



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Dear students,

Welcome to Comillas Cultural, our Cultural Activities Unit [Unidad de Actividades Culturales]...

This is a short introduction to our activities and a brief summary of all our offering. Please be aware these activities are aimed specifically at you all as exchange students in Madrid and members of our university community.

We have plenty of workshops, courses, tours and trips for the whole academic year. All of them are pretty inexpensive or supplied for free.

And whether you are based in either of our campuses (Alberto Aguilera or Cantoblanco) or stay for just one term or the whole year, you can join any of them.

Also, whether you are an absolute beginner or an accomplished player or performer, all workshops are open to you.

Bear in mind many of these activities do not require a proficient command of the Spanish language. Anyway, a few do.

Comillas Cultural is also an excellent way to meet other students, Spanish or foreign, get to know more of Spain and Spanish culture, discover other abilities and fully participate in University life.

This is the link to our webpage [in Spanish] <https://universidad.comillas.edu/culturales>

Our mail is cultura@comillas.edu

Please feel free to write us and make your questions or requests.

WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

On a weekly basis, you will attend workshops in music, performing or visual arts, plus debating, focused on developing and practising your skills.

LITERATURE

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

This workshop is in Spanish. If you are a native speaker or have a good command of the Spanish language and want to try your hand at writing fiction (short stories, poetry) or non fiction (essays, reviews), you'll be taught how to do it by Mariano Peyrou, a professional writer and translator.

ARTS SCHOOL

MUSIC

COMBO

If you like singing, play an instrument or would like to join a band, here's a workshop for you.

PERCUSSION

You want to make beautiful noise with cymbals, drums, bongoes, maracas, triangles, castanets....?

GUITAR

Regardless of your guitar-playing level, you will learn new tricks and lessons.

You can also rent a guitar here for just 15 euros (for the whole of your stay).

PIANO SCHOOL

For piano students. You will have a weekly one-on-one lesson to improve your technique with Tito García, a professional pianist and concert soloist.

ORCHESTRA

If you are a trained musician, you can join our chamber orchestra (conducted by Jesús Moreno) and take part in their rehearsals, masterclasses and performances).

CHOIR & VOCAL TECHNIQUE

The University Choir rehearses twice a week, Monday and Wednesday, performs at the University's main events and participate in other musical events.

If you join the Choir, you may have some vocal training lessons with our soprano Eva María del Moral.

PERFORMING ARTS

DRAMA

Our drama group will teach you acting techniques and train your voice and body. You will join other students in staging a play by the end of term

GLEE CLUB

If you love singing and dancing, this is our musical comedy workshop, and a pretty successful and experienced one. *Cabaret* was their latest production, a brilliant staging, and they have presented other musicals like *Chicago*, *Mamma Mia*, *The Addams Family* and *Grease*.

VISUAL ARTS

DRAWING & PAINTING

Our teachers will help you with the bare essentials to start drawing, choose your topic to do your own painting and instructing you in the techniques required for it. They will provide you with some draqing and painting materials to accomplish this.

PHOTOGRAPHY

You Will learn about the principles and methods of photography in various genres (landscape, portrait, etc.)

You can rent a camera here for just 75 euros for all of your stay

FILM CLUB

Every Friday afternoon, a film will be shown followed by a discussion led by José Luis Sánchez Noriega, a well-known critic and film historian. Films of all kinds and genres will be shown, drama, comedy, action, Spanish, European, American, Hollywood or indie, Asian, old and new, film masterpieces, historical or silent.

ART COURSES

Courses in art history with some visits to museums.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Comillas is proud to have one of the largest University debating societies in Spain. We offer Oratory and Debating Techniques workshops and also MUNs (Models of United Nations) and parliament simulations. We take part in dozens of debating competitions and MUNs, both national and international, most of them in Spanish, some of them in English.

TOURS AND TRIPS

WALKING TOURS

You are all invited to our initial walking tour in downtown Madrid on AUGust 30 & 31.

Then every month we'll propose you other tours in Madrid, walking around other areas and neighbourhoods, and also visiting museums and other cultural venues.

All walking tours are for free

TRIPS & EXCURSIONS

We'll offer you one-day excursions (to be announced this September) to nearby destinations like Toledo, Segovia, Ávila, Aranjuez, La Mancha region etc.

And also as soon as Covid 19 restrictions are relaxed, we'll have some weekend tours to other destinations in Spain (to cities like Granada, Cordoba, Seville, Valencia, Bilbao, Salamanca, etc.)

COMPETITIONS

Every year the University holds competitions in drawing, painting and photography, short film, poetry, short stories and essays.

This means you can join a particular workshop and submit then your work to these competitions. Or do it on your own. Prizes are awarded (in cash) and your work will be exhibited or published.

FEES:

Fees for workshops are:

- 124,75 euros for the whole academic year
- 62,38 euros for a semester

The Choir and Film Club are completely free. Walking tours in Madrid are all free as well

CREDITS

Workshops have ETCS credits for European Union students [ECTS - European Credit and Transfer Accumulation Systems]. Students from other universities outside the EU may get a certification from Comillas Cultural showing they've taken part in some of our activities.

HOW TO SIGN UP

If you want to join any of our workshops and courses, please write to cultura@comillas.edu specifying the ones you're interested in and we shall write back to inform you about fees, schedules, teachers, requirements, etc.

Regarding tours and trips we'll send you all the information for every event in advance.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Comillas Cultural - Unidad de Actividades Culturales is based in Alberto Aguilera, 32, in front of the ICADE building, right across the Street. We also have an office in Cantoblanco – Edificio A.

Remember our email is cultura@comillas.edu

Thanks for your interest. We'll be in touch and send you our information regularly. We wish a very happy and fruitful stay at our University.

We're looking forward to meeting and hearing from you....

Kind regards, see you soon,

Comillas Cultural