

# **Welcome to the University of A Coruña**

## **The guide**

This guide has been especially designed for foreign students coming to the University of A Coruña to make sure that your stay here will go well.

**Dear student,**

**It is a pleasure for us that you are considering the University of A Coruña as your destination to study a Double Degree programme.**

**We recognise the valuable role international students play in the creation of a vibrant university community and we would like you to be a part of ours.**



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## A few reasons for choosing the University of A Coruña

As a basic guide, it will provide you with useful information about studying and living at UDC. In case you have any further doubt, our staff at the International Relations office will be glad to help you.

Studying at UDC is an excellent opportunity for those students who want to receive high quality education and, at the same time, to live an international experience in a community where integration is extremely simple.

UDC currently offers more than 10 joint and double Degree programs on a wide variety of study fields. In addition to the highest EU educational standards, these international Degrees provide the intercultural, linguistic and relational skills needed for a successful professional career in a globalised world.

Moreover, the Double Degree you are thinking about enrolling in is the result of the work developed under the RETHINKe project. More than 10 Western and Eastern European universities, as well as Ministries and other institutional and governmental bodies have worked together to build up this program. All these institutions are highly committed to environment, protection and higher education quality in the whole continent.

The University of A Coruña (UDC), founded in 1989, is part of a European network made up of 46 countries offering compatible qualifications.

As a public institution we are strongly committed to increasing the welfare through social, scientific and technological advancement, and one of the basic means to reach this goal is to form open, cultivated, critical, committed, democratic and supportive citizens.

Openness and collaboration with other cultures have always been considered one of our fundamental policies. For this reason, 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.

The University of A Coruña has 24 Centres which offer Bachelor, Master and Doctoral degrees in Technological Science, Health and Experimental Sciences, Humanities, Social and Juridical Sciences.

The academic offer is completed with a Language Centre that provides language learning services to the university community.

## The city of A Coruña

The city of A Coruña is a mid-sized coastal city in the Spanish autonomous region called Galicia. Look at the web page **[www.turismocoruna.com](http://www.turismocoruna.com)**

It is a very green region with a significant Celtic and Roman heritage. The historic background is totally integrated in a modern and very cosmopolitan city of over 250.000 inhabitants. It is an industrial and service city, centre 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.

A Coruña is a city to walk, with very active leisure and commercial areas, plenty of cafes, pubs, large pedestrian walks, shops, etc. This pleasant environment, together with people’s hospitality, make A Coruña an ideal location to easily get integrated into the daily life of their inhabitants.

As regards to research, essential in order to maintain excellent teaching standards, the University offers a wide range of facilities and state-of-the-art technologies: three technological centres endowed with outstanding instruments and equipment at an European level, and one office devoted to research transfer results and support to research, in close relation to management and industrial world.

The University of A Coruña 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, visit **<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 21-22°C and in winter 10-11°C

## **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

### **Canteen**

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.

## **Institutional information**

Universidade da Coruña (UDC)  
[www.udc.gal](http://www.udc.gal)

### **International Relations Office**

Address:  
Oficina de Relaciones Internacionales  
O Lagar, Campus de Elviña  
15071 A Coruña. Spain

Opening hours:  
Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 14:00

Tel. + 34 981 167000  
Fax + 34 981 167013  
<http://international.udc.es>  
[iro@udc.es](mailto:iro@udc.es)

### **Faculty of Sciences**

Address:  
Faculty of Sciences  
Campus da Zapateira  
15071 A Coruña. Spain

Tel. + 34 981 167000  
Fax + 34 981 167013  
<http://ciencias.udc.es>

## **Academic information**

### **Semester dates**

Winter Semester  
October – December (exams in January)

### **Spring semester**

February – May (exams in June)

### **Extraordinary exams** July

We recommend that you try to arrive 2-3 weeks before the course starts to have time to officially register and to settle in.

### **Teaching times**

From Monday to Friday (lectures will be given either in the morning or in the afternoon.

Separate groups will be organized according to the sessions.

### **Vacation dates**

Christmas 22<sup>nd</sup> December - 7<sup>th</sup> January  
Easter a week in March or April  
Summer: August

### **Grading system**

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

9,0-10: Sobresaliente (SB) / Outstanding (A)  
7,0-8,9: Notable (NT) / Good (B)  
5,0-6,9: Aprobado (AP) / Passed (C)  
0,0-4,9: Suspenso (SS) / Fail (D/E)

We also use “No Presentado (N/P)” when the student is registered in one course but does not take any exam.

Honours 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 honours.

### **Diploma**

At the end of the course students will have to apply for the corresponding Master Diploma at the Faculty of Sciences, paying the corresponding fees.

### **Language requirements**

B1 level in English language

## Application procedure and deadlines

Student has to apply in her home institution to get the Double Master Degree.

Each home institution will establish its own deadlines and a proper internal procedure to select the students that will take part in the Double Degree.

Access conditions to the Double Degree will be stipulated by each institution for those students enrolled in the corresponding Master Degrees.

Once students have been selected, the Home institution will send the University of A Coruña by 20th July a list of students taking part in the double degree programme, including full name, copy of the passport, contact data (e-mail) and documents certifying students fulfil the requirements to study a Master Degree.

All the students included in this list fulfilling the Master requirements will receive a letter confirming their acceptance and will be registered as ordinary degree seeking students at UDC in September.

### **Registration at arrival**

Upon their arrival at the University of A Coruña, students have to personally register at the Faculty of Sciences presenting the original documents certifying their previous studies giving access to the Master.

At the Faculty of Sciences students will be informed about procedures to register and fees.

### **Fees**

- Tuition fees: 1999,20 €
- Request official diploma: 123.10 €
- Administrative fees: 22,31 €
- Registration fee: 10 €
- Scholar insurance (compulsory for younger than 28): 1,12 €

Prices and fees could vary from year to year due to governmental decisions.

### **Health insurance**

UDC registered students under 28 have to pay for a scholar insurance covering accidents in UDC facilities. Apart from that, all foreign students have to hire an insurance coverage valid for Spain.

All students registered at UDC will be covered by the University of A Coruña insurance policy in case of an accident while they are doing academic activities.

### **Visa procedures for students coming from non-eu countries**

All foreign students from non-EU countries studying full-time at the University of A Coruña for more than three months are required to apply for a visa.

Everyone arriving in the European Union has to pass through Immigration Control. The rules and conditions regarding entry are strictly enforced by Immigration Officers, but if you have obtained all the necessary documents in your home country before leaving, you should not have any problems.

## Before travelling to Spain

Students will receive an acceptance letter issued by the University of A Coruña to apply for a 3-months temporal visa (Schengen visa) in the corresponding Spanish Embassy.

### **Students from Armenia and Belarus**

Spanish Embassy in Moscow

**e-mail:** cog.moscu@maec.es

**www.**exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/MOSCU/en/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Pages/VisadosUniformeSchengen.aspx

### **Students from Moldavia**

Spanish Embassy in Bucharest (Romania)

**e-mail:** emb.bucarest.info@maec.es

**www.**exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/BUCAREST/en/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Paginas/inicio.aspx

### **Students from Ukraine**

Spanish Embassy in Kiev

**e-mail:** emb.kiev.cons@maec.es

**www.**exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/KIEV/uk/Paginas/inicio.aspx

### **Students from Georgia**

Spanish Embassy in Istanbul (Turkey)

**e-mail:** cog.estambul@mae.es

**www.**exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/ESTAMBUL/es/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Paginas/inicio.aspx

### **Students from Azerbaijan**

Spanish Embassy in Ankara (Turkey)

**e-mail:** emb.ankara@maec.es

**www:** http://ankaravisa.es/

### **Other embassies or consulates**

**www.**exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/EmbajadasConsulados.aspx

## After your arrival in Spain

Students have to go to the Foreign Police Office to apply for a residence permit (they have 30 days since they arrive in Spain)

### **Necessary documents**

- Application form ([http://extranjeros.empleo.gob.es/es/ModelosSolicitudes/Mod\\_solicitudes2/17-Formulario\\_TIE.pdf](http://extranjeros.empleo.gob.es/es/ModelosSolicitudes/Mod_solicitudes2/17-Formulario_TIE.pdf))  
Fill in part 1 with your personal data and part 4, print it and sign it.
- 2 photos (passport size)
- Copy of your passport including the page where your visa is registered in the passport
- Proof of enrolment at the University of A Coruña
- Document informing about your place of residence in A Coruña

### **Address Foreign Police Office**

Calle Real, 53. A Coruña

Opening hours from 09.00 to 14.00  
from Monday to Friday

## Travelling to A Coruña

### By plane

#### Alvedro Airport

Tel. +34 981 187 200

Distance from A Coruña city centre: 8 km  
*15 minutes by car*

There are buses from the airport to the City Centre (1,50€)

Monday to Friday: from 07.15 to 21.45  
*every half an hour*

Saturday: from 08.00 to 22.00 *every hour*

Sundays: from 08.30 to 22.30 *every hour*

#### 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

#### Airport of Barajas (Madrid)

Distance from A Coruña to Madrid - 590 km  
*6 hours by car*

There are trains and buses to reach from Madrid to A Coruña.

Check train schedules at **www.renfe.es**  
and buses schedules at **www.alsa.es**

### By train

Train station is located in the city of A Coruña. Please check the timetables on the web site of the train company at **www.renfe.es**

The first station you can get in Spain when coming from Europe is “Hendaya”.  
*From Hendaya to A Coruña, there is a 12 hours trip*

## Accommodation

The University of A Coruña does not have its own residence and the application for the Double Degree Programme does not include an offer for a room in a dorm. However, some private residences around the town offer special prices for our international students.

#### Siglo XXI Residence hall

[www.resa.es](http://www.resa.es)

#### Rialta Residence

[www.rialta.net](http://www.rialta.net)

Students will have to contact directly the residences for more information.

## Emergency phone numbers

The European emergency number is **112**.

This is not the only emergency number in Spain. Alongside **112**, the following emergency numbers are available:

**092** local police

**091** police

**061** health emergencies

**080** fire fighters

## Extra activities and leisure activities

The University of A Coruña 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>**

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.

For more information:

**<http://international.udc.es/Eventos/en-US>**

## Students' association for incoming students

Students' associations offer international students a complete range of services and social and cultural activities.

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

More information:

**[www.facebook.com/esncoruna](http://www.facebook.com/esncoruna)**

**e-mail:** [esncoruna@gmail.com](mailto:esncoruna@gmail.com)

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 information:

**<https://gl-es.facebook.com/aegeeacoruna>**  
**[aegee.coruna@gmail.com](mailto:aegee.coruna@gmail.com)**

# **International** **Relations** **Office**

iro@udc.es

Tel. + 34 981 167000

Fax + 34 981 167013

[www.international.udc.es](http://www.international.udc.es)



[www.udc.gal/ori/internationaldegrees/environmentalsciences.html](http://www.udc.gal/ori/internationaldegrees/environmentalsciences.html)



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