

Cal Poly in



BADRCE
LONA

Computational
Sciences

THANK YOU



A million thanks to everyone who worked so hard and were so generous in offering this experience to our students.

*Sara Otis, Cari Vandercar, and the entire International Center.

*Zoe Wood and the College of Engineering

*Aaron Keen and the CSSE Department

* Chris Lupo and the Noyce School

Pre Departure Tapas Luna Red, SLO - March 20th



We all met at Luna Red during finals week of spring quarter to meet each other in person and chat about what to expect and how to prepare for the program.

Student thoughts:

- "Great intro to tapas and made me feel sure about the program."
- "Meeting the Miglers and some of the other students before the program was very nice and made the transition smoother."



Arrival: April 2



Arrival was smooth. Cea capa made the transition from the airport to the apartments seamless.

Student thoughts:

- "Apartment was amazing! Exceeded my expectations."



Orientation and Welcome Lunch - April 3



We had a great day of introductions, cea capa provided a great overview of the city and an excellent Spanish language crash course. Lunch was in a magical cave-like room in the Gotic.

Student Thoughts:

- "So yummy, loved the variety and the theme of the restaurant."
- "The best welcome to Barcelona, still thinking about this restaurant"
- "Amazing intro to the local cuisine, accompanied with a great historical and architectural tour! Very welcoming."



Tour of the Gothic - April 4

We had an incredible tour guide who taught us so much about the history of Barcelona. We taste horchata and appreciated the surrounding beauty.

Student thoughts:

- "My favorite tour of the program."
- "Such a great tour, I showed everybody who visited the spots we went to!"



Churro Tour - April 5



I wanted to create a fun way to practice using the metro, find our emergency meeting spot, and get comfortable with landmarks for navigating the city on foot - so I created a "chorro tour" :)

Student thoughts:

- "Fun to go to a sit-down Churro spot and the chocolate was super good."
- "I loved this. Almost too many churros, but a wonderful treat and more bonding time."

Mathematical Tour of the Sagrada Familia - April 7

We were incredibly fortunate that my colleague in the mathematics department at UPC could guide us on a perfectly tailored tour of the Sagrada Familia - free of charge!

Student Thoughts:

- "Really convenient to not have to buy tickets and the mathematical relevance was interesting."
- "One of the things I was most looking forward to, I loved learning about the sine waves in the design of the building next to the Sagrada Familia."
- "Very cool perspective on one of Barcelona's most well-known attractions!"



This event needs two slides. What a magical day! The city was filled with the most delightful energy. Streets were closed, there were at least four groups of school children on every corner selling roses. There were 5,000 book stalls in the streets, hundreds of authors signing books. We celebrated with a “secret Sant Jordi” Each student drew another student’s name and were tasked with finding the perfect book to gift them. We went to LA Central, a Barcelona-based bookstore and spent the afternoon book hunting. The exchange and rose gifting was a very special time.

Student thoughts:

- “Celebrating was so fun! The group book exchange was the highlight of the day and loved seeing flowers everywhere.”
- “A highlight of April! Loved the energy of the city this day and exchanging books was super sweet.”
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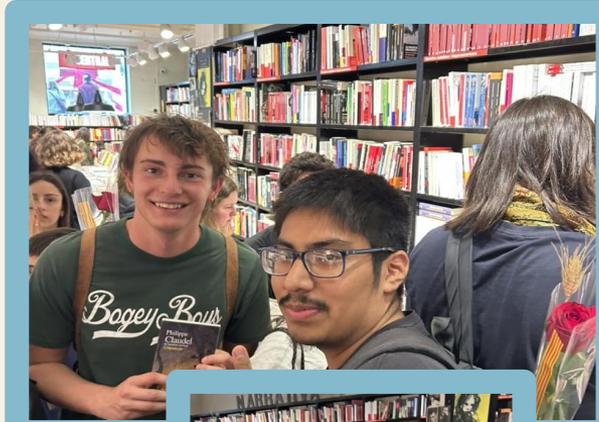
Sant Jordi’s Day - April 23



More Student Thoughts:

- "One of my favorite days of the experience. Felt like we really got to experience a piece of the Catalonia culture!"
- "Fun way to get to know each other while participating in a Catalonian tradition."

Sant Jordi's Day - April 23



Sitges - April 25



After the rush of Sant Jordi's day, it was very nice to have a quiet event. We took the train to Sitges, had a lovely little tour, and a lots of beach time for relaxing.

Student thoughts:

- "Most relaxing beach of the trip."
- "Very cool little beach town! Loved the relaxing vibe and being able to hang out with friends."



Supercomputer at UPC - May 5

One of my colleagues at UPC arranged a tour of the supercomputer at the university. It was a very rainy day and we were drenched the moment we got off the metro - but the students were characteristically good-natured.

Student thoughts

- "Was really cool to see one of the most advanced pieces of technology up close. It felt really inspiring and applicable to our learning over the quarter."
- "Cool to see the modern technology in the old church."



Montserrat - May 13



We had a lovely train ride to the base of Montserrat, then we took a funicular up the mountain to the monastery. We heard the famed boy's choir sing and had a lovely break from city life in the peaceful mountains.

Student thoughts:

- "Beautiful hikes and scenic views while also experiencing a cultural landmark. Nice little nature escape from the big city."
- "Much needed escape from the city to nature."



Palau de Musica - May 22

We thought that it would be fun to go to a show. The students chose the Escolania de Montserrat Orquesta at the Palau de Musica - keeping in line with our May of Monserrat activities. The show was lovely. Two students in particular was thrilled with the Haribo treats that I brought for intermission.

Thoughts:

- "Beautiful building."



Escape Room at UPC - June 3

A colleague at UPC arranged for a session at the university escape room. He was even kind enough to translate all of the instructions from Catalan to English.

Student Thoughts:

- "Fun way to engage with the local university, and tied in very well with our majors!"



Picasso Museum - June 4

When trying to decide on our extra outings, we decided we needed to visit an art museum - the Picasso seemed the most appropriate. It was lovely.

Student Thoughts:

- "Wide variety of pieces and I loved that it's in El Born! Best neighborhood."



Parque Güell - June 12

Since this was the first run of the program, I wanted to conduct thorough exit interviews with each student. We could do this anywhere in the city - so we chose Parque Güell for our chats.



Classroom Life:

Our classroom at cea capa was located in the heart of Barcelona - the windows look out on Plaça Catalunya. We studied algorithms in Spain in CSC 349, databases with a European twist in CSC 365, and Networks through Time and Spain in CSC 490.

Student thoughts about CSC 490:

- "I loved the individual presentations that involved graph theory & application. Really grounded the usefulness of them for me."
- "Loved seeing how networks can connect to literally everything and help us model the world. Enjoyed the creative environment this class fostered."





THANKS

Thank you a **BILLION** for your support of this incredible Cal Poly Global Program.

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