

GLOBAL CAMPUS

LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Dear Student, Parent, or Interested Party:

Thank you for requesting information about our Semester in Spain 2025. Spending a semester studying abroad in another country is one of the most transformative experiences a student will have in his or her college career. The opportunities for growth are endless ... one simply needs to take that first step.

You will find plenty of information in this document—from a general overview about the program to specific information you will need for application and financial preparation to participate. We want you to have the information you need to make a prayerful and informed decision.

We have tried to cover all the bases in this document, but if you have questions that are not answered here, please let me know. You can email, call, make an appointment to see me, or if you prefer, let me buy you a cup of coffee and we will sit down and visit more.

Again, thank you for your interest, and I look forward to visiting with you more about Spain. Studying abroad is a life-changing experience and I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.



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LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Semester in Spain

Program Information

Although Lubbock Christian University offers a variety of learning opportunities in intercultural contexts, the most immersive program is a semester spent in Ávila, Spain. In what most would consider a traditional “Study Abroad” program, students live in a dorm and meet in classes on the campus of the Catholic University of Ávila (UCAV).

Students can take a full load (12-15 hours) of classes while in Spain. Courses are primarily taught by LCU professors who travel to and live in Ávila with the students. The one exception is the Spanish course, which is taught by a UCAV faculty member, and yes, it is taught entirely in Spanish.

Living in Spain for an entire semester allows students to experience full immersion into the culture and unique activities of Spain, with plenty of opportunities during their time to participate in events in Ávila and form relationships with other students at UCAV.

On many weekends, students have the chance to travel to other locations in Europe, furthering their understanding and awareness of the different cultures that make up the continent.

During our return trip to the United States, the entire group will stop in London, spending 5-7 days getting to see some of the highlights of London. Some of the places visited in London include: The Tower of London, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Evensong at St. Paul’s Cathedral, the London Christmas Market, a play or musical, and a day trip to Oxford.

The Global Campus Program is led by Robert Anderson, who was part of the faculty team during the Spain 2022 semester. Robert serves both as the campus wide Director of Global

Campus, as well as the onsite director for the semester in Spain. The Fall of 2025 will be the eighth year LCU students have spent a semester in Spain.

Ávila

Located in the Castile and León region of Spain, the town of Ávila is located approximately an hour and a half west of Madrid. It is the capital of the province of Ávila and has a population of approximately 60,000 as of the 2018 census.

Ávila is best known for its intact medieval city walls with over 80 crenelated, semicircle towers and 9 gates. The walls average almost 10 feet thick and have an average height of 39 feet. In 1985, Ávila was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its walled city and *extra muros* (“outside the walls”) churches. Ávila claims to have more Romanesque and Gothic churches per capita than any other city in Spain.

Ávila has been inhabited since the 5th century BC by the Vettones, ancient Romans, the Visigoths, and finally, the Spanish. It was the home of Teresa of Ávila, who was a central figure for spiritual and monastic renewal during the Counter-Reformation and still is an important spiritual influence for the people of Ávila.

Ávila is also the home to the National Police Training Academy, where officers spend nine months training for their civic roles.

Catholic University of Ávila

Lubbock Christian University partners with the Catholic University of Ávila (or UCAV). UCAV provides dormitory and classroom space for LCU’s instructors, as well as opportunities for our students to interact with other international students. UCAV also provides a Spanish Instructor from their university to teach LCU students the Spanish language. Forbes named UCAV one of the 20 best universities in Spain in 2021.

Benefits of Study Abroad Programs

While traveling to a foreign country is a joy in itself, there are other advantages students will gain by time studying abroad.

Greater Cultural Exposure

Studying Abroad allows students to gain an expanded worldview, increasing language proficiency, and helping students navigate situations where they must be adaptable. This skill gives students the ability to live better lives both personally and professionally.

Personal Growth

A student gains independence and confidence by living not only away from home, but away from a student's home country and culture. This new environment improves student's ability to overcome challenges and increases their network of friends.

Academic Advantages

Students who participate in Study Abroad programs find that the different environments in which they learn help them become better students. The unique opportunities, programs, and specialized teaching methods allow for growth that is often not available in a traditional classroom at a student's home university. Seeing history in person, rather than just reading about it in books or on presentation slides increases a student's ability to remember and appreciate the information that is being presented to them.

Career Development

In a global environment where cross-cultural communication and interactions are becoming the norm, students gain advantages professionally from learning in a global context. Employers value prospective hires that can work cross-culturally and problem solve within a team made up of unique individuals.

Travel and Adventure

The adventures a student undertakes by studying abroad become core memories and experiences that they treasure for a lifetime. Students who study abroad tend to continue to travel and their insights grow throughout the rest of their lives. A semester abroad is not an adventure with a beginning and an end; it is the launching pad for ongoing and lifelong experiences in many different parts of the world.

Mission of God

Throughout Scripture, God calls his people to pay attention to those who are foreigners and strangers. Studying abroad enables every participant to have a greater understanding of people and cultures different than their own, and as a result, they can better understand

others as they share the message of Christ. This understanding is true not only in a foreign country such as Spain but becomes increasingly true in a student's hometown.

Things to Do

Your semester in Spain is an opportunity to learn in a foreign culture. Because it is a school semester with classes, your time in those classes and studying will take up a significant portion of your time. Because you are taking these classes together with others on the trip, you may find that this community of students forms a natural study group to help you successfully accomplish class and homework goals.

In addition to classes, there is opportunity to spend time with other students from UCAV, both Spanish students as well as those from other nations. You are also paired with a language partner, who helps you get better adjusted not only to the language, but also some of the activities in Ávila in which you may want to participate. You may also find that you meet new people, not necessarily connected with UCAV but from Ávila, especially through their extra-curricular activities.

Speaking of other activities, many of our students spend their free time in Ávila exercising, joining a local gym to work out, playing fútbol (soccer) at a local field, and spending time discovering some of the beautiful sites of the city.

And of course, you have a chance to travel throughout Europe on the weekends you are free.

Travel

One of the most exciting things to do while in Spain is see some of the other cities in Spain and Europe. As a group, we travel to a Spanish city, usually Granada or Córdoba, for an extended weekend. We also take day trips to Madrid and Segovia. (Segovia is famous for its aqueduct, which was built by the Romans in the first century AD and was in use up until 1973. It is one of the most well-preserved aqueduct bridges and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.)

In groups of at least three, students may also travel to other places on their own. There are a large number of fascinating locations one can travel to in Spain, all within easy access by

Spain's efficient train system. If travel to other countries is your desire, you may travel to many countries within the European Union. Classes end on Thursday around noon, and students are free to travel all weekend, but must be back in Ávila Sunday evening before 7:00pm for our weekly worship. Some of the most popular locations student have visited include Rome, Paris, Santorini, Vienna, Florence, and Athens. (NOTE: Travel on your own is not included in the costs of the program.)

Similar to the schedule at LCU, UCAV has a fall break in which students have additional days to travel. Students can take advantage of this longer time off for travel further away from Ávila, which also allows more time to experience the places to which students go.

Safety

A common question is, "How safe is it to travel abroad?" While we cannot guarantee complete safety, just as we cannot do so in the United States, we work very hard to ensure that our students participate in the global experience in such a way that reduces the risk as much as possible.

Ávila is a very safe city. A mid-sized community, it does not have a large population like you would find in Madrid or Barcelona. Ávila is also the site of the National Police Training Academy, which helps create a safer community.

When students travel, they must do so in groups of at least three. All of their travel plans are submitted for approval by the Director of Global Campus. Students must provide not only where they are going, but also the specific transportation plans and locations where they are staying while traveling. Among the things that are examined with these plans are locations of travel, locations where students stay, and logistics so to avoid scheduling conflicts that might cause missed planes or trains.

Lubbock Christian University is a member of OSAC (Overseas Security Advisory Council), which is a partnership between the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) and security professionals from U.S. organizations operating abroad. This organization allows us to gain information from security professionals around the globe, thus increasing the awareness of potential risks involved in travel. LCU will never knowingly place our students or faculty in a location where there is undue risk and will prohibit student travel to certain areas, if need be.

Courses

Students are expected to take a full course load (12-15 hours) during the semester they are in Spain. Courses are focused on those which fit the University Core Requirements, as well as courses that are within the expertise of the faculty who are in Ávila.

For the Fall of 2025, we will offer the following courses:

- ART3352 – Special Topic: Art History in Spain
- BIB3305 – Christian Heritage and/or BIB3310 – Christian Life
- ENG3308 – Technical Writing or ENG3310 – Writing Grant Proposals
- ENG3300 – Literature for Children and Young Adults or similar
- GBC3310 – Global Experience: The Culture and History of Spain
- Spanish* – Beginning or Intermediate Spanish

*Required course, taught by a professor from UCAV

Students are also able to take a course online, if one suits their schedule.

We work with students to ensure they are able to take the courses they need with minimal interruption to their degree plan.

Faculty

For the Fall of 2025, the following faculty will be in Ávila.

Robert Anderson – Adjunct Instructor, Bible; On-site Director, Global Campus

Jana Anderson – Assistant Professor, English

Dr. Michelle Kraft – Adjunct and Former Professor, Art

Global Campus Policies

The following policies apply to all students who participate in the Semester in Spain program. Students are responsible for reading, knowing, and agreeing to the following:

- Students studying abroad are given the freedom and privilege to expand their studies beyond the Lubbock campus. However, students are still expected to attend all classes, meetings, and orientations, both in Lubbock prior to travel, and while studying abroad. An absence from a pre-departure meeting or orientation without notifying the director in advance may result in probation or expulsion from the program. Any absence from class, unless due to illness, must be pre-arranged with a faculty member.
- LCU Global Campus provides the opportunity for students to live and connect to cultures around the world. Students will be exposed to new behaviors, beliefs, and traditions, and will be exposed to new points of view as they travel. Customs in relation to food and drink differ from country to country. Students who engage in the Semester in Spain program with Lubbock Christian University are expected to comply with the alcohol policy outlined in the Student Handbook. When a student is engaged in study abroad in a foreign country, the host country's laws will be applied, unless they are in violation of LCU Student Handbook policies. Any student found to be in violation of this policy will be referred to the Director of Global Campus and to the Dean of Students. Consequences may include dismissal from the program at the student's cost.
- Students are granted time for individual travel across Europe. All individual travel will be planned and managed by the student and will be at the student's expense. Students may not travel in groups of less than three people. Students are required to provide a detailed itinerary of their travels to the Director of Global Campus by the indicated deadline. This information will include contact information (a personal cell phone number of those traveling together) along with the itinerary (the name, address, and phone number of the place of lodging, and any other relevant information) of their travels. The specific process of turning this information in will be covered in our orientation prior to leaving. Students must return from all weekend travel in time to attend Sunday night chapel. All trips are subject to the approval of the Director of Global Campus.

- LCU students will attend classes at a local university, and will reside in a local residence hall. Students are expected to comply with all rules and regulations designated by the host institution, including, but not limited to, course requirements, safety regulations, curfew, health codes, etc., as well as abide by provincial and national regulations as imposed by local law enforcement.
- LCU provides students with some pre-arranged student and faculty excursions, coordinated by the Director of Global Campus and on-site directors. Students are expected to be on time for every flight, tour, meal, and activity according to the schedule provided in advance by the on-site director. Failure to stay with the group may result in the student's having to navigate to the next meeting point at their own risk and cost. LCU will not be responsible for and on-site directors are not required to wait for students who do not keep up with the group.

Costs

Students have the following costs for the Fall 2025 Semester in Spain:

2025-2026 LCU Tuition and Fees (based on block rate of 12-18 hours)

2025-2026 LCU Room and Board (equal to Gullo Hall and full meal plan)

(NOTE: Final costs are yet to be determined. Charges applied to your LCU bill.)

\$250 – Non-Refundable Application Fee (due with initial application)

\$750 – Non-Refundable Deposit (due upon acceptance into the program)

\$5000 – Study Abroad Program Fee (applied to Fall 2025 tuition bill)

Students will also need to cover their expenses for independent travel (any travel not done as an entire group), spending money for souvenirs, snacks, postcards, stamps, independent meals (meals not eaten as an entire group), and any sites or excursions not done with the entire group.

Students are also responsible for any expenses associated with acquiring a passport or visa, as well as any immunizations required for travel.

What You Need to Participate

To be a part of this semester, each student will need the following:

- Initial Application (due on or before February 14, 2025)
- Pay all deposits by dates due
- Medical Insurance
- Additional Forms and Waiver forms (due on or before May 2, 2025)
- Have a 2.5 or better overall GPA
- Be in good standing with the Dean of Student Life and the Business Office
- Hold a current passport with an expiration date valid for 6 months after you arrive in Spain (tentatively August 30, 2025)
- Have completed a year at LCU

Key Dates

- Applications Open: Now
- Application Fee Due with Initial Application
- Last Day to Apply: February 14, 2025
- Acceptance to Program Announcement Date: March 3, 2025
- Sign up for Classes: Starting March 24, 2025
- Spring Orientation Day: March 29, 2025
- Deposit Due: March 31, 2025
- All Additional Forms and Waivers Due: May 2, 2025
- Fall Orientation Week: August 25-29, 2025
- Leave for Spain Date (tentative): August 29, 2025
- Leave for London Date (tentative): November 25, 2025
- Return to Lubbock Date (tentative): December 1, 2025