

[ESPAGNE] – [Universitat de les Illes Balears]

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¹ To update the agenda just click right on your moose



I. Your overall feeling after your semester abroad

Ce fut une expérience très enrichissante, Majorque est une très belle île. Concernant les cours, ils sont très intéressants mais il faut être préparé à la charge de travail.

GRADE : 4

=> 0 (I do not recommend this semester abroad to my best friend) – 5 (I totally recommend this semester to my best friend)

II. Before the travel

A. Preparation

1. Visa

Il n'y a pas besoin de Visa car l'Espagne est dans l'Union Européenne.

2. The flight

J'ai pris à l'aller Air Europa de Paris Orly à Palma, et au retour Transavia. Le vol dure environ 1h30 et coûte moins de 100 euros si on le prend en avance.

3. My luggage

Il ne fait pas très chaud en février à Palma donc il faut quand même emmener un manteau et des pulls. A chaque fois j'avais un bagage en soute de 23 ou 25 kilos + une valise cabine de 8 ou 10 kg et un sac à dos.

4. Bank account

Il est possible de garder sa banque et sa carte bancaire de France sans aucun frais supplémentaire.

5. Insurance

Il n'y a pas besoin d'assurance en particulier.

B. Housing

1. Where to live



Il est préférable de loger dans le centre ou à Santa Catalina car il y a peu de bus qui circulent le soir et en général hors de la ville.

Le centre-ville est très animé l'été mais assez calme de février à mai.

2. Find a flat or a room

Pour trouver un logement nous avons mis une annonce sur le site de l'université. Dessus, on peut soit mettre une annonce soit répondre à des annonces de personnes qui cherchent des locataires/colocataires. Il est assez difficile de loger à Palma car il y a beaucoup d'étudiants. La plupart privilégient les colocations.

3. Cost

Il faut payer minimum 400€ pour trouver un logement ou une chambre en colocation.

III. When I arrive at the university

A. Inscription at the university

L'inscription s'est faite sur internet, en relation avec les relations internationales. Ensuite, une fois arrivé en Espagne, il faut finaliser l'inscription et s'inscrire à chaque cours (attention les places sont limitées il faudra parfois changer son Learning agreement).

B. Information on the university

1. Class

Chaque cours vaut 6 crédits, et ceux-ci sont les cours que j'avais choisis ou ceux dans lesquels ils restaient de la place en accord avec mes études.

- Design of Organisations :

« One of the main challenges of entrepreneurs, managers, and any other agents running a firm is to establish the rules and coordination mechanisms that make the decision-making process more efficient. Most of these rules and mechanisms are embedded in the organization design. Therefore, building the organizational architecture that better supports the organizations' strategy is a key aspect of the managerial function. The Design of Organizations course is aimed to provide the students with the knowledge, tools, and abilities to develop the competences necessary to make such decisions. In order to develop the full potential of students, the course combines theoretical concepts derived from Economics and Organization Theory, and seminars and applied methodologies to analyze particular case studies and stylized situations equivalent to the real-world problems. The final goal of the course is that students could easily frame and define the particular situations and that provide the better-suited answer.»

- Economic Data Analysis :

“The subject "Analysis of economic data" is a subject of basic formation. The subject includes a total of eight chapters, divided in three parts. First, an introduction of two chapters will locate the student and it will give basic knowledge to be able to confront the rest of the subject. The second part, consisting of four chapters, is focused on learning the statistical instruments that will allow to make a description of the economic data and to obtain the first conclusions. In the third part, which develops over two chapters, the basics of probability theory and sampling will be explained. A probability theory provides a rational framework to make inferences and test hypotheses based on uncertain evidence. Sampling refers to the method of selecting a subset of individuals from a population to estimate the characteristics of the entire population.

Analysis of economic data is a course of basic character in a block of quantitative economic methods. This block gives an wide knowledge on empirical analysis. The student not only learns reading, understanding and to interpret empirical studies, but also to make empirical studies of suitable form.”

- Economics of Tourism : l'examen final est un exposé et un dossier à rendre

« The course Economy of Tourism is presented as a introductory course to tourism and economic analysis applied to the tourism sector. Hence, starting from theeconomic theory (microeconomics and macroeconomics), but also from quantitative methods, this course intends to adapt and deepen into the questions that characterize the tourism sector and can be studied from an analytical point of view.»

- Corporate Investment and Financing Decisions : de la finance

“To run a company there must be investors that provide enough capital to start the necessary investments. These investments give shape to what is the company itself. Is not the same to invest in hotels than car industry, in the first case would constitute a tourism company and the second an industrial one, both completely different. Each of these possibilities will have some advantages and some disadvantages. This from the financial point of view; will be translated into expectations of

increased income and risk investment. One of the first and most basic financial decisions to be taken by the company is to decide the best alternative, and there are a number of techniques that will be studied in this course and can help to decide. The basic premise is that companies are not isolated in the world, financially speaking. Investors, rather than investing in the company can always invest in financial markets. The return that investors can get in financial markets under similar conditions of risk it is the opportunity cost of investments. Therefore, the alternative investment selection techniques always try to identify options that offer a higher return than this opportunity cost. To understand what this opportunity cost means, the functioning of financial markets need to be understood. Specifically how risk is remunerated, for this reason, this subject is placed after the subject of Financial Economics seen in the first semester. In addition, companies may seek funding from two very different type of investors, owners (shareholders in companies) and lenders (banks or investors who buy debt issued by the company traded on financial markets, etc...). The combination of funds from owners and lenders funds affects the investment-generating resources. For example, interest paid on debt reduces the profitability of the company, thereby reducing the taxes paid. The investment selection Techniques also take into account the effect of debt on resources generated by investments.

Debt is a source of primary funding in the company, accelerates the growth of the business but also provides financial risk. That is why in this subject we will study the main sources of debt financing.

Definitely, this subject includes what is known as Corporate Finance, seeking investment decisions (which projects to undertake), financing decisions (from where we obtain resources to finance investment), and short-term financial management (daily cash forecasting, etc.). From all this, we will focus on investment decisions by considering the effects of how to finance the company, see a description and analysis of the different sources of corporate funding, and as introduction to corporate finance we will see how we can analyze accounting data to make financial decisions. To understand the financial situation of a company, information to analyze for the viability of a project, etc... Other key aspects of Corporate Finance that will not be on this subject will be discussed in two later subjects: Business Risk Management and Financial Management.

For the evaluation we have a path A (the normal path), and a path B that will apply to students who repeat the subject, but only if they obtain permission from the teacher first. Once a student has been introduced to path B there will be no change. The allocation to path B should be done within the first three weeks of the course. All students evaluated by a panel of professors will follow Itinerary B”

- Legal Protection of Tourists : mon cours préféré

“Understanding tourism legal framework

Mesures to protect consumers in several contracts

Mass Contracting Issues

Claims and Compensations

Business protocols against claims and legal problems”

2. Organization of the Class

Il y a en tout à peu près 15h de cours, mais il y a du travail personnel à fournir qui n'est pas négligeable.

3. List of courses and recommendation

- Design of Organisations : je recommande
- Economic Data Analysis : je recommande
- Economics of Tourism : je recommande
- Corporate Investment and Financing Decisions : le cours est très très dense et assez difficile à suivre.

- Legal Protection of Tourists : je recommande

4. Exam

- Design of Organisations : 35% de la note sur le premier exam, il faut avoir minimum 3/10. 50% de la note sur l'examen final il faut aussi avoir minimum 3. 15% de la note sur les deux exposés.
- Economic Data Analysis : 50% de la note sur l'examen final. 15% * 2 sur les deux petits examens durant le semestre et 20% de la note sur l'exposé final.
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- Economics of Tourism :
 - Attendance and participation: 10%
 - Group work sessions: 15%
 - Group work: 35%
 - Presentation of the group work: 20%
 - Comments to other group works: 20%
- Corporate Investment and Financing Decisions : 50% examen final et il faut avoir minimum 4/10, 25% examen partiel, 15% travail de groupe et 10% présence en classe
- Legal Protection of Tourists : 60% examen final, 30% examen partiel, 10% présence

Il ne faut pas négliger la quantité de travail dans ces matières car la plupart de l'apprentissage se fait en dehors des heures de cours.

Si la note minimum n'est pas atteinte il faut aller aux rattrapages qui sont généralement fin juin/début juillet.

IV. When I live there

A. Safety

Pour ma part je n'ai jamais eu de problème, il faut juste faire attention aux pickpockets qui arrivent en même temps que les touristes.

B. Phone and Internet

J'ai gardé le même forfait qu'en France.

C. Events

Il y a toujours des activités ou des soirées organisées sur l'île, soit par l'ESN, soit par d'autres associations extérieures (cours de danse, boat party, visites..)

D. Sports

Pour 25€ par mois à l'université on peut accéder à des cours de sports collectifs, la salle de sport ou encore la piscine en illimité.

E. Eating

Les Espagnols mangent à peu près les mêmes choses que nous, juste plus tard. Il n'y a pas de R.U mais des cafétarias sur le campus ou des micro-ondes.

F. Go to the university : bus, car, bike

L'université est assez excentrée de la ville, il faut donc soit prendre le bus ou le métro (il est important de faire sa carte de transport dès son arrivée car sinon chaque trajet coûte encore 2 et 4 euros) mais il est en tout cas impossible d'y aller à pied à moins d'habiter sur le campus ce que je ne recommande pas.

G. Travels

Les vols à l'intérieur de l'Espagne sont très abordables (20 euros aller-retour si on s'y prend à l'avance)

V. After your semester abroad

A. What are you planning do to?

Je pars en master à Chambéry.

B. Did you apply for master?

International Business and Tourism Management