



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Bachelor International Land and Water Management
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	01.09.2022 until 31.01.2023
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Spain
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Córdoba
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Universidad de Córdoba (UCO)
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	ETSIAM

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I wanted to learn courses that were really focused on the production on farm level, which I could not find in WUR. Besides, I wanted to get to know another country, its landscapes, its traditions, and people.

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

I wanted to go to Spain, as it is within Europe the most similar country to my home country (Argentina). I did not want to add another challenge to the exchange (my mother language). Within Spain, the best Agricultural University is UCO nowadays.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went by bus as it is cheaper, you can bring all the luggages you want (1 more suitcase=5 euros), you can see the landscape on the way there, you meet people, you have time to process that you are actually moving and it is more environmental friendly than flying. It was 36hs though...

## 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	Plant Anatomy and Physiology	6	basic understanding of plants and their production	4	Hard if you have no previous knowledge, but very good overview and general knowledge of plants. Worth it!

<b>2</b>	<i>Engineering and Technology of Livestock Production</i>	6	basic understanding of animals -cows, sheep, goats horses and chicken- and their production	5	Easy. Very general overview of animals and their production process. You know how to manage animal production after this.
<b>3</b>	<i>Environmental Science and Technology</i>	6	understanding of the components and functioning of the environment, the importance at natural and social level, tools to quantify its value and degradation and tools for remediation, subproducts from industry, ecology	3	Impacts of projects very good, practical. Subproducts very focused on Spain, not proactical, not useful, but very easy. Ecology quite hard but nice overview. If you did ecology in WUR it is easier but still many new things.
<b>4</b>	<i>Technology of Information, Communication and Decission Taking Support for Animal- and Crop Production</i>	6	theoretical understanding of concepts like digitalization, microchips, big data, etc. and its importance in agriculture. Practical focus on precision Livestock farming by programming algorithms with “R” that analyse data of accelerometers of sensors that are/were on the animals to detect or predict different aspects of the animals and their production – e.g., mare in labour	5	Very nice course. General knowledge about digitalization and many practicals. Best teacher ever, helps with every small step (no need to be scared for the programming on R).
<b>5</b>	<i>Innovation in Agriculture and Livestock Systems</i>	6	overview of the development of agriculture in the past years, possible changes in the future, models of innovation, institutions that drive innovation at international/national/regional/local level, analyse practical cases of chosen topics	4	Very general course. Unnecessary theory, nice practicals. Coming from Wageningen (relatively innovative) you learn nothing new in this course. But it is interesting to see how topics we have been talking about for a long time in WUR are “new” in other universities, and agricultural engineers students are not really interested in them (in my experience).
<b>6</b>					

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

Many presentations, you study form that and go to the lectures and make your notes. That is all. Many courses have a theoretical exam and practicals or presentations. Coming from Wageningen the workload is quite relaxed. The examination is the following: if you do ALL that is asked for exactly as it is asked for, you get a 10. So if you do less than required you might as well pass. In general, it is easier to pass 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?)**

See answer above. People in Cordoba are of quite conservative traditions. Almost no one talks or likes to talk English. It is all very nicely organised for ERASMUS but almost no interaction with local students. They stick to their social norms (which are quite conservative in Cordoba for agricultural engineer students) so it is hard to enter that circle. But everyone is very nice. I recommend going to lectures and talk to people!

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

Sports, but it is quite expensive and the agricultural faculty has to be reached by train. There are not always trains available, so it is a bit uncomfortable to go to university to do sports.

## 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?)**

Very easy to arrange. Google Interasmundo, Idealista, Erasmus Family Cordoba, ESN.

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

People are very relaxed. They have one breakfast at home and then another one at around 10. They have long lunch. Workload is quite little. They enjoy a lot going out for a beer or tapas. It is very nice for a change with Wageningen. You can get good grades with studying quite little and enjoying a lot.

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

My rent costed 225, and then add 30 euros more for services (more or less). You spend more money as you go out a lot, but in general food and drinks are very cheap.

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

You have to reach the agricultural faculty by train. From the CENTRAL TRAIN STATION OF CORDOBA you take the train to "Rabanales" which is the stop of the

**university. In this semester travelling costed 10 euros for the entire semester (special discount for students).**

## 6. Free time

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

Travel to Malaga, Sevilla, Granada, Cadiz, walk in nature in Cordoba to the Ermitas, in the Sierras de Cordoba. Spent your evenings in the juderia and admiring the Mezquita at night from the Puente Romano.

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

See answer above. Do many free walking tours as soon as you arrive. Cordoba's history is amazing.

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

Join Erasmus family (kind of an association) so you have many free events, activities, cheap travels, and parties.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

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

The start of the courses where I was supposed to have previous knowledge but I did not.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

All the nights having a drink and walking through the magic historic city center of Cordoba, laughing with my friends. Also the visit to fincas of some friends.

## 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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