**Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV) <https://www.upv.es/>**

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| How does the workload in your classes compare to Strathclyde. |
| 2 x Easier  2 x Harder  2 x the same |

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| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went? |
| No |
| Some classes only had material in Valenciano (not spanish) and one class was in English, but the exam was in Spanish |
| That I would receive little or no help more than the natives and the opportunity to do technical Spanish beforehand would've helped |
| Didn't have any classes |

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| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away? |
| Private accommodation |

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| What is your monthly cost for accommodation? |
| 250 euros |
| 850 euros/month first student accommodation, 300 euros/month private accommodation |
| 260euro |
| 230 |
| 200 + bills |
| 300 euros |

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| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation? |
| Use social media groups to find fellow students and accommodation before leaving |
| Student accommodation in Valencia is for the rich snobby Spanish people. No exchange students and very unfriendly to foreigners |
| Private flats quite often don't have leases, so trust is involved |
| It's easy to find a room to rent in Valencia. Outside the universities and certain student areas of the city there are loads of fliers stuck to walls, rails, lamp posts etc. some are written in english and aimed at erasmus students. There are also erasmus facebook pages which people post on when looking for rooms or flat mates. |
| Just find it on the erasmus facebook page its really easy. |
| Beroomers were fab and would recommend |

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| What is the town/city like where you stay? |
| Mixture of historic/traditional and newer buildings |
| Valencia |
| It's not that big, very easy to get around on foot, bike or metro if you're lazy. I guess it could be considered quite quiet, not much goes on during the week with bars closing at or before midnight. At the weekend bars are open until 2am and clubs from 2am till 4/5/6am. There are distinct areas to go out in, each quite different. Eating out is generally cheap, lots of menu of the day offers with two courses and a drink for 5-10â‚¬. Tapas is a way of life, everyone eats little bits while out drinking. |
| Really nice and warm. Plenty to do and see. Lots of trip possibilities. |
| Great mix. Lots of clubs and bars as well as the beach |

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| How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)? |
| Very good facilities though limited lab space on some occasions |
| very nice and modern |
| No complaints, high standard |
| Library has some useful group discussion areas as well as some PCs, but these are not the best/fastest. We found an engineering lab with the software we needed and the PCs were much better but we had to work around when there were classes in, the timetable was posted weekly. The wifi on campus can be a bit temperamental. The campus is quite nice though, quite modern in a way, grass squares and benches dotted around, some open-air wooden walkways between buildings. Lots of cafes/places to get food which are always full of spanish students. |
| Excellent |
| They were good but no one really explain how to use any of them |

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| Do you spend more or less money than you expected? |
| 3 x Less  3 x More |

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| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)? |
| No |
| alcohol was very cheap |
| If you don't have a DNI you can't get a spanish bank account and getting one is a very long process which meant transfer rates (also can't get a phone contract without DNI) |
| Day to day things are cheap compared to home, especially alcohol in shops and bars but clubs are the one thing much more expensive than home. Entry is usually €10 (with a drink) and drinks will be €8 (slightly less for beer). This can stack up a lot! |
| Cheaper than here! especially the food and drink. |
| No |

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| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? |
| 700 -800 euros |
| 350 euros excluding accommodation |
| 300euros maybe |
| Hard to say but would guess approximately Â£500 including rent. |
| €500 but dependent on the months as i travelled a lot. |
| 600 euros |

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| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students? |
| Yes plenty of organisations both within and outwith the university offering activities/ excursions |
| host uni did very little for students, however there were lots of Erasmus orientated student businesses which organised lots of trips and social events |
| Erasmmus botallons and free entry to clubs and trip around Spain (I went to one to Barcelona) |
| It's harder to meet people when not in halls (I can compare it to Prague), but I still managed to find some French erasmus flatmates. I/we have a good social life but its not with a huge group of people, usually the strathclyde students and any flat mates or friends people bring along. For the first few weeks we were playing volleyball at the beach every couple of days and since then have changed to football. It's hard to go out during the week unless it's to a rubbish club. Weekends are great but again the clubs are expensive so make the most of beforehand. There are various erasmus nights and trips organised by third party companies but not a lot from the uni (although I haven’t been looking), there is a student run ESN 'club'/office thing who put events on (I think). I spent quite a few weekends away from Valencia, its cheap and easy to get to Barcelona, Madrid, Bologna, Lyon etc, make the most of your friends on erasmus in other places. |
| I had friends from spain already so didnt get involved in that aspect as much. There was plenty organised though. |
| Yes. I ended up mainly hanging out with Scottish people but there was plenty Erasmus events held at the uni |

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| Would you recommend this University to future Strathclyde students who are considering studying abroad? If not, please explain your response or contact the Recruitment and International Office to discuss. |
| 5 x Yes |
| If going with just B1 like I did, do half the subjects in english first semester not all of them in spanish which was too much |

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| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| Yes, vital opportunity to live abroad and meet new people |
| yes, made some really good friends and had a really good time |
| Yes, I have become fluent in the language |
| Yes. This is my second erasmus exchange and has been a completely different experience from the first, which is a good and bad thing. I have done a lot less of the classic erasmus meet lots of foreign people and get really drunk but have definitely worked harder. I got to know another city really well and once again use it as a base for other city breaks. It's been good fun and I have met a couple of people I'll stay in touch with. |
| yes as it was more interesting than staying here. I was able to improve my spanish and see my old friends a lot. |
| Eps most definitely |