



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Study programme WUR</b>	International Land and Water Management
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	05/09/2023 until 12/01/2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Córdoba
<b>Faculty</b>	ETSIAM
<b>Country</b>	Spain
<b>City</b>	Córdoba

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I wanted to challenge myself by going out of my comfort zone to a new country with a different culture and different language.

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

I chose Spain and Córdoba because the university had some courses that are closely related to my studies. Also because I had never been to Spain and I wanted to learn Spanish (a bit).

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

Córdoba doesn't have an airport so you need to fly to Málaga as the cheapest 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
1	Soil Science	4.5	A bit of everything about soil, soil characteristics physical and chemical	3	The lectures are quite info-dense but you learn a lot
2	Hydrology and erosion	6	It's in the name	4	Kind teachers, no exam just exercises
3	TIC	6	Basically programming	5	Very fun sort of follow a long with the teacher to learn programming basics

4	NIRS Sensors	4.5	Near Infrared Spectrometry	1	Not my expertise. Course was indicated to be English but when I arrived it was in Spanish so it was basically impossible to follow
5	Forest Hydrology	4	Optional course. You can give your own input on the contents	5	I had two teachers and was the only student they had
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#### **What is it like to study there?**

*E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material.*

Studying is similar to Wageningen, but you need to figure out things more by yourself. There is not a lot of info on their platforms for international students.

#### **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?*

I expected more interaction with students, but there was a distance with Spanish students as only the international students (which were not many) follow the English courses. Also still the people our age are not very comfortable talking in English. There is however a big international student association that is very active and also organizes travels to bigger cities and Morocco for example. The teachers were very approachable and they really like that you come to their Uni.

#### **What does the university offer students additionally?**

*E.g. catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?*

There are much more cafeterias than in Wageningen. A lot of people buy lunch there, it is quite cheap. There are sports facilities but there are no weekly training except for swimming I believe.

## **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?*

The best area with the most students is ciudad Jardin. You can find many rooms on Idealista.com.

#### **What is the culture of the country like?**

*E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?*

People are less rushed compared to the Netherlands and you find difference foods in the supermarket but the difference is not that big.

#### **Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?**

*E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?*  
Public transport is cheap but unreliable.

## 6. Expenses

### **Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?**

*E.g. you can also indicate price differences (higher/lower/equal) in comparison to the Netherlands.*

Ticket there: 200

Visa if applicable: -

Vaccinations if applicable: -

Insurances (extra, if applicable): 190

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: lower

Groceries: lower

Public transport: higher (if you consider the Netherlands 0 euros for students)

Restaurant/going out for dinner: lower

Daytrips/sight-seeing: lower

### **Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

## 7. Free time

### **What are must-sees in the area?**

*E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?*

People didn't really explore Córdoba that much. It is more interesting to go to all the big cities that are 'close' by. Sevilla, Málaga, Madrid, Cadiz, Gibraltar. Also you have the Sierra Nevada and more close by also nice mountain ranges.

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

You can take a short bus up to Parque los Villares for a nice walk in nature with a nice view over Córdoba, it is very quite. Also if you like running/cycling going to the south of Córdoba is nice, typical Spanish stretched out land filled with olive trees

### **Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?**

*E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?*

Everything you need is there. The clubs are all playing Spanish music which you have to like. Restaurants open only after 20.00.

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

### **What challenges did you encounter and how did you overcome them?**

I didn't know the language, I overcame that by just trying and not shying away from conversation. I went to a running club, to activities at the uni.

### **What is your best memory of your time abroad?**

When I went to Gibraltar with the Erasmus association and met some nice people.

### 9. Contact details (optional)

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