



program snapshot

- Take content courses in Spanish art, film, politics, economics, and culture in English and/or Spanish; enjoy the support of the experienced Resident Staff
- Improve your Spanish in a beautiful coastal city; live with a Spanish family and immerse yourself in *alicantino* daily life
- Visit museums, galleries, and theaters; participate in several day excursions, as well as one overnight trip to sites of cultural importance in the province of Alicante, the Valencia region, and other parts of Spain

what you'll learn

The Language and Culture summer program is designed to help students develop their Spanish language skills and increase their knowledge of Spanish art, cinema, and culture. This is achieved through intensive language coursework and content courses, combined with Spanish homestays, excursions, and cultural activities.

thoughts from abroad

Alicante's emblematic and imposing Santa Barbara Castle, situated atop the Benacantil Mountain and overlooking the Mediterranean coast, has been witness to more than 1,000 years of history. Today, Alicante is a medium-sized, modern cosmopolitan coastal city—the perfect place to spend your summer learning about the fascinating Spanish culture, while perfecting your Spanish language skills. Complete immersion with a Spanish host family, as well as daily interaction with Spanish professors, staff, and local students, will provide an experience filled with amazing memories that will last a lifetime.

— Jennifer Holleyman and Manuel Sanchez,
Resident Coordinators

About the Resident Coordinators

Manuel Sánchez received his B.A. in English Studies from the Universidad de Alicante. His professional and academic experience involves research on technology applied to literature and virtual libraries, and teaching. Manuel also works as an assistant professor in the Universidad de Alicante's Education Department. Manuel speaks several languages and has published articles on digital libraries and sociolinguistics.

Jennifer Holleyman earned her M.A. in Translation and Interpretation between Spanish and English from the Universidad de Alicante in 2001. While completing her undergraduate degree in Ecological Design and Spanish at the University of California, Berkeley, she studied abroad in Seville, Spain. Originally from California, she has lived in Alicante for the last 10 years and began working for the CIEE Study Center in Alicante as its Resident Coordinator in 2002.

About Other CIEE Staff

Francisco Díez, Center Director, earned his M.A. in Applied Linguistics and Spanish Language Teaching from Michigan State University and is currently working on his Ph.D. in Teaching Spanish as a Second Language, focusing on language acquisition stages. Originally from Alicante, he studied at Sheffield Hallam University and Michigan State University, where he taught Spanish for two years. Francisco joined CIEE in 2000 as Resident Coordinator at the CIEE Study Center in Alicante, where he has helped develop, produce, and run the socio-cultural and *Intercambios* programs, as well as the Spanish language placement test. Since January 2006, Francisco has served as Center Director and is also the Resident Director of the Liberal Arts program. He speaks Spanish, English, Valencian, and Catalan. CIEE students in Alicante are also assisted by Beatriz Ortín Pérez, Student Activities Assistant; and Felipe Molina, Technical and Administrative Coordinator.

about alicante

With a population approaching 350,000, Alicante is a thriving Spanish city. Located on the Mediterranean coast, Alicante is an inviting place for students to begin their exploration of Spain or continue a previous journey. In recent times, Alicante has experienced a development boom and rapid population growth. Students will see modern architecture and Internet cafés alongside historic buildings, and shopping malls next to centuries-old open-air markets. Although fast becoming a cosmopolitan and multicultural city, Alicante retains a distinct Spanish flavor.

academics

Academic Program

Established in 1992, the summer program in Alicante provides an opportunity for short-term, intensive study of the Spanish language. The six-week program is open to qualified undergraduates with an interest in Spanish language and contemporary Spain. Language classes are taught entirely in Spanish and are offered at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. Students are given a placement exam in Alicante prior to the start of classes to determine the appropriate level in which they should be placed.

Academic Culture

CIEE courses are scheduled from Monday through Friday. Students can expect daily homework assignments. Teaching methods in CIEE courses combine lecture and interactive styles. Program professors are familiar with second-language teaching methodology. They also have several years teaching experience in Spain and abroad, and use a variety of teaching methods. Furthermore, they have worked with American, European, and other international students for many years and are familiar with their unique expectations. Each professor distributes a detailed syllabus indicating what material is covered, when exams are held, and what is expected from each student.

Nature of Classes

Participants take classes with other CIEE participants only.

Language Environment

As students gain proficiency in Spanish, Resident Staff encourage them to use their language skills in everyday settings. This fosters a learning community that contributes to both Spanish language proficiency and understanding of Spanish society.

Grading System

In the language classes, grades are based on weekly quizzes, exams, attendance, homework assignments, and class participation. Grades in the content courses are generally based on class participation, papers or projects, and a final exam. CIEE Resident Staff determine the exact breakdown of grades. Attendance is mandatory and absences affect final grades.



where you'll study

The Universidad de Alicante is one of Spain's newest universities, located three miles outside the city of Alicante. Established to serve the higher education needs of the province of Alicante, the Universidad de Alicante offers its 35,000 students the benefits of a modern campus with an international atmosphere. The CIEE Study Center offices are located on the main campus in San Vicente and provide students direct access to University facilities.

living

Housing and Meals

Housing and all meals are included in the program fee. CIEE Alicante students have two housing options: a Spanish homestay or an off-campus residence hall with other international and Spanish students.

Homestays: Students live in Spanish-speaking homes where all meals are provided. Each home accommodates one student. Homestays are the optimal housing arrangement because of their contribution to the program's goals of language and cultural immersion. In the homestay, each student is considered a member of the family and has the same rights and responsibilities as other members of the family. Housing is located throughout the Alicante downtown metropolitan area, with access to public transportation that students take to and from the University. Students should expect to use public transportation two to four times per day.

Residence Hall: Students seeking an independent environment should consider living in an off-campus residence hall with Spanish and other international students. All meals are provided in the residence hall. The off-campus residence halls are located near the Universidad de Alicante campus in San Vicente, approximately 40 minutes by bus from the downtown city center of Alicante. Students who live in the residence hall will be able to walk to campus, but should expect to use public transportation, such as buses and taxis, to get to and from the downtown area in Alicante. All rooms are single en-suite rooms with a telephone, TV signal, Internet access, and air-conditioning. Students share a kitchenette—small fridge, microwave and the kitchen sink—between each two rooms.

Orientation

During the mandatory two-day orientation session, students are introduced to the country, the culture, and the academic program, as well as practical information about living in Spain. The orientation helps students make a gradual transition to Spanish life. A range of topics, including housing and family life, cultural differences, health and safety, gender and race issues, academics, and academic policies are covered. The orientation includes both structured cultural activities and independent sightseeing. At the end of the formal orientation, students meet their families and then move into their home in Alicante. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout the program. Students may consult with Resident Staff throughout the program about any cultural adjustment issues they may be experiencing.

Internet

Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops. Students have free wireless Internet access on the Universidad de Alicante campus, as well as access to the many computer labs on campus. CIEE students also have Internet access at their homestays, and there are numerous Internet cafés throughout the city of Alicante.

culture

Cultural Activities and Field Trips

Supplementing the academic program are weekend field trips throughout Spain, and day excursions to points of interest in the province of Alicante and the region of Valencia. The program typically includes one weekend field trip, as well as several day trips and museum visits within and around Alicante. Past trips have included visits to Granada, Seville, Barcelona, Madrid, and Valencia. There are also several local day excursions in Alicante (Santa Barbara Castle, San Fernando Castle, and archaeological Roman and Greek sites) and throughout the Province of Alicante (Altea, Villajoyosa, Calpe, and Orihuela). Field trips and excursions supplement classwork and introduce students to the rich diversity of the geographic, linguistic, and cultural areas of Spain and its major cities.

Students also have access to a wide variety of weekly activities organized by CIEE Resident Staff and by the International Club, which is operated by the University. These socio-cultural and sporting activities include guided tours to monuments and museums in Alicante, nature and hiking activities in the natural parks located in the province of Alicante, cooking classes, dance classes, and volunteering.

CIEE Spanish Helpers

CIEE Alicante Spanish Helpers are University students who accompany CIEE students on group activities and also participate in weekend field trips, day excursions, and other local events. Spanish Helpers are like big brothers and sisters, helping students make friends at the University, introducing them to the local culture, and generally helping them adapt to life in Alicante. CIEE Spanish Helpers is a unique program found in Alicante only at the CIEE Study Center at the Universidad de Alicante.

language

Valenciano

Like many regions in Europe, Alicante is historically and culturally bilingual. *Valenciano* is the second language of the Alicante province. However, Castilian Spanish is the primary language of most residents in the city of Alicante, and students are unlikely to encounter *valenciano* in every day life. Approximately 10 percent of *alicantinos* speak *valenciano* as well as Spanish, primarily at home. *Valenciano* has little presence in public or at the Universidad de Alicante. All homestay families, CIEE staff, and UA faculty are Spanish-speaking.

eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75
- For CIEE content courses in Spanish, 4 semesters of college-level Spanish or equivalent

duration

6 weeks: mid-June—late July

costs

CIEE Fees

Summer 2010: \$6,300
Summer 2011: available 12/15/10

The CIEE fees for 2011 include an optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, tuition, housing and three meals per day, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, pre-departure advising, and a CIEE iNext travel card which includes insurance and other travel benefits.

Estimated Additional Costs (Summer 2010)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 1,350
Personal Expenses	\$ 1,000
Books and Supplies	\$ 125
Local Transportation	\$ 150
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 2,625

Check our website for current fees.



coursework

Program Requirements

Students are required to take one Spanish language course and one content course.

Participants are placed in appropriate language courses based on a language examination given in Alicante at the beginning of the program. Students who place into the advanced level are required to take their content course in Spanish. Students who are placed at the beginning or intermediate level may take courses in Spanish or English.

Credit

Total recommended credit for the summer is 6 semester hours/9 quarter hours.

Each course has 45 contact hours, and recommended credit is 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours per course.

Languages of Instruction

English, Spanish

Faculty

Courses are taught by Universidad de Alicante faculty and by professionals in the field of Teaching Spanish as a Second Language.

courses

Required CIEE Spanish Language Courses

SPAN 1010 ALSU

Beginning Spanish Language

This course is designed for students with 0–1 semesters of college-level Spanish and focuses on providing students with survival skills in Spanish. Emphasis is on speaking and listening comprehension, but the course integrates reading comprehension and written expression as well. Students use a packet of materials designed by CIEE faculty. CIEE language courses include practical information on Spanish society and culture through fieldwork in the local community.

SPAN 2010 ALSU

Intermediate Spanish Language

This course is designed for students who have 2–3 semesters of university-level Spanish. This course builds upon previous work in the four communicative skills: oral expression, listening comprehension, written expression, and reading comprehension. Students use a packet of materials designed by CIEE faculty. CIEE language courses include practical information on Spanish society and culture through fieldwork in the local community.

SPAN 3010 ALSU

Advanced Spanish Language

This course is designed for students with at least 4 semesters of college-level Spanish and provides advanced speakers with an intensive review of Spanish grammar and syntax. Through practical exercises and fieldwork, students also develop oral and listening skills. Students use a packet of materials designed by CIEE faculty specifically for advanced English-speaking learners.

SPAN 4010 ALSU

Advanced Language Conversation and Writing

This course is designed for students with at least 6 semesters of college-level Spanish, for students with a proven high level of Spanish language skills, and for heritage speakers. Its primary purpose is to help students become fluent in real life conversational Spanish while, at the same time, giving them the necessary tools to write both formally and colloquially in real-life settings. By analyzing Internet websites, blogs, newspaper articles, movies, and TV programs, students are able to recognize and use the different strategies for oral and written production. Students improve their communicative skills by means of oral presentations, short written projects, and continuous in-class oral practice.

Required CIEE Content Courses

All courses are taught in English. However, CIEE does offer Spanish-language sections of each course for intermediate and advanced learners with four or more semesters of college-level Spanish. CIEE reserves the right to cancel sections with insufficient enrollment. Students choose one CIEE content course.

AHIS 3001 ALSU (in English)

AHIS 3002 ALSU (in Spanish)

The Spanish Tradition in Art

This survey course covers Spain's major contributions to the history of Western art from the Renaissance to the present. The emphasis rests primarily on painting and architecture, especially on the fundamental Spanish masters. Students learn how to analyze a painting from different practical approaches (i.e. formal/thematic) and apply these methods to masterpieces of Spanish art. Students receive visual materials to complement the course instruction as well as optional and mandatory guided visits to different museums in order to get a better understanding of the arts in Spain and in the Comunidad Valenciana in particular.

ECON/POLI 3001 ALSU

Spain and the European Union: Economics, Politics, and Social Issues

(in English)

This course focuses on Spain's role in the European Union and familiarizes students with the central traits of the economic architecture of the European Union (EU). The course explores recent economic integration; analyzes the consequences that this economic and political integration process is having on politico-economic governance in the member states; and explores some of the policies generated by the EU in fields such as labor and social policy (e.g. migration, competition policy, environmental policy, and industrial policy). Students also analyze the main varieties of capitalism underpinning member state economies, and the challenges they experience as a result of internal factors and the globalization of production and financial markets.



(courses continued from previous page)

FILM 3001 ALSU [in English]

FILM 3002 ALSU [in Spanish]

Spanish Cinema

In this course, students analyze some of the most well-known and representative films produced by the Spanish film industry from the transition to democracy to the present day. Students critique the films shown in class, with the goal of increasing their knowledge of contemporary Spanish culture and Spain's recent history. The viewing of films in conjunction with subsequent in-class discussion serves as the framework for students to acquire further knowledge of the specific changes that Spanish society has undergone in recent times, contrasting these with the classic stereotypes of Spanish culture. Topics such as machismo, eroticism, gender roles, and religion are discussed in depth while learning about new movements in contemporary Spanish cinema. The aim of this course is not only to teach students how to analyze a film and to give them the tools to do it, but also to show them how cinema can be enjoyable and didactic at the same time. Taking the cinema as a means of communication, not only of the author but also of the society where it is born, is the focus of this class. The course also includes visits to television studios as well other media and filming centers.

HISP 3005 ALSU

Spain through its Gastronomy and Wine Industry

[in Spanish]

This survey course covers an overview of the importance of the Mediterranean diet in Spanish life. Upon completion of this course, students understand Spanish topography and its effects on Mediterranean gastronomy and the wine industry in Spain. Students cover important aspects such as the culture, tradition, and festivities and the relation to the Spanish gastronomy and wine production.

HISP 3006 ALSU

Spain through its Popular Culture

The aim of this course is to gain a better knowledge of Spain through Spanish popular culture, very well known by its native people, but sometimes difficult to understand by foreign students. The course explores present Spain by studying different aspects of the popular culture such as music, cinema, literature, comics, television, commercials, press, and entertainment. There is a triple approach: descriptive, analytic, and comparative with the U.S. All topics are illustrated with appropriate audiovisual materials.

PUBH 3003 ALSU

Introduction to Family and Community Health

[in Spanish]

This course provides students with an overview of key issues and contributing factors related to the health of families and communities. It includes focus on current and emerging public health concerns at each stage in the life cycle, the needs of special populations, and the range of policy and program responses. The course provides a framework for assessing the health of families and communities and for developing strategies for intervention and promotion of health and wellness.

SOCI 3001 ALSU

Contemporary Spanish Society

[in English]

This course provides an introduction to the most important aspects of Spain and Contemporary Spanish Society. It is designed to offer structured information about issues related to Spanish society today as well as to provide a forum for discussion for students as they interact with the people and institutions of this country. At the end of the course, students are able to discuss relevant issues facing Spain today with a satisfactory level of understanding; identify and comment on the major social players in Spanish society, including individuals and institutions; and carry out an insightful comparative assessment of issues that affect both Spanish and U.S. societies.

SPAN 3011 ALSU

Spanish for Specific Purposes: Public Health, Social Services, and Psychology Professionals

[in Spanish]

This course is designed to provide students with specific vocabulary, expressions, communicative strategies, and special constructions of different work fields which enable them to interact with Spanish speakers in specific working areas. Cultural differences between Spain and the U.S. in terms of labor and social situations are discussed.



a student's story

I am majoring in International Studies, so the more international I could make my education, the better. In the United States I studied French, Spanish, and German. However, after spending a year studying in France, I felt my Spanish skills had deteriorated. I was encouraged by a friend to spend a bit of time in Spain, but I didn't have the time for a full-fledged year or semester program. The summer program in Alicante was therefore ideal. It allowed me to spend time in an intensive language program before returning to the United States. The CIEE staff also made the application process from abroad so easy!

At the beginning I was a bit nervous that the quick transition from a "French life" to a summer program in Spain would be difficult, but my Spanish family was very understanding and even intrigued by some of the items I brought with me from France. I had come to Spain with the impression that many things would be similar, but I hadn't realized how different other aspects of my "Spanish life" would be. Dinner was much later, lunch was much bigger, people didn't meet to "go out" until after midnight, and a lot of social interaction seemed to revolve around a television program taking Spain by storm—"Gran Hermano." I will never forget trying to understand this show as I watched it with my Spanish sister.

Though I was surprised by the way some things were done, I really enjoyed seeing the real Spanish fiesta during the *Hogueras*, visiting the beach with new friends, and learning some of the Spanish that I couldn't learn in school. I had never really been confident speaking Spanish before, but in Spain, I had no choice. Every day I practiced more, and, as I did, I gained confidence. I still make a few mistakes, but now I feel I can communicate effectively. I really love the work I do, and I think that the confidence I gained through my experience in Alicante helped immensely.

— Michelle DeNamr, Trinity University