

Universidad de Navarra

WS 24/25 – Information Systems

STAP Bachelor



Courses

Spanish A1

Information Systems

Business Communications

Economy and Society for a Sustainable Environment A



Preparation

The application process was fortunately simple because the Universidad de Navarra is a partner university of the Universität zu Köln. You just need to apply through the "WEX – Outgoings portal." Once accepted, you upload some documents, like your transcript of records, proof of health insurance, and a photo, onto the "miUNAV Portal." The Universidad de Navarra sends all the necessary instructions and deadlines via email.

You can also request a buddy, which I highly recommend. If you have any questions, you can simply text them on WhatsApp and usually get an immediate response.

Other than the application and searching for accommodation (I'll talk about that later), there's not much else to prepare. Spain is part of the European Union; therefore no visa or additional health insurance is needed. You can get supplementary health insurance if you want. Personally, I don't think it's necessary. Just check with your health insurance to be sure.

For traveling to Pamplona, I recommend flying from Düsseldorf to Bilbao and then taking the bus to Pamplona. You can buy your bus ticket here:

<https://cuadrabuslineas.com/>.

Accommodation

There are a few ways to find accommodation in Pamplona. You can use organizations like Unicasa, Pamplona Room, or Campus Home, or look for it yourself. I used Pamplona Room and was satisfied. I lived in a large flat with three other male students. We had a living room, a big kitchen, two bathrooms, a dishwasher, and a washing machine.

The only downside is not knowing your flat mates beforehand, but that's always a risk. I paid €410 in total, including cleaning every two weeks. I lived in Iturrama, which is about 10 minutes from the university and 20-30 minutes from the city center (both on foot). I recommend Iturrama because it's between the university and city center, and many students live there.

University

The Universidad de Navarra is a private institution founded by a Catholic organization, which is noticeable but not intrusive. I'm not religious and never had any issues. The university has a dress code: no sportswear in lectures, though baggy jeans, T-shirts, and hoodies are fine.

The staff and professors are very friendly and approachable, which I really appreciated. The campus is large and beautiful, with amazing sports facilities. You can play tennis, paddle, squash, soccer, table tennis, volleyball, and more. To reserve a court, visit <https://unav.reservapistas.com/reservas/default.aspx>.

My Courses

You'll get all the necessary information about course registration via email. The process works on a "first come, first served" basis, so act quickly. For me, everything worked out well - I had Fridays off and only one course on Mondays, which made traveling easier.

Here's a quick summary of my courses:

- **Spanish A1:** A fun beginner course for learning Spanish. There's a bit more workload due to weekly assignments and exams, but it's manageable. The teacher was great, and the course can be credited towards "Studium Integrale."
- **Information Systems:** One of my easiest and favorite courses. The teacher was kind and flexible, even if you missed classes for travel. The course focuses on ERP systems, and everyone passed.
- **Business Communications:** An interesting course, though the teacher sometimes talked too much. You work on weekly group video projects, which account for 70% of your grade. The projects were fun and easy to score well on.
- **Economy and Society for a Sustainable Environment A:** The most challenging course. It includes a final exam (40%), a group project with international students (40%), and a climate simulation (20%). The teacher was strict but supportive. While I liked the course, it's the one I might have swapped out.

Life in Pamplona

Pamplona is smaller than Cologne, which I appreciated because everything is close, and you can walk everywhere. The city center is lively, with lots of bars and restaurants. Thursdays are especially popular because of *Juevintxos*, there you can get cheap beer and pintxos (tapas).

Pamplona has a great vibe, with many young people and plenty to do. For nightlife, clubs like Canalla, La Embajada, or Zentral are good options, but I preferred bars. My favorite in Iturrama was “Extra Time,” which has a pool table, a soccer table, and broadcasts soccer games. Iturrama also has cozy cafés where you can always bump into someone.

I recommend getting the Erasmus Card for discounts on Erasmus-organized events like parties and trips. These events are especially useful at the beginning for meeting people, though later my friends and I organized most trips ourselves.

Conclusion

I really enjoyed my time in Pamplona. It’s a fantastic city with perfect size and an amazing atmosphere. You’ll meet great people, have a lot of fun, and travel across Spain (and maybe even Portugal or France). Studying abroad in Pamplona was a highly enriching experience, and I recommend it to anyone.