

# ESCI-UPF FACT SHEET 2025-2026

## ABOUT ESCI-UPF

ESCI-UPF is a university affiliated with Pompeu Fabra University (UPF) that was founded in 1993.

We train professionals who can work effectively in any organisation with an international outlook.

## OUR PROGRAMS

- [International Business Program \(IBP\)](#)
- [Bachelor's Degree in International Business and Marketing](#)

*Courses on master's programs are not open to exchange students.*

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026

	First Trimester	Second Trimester	Third Trimester
Nomination deadline	May 14, 2025	Oct. 2, 2025	Jan. 14, 2026
Application deadline	May 29, 2025	Oct. 17, 2025	Jan. 23, 2026
Opening course selection	May 30, 2025	Oct. 18, 2025	TBA
Course selection deadline	Jun. 5, 2025	Oct. 23, 2025	TBA
Pre-Welcome online session	May 16, 2025	Oct. 6, 2025	TBA
Mandatory Welcome session	Sept. 19, 2025	Jan. 9, 2026	TBA
Classes	Sep. 22 to Dec. 1, 2025	Jan. 7 to Mar. 17, 2026	Apr. 7 to Jun. 12, 2026
Add-drop period	Sep. 22 to 26, 2025	Jan. 7 to 14, 2026	Apr. 7 to 14, 2026
Final exams	Dec. 2 to 12, 2025	Mar. 17 to 27, 2026	Jun. 10 to 23, 2026
Resit exams	Jan. 9 and 10, 2026	Apr. 17 and 18, 2026	Jul. 8 to 10, 2026

## LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

**Class format:** lectures, case studies, team assignments, presentations and required readings.

**Class size:** from 20 to 60 students, depending on the course.

**Attendance:** at least 80% of the classes.

**Final grade:** the grading policy is indicated in the [teaching plan](#) for each subject.

**Level of subjects:** check the [syllabus](#).

**Application and admission:** complete an online application.

## LANGUAGES OF INSTRUCTION

Catalan, Spanish and English.

Courses teaching plans specify the language of instruction of the course.

*We highly recommend all students have at least a B2 level in the language of instruction required for the course.*

## MINIMUM COURSE LOAD

20 ECTS for students staying 1 trimester

30 ECTS for students staying 2 trimesters

60 ECTS for students staying the whole year

*Full-time Spanish students generally take an average of 5 courses per term (20 ECTS credits/term, 60 ECTS credits/academic year).*

## GRADING SYSTEM AND EXAMINATIONS

At the end of term, students must take a final exam, which accounts for a specific percentage of the final grade.

Transcripts of records are sent to the home university a month after the end of the exams' period.

The Spanish grading system is based on a scale from 0 to 10, where 5 is the minimum passing mark.

## ESCI-UPF GRADING SCALE



**Suspens**  
from 0 to 4.9 (Fail)

**Aprovat**  
from 5 to 6.9 (Pass)

**Notable**  
from 7 to 8.9 (Good)

**Excel·lent**  
from 9 to 10 (Very good)

**Matrícula d'honor**  
10 (A with honour)

### **No presentat (Not attended)**

Awarded to students who did not take their final exam and who therefore have no final grade. This grade blocks access to any re-evaluation of synthesis activities.

### **Renúncia a l'avaluació (Cancelled call)**

Awarded to students who opted out of assessment. In this case, students need to complete and send an application form before the last day of classes in each trimester.



## NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. The home university sends a nomination by email indicating: **Name, email address, and period of stay at ESCI-UPF for each nominated student.**  
**1<sup>st</sup> trimester** | September to January  
**2<sup>nd</sup> trimester** | January to April  
**3<sup>rd</sup> trimester** | April to July
2. Nominated students receive the application materials and instructions by email.
3. Nominated students must submit their online application through the SIGMA platform. They are required to upload the following documents:
  - Copy of the passport
  - ID photograph (white background, JPG)
  - Original updated transcript of records (signed by the home university)
  - Detailed curriculum vitae
4. Accepted students receive an admission letter in Catalan and in English (for personal purposes only) via email.  
Non-EU accepted students receive an acceptance letter with the approved courses in Spanish (for visa purposes only) via email.
5. Accepted students can apply for a student visa at a Spanish consulate (if applicable).

### FREE-MOVER STUDENTS

If you are interested in attending ESCI-UPF as a free-mover, you will be required to pay a set of tuition fees. Please email us the following documents: CV, official academic transcript and a motivation letter.





## VISA REQUIREMENTS

Students of an EEA country or Switzerland staying for longer than three months will have to register at the Registry of European Union Citizens once in Spain (*Registro de Ciudadanos de la Unión Europea*).

**Non-EEA students** (except for Switzerland) planning to stay longer than 90 days must obtain a student visa at the nearest Spanish embassy or consulate before departure. Students will require the acceptance letter.

Please bear in mind the following points:

- A tourist visa does not grant permission to stay in Spain for study purposes.
- For stays longer than six months, students must obtain a visa with a residence permit (*Autorización de estancia por estudios*).
- A 180-day student visa allows only a single entry to the Schengen Area and does not permit to extend the stay nor leave and re-enter the country.

## MANDATORY TRAVEL INSURANCE

EEA and Swiss students should obtain a **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)** from their national health authorities. The EHIC provides EEA citizens with access to necessary state-provided healthcare in Spain.

Students also have to obtain an all-risk coverage insurance during their stay in Spain that covers travel, medical and liability to complement the EHIC.

It is highly recommended that students explore additional insurance packages available at a special rate through [Oncampus insurance](#), covering the insurance required up to a set limit.



## ACCOMMODATION/HOUSING

Looking for accommodation in Barcelona should be done in advance. Finding a room can prove very difficult.

Barcelona Centre Universitari-BCU is the accommodation service offered by all universities in the Barcelona area. For more information and online registration: [reservas@bcuhousing.cat](mailto:reservas@bcuhousing.cat)

Additional accommodation options are informed in our [webpage](#), as well as the *Welcome Document* sent to all nominated students.

### Approximate accommodation cost per month

- Renting a studio: €1000–€1500
- Renting a room in a shared flat: €500–€800
- Student residence (depending on the food services included): €800–€1400



## STUDENT SUPPORT

**Buddy Program:** Buddies are ESCI-UPF students that volunteer to help exchange students.

**Coffee Break:** A linguistic exchange between students to practice languages.

**ESN-UPF:** Local volunteers assist exchange students in settling into life in Barcelona organising social, cultural, and non-academic activities.

ESN-UPF is part of the larger Erasmus Student Network (ESN), founded in 1989 to promote student exchanges across Europe.

**Spanish Program:** UPF's language program offers intensive Spanish courses for different levels.

**Educational Special Needs Services:** Students receive personalized guidance and course adaptations to ensure their rights. They must provide proof of their specific needs.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

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