

CIEE Seville, Spain

IAP Academic Notes

Please refer to your IAP Study Abroad Handbook for a complete list of UW policies. These academic notes supply additional information specific to your program.

Academic Program

The CIEE Seville program is CIEE's largest study center in Spain welcoming American university students from across the United States. CIEE Seville offers over seven programs of study. The two programs offered through IAP are the Liberal Arts Program and the Advanced Liberal Arts Program.

Students participating on the CIEE **Liberal Arts Program (LA)** may enroll in CIEE Study Center courses (for CIEE participants only), courses offered by the Universidad de Sevilla Cursos Para Extranjeros (offered to all foreign students), and Universidad de Sevilla and Universidad de Pablo de Olavide courses for Spanish students.

Students participating on the CIEE **Advanced Liberal Arts Program (ALA)** may enroll in CIEE Study Center courses, and courses offered by the Universidad de Sevilla and Universidad de Pablo de Olavide.

Students who take Universidad de Sevilla or Universidad Pablo de Olavide courses should note that their semester will go longer, until late January (fall semester) and late June (spring semester) as this is the Spanish university calendar. In some cases, professors may be willing to administer the final exam earlier than the officially scheduled date, but CIEE cannot be responsible for arranging or guaranteeing early exams. See your CIEE acceptance information for additional information.

The CIEE semester is divided into two sessions: the Intensive Session and the Regular University Session. During the 2-week Intensive Session you will take one 3-credit CIEE class based on the results of your on-line language placement test you take prior to the start of the program. The Regular University Session begins immediately following the Intensive Session, during which time you will take a minimum of 4 courses. For ALA program participants, 3 of the 4 courses must be taken at the Universidad de Sevilla or Universidad Pablo de Olavide.

Teaching methods and style will be different from what you are used to at UW-Madison. There tends to be less classroom discussion and an expectation on the part of the professors that you will do a great deal of independent reading in order to learn as much as possible about the subject at hand. This is typical of most European universities. Relationships between students and teachers are more formal.

Registration

IAP will register you for a special "Study Abroad Course" for the term(s) you will be studying abroad; therefore, it is not necessary for you to register on the UW-Madison campus. This is a temporary registration, which will be converted into graded UW-Madison credit after the completion of your program.

You will pre-select your program courses upon acceptance into the program through CIEE's online materials. For ALA program participants, you may not be able to select courses, but rather departments as university course schedules may not be set until you are in Seville. Once on site, CIEE resident staff hold meetings for final course selection.

Equivalents and Course Equivalent Request (CER)

Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison "equivalent" and the grade you receive in the course also transfers back to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Request (CER) through your My Study Abroad account. The deadline to submit the CER is by the end of the fourth week of classes (not including pre-session terms). Detailed information on the UW course equivalent process that you will use through your My Study Abroad account is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

Spanish Equivalents

In consultation with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, IAP has established the following guidelines for assigning course equivalents:

Spanish 223 and 224: You should make an effort to take at least one of these classes on the UW-Madison campus before studying abroad if at all possible since they provide good background. In addition, these survey level courses are difficult to find abroad. If you decide to take a survey-type course abroad, you should find out what the department teaches in the particular class and look for as close a match as possible. You should check with the Spanish Department before taking the class. If you decide to take these courses when you return to UW-Madison, you may receive credit for a more advanced literature class (e.g., Spanish 326) and then return to take Spanish 224. Students who take this route still find the survey-level classes interesting.

Limits and Load

You are expected to enroll in a full-time academic program. The typical course on this program is worth 3 UW-Madison credits. You are required to take a minimum of 15 credits and a maximum of 18 credits each semester. The typical course on this program is worth 3 UW-Madison credits.

Credits

IAP has a 1:1 credit conversion scale for translating credits from the CIEE Seville, Spain program to UW-Madison (i.e. a 3-credit CIEE course is equivalent to a 3-credit UW-Madison course).

Grades and Grade Conversions

The grading procedures used by Spanish university faculty are different than those of many US universities. There is no grade inflation and a "C" is considered an acceptable grade in Spanish university culture. Be prepared to work hard if you want an "A" or "B." High grades are reserved for students who complete superior work in which they expand upon themes discussed in class and incorporate outside readings into exams and papers.

Make sure you understand the basis on which the professor will be assessing your work. Practices vary from country to country. Often a single final paper or examination will be the most important (or only) opportunity to demonstrate what you have learned in the course. It is highly recommended that you discuss your final grade with your professor prior to leaving the program.

The grading conversion scale for CIEE-administered courses to UW-Madison is the following:

CIEE Spain and Host Institution Courses for International Students Grades	CIEE Grade	UW-Madison Grade Equivalent
9.00 – 10.00	A	A
8.75 – 8.99	A -	AB
8.25 – 8.74	B+	AB
7.50 – 8.24	B	B
7.00 – 7.49	B -	BC
6.00 – 6.99	C+	BC
5.00 – 5.99	C	C
4.00 – 4.99	D	D

CIEE Spain and Host Institution Courses for International Students Grades	CIEE Grade	UW-Madison Grade Equivalent
0.00 – 3.99	F	F

The grading conversion scale for host institution direct enrollment classes to UW-Madison is the following:

Host Institution Direct Enrollment Courses Grades	CIEE Grade	UW-Madison Grade Equivalent
9.00 – 10.00	A	A
8.00 – 8.99	A -	AB
7.00 – 7.99	B+	AB
6.00 – 6.99	B	B
5.50 – 5.99	B -	BC
5.00 – 5.49	C	C
4.00 – 4.99	D	D
0.00 – 3.99	F	F

Spanish Major Notes

Specific questions concerning Spanish credit and equivalents, and requests for assistance with the Spanish Major Advising Worksheet should be directed to the appropriate [faculty study abroad liaison](#) in the Spanish Department.

UW-Madison students majoring in Spanish should keep the following information in mind:

- 1) You must take at least 15 credits of the upper level work in the Spanish major “in residence” (that means, here on campus or in programs sponsored by UW-Madison). All Spanish courses numbered 300 or above count toward this requirement.
- 2) You must take at least 6 major-level credits of Spanish at the 300 level or above while physically present at UW-Madison.

If you would like more information or clarification on the Spanish major, contact Karen Thompson, Undergraduate Spanish Advisor (klthompson3@wisc.edu).