



# Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

fall / spring / academic year  

criminal law / european law / european union studies / family law / history of law / international law / internship / labor union law / philosophy of law / political economy  
political science / public government law / public policy / religion and law / roman law / spanish law / spanish legal language



## program snapshot

- Advanced Spanish language courses with a focus on legal terminology
- CIEE core course focusing on the Spanish legal system; regular University courses in law and political science; law-related internship
- Group housing with other Legal Studies students and a CIEE Resident Fellow affiliated with the Universidad Carlos III
- Educational activities, such as visits to Congress, Parliament, and guided tours of the historical district; excursions to sites of cultural importance

## what you'll learn

The Legal Studies program offers highly motivated students with a strong Spanish background from any academic discipline the opportunity to further develop their Spanish language skills, while pursuing a co-curricular program focused on law and public policy in Spain. The program goals are achieved through a specially designed language course, a course on legal issues in Spain, an optional internship, and law and political science elective courses at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

## thoughts from abroad

Preparing for law school admission is a challenging task. Madrid, the country’s capital and seat of Spanish government, offers an exceptional opportunity to explore the relationship between law and human behavior. Here the highest court, the *Audiencia Nacional*, tests out the Spanish constitution and other binding laws enacted for corporate governance, gender equality, labor unions, child protection, penal codes, and property disputes. Through site visits and an internship opportunity, you’ll experience how *madrileños* adapt to European Union regulations and its conflicts, such as required access for the physically disabled, new environmental codes, and human rights. In addition to taking regular University courses in law with Spanish students, you’ll gain analytic thought and problem-solving skills, as well as critical reading abilities that can assist in selective entrance to graduate programs in the United States. I look forward to welcoming you to Madrid!

— Senzeni Steingruber, Resident Director

### About the Resident Director

Senzeni Steingruber has a Bachelor’s degree from Harvard University and earned her Master’s in European Cultural Planning from De Montfort University (UK) where she focused on cultural diversity in the ethnic neighborhood of Lavapies, Madrid. Senzeni has studied in Lausanne, Switzerland and Waterloo, Canada where she completed degrees in Architecture and Environmental Studies. She has lived in Berlin, Montreal, Rome, and Helsinki before settling in Madrid, where she has worked with the CIEE Study Center in Madrid since 2005. Senzeni speaks English, German, French, and Spanish.

### About Other CIEE Staff

Dr. Helena Soletto, law professor at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, is the Academic Advisor for the program and also teaches the core course.



## about madrid

Madrid, the capital of Spain, is located in the geographic center of the Iberian Peninsula. Points of interest include the historic center dating back to the Hapsburg Empire and world-renowned art museums, including the Prado, Reina Sofia, and Thyssen-Bornemisza. In addition to being a rich cultural heritage site, Madrid is a lively, artistic metropolis that can be experienced through its variety of food, tapas bars, dance shows, opera house, music concerts, outdoor parks, jazz clubs, soccer matches, ethnic neighborhoods, and contemporary theater and cinema.

## academics

### Academic Program

The CIEE Legal Studies program is designed for advanced Spanish language students who are highly motivated to improve their Spanish language through coursework focused on law, public policy, and political science, while also participating in a Legal Studies internship in Madrid.

### Academic Culture

The Law Department at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid offers various degree programs with a total enrollment of nearly 1,200 students. All courses are held in classroom buildings on the Getafe campus, where the Department of Law and the CIEE Study Center office are located. Courses are academically challenging, dynamic, and involve daily reading and homework assignments, as well as required attendance at lectures. The size of regular University courses varies from 25 to 80 students. The Advanced Spanish and Legal Language and Law in Contemporary Spain courses have an average of 15 students per class. University classrooms are modern, comfortable, and equipped with the most up-to-date technology used for instruction. Students undertaking an internship meet regularly with the course coordinator and other CIEE students, but participants spend the majority of their internship for credit with an individual supervisor at the practicum site.

Universidad Carlos III is one of the only public universities in Spain with new education guidelines according to European Union regulations set forth in the Bologna Agreement, resulting in an academic schedule that is very similar to U.S. higher education. The CIEE courses offered in the fall semester begin in late August and end just before Christmas. Students enrolled in regular courses in the Law Department during the fall take exams in December. The spring semester program begins in late January and runs through late May or early June. Early departure is not

allowed. Any extended travel should take place prior to the start of the program, during vacation periods, or upon completion of the program.

### Nature of Classes

The required core course, Law in Contemporary Spain, and regular University courses are with Spanish and international students. The Advanced Spanish and Legal Language course and the Legal Studies Internship are with other CIEE students.

### CIEE Community Language Commitment

Students take part in the CIEE Community Language Commitment by speaking Spanish at all times (except in emergencies). This fosters a learning community that contributes to both Spanish language proficiency and understanding of Spanish society.

### Grading System

In all courses, students are graded on class participation, in-class activities, homework assignments, examinations, papers, and oral presentations, similar to standards in the United States. Numerical grades are given based on a 10-point scale and converted to a U.S. letter grade.



## where you’ll study

Established in 1989, the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid is one of Europe’s pre-eminent public universities and Spain’s first and only public university to have adopted a U.S.-style academic calendar. It has one of the highest percentages (42%) of full-time and tenured women faculty in Spain. The University admits nearly 4,000 students at the Getafe campus, located in the southern metropolitan area. CIEE students take classes in three schools: humanities, social sciences, and engineering. Easily accessible by public transportation, the Getafe campus is approximately 30 minutes by bus and 15 minutes by train from the Atocha train station.

## living

### Housing and Meals

Housing and meals are included in the program fee. Students live in furnished apartments with other CIEE students and, in some cases, with a CIEE Resident Fellow. Fellows are law professionals, graduate students, and/or staff members at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. They provide general guidance during the student's time in Madrid.

All apartments are located in the city of Madrid and, in most cases, are in the same building and/or neighborhood. Students have an individual room and full kitchen access with a variable meal plan in an informal academic and social community. To accommodate student class and internship schedules, the meal plan comprises both University cafeteria meal tickets and a monthly food stipend. The CIEE Resident Fellow also arranges group meals to help foster cultural reflection among participants. Students take public transportation to their classes at the Getafe campus, on average a 30- to 45-minute commute.

### Online Pre-Departure and On-site Orientations

Students begin their study abroad experience in Madrid before even leaving home—by participating in a CIEE Online Pre-Departure Orientation. Meeting with students online, the Resident Director shares information about the program and site, highlighting issues that alumni have said are important, and giving students time to ask any questions before leaving home. The online orientation allows students to connect with others in the group, reflect on what they want to get out of the program, and learn what others in the group would like to accomplish. The CIEE goal for the pre-departure orientation is simple: to help students understand more about the program and site, as well as their goals for the program, so that they arrive to the program well-informed and return home having made significant progress toward their goals.

A week-long, on-site orientation session conducted at the beginning of the program introduces students to the country, culture, and the academic program. It also provides practical information about living in Spain, and in particular, Madrid. Themes such as the Spanish university system, banking, safety, and cultural adaptation are covered. A diagnostic language skills examination is also conducted to determine the linguistic level of all participants, ensuring that each student is placed in appropriate courses. Orientation includes both structured cultural activities and independent sightseeing. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout the program.

### Internet

Students receive an individual University email account and have unlimited access to computer labs for class-related activities on campus. There are high speed Internet connections in various classrooms, which can be used when classes are not taking place. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops to use on campus and in the CIEE office. Most apartments do not have Internet access.

## internship

A for-credit internship with a legal focus is available to participants. The purpose of the internship is to immerse CIEE students in local work practices within the legal arena. On-site internship experiences are complemented by a solid academic classroom component.

## immersion

### Intercambios

The University has a conversation exchange network (*intercambios*) with Spanish students at the Universidad Carlos III and with English-speaking students from the *Cursos Estudios Hispánicos*. *Intercambios* give students the chance to put into action what they are learning in their language course.

### Community Involvement

Through the Universidad Carlos III community program, CIEE students can participate in volunteer work. Students may assist blind students, coordinate games and other activities with children, or visit with the elderly. Volunteer opportunities also exist with organizations focused on immigration and other social issues.

### Personal Skills Development and Culture Workshops

In conjunction with the Universidad Carlos III, CIEE coordinates a series of non-credit workshops each semester dealing with personal development while living abroad. Some workshops are only open to CIEE students, while others allow interaction with Spanish students and invited speakers. Past workshop topics have included culture shock, dating across cultures, race and identity issues, eating well and basic cooking methods, stress management, job interview skills, and re-entry at the end of the semester.

## eligibility

- Overall GPA 3.0
- 6 semesters of college-level Spanish or equivalent
- Junior standing or above

## costs

### CIEE Fees

Fall 2009: \$15,100  
Spring 2010: available 8/15/2009  
Academic Year 2009–10: \$27,200

The CIEE fees for 2009–10 include an optional onsite airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, tuition, housing, all meals, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, field trips, pre-departure advising, comprehensive student handbook, and a CIEE iNext travel card, which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

### Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2009)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 1,350
Personal Expenses	\$ 2,800
Books and Supplies	\$ 300
Local Transportation	\$ 600
Visa Fee	\$ 100
Potential Travel to Consulate for Visa	\$ 400
<b>Total Estimated Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 5,550</b>

Check our website for current fees.

## culture

### Cultural Activities and Field Trips

The academic program is supplemented with required field trips and excursions. These may include visits in Madrid (Congress, Parliament, the High Courts, guided tours of the historic district, or a police station) and day excursions to see historic Toledo and its Jewish and legal heritage, the Natural Park of Hoces de Duratón, the Monastery of El Escorial, the Roman architecture of the city of Segovia, the UNESCO world heritage site of Alcalá de Henares, and the Royal Palace and gardens of Aranjuez, among other locations. CIEE offers one weekend trip to one of the following regional destinations: Asturias, Galicia, Extremadura, or Andalusia. Field trips and excursions supplement class work and introduce students to the rich diversity of the geographic, linguistic, and cultural areas of Spain and its major cities.

## duration

### Fall

18 or 24 weeks: late August–mid-December

### Spring

18 or 24 weeks: late January–late May or early June

### Academic Year

36 or 48 weeks: late August–late May or early June



## coursework

### Program Requirements

All students enroll in two CIEE courses: Advanced Spanish and Legal Language and Law in Contemporary Spain. Students complete their academic program by selecting two or three elective courses through the Department of Law or the Department of Political Science at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

Students have the option of enrolling in a Legal Studies Internship in place of one of the elective courses if approved by their home school and if they meet the academic requirements.

### Credit

Total recommended credit for the semester is 12–15 semester/18–22.5 quarter hours and for the academic year 24–30 semester/36–45 quarter hours. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester credits to remain in the program.

Contact hours for CIEE and regular University courses are 45 hours and recommended credit is 3 semester /4.5 quarter hours, unless otherwise indicated.

### Language of Instruction

Spanish

### Faculty

Regular University courses are taught by faculty from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Language courses are taught by experienced professors specialized in teaching Spanish as a second language and in the law.

## resident fellow testimonial

Before I started my doctoral program in law, I thought I would become an architect or study art. I am originally from Galicia, but I have lived in Madrid most of my life. Now I work in the law department at the Universidad Carlos III and conduct research in constitutional law. Living with American students in group housing has been a great cultural experience. As a Resident Fellow who lives with three CIEE students in a furnished apartment in the city center, I have organized several group dinners to discuss many of the things we enjoy in life. We also watched a Spanish film about the current immigration problems here in Spain, and had a discussion afterwards about the political and legal implications on society of having *extranjeros* here in Madrid. I will be sad when my students leave at the end of the semester because we have become great debaters, cross-cultural communicators, and friends!

— Sabela Oubiño, Resident Fellow

## courses

### Required CIEE Courses

#### LEGL 3001 MDLS

##### Law in Contemporary Spain

This class examines the legal and political aspects of post-Franco Spain, emphasizing elements of change and continuity as they relate to the law—the constitution, political parties, legal practice, and public policy related to gender and immigration in Spain. The second half of the course places these developments in the context of Spain and helps the student gain a critical understanding of practicing law. This course includes site visits to various institutions of law, public policy, and legal aid, and guest lectures by law experts. *Instructor: Professor Helena Soleta, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid*

#### SPAN 4001 MDLS

##### Advanced Spanish and Legal Language

This class is designed in conjunction with the core course, Law in Contemporary Spain. The course covers all four communicative skills (listening comprehension, oral communication, reading, and writing) with special emphasis on complex aspects of the language that are particularly challenging for English-speakers. The course covers abstract functions of language such as expressing opinions, resolving conflicts, formulating complaints, making an argument, and negotiating with another party, especially as it pertains to courts, disputes, and conflict resolution. Grammatically, emphasis is placed on the correct use of the tools needed to achieve these aims: complex aspects of the various past tenses, the full range of subjunctive and conditional moods, and formal and informal registers. In addition, students are expected to grasp a comprehensive vocabulary of legal terms and concepts assigned by their professor. The course meets intensively before the other courses begin in order to better prepare students linguistically, and then continues on a regular schedule.

### CIEE Internship

#### INSH 3003 MDLS

##### Legal Studies Internship

Students gain practical work experience through a for-credit internship with a focus on legal matters. Eligibility for the internship is determined by the student's language ability, job skills, background, and professional attitude. Internships are not guaranteed as Spanish law firms and legal aid societies make the final selection of eligible students. The purpose of the internship is to immerse CIEE students into local work practices related to the legal profession. Students work in local organizations or firms for a total of 80 unpaid hours. On-site internship experiences are complemented by a solid academic component entailing regular 30 hour-long classroom meetings. Contact hours: 135 (including on-site work and class meetings). Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

### Regular University Courses

Please visit the University website for course information at [www.uc3m.es/uc3m/dpto/dp.html](http://www.uc3m.es/uc3m/dpto/dp.html).

Students can directly enroll in University courses in the Law and/or Political Science departments of Universidad Carlos III. The law courses do not require previous coursework in legal studies.

### Law

#### Fall

Civil Law I  
Civil Law III  
Company Finance Law  
Constitutional Law III  
Constitutional Law of Spain I  
Criminal Law II  
Criminal Procedural Law  
Environmental Law  
European Community Liberties II  
History of the Constitutions and their Codification  
History and Political Philosophy  
Industrial Property Rights  
International Economic Law  
International Organization  
Introduction to Civil Procedural Law  
Management and Organization  
Matrimonial Causes Law  
Private International Law I  
Public International Law I  
Regional and Local Laws of Spain

Roman Law  
 Sociological Analysis of Law  
 Spanish Constitutional Law and European Integration  
 The Spanish Economy Theory of Law  
 Technical Industry Regulation and Risk Control

#### Spring

Business Economics  
 Civil Law II  
 Constitutional Justice and Interpretation of the Spanish Constitution  
 Constitutional Law of Spain II  
 Criminal Law I  
 Ecclesiastical Law and the Spanish State  
 European Community Liberties II  
 Foreign Relations of the European Union  
 Fundamental Rights  
 History of European Integration  
 History of International Contemporary Relations  
 History of Law  
 Institutions of Community Law  
 Introduction to the Economic Analysis of Law  
 Philosophy of Law  
 Public International Law II  
 Roman Roots of Private Law  
 Social Constitution and Public Welfare Services  
 Sociology and Law  
 The State and Religious Phenomenon

#### Political Science

##### Fall

Analysis and Management of European Public Policy  
 Comparative Politics  
 Constitutional Systems  
 Contemporary Social and Political History  
 Government Science I  
 Intergovernmental Relations  
 Political Actors  
 Political Economy  
 Political Philosophy  
 Political Representation and Electoral Analysis  
 Social Structure of Spain  
 Spanish Economy  
 Spanish Political System I

##### Spring

Analysis of Public Policy  
 Comparative Public Policy  
 Contemporary Social Structures  
 Design and Implementation of Public Programs  
 European Politics  
 Information Technology and Communication  
 Local Politics  
 Political Actors  
 Politics and Communication  
 Public Organization Law  
 Public Policy Analysis  
 Public Tax Systems  
 Social Politics and the Welfare State  
 Social Problems: Inequality and Social Exclusivity  
 Sociology of Organization  
 Spanish Political System I



#### a student's story

My personal interest in human rights led me to this unique program. It has been amazing! As a Spanish and Women Studies major, I was fascinated with the distinct historical and philosophical movements we discussed in our law course "*Derecho español y europeo*." We looked at various arguments about the nature and the purpose of law, and there are many differences with the U.S. We also discussed specific examples in Spain, such as criminal law and the absence of the death penalty. I liked how our professor encouraged dynamic class discussions. Some of what I learned in class I could see for myself in the Legal Studies Internship, which was arranged for me at a women's cooperative in Madrid. The internship focused on helping resolve social problems stemming from Spanish immigration laws. I really liked the hands-on experience with the academic mix and felt part of the community.

— Stephanie Spiro, Brandeis University