University of A Coruña

Guide for International Exchange Students
Dear student,

It is a pleasure for us that you are considering the University of A Coruña as your destination for your exchange period.

The UDC, founded in 1989, has more than 20,000 students, 1400 teachers and 24 centres offering degrees in almost any discipline and levels including Health and Experimental Sciences, Humanities, Social and Juridical Sciences or Technologies and Engineering.

It is a truly international University with many students and teaching staff taking part in mobility programmes, with more than 600 students coming every year from different countries.

Studying at UDC is an interesting opportunity for those students who want to enjoy an international experience in a community where the integration results extremely simple.

This guide will provide you with useful information about studying and living at UDC. In case of any doubt, our staff at the International Relations will be glad to help you.
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DESCRIPTION AND SITUATION OF THE UDC

The University of A Coruña (UDC) was founded in 1989. It is a public institution which aims is to obtain the highest degree of social wellbeing through social, scientific and technological advancement. In accordance with this principle of public service, the UDC conceives as one of its missions to form open, cultured, critical, committed, democratic and supportive citizens. Hence the openness and collaboration with other cultures is one of its fundamental commitments.

The University of A Coruña has 24 Centres which offer Bachelor, Master and Doctoral programmes in Technological Science, Health and Experimental Sciences, Humanities, Social and Juridical Sciences. The academic offer is completed with a Language Centre which satisfies the needs of languages within the university community. As regards to research, the University has three technological centres endowed with outstanding instruments and equipment at an European level, one office devoted to research transfer results and support to research, in close relation to management and industrial world.

It is divided into two main campuses, one in the city of A Coruña (including the campuses of A Zapateira, Elviña, Oza and Riazor), and another at the city of Ferrol (including Campus of Esteiro and Campus of Serantes). For more information on the location of the different campuses, look at the Web page http://international.udc.es/UDC/en-US. Both cities are located in the North West corner of Spain, on the Atlantic coast. They have a very benign climate with mild temperatures being the average in summer is 21, 5ºC and in winter 10, 8ºC.

The city of A Coruña (http://www.turismocoruna.com) is at the same time a historic coastal city, of great importance already in the Roman times, and a modern and very cosmopolitan city of over 250.000 inhabitants. It is an industrial and service city, center of a bigger metropolitan area. The symbol of the city is the well-known lighthouse called “Torre de Hércules” which is the only roman lighthouse still functioning nowadays. It was declared World Heritage by UNESCO in 2009.

The easiest way to get to A Coruña is by plane. The Alvedro airport is just 15 minutes away from the city by car.

The city of Ferrol (http://www.ferrol.es/) is 30 minutes by car from A Coruña. Ferrol has more than 80.000 inhabitants and it represents the neurological, commercial and industrial centre of one of the most densely populated areas of Galicia. The characteristics of its maritime location make it a strategic place, and that is why the campus of Ferrol stands out because of naval studies.

A FEW REASONS FOR CHOOSING UDC

The University of A Coruña is part of a European network made up of 46 countries offering compatible qualifications. It offers Bachelor Degrees within the framework of the European Higher Education Area, as well as official Master Degrees and PhD studies covering all fields of study.

The University of A Coruña actively encourages international mobility among its students through agreements with more than 40 countries and work placements in European companies.

Employment rates for graduates from the University of A Coruña are higher than the average for Spanish universities. Most University of A Coruña graduates hold management or technical positions.

Research is essential in order to maintain excellent teaching standards. The University has a large research staff and a Technology Centre. It offers a wide range of facilities and state-of-the-art technologies to foment study. It actively promotes integral education through specific programmes covering areas such as culture, sport, cooperation, equality, the environment, languages and technology.

SOME UDC SERVICES AND CAMPUS FACILITIES

**UDC Intranet Services:** Students receive a personal username and password to get access to WI-FI and Moodle online learning platform

**Student card:** All registered students receive a student card which offers access to sport and cultural facilities, and also discounts in urban buses, as well as in cinemas, some restaurants and shops.

**Laboratories:** Fitted with the latest technology, our science teaching laboratories provide a highly interactive learning environment

**UDC Libraries:** Opening from 08.00 to 21.00 from Monday to Friday (special opening days and hours during exam periods). All of them have specific quiet study/research areas equipped with computers

**Canteens:** Offering menus with special prices for students. Students who prefer to bring their own food can heat their meals in microwave ovens in some of the canteens

**Bank:** there are two bank offices in the Campus in case you need to open a Spanish bank account

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INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Full legal Name of Institution: Universidade da Coruña (UDC)
Erasmus Code: E LA-CORU01
Erasmus University Charter: 28678-IC-1-2007-1-ES-ERASMUS-EUCX-1
Postal Address: Rectorado - A Maestranza nº 9 – 15001 A Coruña - ESPAÑA
Telephone: +34 981 167000
Fax: +34 981 167013
President: Prof. Julio Abalde Alonso
Web page: http://www.udc.es

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Address: Oficina de Relaciones Internacionales
O Lago - Campus de Elviña – 15071 A Coruña. SPAIN
Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9.00 – 14.00
Telephone: +34 981 167000
Fax: +34 981 167013
Web page: http://international.udc.es

Contact Details:

Campus Coruña

Head International Office: Begoña Crespo
Tel.: +34 881 011973
E-mail: erasmus@udc.es

Mobility Coordinator: Sandra King Gouyer
Tel.: +34 881 011953
E-mail: rrii@udc.es

International Summer School Coordinator: Diego Varela
Tel.: +34 881 011970
E-mail: dvarela@udc.es

International Agreements / Staff mobilities: Ana López Pampin
Tel.: +34 881 011956
Email: iro@udc.es

Incoming mobilities (students): Flor Lema / Paula Porto
Tel.: +34 881 011981 +34 881 011958
E-mail: incoming.rrii@udc.es

Outgoing mobilities (students): Ana Alonso / María Isabel Porto
Tel.: +34 881 011959 +34 881 011960
E-mail: outgoing.rrii@udc.es

Visiting researchers / International Summer School: Inés Fernández Pita
Tel.: +34 881 011950
Email: ori1@udc.es

Economic Management: Susana Castro Nodar
Tel.: +34 881 011972
Email: ori@udc.es

Campus Ferrol

Outgoing/Incoming mobilities: Ana Pérez Ramos
Edif. Apoyo al estudio – Campus Esteiro. Ferrol
Tel.: +34 881 013634
E-mail: riferrol@udc.es

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DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATORS

CAMPUS OF A CORUÑA

School of Architecture
Evaristo Zas
erasmusetsa@udc.es
http://etsa.udc.es/web/

School of Civil Engineering
Manuel Herrador Barrios
mherrador@udc.es
http://caminos.udc.es/

School of Marine Engineering
Rafael Santos Coupeiro
rsc@udc.es
http://www.nauticaymaquinas.es/

School of Technical Architecture
Álvaro Iglesias
erasmus.euat.ie@udc.es
http://euat.udc.es/

Faculty of Sciences
Moises Canle López
movesci@udc.es
http://ciencias.udc.es/

Faculty of Communication Sciences
Ana González Neira
agonzalezn@udc.es
http://www.cienciasdacomunicacion.es/

Faculty of Education
Patricia Digón
eduvicedonvicedente@udc.es
http://www.educacion.udc.es/

Faculty of Health Sciences
Inés Viana Moldes
iviana@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/fcs/

Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Science
María del Castillo Obeso
inef.mob@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/inef/

Faculty of Law
Carmen García Martín Montero
vicedecana.derecho@udc.es
http://www.dereito.udc.es/

Faculty of Economy and Business
Rosa María Pérez
rmariz@udc.es
http://www.economicas.udc.es/

Faculty of Philology
Elizabeth Woodward
vicebfil@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/filo/

Faculty of Computer Science
Susana Ladra González
vicedecano.docente.fic@udc.es
http://www.fic.udc.es/

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School of Physiotherapy
Lidia Carballo
lidia.carballo@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/euf/

Faculty of Sociology
José María Cardesín Díaz
cardes@udc.es
http://www.sociologia.udc.es/es/

School of Nursing
Carmen María García Martínez
alexia@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/enfermariacoruna/

School of Labour Relations
María Romaní
mromani@udc.es

School of Tourism
Sarah Moss
sarahmoss@mundo-r.com
http://www.cenpcoruna.com/

CAMPUS OF FERROL

Higher Polytechnic University College
Vicente Díaz Casas
rrii.eps@udc.es
http://www.udc.es/eps

University College of Industrial Design
Nieves Pedreira Souto
nieves.pedreira@udc.es
http://www.eudi.udc.es/

Polytechnic University College
José Luis Calvo Rolle
jcalvo@cdf.udc.es
http://lucas.cdf.udc.es/

Faculty of Work Science
Asunción López Arranz
a.larranz@udc.es
http://www.eurlf.com/

Faculty of Nursing and Podiatry
Carolina Rosende Bautista
enfermeria.fep@udc.es
podologia.fep@udc.es
http://www.enfermeriaypodologia.com/

Faculty of Humanities and Documentation
Manuela Santos Pita
m.p.santos@udc.es
http://humanidades.udc.es/

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## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Exchange students can choose any subject at any course, as long as the subject is being taught. For more information, please contact the corresponding departmental coordinator indicated above.

### Course Catalogue


### Semester Dates

**Winter Semester**
- Early September – Late January

**Spring Semester**
- Late January – Middle July

For more detailed information about this year’s calendar please check the web page: [http://www.udc.es/ensino/calendario_academico](http://www.udc.es/ensino/calendario_academico)

### Grading System

A 10-tier grading scale (0-10) is used at the University of A Coruña:

- 0,0-4,9: .............. Suspenso (SS).
- 5,0-6,9: .............. Aprobado (AP).
- 7,0-8,9: .............. Notable (NT).
- 9,0-10: ................ Sobresaliente (SB).

We also use “No Presentado (N/P)” when the student register in one course but does not take any exam. More information about the grading system will be included in the transcript of records.

This Grading system is compatible with the ECTS grading scale (A-E). For more information about ECTS scale, see Official Website of European Commission: [http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/ects_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/ects_en.htm)

A «Matrícula de Honor» could be awarded to students who have obtained 9.0 or over. The number of students with this award cannot exceed 5% of the students enrolled in the course in that academic year, except that the number of students enrolled is below 20, in which case it is only possible to award one «Matrícula de Honor».

### Academic Transcripts

The Transcript of Records will be issued in the each student after the deadline stated for final grades to be published officially and before the departure of the student. In case the student has to leave before the final grades are officially published, the transcript of records will be sent to the International Relations Office of the student’s home University. No grades will be sent to the home university before the student has finished his/her study period.

### Language of instruction

In the following website, subjects taught in English are specified:


The rest of the courses are taught in Spanish or Galician, as both are official languages at UDC.
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND FREE SPANISH COURSES

Although a proof of level of Spanish is not required, a good knowledge of at least B1 level is recommended.

The UDC offers to our incoming students a free 30 hours Spanish course at the beginning of each semester. We strongly recommend students’ participation in those courses. Registration is mandatory.

For more detailed information about dates and on-line registration, please access on the web site of the University Language Centre at: http://www.udc.es/centrodelinguas/extranjeros/.

Exchange students can also take Galician courses throughout the year at the University Language Center. Special prices are available.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DEADLINES

| Deadline for Winter Term (or full year) | 15th June |
| Deadline for Summer Term               | 15th November |

In order to accept students the following procedure must be completed before the deadlines:

1. The home university will send by e-mail the list of their selected students
2. Once selected by their home institution every student will have to fill out the on-line application available through the incoming exchange student PORTAL available on our Web page: http://www.udc.gal/ori/infestudantesextranjeros/FormulariosExtranjeros/index.html?language=en (Students should take into consideration that only one online application form per student will be accepted, so they can contact our office if they have any doubts regarding the information requested in the online application form, before clicking on the “submit” final button. At any time, the student can save parts of the information entered in the application form. Students have to submit the online application only when they are sure that all of the information given is correct).

VERY IMPORTANT:

The Exchange Students Applications WILL NOT BE PROCESSED if the LEARNING AGREEMENT uploaded in the online application is not duly signed and stamped by the home university.

HEALTH INSURANCE

All incoming exchange students have to hire a Health insurance coverage valid for Spain (European Health Card is valid). Each student must check whether his/her home country has an agreement with the Spanish Social Security system. If this is not the case, the student must hire a private Health insurance coverage.

According to internal rules applying to all students registered at UDC, all incoming exchange students will pay an Accident insurance fee, upon arrival at UDC, in order to be formally registrated. This accident insurance will cover possible accidents during academic activities at UDC. The amount of the fee and terms of the accident insurance policy will be published in Web page http://www.udc.gal/sape/seguros/

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REGISTRATION AT ARRIVAL

Exchange students are required to register at the International Relations Office at their arrival and to bring with them the following documents:

- Medical insurance coverage valid in Spain (European Health Card) or private insurance

See the contact details in this document to know the addresses and opening schedules of the offices at A Coruña or Ferrol.

A student card will be provided to each student. This card will enable students to have access to all university services (libraries, computer rooms, sports activities, cafeterias, etc).

WELCOME EVENT AND BUDDY PROGRAMME

At the beginning of every term a welcome event is held to receive students at our university. The exact date will be communicated directly by email to each student. During this event the student will have the opportunity to meet official authorities and staff at our services, chat with local and other international students around a coffee and find their way around the local area.

Moreover, at the University of A Coruña, a fellow student will be assigned to every international exchange student. This “buddy student” will help them, e.g., to find accommodation in the city, plan study schedule or open a bank account.

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

ESN Coruña is a voluntary membership association and non-profit that helps improve social and personal integration of exchange students who come to the Spanish universities.

Facebook Webpage: [https://www.facebook.com/esncoruna](https://www.facebook.com/esncoruna)
E-mail: info@esncoruna.org

AEGEE is an international student organization that promotes co-operation, communication and integration amongst young people in Europe. They help our International Exchange Students to integrate into Spanish culture and costumes by organizing cultural trips, linguistics tandems, international food contests, etc.

More info at: [https://gl-es.facebook.com/aegeeacoruna](https://gl-es.facebook.com/aegeeacoruna)
E-mail: aegee.coruna@gmail.com

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ACCOMODATION

- Campus Coruña: the University does not have its own residence, and the application for the exchange program at UDC does not include an offer for a room in a dorm. However, some private residences around the town offer special prices for our exchange students, for example, the “Siglo XXI” Residence hall (http://www.resa.es/) or Rialta Residence (www.rialta.net).

- Campus Ferrol: the University has a residence: “Residencia Universitaria Pública de Ferrol”. There are also some other private residences.

Students will have to contact directly the residences in A Coruña or in Ferrol for more information.

A complete list of residencies can be seen at: http://www.udc.es/sape/residencias/residencias.htm

We also recommend the option of renting shared apartments in the city.


HOW TO GET THERE

By plane

Alvedro Airport
Tel: +34 981 187 200
Distance from A Coruña city centre: 8 km (15 minutes by car)
Distance from Ferrol city centre: 48 km (30 minutes by car)

Lavacolla Airport
Tel: +34 981 547 500
Located in Santiago de Compostela
Distance from A Coruña city centre - 65 km. (40 minutes by car). There are buses and taxis to reach from Lavacolla airport to A Coruña
Distance from Ferrol city centre - 90 km. (60 minutes by car)

Airport of Barajas (Madrid)
Distance from A Coruña/Madrid - 590 km. (6 hours by car)
There are trains and buses to reach from Madrid to A Coruña/Ferrol. Check train schedules at: http://www.renfe.es and buses at: http://www.alsa.es/

By train:

Train stations are located in the city of A Coruña and Ferrol. Please check the timetables on the web site of the train company at http://www.renfe.es/
The first station you can get in Spain when coming from Europe is “Hendaya”. From Hendaya to A Coruña/Ferrol, there is a 12 hours trip.
EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITIES AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES AT UDC

Our University encourages all kind of cultural and sport activities as an important part of the student’s education as a whole. All participants in our exchange programs will be allowed to participate in the many activities offered for the UDC students:

- Cultural activities like workshops of dance (flamenco, modern dance, Latin rhythms…), photography, bridge, chess, cultural routes during weekends to different places of our geography
- The musical school and the university chorus.
- The cooperation and voluntary service, an organization of university volunteers, which contributes to social services. [http://www.udc.es/ocv](http://www.udc.es/ocv)
- Sport activities like: athletics, badminton, basketball, baseball, climbing, fencing, soccer, indoor soccer, judo, kung-fu, swimming, rugby, tennis, indoor tennis, archery, volleyball, scuba diving, mountain bike, skiing, canoeing, rowing, and sailing
- Access to sports installations within campus like: climbing walls, basket and football courts, gym or athletics trails.


LEGAL PROCEDURES FOR FOREIGNERS IN SPAIN

For more information on legal procedures to be completed by foreigners who will be staying at UDC for more than 3 months, please refer to the following Web page: