Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

1. Language requirements

Good level in Spanish is compulsory in order to work in groups, attend courses and take exams (no official certificate required). We strongly recommend that incoming undergraduate students have at least B1 level of Spanish according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and incoming master degree students at least B2 level.

2. What to do before going to Spain


3. Housing information

Most students live in shared flats in Madrid center where all the social and cultural life happens. The best websites for searching for a shared flat are idealista.com, pisos.com and fotocasa.com. We recommend looking for flats that are well connected to the Cercanías train stops (Atocha, Sol, Nuevos Ministerios) to arrive to the campus relatively quickly. You should be able to find a room in a shared flat for 300-400 euro a month with expenses. Expect to be asked for a 1-2 month deposit but avoid paying an extra month for an agency fee. Finding a good flat can be VERY challenging so we recommend arriving at least a week before classes start to give yourself time to get settled. There are many hostels (hostelworld.com) you can stay at while flat searching.

Other options are university residences:
http://www.uam.es/ss/Satellite/es/1234886381434/contenidoFinal/Residencia_Universitaria_ERASMO.htm

4. Public transport information

The city has great public transport with a metro, one of the best in Europe https://www.metromadrid.es/es, train (Cercanías) http://www.renfe.com/viajeros/cercanias/madrid/ and buses that reach everywhere. The UAM is located at Cantoblanco Campus, which is connected to the city center (15-25 min) by the Cercanías train (train stop: “Cantoblanco Universidad”).

It is useful to download the app Madrid Metro/Bus/Cercanías for maps of both the metro and Cercanías as well as estimated time of travel. Also, you will need an “Abono” (pass card) which works on all forms of transport and only costs 20 euros a month for people under 26 years old.
https://tarjetatransportepublico.crtm.es/CRTM-ABONOS/entrada.aspx
We recommend making an appointment at one of the central stations (Sol, Nuevos Ministerios, Atocha, Moncloa) before you come as there are limited appointments. You can make the appointment here: https://www.tarjetatransportepublico.es/CRTM-ABONOS/entrada.aspx

Public transportation is the fastest and most efficient way of reaching the Campus:
- Commuter Rail ("Cercanías"): Lines C4A and C4B connect the Campus with Madrid (stops are Fuencarral, Chamartín, Nuevos Ministerios, Sol, Atocha, Villaverde), as well as other closer cities in the South and North of Madrid.
- Buses:
  - Línea 714: Plaza de Castilla - Campus de Cantoblanco
  - Línea 827: Canillejas - Alcobendas - UAM - Tres Cantos
  - Línea 827A: San Sebastián de los Reyes - Alcobendas - UAM
  - Línea 828: Recintos feriales - Juan Carlos I - Alcobendas - UAM

5. Offer of Undergraduate courses


Areas available:
- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Food Sciences and Technology
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Human Nutrition and Dietetics

6. Offer of Master courses


Areas available:
- Master’s Degree in Advanced Materials
- Master’s Degree in Applied Chemistry
- Master’s Degree in Biomolecules and Cell Dynamics
- Master’s Degree in Biotechnology
- Master’s Degree in Chemical Engineering
- Master’s Degree in Condensed Matter Physics and Biological Systems [Specialization in Biophysics / Specialization in Nanophysics]
- Master’s Degree in Ecology
- Master’s Degree in Electrochemistry Science and Technology
- Master’s Degree in Energy and Fuels for the Future
- Master’s Degree in Inland Water Quality Assessment
Master's Degree in Mathematics and Applications (Specialization in Introduction to Research / Applications of Mathematics)
Master's Degree in Microbiology
Master's Degree in Molecular Biomedicine
Master's Degree in Nanoscience and Molecular Nanotechnology
Master's Degree in New Food Products
Master’s Degree in Organic Chemistry
Master’s Degree in Physical Anthropology: Human Evolution and Biodiversity
Master’s Degree in Sciences in Agri-environmental and Agri-food Sciences (UAM-UNED)
Master’s Degree in Science in Biodiversity
Master’s Degree in Theoretical Physics

7. Course description and details

http://www.uam.es/Ciencias/Biolog%C3%ADa/1242655508884.htm?language=es&nodepath=Biolog?a
Select the area of study, course year and course.

8. Timetables and classrooms

It is very important to check the timetables before sending your Learning Agreement to avoid overlaps. Please use this tool to check them weekly:

9. Now my University has nominated me, what should I do?

First, you need to register on the online UAM system “SIGMA” (from May 15th to May 31st, first semester and whole year applications; from 1st to 31st October, second semester applications).
https://secretaria-virtual.uam.es/Navegacion/InicioRegistro.movilidad.html
There are two sections: you will need to register as a user, and then complete an application informing about where you are coming from, the Faculty you are coming to, and what studies you are doing with us. It is very important that you upload your photo correctly. If you do not do this, your application will not be processed.

Online Application Form for Admission
a. First, you must register at the UAM here: https://secretaria-virtual.uam.es/Navegacion/InicioRegistro.movilidad.html
b. Second, you must complete the online application here: https://secretaria-virtual.uam.es/Navegacion/InicioAdmision.html
c. Deadlines
i. 1st semester and full academic year: 15th to 31st of May
ii. Deadline 2nd semester: any time before 1st to 31st of October

Second, email your Learning Agreement to ori.ciencias@uam.es, before May 31st if you are a first-semester of full-year student; or before October 31st if you are a second-semester student. If you have any questions related to course content or adequacy, your academic coordinator is the right person to help you.
Learning Agreement for Course Registration

a. Email your Learning Agreement to ori.ciencias@uam.es signed by you and your mobility coordinator at your Home University.

   **Deadlines:**
   i. 1st semester and full academic year: **15th to 31st of May**
   ii. 2nd semester: any time until the **31st of October**

b. There are **limited** places for incoming students in our courses and reservations are made on a **first come basis**. Therefore, we **highly** recommend you sending your learning agreement **asap**.

c. If we do not receive your Learning Agreement proposal **before the deadline** with this information, we **CANNOT** guarantee a place in the courses you want.

10. How do I select my courses?

   The spots available for each course are different, and they will be filled in a first-come-first-served basis. This means that, once a course is full, no more international students will be accepted in it. Please, think of different options to complete your learning agreement.

   NOTE that you will see the code (five digits), the name of the subject and the group number (three digits). You will be able to locate the subject in the schedule by their code. There are different groups for each course, and they determine the hours they will be taught. Attendance is often mandatory, so make sure you don’t have two courses at the same time! Groups at the evening are less crowded. Please consider these courses, as the chances of having a spot in them are higher.

   The schedule is always published during April/May before your mobility starts (September/January).

   This tool is very useful to check them:


   There may be last-minute changes to courses that could affect your selection. If this happens, we will let you know as soon as possible and offer you other options.

   Once classes start you will be able to make changes in your Learning Agreement if needed (just the first week of classes). Always handing out a signed Learning Agreement including the changes. After this period, no changes will be allowed in your selection.

11. I am interested in courses from other Faculties, how to proceed?

   In case you are interested in taking courses from other Faculties, you should request them to their International Relations Office using the following link:

   [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7wJm_JiOHU-iBuFKO8Ga8n0m13-ycp9KhSm3R6sqO31UMTdWSUI3QjgzWEQwRlZDOEJBQTVIUUZQS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7wJm_JiOHU-iBuFKO8Ga8n0m13-ycp9KhSm3R6sqO31UMTdWSUI3QjgzWEQwRlZDOEJBQTVIUUZQS4u)

   Once they accept you for the course(s), you should come back to our office for the enrollment. Bear in mind that most credits should be taken in our Faculty and that if their answer arrives after the period for changes and they do not accept your application, the course(s) won’t be replaced with others from the Faculty of Science.
12. Which courses are available for international students?

Generally, all courses offered in our Faculty are available for you, with exception of Double Degree Courses and Inter-universities Master’s Courses that aren’t taught at the UAM Campus.

13. Do you have limits regarding ECTS per period?

We recommend not to exceed 30 ECTS per semester or 60 ECTS per year.
No minimum is required

14. How do I apply for Master courses?

a. If you wish to study master courses here at UAM, you should send to ori.ciencias@uam.es the following information before of May 31st (first-semester student) or October 31st (second-semester students):
   i. CV
   ii. Transcript of records (from courses taken at your Home University).
   iii. Letter stating your motivation to request the master courses selected at UAM.

Master students are evaluated and accepted by the Master coordination team only, the IRO cannot make this decision. If the Master coordinators does not accept your request, you can take 4th year courses. No application will be considered after the deadlines, so please, be sure to send all your documents on time.

15. Official enrollment (matrícula) in courses, how and when?

We, the International Relations Office, will enroll you in the courses you have selected previously through your Learning Agreement. Please, pay attention to the e-mail you will receive with the copy of it. Always check the codes and groups and go to Sigma to obtain other copies: https://secretaria-virtual.uam.es/Navegacion/Inicio.html#

16. What should I do once I arrive at UAM?

First, you should register yourself in the office called Servicio de Relaciones Internacionales y Movilidad located at Plaza Mayor UAM. They will complete the Attendance certificate for you.
Secondly, check in the International Relations Office from our Faculty of Science.
You can locate both offices in the map you can download from the link below. Plaza Mayor (H5) and Faculty of Science (G4)
http://www.uam.es/UAM/Plano-Campus-Cantoblanco-Universidad-Aut%C3%B3noma-de-Madrid-1234886383762.htm?language=es&pid=1242649468298&title=Plano%20del%20Campus%20UAM

17. Who will sign my Learning Agreement

Your Learning Agreement will be signed by the Vicedean of International Relations and Mobility and you will receive it by email, from ori.ciencias@uam.es
When you register yourself at the SERIM office (Servicio de Relaciones Internacionales y Movilidad), they will hand over a document which includes the name of your academic coordinator, who can help you with academic issues.
18. Do you offer Spanish courses?

Spanish courses can be taken at our Foreign Language Service. You can contact them through email: servicio.idiomas@uam.es

In case you take the Spanish course, they will issue a separate certificate worth 6 ECTS. **This course should not be included in your Learning Agreement as it is not offered by our Faculty.**

Please, find all the information regarding the courses and how to enroll here: [https://www.uam.es/UAM/Servicio-de-Idiomas/1242654677923.htm?language=en](https://www.uam.es/UAM/Servicio-de-Idiomas/1242654677923.htm?language=en)

19. Extension of period

Deadline for period extension requests is November 30th. First semester students who are interested in extending their stay to a whole academic year need to obtain the approval from their Home University and from our Faculty before the deadline.

20. Internship during period

For doing an internship you should contact directly with the researchers, just in case they are interested and have an offer. You will find more information regarding their research topics here: [http://www.uam.es/Ciencias/Departamentos/1242664085038.htm?language=es&nodepath=Departamentos&pid=1242664085038](http://www.uam.es/Ciencias/Departamentos/1242664085038.htm?language=es&nodepath=Departamentos&pid=1242664085038)

The selected tutor must appear here: [https://autoservicio.uam.es/paginas-blancas/cargarFiltro.do](https://autoservicio.uam.es/paginas-blancas/cargarFiltro.do) and should send us an email confirming his/her availability, the title of the project in Spanish and English, and the number of ECTS (they should be calculated as 1ECTS = 25 hours).

The options and their codes for filling the Learning Agreement are:
- 15292 ESTANCIA SEMESTRAL SIN DOCENCIA 6 ECTS (PREGRADO)
- 15293 ESTANCIA SEMESTRAL SIN DOCENCIA 6 ECTS (POSTGRADO)
- 18941 ESTANCIA SIN DOCENCIA 9 ECTS
- 18835 ESTANCIA SIN DOCENCIA 10 ECTS
- 15646 ESTANCIA SEMESTRAL SIN DOCENCIA 12 ECTS (PREGRADO)
- 15647 ESTANCIA SEMESTRAL SIN DOCENCIA 12 ECTS (POSTGRADO)
- 18942 ESTANCIA ANUAL SIN DOCENCIA 15 ECTS
- 18943 ESTANCIA DE INVESTIGACIÓN 18 ECTS
- 19124 ESTANCIA DE INVESTIGACIÓN 24 ECTS
- 18945 ESTANCIA ANUAL SIN DOCENCIA 30 ECTS
- 19422 ESTANCIA ANUAL SIN DOCENCIA 36 ECTS
- 19423 ESTANCIA SEMESTRAL SIN DOCENCIA 36 ECTS
- 19119 ESTANCIA ANUAL SIN DOCENCIA 60 ECTS

21. Virtual Campus

You should activate your account with your student email as user name.

Is the online campus, where you will find:

- The syllabus
- Additional teaching materials
- Dates of evaluation, grades

[https://moodle.uam.es/](https://moodle.uam.es/)
22. SIGMA
When you arrive to our Faculty you are already enrolled in the courses, so you can check it in SIGMA by clicking “Matrícula” on the left menu.
Also you should confirm your timetable in Sigma by clicking “Publicación Horaria” on the left menu, this is very important to avoid overlaps.
https://secretaria-virtual.uam.es/Navegacion/InicioAlumno_cons.html
Is the administrative management tool

23. Transcript of Records
At the end of your stay with us, your Electronic Transcript of Records will be sent directly to you and to your home University by email.

24. Attendance certificate
Your attendance certificate with dates of arrival and departure will be signed by SERIM at Plaza Mayor (Servicio de Relaciones Internacionales y Movilidad)

25. Buddy program
We have a Mentor program in place for International students. If you would like us to pair you up with a UAM student, please check the following website: http://www.uam.es/UAM/(en)-Mentores-Internacionales-(SubHome)/1446760709476.htm?language=en&nodepath=Buddy%20program
For more information, please send an email to acogida.internacional@uam.es

26. Counselling (Psychological support)
The unit offering counselling at UAM is Centro de Psicología Aplicada:
https://www.uam.es/UAM/CPA_AyS-CG/1446761839072.htm?language=es&nodepath=Consultor%20General
It is located on campus (not far from our Faculty) and the students can contact them to get more information as how to get an appointment.
Atención al Usuario - UNIDAD CLÍNICA
Localización:
Pabellón C, piso 1º - UAM
Ciudad Universitaria de Cantoblanco
C/ Einstein 13
28049 - Cantoblanco (Madrid)

Atención al Usuario:
11.00-14.00 y 15.00-18.00
Eva Mª López Hornero
Teléfono: 91 497 86 87
Correo-e: cpa@uam.es

26. Disability Support Services
The University is here to help you if you have a disability, mental health difficulty, long-term medical condition, autistic spectrum condition, or a specific learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and ADHD.
We aim to create an inclusive and equitable teaching and learning environment to benefit all our students. Please explore our specialists webpage:
Ubicación:
Oficina de Acción Solidaria y Cooperación - Área de Atención a la Discapacidad
Edificio Plaza Mayor. Planta Baja.
C/ Einstein, 7
Ciudad Universitaria de Cantoblanco - 28049 Madrid
Teléfono: (34) 91 497 7628
Correo electrónico: programa.discapacidad@uam.es

Horario de Invierno (del 1 de Septiembre al 31 de Mayo)
Mañanas de Lunes a Viernes de 9:00-14:00 y
Tardes de Lunes a Jueves de 15:00-16:00

Horario de Verano (del 1 de Junio al 31 de Julio)
Lunes a Viernes: 09:00-14:00

27. IRO (International relations office)
Contact details:
Facultad de Ciencias
International Relations Office
C/ Francisco Tomás y Valiente, 7
28049 Madrid
Tel: +34 914974452/8048
Email: ori.ciencias@uam.es
Erasmus code: E MADRID04