



IAU Barcelona, Spain

Barcelona, Spain (Europe)

Quick Facts

SPRING 2026 (Tentative dates)

Early Start Program (optional): arrive mid-Jan

Program Dates: arrive January - depart April

Application Deadline: September 25

Costs: Contact the program sponsor for updated cost

Costs with Early Start Program: Contact the program sponsor for updated cost

FALL 2026

Early Start Program (optional): arrive late Aug

Program Dates: Sep - Dec 14

Application Deadline: March 15

Costs: Contact the program sponsor for updated cost

Costs with Early Start Program: Contact the program sponsor for updated cost

Please note that if you see dates or costs for a prior term above, that future terms will have similar dates and costs. We will update info as soon as it becomes available.

[Apply Now](#)

*A non-refundable deposit of \$800 is due within two weeks of acceptance to the semester program. This deposit is applied towards the program cost and paid to the College of Staten Island.

* Click here to see the robust offering of [merit scholarships, grants, and need-based assistance](#) that IAU offers.

[Click here for IAU Barcelona Summer Programs](#)

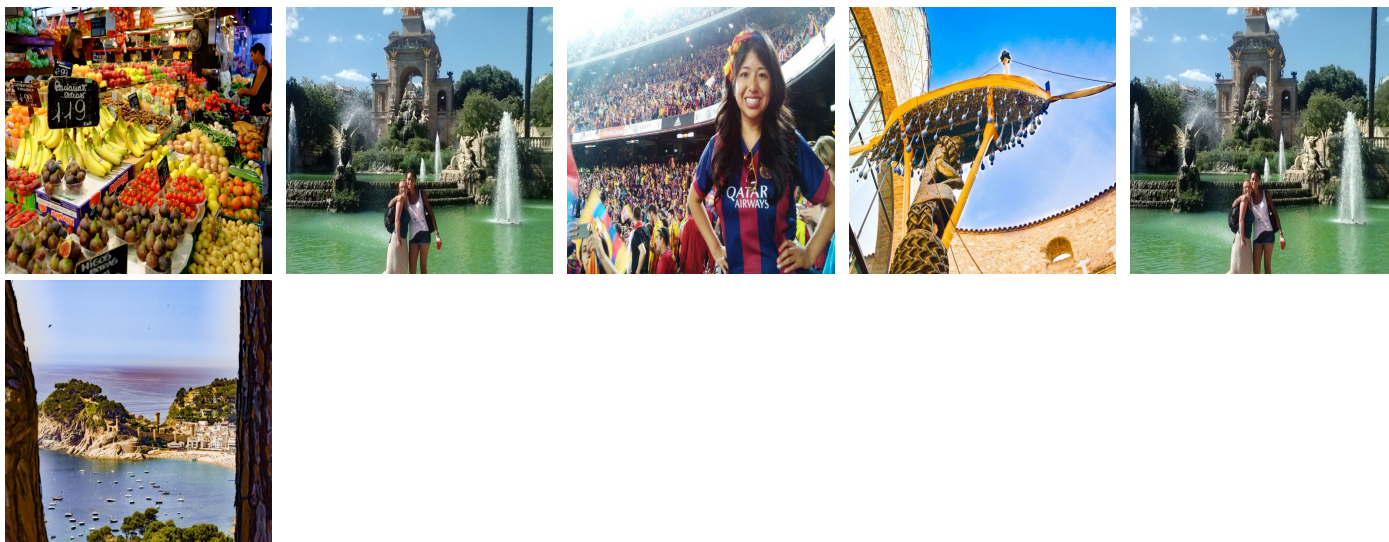
Program Overview

Located along the Mediterranean Sea, the city allows students to experience the wonderful culture of Catalunya. The mild climate, famed cuisine and breathtaking arts give this Mediterranean region a distinct feel, unique from anywhere else in the world.

There's no better way to improve one's knowledge of the Spanish language and its customs than by interacting with the local community. Students in Barcelona will have the opportunity to practice their language skills in the classroom and also with native Spanish speakers through language exchange programs and cultural events. Over the course of their time abroad, students can expect to participate in field study trips associated with specific classes, study tours, and day trips, as well as cultural activities like Catalan cooking courses, Flamenco classes and cava tastings. A city tour of Barcelona and its architecture as well as visits to local markets and enterprises round out the experience.

The Institute for American Universities (IAU) is located in Aix-en-Provence, France situated on the Mediterranean coast.

Gallery



Contact Program Sponsor and Advisor

College of Staten Island, CUNY
Gonzalo Villena
ELI Director

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This program is sponsored and administered by the College of Staten Island CUNY.

Academics & Program

See the IAU Barcelona [Spring 2024 Course Offerings](#) and [Fall 2023 Course List here](#).

Click [here](#) to access the available semester syllabi.

IAU's semester in Barcelona program centers on Spanish Language and Culture with courses in architecture, art history, studio art, business, communication studies, economics, education, environmental science, film studies, geography, history, international relations, philosophy, political science, psychology, religious studies, sociology, Spanish language and culture, and wine studies.

- **Language Course Requirement for CCIS Semester Students** - For students participating in the semester program in Barcelona, it is **required** to enroll in at least one Spanish language course to facilitate engagement with the local culture. Students are then free to choose from among other courses to complete their semester course load.

Select content courses are taught in English or Spanish as a part of the regular course load of 15 credits.

Academic programs include Spanish honors, humanities and social sciences, business and international relations, art and art history and internship offerings.

Spanish Honors Program The Spanish Honors Program is designed for Spanish majors/minors or other students with demonstrated advanced-level Spanish, interested in a comprehensive language and cultural immersion program.

SEMESTER

- i) Spanish Honors Seminar: El Nuevo Mundo Hoy - 3 credits
- ii) Spanish Civilization and Cultures - 3 credits
- iii) Spanish Language course (upper division 300 level and above) - 3 credits
- iii) One topics course either taught in Spanish (any discipline) or about Spain (in English) - 3 credits

SUMMER

- i) Spanish Honors Seminar: El Nuevo Mundo Hoy - 3 credits
- ii) Any upper division course taught in Spanish (upper division 300 level and above, language or topics course) - 3 credits

Student Life

- i) Students must live in a homestay family.

- ii) Students may participate in language exchange with local students.
- iii) Students must attend at least 5 different Field Studies of any of the IAU classes on Spain or Spanish culture and arts. These field studies must be in classes different from those they are enrolled in during the semester.
- iv) Students participate in the Early Start Program (semester only).

Business & International Relations Program

Through the Business & International Relations Program, students will have the unique opportunity to learn about international business strategies and procedures with a specific focus on the global market. Disciplines taught include, but are not limited to, economics, finance, international business, management and marketing. Each course includes field studies to hubs of business and politics around Spain and Europe. Students participating in the Business & International Relations Program will have access to unpaid, for-credit semester-long internships at local enterprises. Students will take at least three courses in the Business & International Relations Program and two other electives of their choosing.

Art & Art History Program Students interested in pursuing a program of study centered on the art and art history of Mediterranean Spain are encouraged to join the Art & Art History Program at IAU Barcelona. Students enroll in a minimum of two courses in art and art history and select remaining electives up to their choosing. Students of all majors are welcome to join this program.

School of Humanities and Social Sciences IAU Barcelona offers a wide breadth of course disciplines to students from all majors and minors. Prior knowledge of Spanish is not required as courses are offered in English and Spanish. Though it is not required, it is highly encouraged that students enroll in a Spanish language course and students should refer to their home university for additional language requirements. Students with background in Spanish language will have the opportunity to enroll in courses taught at the local university.

To complete the course curriculum, IAU hosts a plethora of guest speakers and lecturers from a wide breadth of disciplines including journalists, musicians, and political activists. Panels and conferences that are hosted throughout the summer allow students to hear a full spectrum of opinions about both Spanish and Catalan politics and lifestyles. Students who participate in this program will develop a deeper understanding of the Spanish language and its relationship to Catalan history and culture. Full of masterpieces by the famous artists Salvador Dalí and Antoni Gaudí, the city is a classroom in and of itself, exposing students to Modernist and Surrealist architecture and paintings.

Internship Opportunities

IAU offers numerous **internship opportunities** for students in Barcelona at a wide range of businesses and organizations throughout the city. No previous Spanish experience is required.

To apply for an internship for-credit during the semesters or summers, students must submit a resume (in English) to enroll@iau.edu and response to the [internship questionnaire](#). Internship applications for the Summer terms are due by March 1st (all other Summer program application deadlines are March 15th).

Student Life & Housing

Student Life

IAU's campus in Barcelona is centrally located in the downtown Plaça de Catalunya area, just steps from the nearest metro stops, Las Ramblas, the Gothic Quarter, and many more of Barcelona's famed attractions. The facilities have been completely renovated with modern amenities to suit the needs of the 21st century college student. IAU Barcelona employs a full-time student affairs and academic affairs staff to advise, place, house, and otherwise support incoming students for full semester, year-long, and summer programs.

Travel and Study Tours

Students will engage in daily classes which are enhanced by local field studies tours around Barcelona and Catalunya. The Barcelona program includes activities that integrate Spanish cuisine, music, dancing, language, and culture. Students meet daily with professors, local artists, and scholars. Study tour sites may include: Montjuic, Parc Güell, Center for Contemporary Culture, MACBA (Modern Art Museum), the Gothic Quarter, the Born District, the Museum of the History of Barcelona, Picasso Museum, and the Sagrada Familia Basilica. Trips in the region may include: Costa Brava, Cadaques, Sitges, Tossa del Mar, or Figueres.

Housing Options

Students will have the option to be housed in shared homestays with Spanish families, which include daily breakfast and six dinners per week, or in shared apartments, where students will be responsible for their own meals. Students will be placed together and may request roommates on the housing application form.

Study Abroad - Early Start Program

Students are invited to join IAU for an optional week-long, early-start program before their fall or spring semester abroad. Students studying in France or Spain are encouraged to participate. Please review the [Early Start Program](#) as an example to learn more!

Students can expect to:

- Earn one course credit
- Jump-start the French or Spanish immersion process and ease into the new and exciting culture
- Gain confidence in their language skills and feel comfortable in everyday communication with locals
- Participate in a hands-on environment with small classes and personal attention
- Learn to navigate the city of Aix-en-Provence or Barcelona through local excursions in a fun and relaxed setting
- Attend lectures on local culture to get the most out of their abroad experience
- Begin their French or Spanish accommodation a week early
- Learn important intercultural differences such as body language, etiquette, do's and don'ts, French or Spanish culture and housing expectations, stereotypes and misunderstandings
- Meet local and foreign students through IAU
- Learn where to buy the best croissant or paella in town
- Become a French or Spanish insider!

Duration & Costs

Duration

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Spring 2026

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Fall 2026

Costs: Contact the program sponsor for updated cost

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Semester Costs included: Tuition and fees, homestay (breakfast daily and six dinners included) or apartment (without meals included), pre-departure advising and orientation, textbook rental, insurance, field study tours, and scheduled cultural activities.

Semester Costs not included: Airfare (\$700 - \$1,400), some meals (homestay option - \$800) or all meals (apartment option - \$2,000), passport/visa fees, and personal expenses (\$2,500 - \$3,000), courses that may incur an additional lab fee.

*A non-refundable deposit (\$800 for Semesters and \$500 for Summer and January Intersessions) is due within two weeks of acceptance. This deposit is applied towards the program cost and paid to the College of Staten Island.

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A note to students: IAU advises that students do not make any travel arrangements prior to the first week of classes. Field studies and course excursions can be scheduled during weekends and breaks, so IAU recommends not purchasing any tickets or scheduling any travel until after learning of course requirements on-site.

**If you are also taking courses at a local university, your arrival and departure dates may need to be adjusted based on their academic calendar. Please consult with your CCIS representative to confirm.

Please know if you see dates and costs for a term that has passed, know that future terms will be similar. We will update info as it becomes available.

All costs, fees, and dates are subject to change without notification. Contact the program sponsor to verify all costs, fees, and dates for this program.

Eligibility & Deadlines

Eligibility Requirements

- Minimum class standing - students must have completed at least one semester (minimum 12 semester credit hours) of college-level coursework at the time of application.
- 2.5 GPA or higher
- Students must be at least 18 years of age

Applications to Include

- Official transcripts
- One letter of recommendation from a teacher who knows the applicant from a classroom setting
- Statement of purpose

Application Deadline

Fall: March 15

Spring: September 25

Entry Requirements

Semester and academic-year students will need a passport and student visa* to study in Spain. All visa processes go through the Spanish Consulate. To find out which consulate you will visit to apply for your visa, please refer to the [Spanish embassy website](#). IAU will provide the necessary documentation needed to prove you will be a student abroad, but the remaining application and materials are the responsibility of the student. Additional information is available on the [IAU Passports & Visa page](#).