example Sevilla, Granada and Ronda. However, besides the big cities, also the small towns around Córdoba are really nice to visit.

What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?

The small towns near Córdoba

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)

There are enough nice restaurants or places to go out!

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

I did not really experience any challenge to be honest. I really enjoyed my time in Córdoba. For some people a challenge could be the language, as it is not very common to speak English. However, if you already have a basis in Spanish I think it will not be a problem. And otherwise I think your Spanish will improve a lot while studying there!

What was your best memory abroad?

I cannot pick only one best memory, but I am just really happy and grateful to have met so many nice people. And I am especially really happy for the Spanish friends I made as they really helped me during my time in Córdoba and they taught me a lot about the Spanish culture. So a recommendation would be to integrate with the local people!

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail	Maaïke.vandeloo@wur.nl	