



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Bachelor Health and Society
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	08/02/2022 until 02/07/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Spain
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Almeria
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Universidad de Almeria
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	Economicas y Empresiales

## 2. Motivation for exchange

**Why did you choose to go on study exchange?**

I wanted to have a new experience in my life. Plus, I always wanted to study abroad since I started at the WUR. They presented it in such a nice way that I just had to do it.

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

They had some courses (like managerial and economic courses) that the WUR did not have. These courses will aid me in securing a job in the future since I want to become a health care manager in the future. Furthermore, this university was stationed next to the sea. I always dreamt of living next to the sea in a period of my life. Hence this was a good opportunity for me to do so. Lastly Spain is where my roots lay, since I am fully Spanish but born in the Netherlands. I just had to go to where my roots lay.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went by train and made quite a cool trip. I stopped in Paris and Barcelona for a few days, and it really enhanced my experience of going abroad. Although the train connections are not that good (especially in Spain) and going by train can be quite expensive, I don't regret the decision that I made. You could also go by plane to Almeria, but I think going by train is just the better option.

## 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
<b>1</b>	Organization Design	6	Explains what organization consist of how they react to the environment	4	A teacher with a lot of enthusiasm and really wants you to learn something. Although his English is a bit lacking.
<b>2</b>	Project Management	6	Shows you the role of a project manager and explains how projects are based	4	Interesting subject taught by an amazing teacher. The way the course is build-up could be better
<b>3</b>	Strategic Management II	6	In depth analysis on what strategies are and what managers do	3	The subject is fairly easy. You have a high work-load, and the teachers are a bit lazy.
<b>4</b>	Business Organization	6	What is a business and what does is do	4	Great course, has some overlap with Strategic Management II. Taught by the same teacher as Project Management. She really wants you to learn something
<b>5</b>	Enterprise creation	6	How to create a business the legal way	1	Very poor course. They did everything online (which were recordings from the past year), bad communication and no interest from the teachers. If you want free ECTS, follow this course....

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

**I my case, I had only classes with some workgroups. In most courses you had a group and divide the work. In addition to the group work you had individual cases that had to be solved. This was called the continuous evaluation. Which meant that the exam was only 30% of the entire grade. If you are able to attend all classes and finish all the work in time, this option is amazing. You are constantly working with the materials provided by the course, hence your preparation for the exam is optimal. The workload is quite a lot, but if you are able to divide the work accordingly it is not much work.**

**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?)**

**You are mostly stuck in you Erasmus bubble to be fair. I spoke Spanish so I could easily interact with other students and staff. If you speak Spanish everything is just more approachable since they don't talk English that well in this part of Spain. Most students talk English, but their level is fairly low. With some luck you can talk about the weather with them.**

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

The facilities are quite basic. You have a lot of canteens and vending machines where you can get your food. There is also a bar where you can go for a drink after courses and play some pool, which is nice. The university also has a gym which is quite affordable (30 euros for half a year). Furthermore, you can rent spaces relatively cheap when you have the gym subreption. You could rent places like a futsal pitch and tennis court.

## **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 appartement through Idealista.es. Finding housing for me was a bit different than for other students since I wanted to live with my girlfriend here. Other students found a place through Facebook posts, Civitas building complex (similar to the star flats in Wageningen) or through some help from the university. Prices vary from 200 to 600 a month. It really depends on what you are renting and where. The Zapillo area is where most students reside and is quite affordable and easy to find a place since it is designed for Erasmus students. The centre is a bit more expensive. Civitas can be verry expensive and I would advise to use this option as your last resort when you really cant find anything.**

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

**Spanish people different from the Dutch. They tend to be louder and lazier but are very charismatic. If you speak the language the Spanish culture will be more open for you, and you can experience it better. Spanish shops and some restaurants close here at 14:00 and open again around 19:00. Furthermore, everything is closed on Sunday (restaurants are the exception). The food is not expensive, and you could get a full meal around 6-8 euros.**

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

**The Netherlands is more expensive than Spain. An average student living with other students has a monthly cost of 300-500 euros. Which can be comparable with Wageningen. It just depends on how you spend your money.**

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

**Students are able to get a bus card from around 26 euros per month. The university is quite far from the city. You could also buy a bike for 20-50 euros. There is a good cycling road from the city to the university. From the centre to the university will take you about 25-30 minutes by bike, if you are really fast you could do it in under the 20 minutes (you would probably be soaked by sweat due to the heat here 😊)**

## **6. Free time**

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

**Cabo de Gata, Granada, Sevilla and la Sierra Nevada. Go by train, bus or find some friends to rent a car. These are the must see from Andalucia.**

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

**I haven't read the travel guide, so I really don't know.**

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

**As a vegan, I didn't really go to the restaurants since they don't provide enough vegan options for me to enjoy eating there. My friends told me that going for tapas is worth your while. They are cheap and tasty. If you want to go out, you can go to THE Erasmus places: Nacional and La Clasica. If you want to party a lot and have someone to go out with, just join ESN. They will enhance your experience and create some amazing memories for you.**

## **7.Challenges & best moment abroad**

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

**The schedule for when to start was not available at the beginning. After that there were no troubles for me.**

**What was your best memory abroad?**

**Meeting some amazing people. Going abroad can be tensive and exiting. The people you meet here have the same. So, you easily bond with some amazing people when you are going abroad. My best memory is just spending time with them and enjoying the experience wit them.**

### **8. Contact details (optional)**

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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