



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student information

Study programme WU	BFT
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	25-01-2024 until 31-05-2024
Exchange destination: University	Universidad Publica de Navarra
Faculty	International Business, Economics and Law
Country	Spain
City	Pamplona

2. Motivation for exchange

a. Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

For new experiences, meet new people from different countries and cultures, to live alone in a foreign country.

b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

The weather, the prices, the travel possibilities and things to do outside of university life

c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

The income of international students yearly, amount of courses offered in English, the city

3. Accessibility to reach destination

a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

Fly to a bigger airport like Bilbao and take the bus to Pamplona, would not advice to take a plane to Pamplona cause you have to transfer in Madrid

4. University and studying

a. 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	Business Economic History	6	Insights to the world history from an economic and business point of view	4	Good course, well structured, English of teacher was very good

2	Marketing Management 1	6	Basic of marketing and management	1	Very poorly structured course, expectations of students were never clear, teacher did not give a lot of information. Grading system not clear and random at times.
3	Public International Law and International Relations	6	Insights in law and relations in the world and Europe	4	Very informative course, higher workload cause the amount to study is very high. But well organised
4	International Marketing	6	Deeper insights into marketing and strategies that business can use to go abroad.	3	Lots of groupwork that was not very well organised. Unable to compensate for bad marks that were due to lack of cooperation of group.
5	Environmental and food process modelling with MATLAB	3	Modelling course	3	Way too difficult to do online, without proper background knowledge
6	Effects of the Agrarian Activity in the Environment	3	Examples and information about the effect of agriculture on nature and environments	3	Very well structured and informative, but too much work for only 3 ECTS

b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain):

Yes, there were enough course but the English level was not very high overall. Some course seemed to be offered in English but were not really doable unless you also spoke Spanish. Some exams had questions that were translated very poorly or still contained Spanish sentences.

c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain):

No, for my field of interest the choice were very slim, as they were only available in Spanish. I resorted to choosing courses outside my field of interest

d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):

No, I do not think the courses were very well structured and the small assignments and group assignments were given too much of importance. The quality of the courses was diverse, some were bad.

e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):

Yes, I think I choose the best courses available for me. I tried some other courses in the beginning, but they were either not structured enough or the English was too bad. So these courses were my best options.

f. What is it like to study there?

E.g. Study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material?

The grading system relies a lot more on continuous evaluation throughout the semester. You have to attend every single class, even if nothing is discussed or done. You can get random assignments during class that will count for your grade, but it not always clear how they are graded or for how much they will weight. Feedback is rarely given, not even if you ask for it. Groupwork is important but working together with Spanish students is often difficult, as they are often unwilling to speak in English. A lot of lesson seem useless, and the overall quality is lower than in Wageningen.

g. What is the culture of the university?

E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with WU?

There is not really space for individuality or as much freedom compared to WUR. You are required to go to your lessons, lessons are usually quite standard with just a lecture or small assignment. You listen as the student, there is not a lot of interactions. Rooms are locked for students, only teacher can open them. Lecturers are approachable. But the overall structure compared more to high school than Dutch university. There are almost no places to study or hang out at the campus.

h. What does the university offer students additionally?

E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?

There are two restaurants on campus with very affordable food and drinks. There is a university sports centre.

5. Housing-traveling-living

a. What are the possibilities for housing?

E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?

Lot of housing available, through Facebook, the university residences, Unicasa, Idealista. Prices are fair and usually everything is organised well. Communication is often less good, as their English is very bad.

b. What is the culture like?

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

Everything end a lot later. It is normal to have class till 21 o'clock at the university. Dinner starts at 22, and people go out at 2 at night. Cuisine is simple and focussed on meat, not great for vegetarians. People are more outgoing, but do not speak English at all, some speaking Spanish is necessary. A lot more life outside homes.

c. Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?

I walked to the university and the city. But there is a very good bus network, you have to buy a bus card ones for 2 euros and each ride with the bus will cost you 30 cents.

6. Expenses

a. Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	250
Visa - if applicable	-
Vaccinations - if applicable	-
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	-
Daytrips/sight-seeing	
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	400
Grocery costs per month	200
Public transport costs per month	20
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	100

b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands:

Lower than in the Netherlands

c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?

7. Free time

a. What are must-sees in the area?

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

Bilbao, Bardenas Reales, Logrono, San Sebastian. Best way to travel is by bus

b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?

Vitoria or Zaragoza

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

a. Any challenges? How did you deal with them?

Communicating in Spanish, I took on a Spanish course.

b. Best memory?

Trips to Barcelona and Sevilla

9. Contact details

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