UB and the Faculty of Biology

According to the rankings, the University of Barcelona is one of the most reputed European universities and actually located in one of the best cities to study. It is the first ranked university in Spain and the 166th among all the universities in the World in the QS World University Ranking 2019. In Biological Sciences, the Faculty is ranked in the world’s best 51-100. Its own history closely tied to the history of Barcelona and of Catalonia, our university combines the values of tradition with its position as an institution dedicated to innovation and teaching excellence: a university that is as outward-looking and cosmopolitan as the city from which it takes its name.

The UB campuses are spread out across the entire inner-city area, thus fostering a series of close ties between the institution of our University and the city around us. These ties contribute to the human and cultural environment present in certain parts of Barcelona and enables members of the university community to enjoy both the city’s services and those of the UB.

The Faculty of Biology was established in 1974, making it a pioneering institution in Spain. It first appeared as a result of increasing knowledge in the field of life sciences at a time of relentless diversification. It is located on the Pedralbes Campus (Av. Diagonal, 643) opposite the Palau Reial, and as such is well connected with the various public transport systems in the metropolitan area.
Courses

Incoming students at the faculty of biology have the possibility of taking either Bachelor, Master or Lab training courses. Here it follows information about the different possibilities you have.

The Faculty of Biology offers the following Bachelor degrees:

- EHEA bachelor's degree in Biology
- EHEA bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences
- EHEA bachelor's degree in Biotechnology
- EHEA bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences
- EHEA bachelor's degree in Biochemistry

We also participate in the following Bachelor degrees:

- EHEA bachelor's degree in Bioinformatics
- EHEA bachelor's degree in Marine Sciences

And the following Master and Postgraduate programmes:

- Advanced Immunology
- Advanced Microbiology
- Aquaculture
- Biodiversity
- Biological Anthropology
- Ecology, Environmental Management and Restoration
- Environmental Agrobiology
- Genetics and Genomics
- Integrative physiology
- Neurosciences
- Oceanography and Marine Environmental Management

We also participate in the following Master programmes:

- Biomedicine
- Molecular Biotechnology
- Plant biology, genomics and biotechnology
Bachelor courses

At the Faculty of Biology of the University of Barcelona, we have five Bachelor degrees: **Biology, Environmental Sciences, Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Biomedicine**. As an exchange student, you are able to take courses from any of the five Bachelor programs, combining them as you wish.

Visit the [Faculty website](#) for more information.

Bachelor courses are mainly in Catalan or Spanish. But if you don't understand them, we also have a few **Bachelor courses in English** which are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester and BSC</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Schedule 2019-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cytology</td>
<td>1st year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td>12/09- 3/10  4-5 h each Mon/Wed/Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
<td>2nd year Bsc Biochemistry</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory III</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biochemistry</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Biology</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic Engineering</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biotechnology</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td>3/10- 29/11  2 h each Mon/Wed/Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trangenesis and Animal Breeding</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biotechnology</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td>29/11- 15/01 2h each Mon/Wed/Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunology</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biotechnology</td>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and Evaluation of Bioactive Molecules</td>
<td>4th year Bsc Biochemistry</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunology</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunology</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biochemistry</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Biology</td>
<td>3rd year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurogenetics of Behaviour</td>
<td>4th year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research project Development</td>
<td>4th year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic diseases</td>
<td>4th year Bsc Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Master courses

As an exchange student, you are also able to take Master courses. Nevertheless, you have to take into account that Bachelor courses in our faculty are four years long in contrast with most Bachelors in Europe of three years, so a master course would correspond to the fifth year of studies. This makes sometimes difficult that an incoming Bachelor student in his/her 2nd/3rd year of studies has an academic background long enough to follow master courses correctly. In addition to that, master courses have limited places available and students taking the complete master program have priority in front of exchange students.

This situation makes necessary that master coordinators give their acceptance to Exchange Students applying for the courses based on student academic background and places available.

In our faculty we have eleven master programs. You can check their programs here.

Master programs have a wider offer of courses taught in English and we have one master fully done in English: Msc in Genetics and Genomics. There are other masters offering courses in English such as master in Biomedicine, Molecular Biotechnology, Immunology, and Neurosciences.
Masters offering courses in English:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master in Biomedicine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 courses 3 ECTS in English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master in Immunology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 courses 2,5 ECTS in English:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Anatomy of the immune system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Activation and signal transduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Regulation of the immune response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Immunogenetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Immunopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Autoimmunity</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Immunodeficiency and AIDS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master in Neurosciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 courses 2,5 ECTS in English:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Basis of cognitive neuroscience (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Brain waves and cognition (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cellular and molecular basis of neural plasticity (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Computational Neuroscience (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Neurocognitive development (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Molecular biology of ion channels, receptors and transporters (2,5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master in Molecular Biotechnology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 courses 5 ECTS in English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master in Genetics and Genomics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(fully in English)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please, note that as an exchange student you will be able to apply for master courses from all master programs except: Bioinformatics and biostatistics, Bioinformatics for health sciences, International education in vaccine.

You will have to fill in a document where you will have to write the master courses you would like to do. Once we have it, we will send it to master coordinators attaching your transcript of records so they decide whether they can accept you or not. If you receive a negative response about a master course, the coordinator will recommend you another course if she/he thinks you can take it.
Incoming students are allowed to take courses from faculties other than Biology as long as the credits (ECTS) done in another faculty do not exceed the 50% of the total amount of credits that are done in the University of Barcelona. In other words, you have to take at least 50% of your credits at the Faculty of Biology.

If you want to take a course from another faculty, you need specific approval. You have to fill in the specific document and send it to the International Relations Office of the other faculty. Once you have it signed you have to forward it to our mail. If you want to take courses from other faculties ask us for the document and we will send it to you.

**Masters from other faculties we participate**

Our Faculty also participates in the Masters of Biomedicine and Molecular Biotechnology:

- [Biomedicine](#) (Faculty of Medicine)
- [Molecular Biotechnology](#) (Faculty of Pharmacy)

Students are asked to choose courses from the Faculty of Biology (from different bachelors or masters). They can also take courses from faculties other than Biology as long as they do not exceed 49% of the total. In this case, students will need to request permission to the person in charge of international exchanges of the faculty that offers the course they are interested in.
Lab trainings and research projects

We also offer to our incoming students the chance of undertaking “Laboratory training” recognized with 15 ECTS (half time) or 30 ECTS (full time). The time you should spend in a 30 ECTS Lab Training would correspond to a full time job (7-8h per day) and to a part time job (4-5h per day) in the case of 15 ECTS Lab Training. In that case, incoming students should contact themselves with the Research Group and obtain an acceptance before coming to our Faculty.

Steps for applying to an Internship at our Faculty

1- Check the research group you are interested in Faculty of Biology or Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences or Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Sciences Universitat de Barcelona
Check other Catalan research institutions such as:

- Institut de Biomedicina UB
- Institut de Neurociències UB
- Institute de Nanociències i Nanotecnologia UB
- Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia
- Institut de Recerca de Barcelona (Biomedicine)
- CSIC (Spanish Research Council)
  o Developmental Biology and Biomedicine
  o Molecular Biology and Biomedicine
  o Ecology
  o Marine Science
- IDIBAPS (Biomedicine)
- IDIBELL (Biomedicine)
- CRAQ (Agrobiology)
- IBE (Evolutive Biology)
- CREAF (Ecology)
2- Contact the head of the group by e-mail showing that you are interested in becoming a part of the group + CV + Letter of motivation. If the head of the group agrees to have you as a trainee, then you will have to fill in an Internship Confirmation document (in case you come with the Erasmus Internship Programme) and send it to the head of the group to sign it. Finally, send it to ori-bio@ub.edu. If you come to do a lab training with the Erasmus Student Programme, no Erasmus documents are required.

3- Complete and send the Online application

4- Once completed, the following documents should be sent scanned to ori-bio@ub.edu

- one printed copy of your online application form for admission duly completed and signed by you and your tutor at your home university
- a certificate signed by your home University attesting your participation on the program / nomination email form your home university
- Internship confirmation (if you come with the Erasmus Internship Programme)
- 1 passport-sized photograph
- Transcript of Records
- Certificate of language proficiency (catalan, spanish or english)
Application

To be accepted as a temporary visiting student at the UB you need to follow the steps described below:

1. **Find out if your home university has a student exchange agreement with the University of Barcelona**

   International students: Erasmus+ KA103, Erasmus+ KA107 Mundus, bilateral agreements, specific agreements, Coimbra Group program, etc.

2. **If your home university has no formal exchange agreement with the UB, you may submit an individual application**

3. **Obtain authorization from your home university to participate in an exchange program at the UB**

4. **Complete and send the Online application**

   The application for the year 2019/2020 will open the 15th of April. The deadlines are:
   - 15th of June for the first semester and whole academic year.
   - 15th of November for the second semester

5. **Once completed the application form, send the corresponding documents scanned to ori-bio@ub.edu**

**A.1 Erasmus+ Exchange:**

1. One printed copy of your online application form for admission duly completed and signed by you and your tutor at your home university
2. A certificate signed by your home University attesting your participation on the program / nomination email form your home university
3. 1 passport-sized photograph
4. Transcript of Records
5. Certificate of language proficiency (catalan, spanish or english)

**A.2 Erasmus Placement:**

1. One printed copy of your online application form for admission duly completed and signed by you and your tutor at your home university
2. A certificate signed by your home University attesting your participation on the program / nomination email form your home university
3. Acceptance document from the department or service that will host you (Internship Confirmation)
4. 1 passport-sized photograph;
5. Certificate of language proficiency (catalan, spanish or english)
Students covered by Bilateral agreements:

1. One printed copy of your online application form for admission duly completed and signed by you and your tutor at your home university
2. A certificate signed by your home University attesting your participation on the program / nomination email form your home university
3. 1 passport-sized photograph
4. Transcript of Records
5. Certificate of language proficiency (catalan, spanish or english)

For students coming with different Exchange programmes, please check the documents scanned you have to send by email here. (students covered by specific agreements with US universities should note that they do not have to send any documents).

The Manager of mobility at the faculty of Biology will contact you formally to confirm whether or not you have been accepted.

After receiving the application, we will send the Acceptance letter to the students. You can contact us at ori-bio@ub.edu for any questions or doubts. We will have a “Welcome session” the week before each semester starts.
Regular students

Students who have foreign qualifications may be admitted to Bachelor’s degrees, Master courses, Postgraduate Diplomas and Doctoral programmes at the UB.

Check all the International Degrees and courses of the University of Barcelona

Please consult below information on how to successfully complete the admission process to one of the bachelor’s degrees: Admission with foreign qualifications

Obtaining a student residence card

If you are a citizen of a European Union country or of the United Kingdom, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, you are entitled to free movement and residence in Spain. However, if you wish to reside in Spain for a period of time exceeding three months must register at the Central Registry Office for Foreigners in order to be issued a Number Identification as a Foreigner (NIE).

If you are a citizen from outside the EU, you should apply for a student visa at the Spanish consulate in your home country or your country of legal residence. Applicants should submit the documents that show that they have been admitted to a programme, and apply for a student visa (type D).

Please find more information here
Languages

UB recommends the temporary students to have a B2 as the minimum level necessary of Catalan, Spanish or English knowledge (depending on the teaching language of the chosen subjects). On average, approximately 65% of classes are taught in Catalan, and the remaining 35% in Spanish. There are, as it is mentioned before, some courses exclusively in English.

We do not require exchange students to pass a language test. However, we expect exchange students who will follow courses to be able to follow the lectures. Therefore, we strongly suggest all incoming students to prepare their knowledge of Spanish or Catalan thoroughly before coming to Barcelona.

Throughout the academic year, the UB delivers Catalan language courses at all levels and with a wide range of course dates and weekly timetables to choose from, so that each student at the UB can reach a fair level in the language. The university also offers an intensive course, just before the beginning of the semester, designed especially for beginner students to reach a level of listening and writing skill to be able to handle their first university lectures and classes.

Those wishing to learn Spanish can choose from the courses offered by the UB institution Hispanic Studies and if you are interested in taking classes in other languages you can consult the range of courses offered by the university’s School of Modern Languages.
Accommodation and living in Barcelona

In order to arrange accommodation for your stay in Barcelona, you can contact the Barcelona Resa Housing which provides the information you need to know to live and to study in Barcelona: how to get to Barcelona, cost of living, climate, moving about the city or services for the university community.

**Place:** Barcelona University

**Address:** Torrent de l'Olla st., 219 - 08012 Barcelona

**Phone:** (34) 93 238 90 49 - **Fax:** (34) 93 228 92 59

**Website:** [http://www.resahousing.com/cat/](http://www.resahousing.com/cat/)

**E-mail:** info@resahousing.com

**Opening hours:** Mon-Thu -> 09:30 - 13:30 and 15:30 - 17:30 // Fri-> 09:00 - 14:00
Medical, accidents and repatriation insurance

All international students must take out medical, accident and repatriation, insurance for their stay at the UB.

Medical coverage:

- **Students from countries that are members of the European Economic Area** (European Union countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and who are entitled to Social Security benefit in their own country should present their **European health insurance card**. The form for this card is issued by your country's public health authorities and entitles you to medical care in Spain.

- **Students from countries outside the European Economic Area** should establish whether there is a medical agreement between the social security system in their country and in Spain (this is the case for some Latin American countries). If there is one, you should request the relevant document from the health authorities in your country. This document will entitle you to medical care in Spain.

Accidents and repatriation coverage:

- All students must prove an insurance that covers accidents and repatriation. It can be taken out at the home country at individual level or by the home institution

In any case, you have the option of purchasing one, with a insurance company has signed an agreement with the UB: **FERRER & OJEDA**

The Incoming students through the programme Erasmus + placement, must take into account that the required Insurance will also have to include the Professional Liability coverage.

Student residence card

Anyone who wishes to study in Spain and is not a national of any European Union country (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden) or the United Kingdom, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, and wishes to stay six months or more has to apply for the student residence card

**Before arriving in Spain** you should apply for a student visa at the Spanish consulate in your home country or your country of legal residence. Applicants should submit the documents that show that they have been admitted to a program. For further details on consulates, consult the following Web page: [http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/EmbajadasConsulados.aspx](http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/EmbajadasConsulados.aspx)

You can find all the information related with visa and Student residence card in [this link](http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/EmbajadasConsulados.aspx)
Registering at the UB on your arrival

Where do you have to go to register your arrival at the UB?

You have to come to the International Relations Office of the Faculty of Biology with the following documents:

- a document stating that you have been accepted to study temporarily at the UB (a letter or acceptance or the application form signed by the Head of International Exchanges Office at your faculty or school);
- **Medical, accidents and repatriation insurance** covering your stay at the UB;
- 2 passport-sized photographs, to get a provisional credential which will gives you access to a range the library and afterwards the UB student card
- ID Photocopy
- Home address (in Barcelona)
- Name, code and group of the courses you will take
- Learning agreement
- Certificate of Arrival (which you will send back to your university)
More things to know

What do I need to open a bank account?
You need a letter of acceptance from your host university or research centre, or any document that proves you’re studying or doing research at a centre in Catalonia, as well as a passport number and a foreigner’s ID number (NIE). If you’re a national of an EU member state, apply for the NIE at the police station located at Rambla Guipúscoa, 74 (Barcelona). You’ll need a prior appointment, which can be made here. If you’re not from an EU member country, go to the police station at Passeig de Sant Joan, 189 (Barcelona). To make an appointment, email at infoext.barcelona@seap.minhap.es.

How can I access the public health system?
If you come from an EU or EEA member state or Switzerland, you need either a valid European Health Card (issued by your home country) or private medical insurance for the duration of your stay. Non-EU citizens will require private medical insurance that covers their time here. Public primary medical care is provided at CAP centres. See www.catsalut.cat for details.

Which card should I use to travel by public transport?
The most popular travel cards (for metro, bus, tram and FGC and local renfe trains) are:
- T10: a multi-person travel card allowing 10 journeys on all operator in the Integrated Fare System.
- T-Mes: a holder-specific travel card allowing unlimited journeys on all operators in the IFS. It lasts a calendar month and must be used with a travel ID.
- T-Jove: under-25s can use this personalised card to make unlimited journeys over 90 days.
- T-50/30: an individual travel card valid for 50 journeys over 30 consecutive days from the first validation.

For more details, visit www.tmb.es

What to do in case of emergency?
If you are the victim of an accident, ask for help from a police officer or call 112, which works for all emergency services, including ambulances and the fire brigade. It’s free, works 24/7 and you can even call using your mobile in places where you can’t get a signal with your provider (via another company). Operators can help in 50 languages.
Contact information

International Relations Office  (ORI BIOLOGIA)
Faculty of Biology (Universitat de Barcelona)
Diagonal 643
08028 Barcelona
Tel +34 93 4034827
Skype: ori.biologiaub
Mail: ori-bio@ub.edu
Website: www.ub.edu/ori-bio

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Laura Gabarrón (Mobility Technician) – ori-bio@ub.edu
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Coordinators

Dr. Marta Camps (International Relations Coordinator) - martacamps@ub.edu
Dr. Cristina Madrid (Coordinator of International Placements)-
practicum.erasmusbio@ub.edu
Follow us on Social Media!

@biology_unibarcelona

@BiologiaUB

@UBBiologia

The International Relations office also has its own Twitter and Instagram profiles.

Cover picture: Incoming students Faculty of Biology 18-19 2nd semester (February 2019)