

Travel Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

What was your semester abroad like?

I agree to the publication of the report and attached photos
(there are no third parties rights to these photos) Yes

New outgoing students sometimes ask us for a way to
contact former outgoings. Are we allowed to pass on your
contact details in case of inquiries? Yes

Academic year 2024/2025

Start semester Herbst/Fall 2024/25

Duration in semesters 1

Study program at EUF B.A. European Cultures and Society

Subject 1 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 2 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 3 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Host country Spain

Host university Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

How did you prepare for the semester abroad? What should
be organized in advance?

The most important thing to do is to start searching early for a room to rent on the island because it takes more time than you think.

Do you have any recommendations for environmentally
friendly travel (if applicable)?

I tried to find a more environmentally friendly way to get to the island (such as traveling by ship), but unfortunately, I couldn't find any. The only option is to take a plane.

Where did you live and how did you find your
accommodation (self-organized/provided by host
university, dormitory/private etc.)?

I lived in a shared apartment with two roommates. I found the room through an app called Idealista. There are also groups on Facebook, but I don't recommend them because some people get scammed. Also, be careful when using Idealista. You need to be patient. I messaged about 30 people before one person finally responded. Maybe I was just unlucky, but it took me a while to find a room.

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| Did you participate in events for exchange students? How did you establish social contacts in other ways? | There is an Instagram account called Erasmus Life Las Palmas. They offer a lot of activities, sometimes on a daily basis. However, for me, the friends I made were from the university—people I met in lectures or just while eating my lunch. Everyone is very friendly and open, so making new friends shouldn't be a problem ;) |
| How satisfied were you with the host university (facilities, staff etc.) and the course offer (workload etc.)? | I would rate it about 6 out of 10. The staff is very friendly and tries to help as much as they can. However, the enrollment process took about three weeks, so I spent the first three weeks of lectures without access to the university platform or even an email, which was quite annoying. To be completely honest, the courses were not the best. Each course had four hours per week, split into two lectures. It gave me flashbacks to my school days, where you just had to sit and listen. There were no discussions or exchanges of thoughts like I'm used to in Flensburg. Additionally, the lecturers didn't upload the lecture materials, so you had to write everything down instead of focusing on understanding the content. For some reason, taking pictures of the slides was also not allowed. |
| Did you learn the local language? How important was the language for your stay? | I didn't learn much Spanish, but I was able to pick up enough to get by. I think learning Spanish is very important because it will make things much easier for you. Basically, almost no one speaks English outside the university, and even within the university, not everyone speaks English. Even at the International Office, which had two employees, one spoke broken English, and the other didn't speak English at all. |
| What intercultural experiences/skills have marked your stay? | During my stay, I had to adapt to the language barrier since English wasn't widely spoken, which pushed me to learn some basic Spanish. I also met people from different backgrounds, which made the experience even more interesting. Overall, it was nice to step out of my comfort zone and learn to be more adaptable. |
| Which perspectives on your host country/home country have changed - and why? | My perspective on Spain changed in terms of daily life and language barriers. I expected more people to speak English, but outside the university, it was quite rare. This made me realize how important it is to learn the local language when living abroad. As for my home country, I started to appreciate the education system more. The teaching style at my host university was mostly passive listening, with little discussion or interaction, which was very different from what I was used to. This made me value the more interactive and engaging approach back home. |
| How was your everyday life (leisure, shopping, transportation, inclusion etc.)? | My everyday life was pretty relaxed. I had to go to the university almost every day and spent a lot of time there since I sometimes had to wait between lectures. During that time, I usually studied. On weekends, I went out—sometimes to the beach, met up with friends, or just had a relaxed day at home. |
| Do you have any recommendations for a sustainable stay abroad (projects, initiatives, everyday life)? | Please don't rent a car—the island has a very good public transportation system. The island is small, and a bus can take you from the far north to the deep south in just 40 minutes. |
| How did you manage financially? How much did you spend on visa (if applicable), travel, accommodation (per month), living expenses, leisure activities, other expenses (books etc.)? | It's about the same as in Germany, maybe a bit cheaper. Dining out and going to a bar or café are much cheaper than in Germany. I paid €350 per month for rent for a very small room (about 10 square meters). For groceries, I spent between €100 and €150 per week. The bus ticket is cheap. You need to go to the main bus station and buy a yellow ticket that you can recharge. If you do so, one bus ride would cost you about 40 cents. If you get residency status on the island, you can get another ticket, reducing the cost to about 16 cents per ride. Additionally, you'll get discounts on many things, such as museums, plane tickets to other Canary Islands, etc. Overall, I spent between €1,000 and €1,200 per month. |
| What was your best/worst experience? Is there anything else you would like to share? | Luckily, I didn't have any bad experiences. The island has a lot to offer—go explore and have fun! |
| Would you recommend a semester abroad at your host university? For what reasons? | It depends on what you're looking for. If your main goal is to have a good time, enjoy the island, and meet new people, then yes, I would recommend it. The experience outside of academics is great, and the island has a lot to offer. However, if you're looking for challenging courses and high-quality lectures to expand your knowledge, then no, I wouldn't recommend it. Out of the five courses I took, I only found one to be good—the rest, unfortunately, were very disappointing. |

PHOTOS

In this section, you may upload some photos that represent your stay abroad. When selecting the photos, please bear in mind that the pictures will be visible online if you have given us the permission to publish your report.

- Photo (1)** file_67be237e7fe5c-gran_canaria1.jpg
- Photo (2)** file_67be23873c325-gran_canaria_2.jpg
- Photo (3)** file_67be239072ba4-gran_canaria_3.jpg
- Photo (4)** file_67be2398694e3-gran_canaria__4.jpg
- Photo (5)** file_67be23a0754f8-gran_canaria__5.jpg
- Photo (6)**

**Here you have the possibility to enter
descriptions/explantions for the photos**









