



# Spring 2017 Pre-Departure Orientation RECAP

**This online guide is a helpful reminder of the important details that were covered in the in-person pre-departure orientation on November 5th.**

**This guide will focus on specific information that you need to know, specific tasks that only you can complete, and identify the NYU resources that will be available to you while you're in Madrid.**

**Please read through it carefully!**

At NYU Madrid students can study literature, history, art history, sociology, politics, anthropology, economics, applied linguistics and environmental studies, among other topics, while significantly advancing their command of the Spanish language. The richness of Spain's capital is reflected in its architecture, its museums and cultural treasures, and its cuisine.





A vibrant city that is engaged with pressing global political and economic issues – from immigration, climate change and human rights to debates on the future of the European Union – Madrid is also an important center for contemporary cultural production in dance, film, theater and the visual arts.

Outside of the classroom opportunities abound in this vibrant city via activities and cultural programs organized by NYU Madrid. Excursions to El Escorial, Segovia, Mérida, Càceres, Avila, Córdoba, Bilbao and Barcelona are also among the extracurricular activities that complement the academic program. In addition, the Intercambio Program brings NYU Madrid students together with local college students to practice their Spanish and to further cultural exchanges.

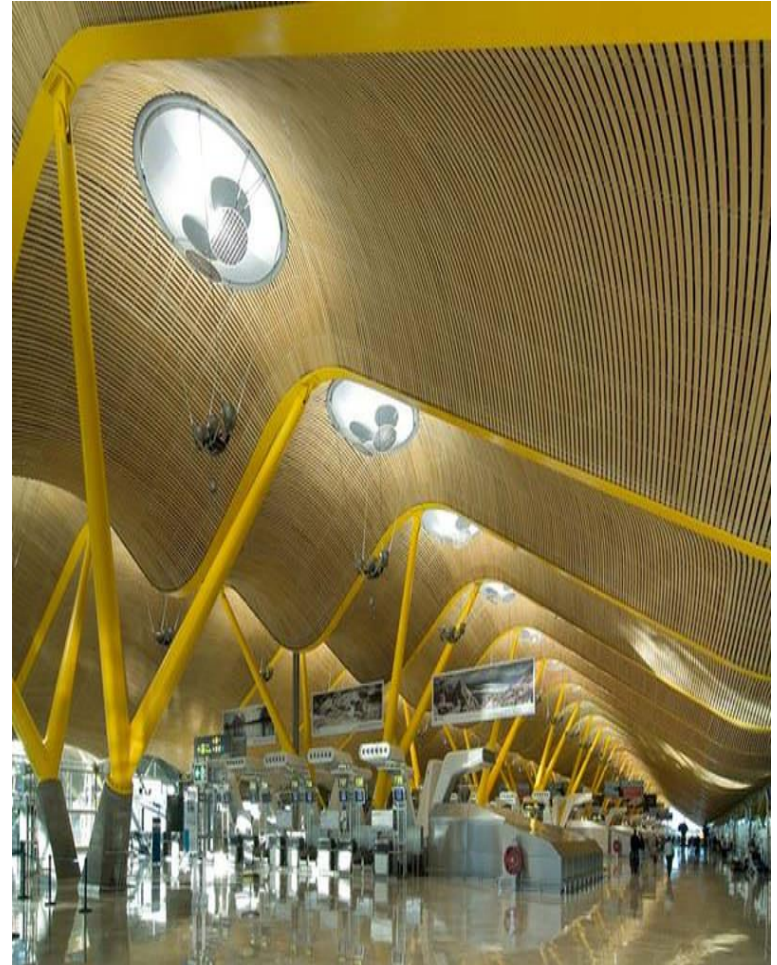


# Arrival Information

## Airport pickup: from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Terminal 1)

- NYU Madrid site staff will be at Madrid-Barajas International Airport (MAD) on **Sun, Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>** to greet you. All students must arrive on this date!
- When the student meets site staff at the airport, a staff member will accompany the student to a taxi that will take them directly to the residence or their homestay.
- It may take 45 minutes - 1 hour to clear customs, immigration, and pick-up your luggage at the baggage claim. **If you are arrive after 11am, you must make your own transportation arrangements.**

*For privacy and security, neither NYU nor NYU Madrid can or will provide your information to anyone who attempts to contact you through us - **including parents!***



# Discovering Madrid



Madrid is the central hub of modern Spain, with a vibrant urban flair. It is also the country's business center, home to an array of banks and international companies, and fashion capital—a fact easily gleaned from the citizens' tasteful street style and the many trendy boutiques along the Calle de Serrano. Despite the hub-bub of daily life in the metropolis, Madrileños take it all in stride, giving the impression of being quite relaxed about it all.



- Truly the city that never sleeps: “Madrid’s vitality and character will soon have you hooked.”
- Velázquez’ s classics at the Prado are just down the street from Madrid’ s throbbing cultural center.
- One of Europe’ s highest capitals, Madrid enjoys a crisp, dry air year round with a strong sun and generally little rain.
- Madrid, as all European capitals, is expensive. Students still find that it is not quite as expensive as NYC.
- Although it is a huge city, it has preserved its little, quaint neighborhoods.
- *Madrileños* are friendly, welcoming folks.





With a plethora of historic sites, museums, restaurants, and cultural activities, it is easy to explore and discover all Madrid has to offer.

# Transportation

The NYU Madrid Academic Center is easily reached by walking or public transport.

- [Metro](#)
- [Bus](#)
- [Taxis](#)

*The unlimited Youth pass for metro and bus is 20 euros per month!*



# Safety



The NYU Madrid center is monitored by security guards 24/7

There is ALWAYS a NYU staff member on duty, in New York *and* Madrid

NYU ID card is necessary to access the academic center

## Help us keep you safe:

1. Don't invite strangers into the building.
2. Follow all staff recommendations
3. Always lock your doors
4. **Don't forget your street smarts!**



# Health and Wellness

- All students are enrolled in [GeoBlue](#), an international health coverage plan
- Arrange ongoing counseling in advance through the Wellness Exchange or the NYU Madrid Psychologist (Neda Hajizadeh – [nh414@nyu.edu](mailto:nh414@nyu.edu))
- If you take prescriptions regularly, bring a full supply or connect with student life or wellness to discuss options of getting prescriptions for the same medication abroad – **DO NOT SHIP ANY MEDICATIONS!**



# Money Tips

- Talk to your bank before you leave about international ATM (*Un cajero automático*) withdrawal fees, and how to minimize them. Tell them to **ACTIVATE** your card so that it works overseas
- Make sure that you have a **4-digit PIN** that will work abroad (no letters, just numbers)
- The currency is EUROS: Check the exchange rate & notify your bank that you want to
  - **INCREASE YOUR DAILY CASH LIMIT!**



# Phones

If you wish to bring your current cell/smart phone, make sure to speak to your phone provider and ask if it can be unlocked. This will allow you to purchase a pay-as-you-go SIM card in country, which will give you a local number. Be sure to hold on to the SIM card from your home-country so you can put it back in once you return.

As an alternative, you can also purchase an inexpensive local cell phone when you arrive.



# Orientation

Attendance at ALL NYU Madrid orientation activities is MANDATORY!

**Be advised:** Students who do not participate in the orientation activities will forfeit their spot on the academic trips.

## Orientation: Jan 23 - 25

- Arrival Debriefing
- Day trip to Segovia
- Day trip to El Escorial
- Walking Tour of Old Madrid
- Lecture on the Languages of Spain
- Visit to either the Museo del Prado or Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia

Classes start on **January 26<sup>th</sup>**





# NYU Madrid Academic Center

NYU Madrid is located in renovated buildings in El Viso, a pleasant residential area near Madrid's financial district and only a few metro stops from the historic center.

Students explore Hispanic culture, history, and society while immersed in the life of this vibrant city, the capital of the Hispanic world.



# Facilities



The buildings, which have been newly restructured, feature modern classrooms, computer facilities with E-mail and wireless access to the Internet, and a charming patio.



NYU Madrid has a reading room of approximately 1,500 books and a collection of DVDs. These holdings include books on literature, art, history, and other subjects, in Spanish and in English.

# NYU Madrid Staff



**Professor Robert S. Lubar**  
*Director; Faculty, Institute of Fine Arts*



**Professor Isabel Pereira**  
*Assistant Director of Academic Affairs*



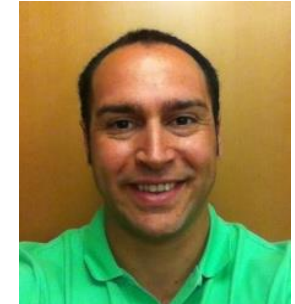
**Professor Soledad Galvez**  
*Assistant Director of Academic Affairs*



**Neda Hajizadeh**  
*Staff Psychologist*



**Megan Jones**  
*Student Life & Housing Coordinator*



**Rodrigo Urbina**  
*Manager of Student Life and Housing*



**Hector de Solo**  
*Assistant Director of Administration*



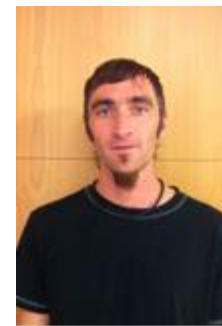
**Conchi Sánchez**  
*Business Coordinator*



**Natalia Jiménez**  
*Program Coordinator*



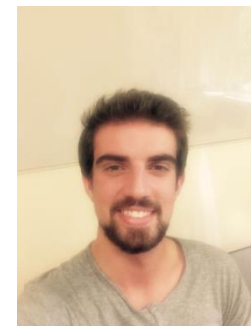
**Marta de la Macorra**  
*Librarian*



**Horatiu Serbu**  
*Concierge*



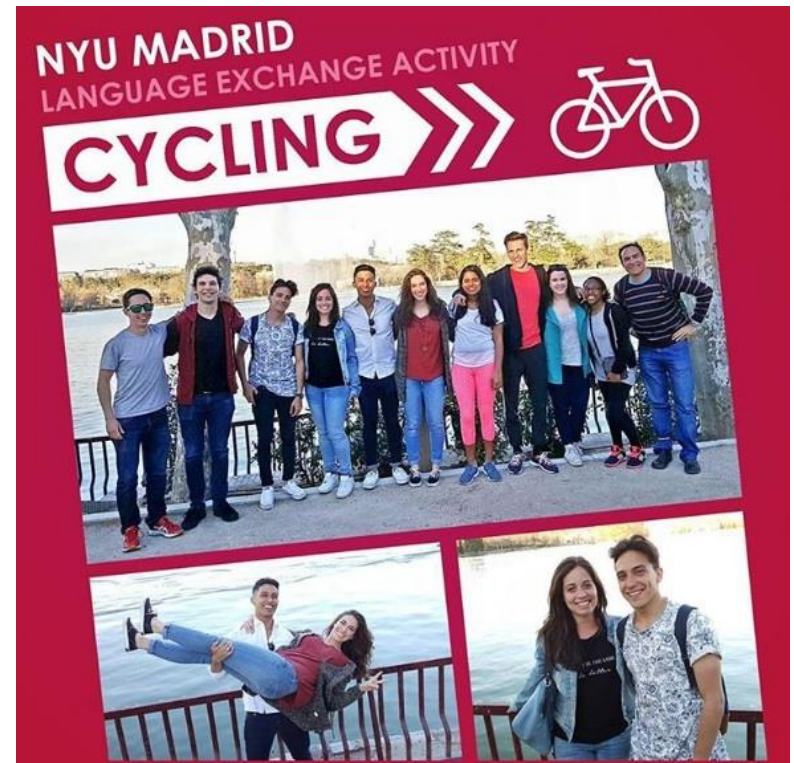
**Victor Torralba**  
*RA*



**Alejandro Pérez**  
*RA*

# Activities and Excursions

NYU Madrid student life staff will arrange a variety of activities for all students. Each week, you will have many opportunities to engage with NYU sponsored events!



# Travel



**Do not** make weekend travel plans until you have arrived, confirmed your schedule, and verified the make-up class schedules for your courses. You cannot miss class for travel! Use the Spring break to travel to farther destinations.

Keep in mind that NYU Madrid is coordinating a trip to Morocco, April 28 – May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will a fee to participate, but details will be shared with you soon!

Remember, it can be tempting to spend every weekend in another country. But try staying in Madrid, too! There are plenty of local attractions.

# Academic Logistics

- Students must take one Spanish language course from 9010-9100 (**cannot be taken pass/fail**)
- Advanced students must take at least ONE content course in Spanish
- Waitlist questions? Email [global.academics@nyu.edu](mailto:global.academics@nyu.edu)
- **MANDATORY** Fridays classes:
  - January 27<sup>th</sup>**
  - February 3<sup>rd</sup>**
  - February 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - March 3<sup>rd</sup>**
  - April 21<sup>st</sup>**



# Academic Advisement



**ALL** students must register with the Assistant Directors (Isabel or Soledad) for **FINAL** schedule approval and **PRIOR** to making any registration changes.

Soledad and Isabel are available for individual consultation on each student's course of study during orientation and throughout the semester.

You can also discuss course work with your professors during office hours.

However, you should consult with your primary academic adviser at your home campus about major requirements.

*Any questions regarding your language level and/or placement tests, email Isabel Pereira at: [ip15@nyu.edu](mailto:ip15@nyu.edu)*

# Waitlist

When waitlisting:

- Make sure to use the [Swap function](#) so that Albert knows which class to drop you from should a space open up in the course.
- If you already waitlisted but did not use the Swap function, use [Edit Swap](#) to set up a swap after the fact.
- Many courses have a waitlist limit of five students. When this waitlist limit is reached, waitlisting for the course is no longer possible.



# Attendance Policy

*Study abroad at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. **To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers is mandatory, and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed.** Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in harsher penalties including failure.*

# Housing Options

## *Homestays:*

- a) Media Pensión (continental breakfast + 1 hot meal)
- b) Kitchen rights (buy your own food, and kitchen access) – only single rooms



## *Residence:*

No meal plan



Once confirmed, all housing assignments and meal plans are **final!**

# Homestays

Rent is due during the first 3 days of every month. Upon arrival in August, you will pay proportional part of the month. Payment must be in Euros.

Homestays are the best way to learn Spanish and live the local lifestyle. Some families speak English but those that don't make an effort to understand and be understood. Students who live in Homestays tend to experience Spanish life in meaningful ways. NYU's host families are accustomed to hosting students, so they are tolerant and receptive to cultural differences. There are no curfews or difficult-to-follow house rules in the Homestays. Usually common sense respect is enough.

**Remember:** You are a paying guest, but nonetheless a guest. Be courteous and open to a new culture and different food!

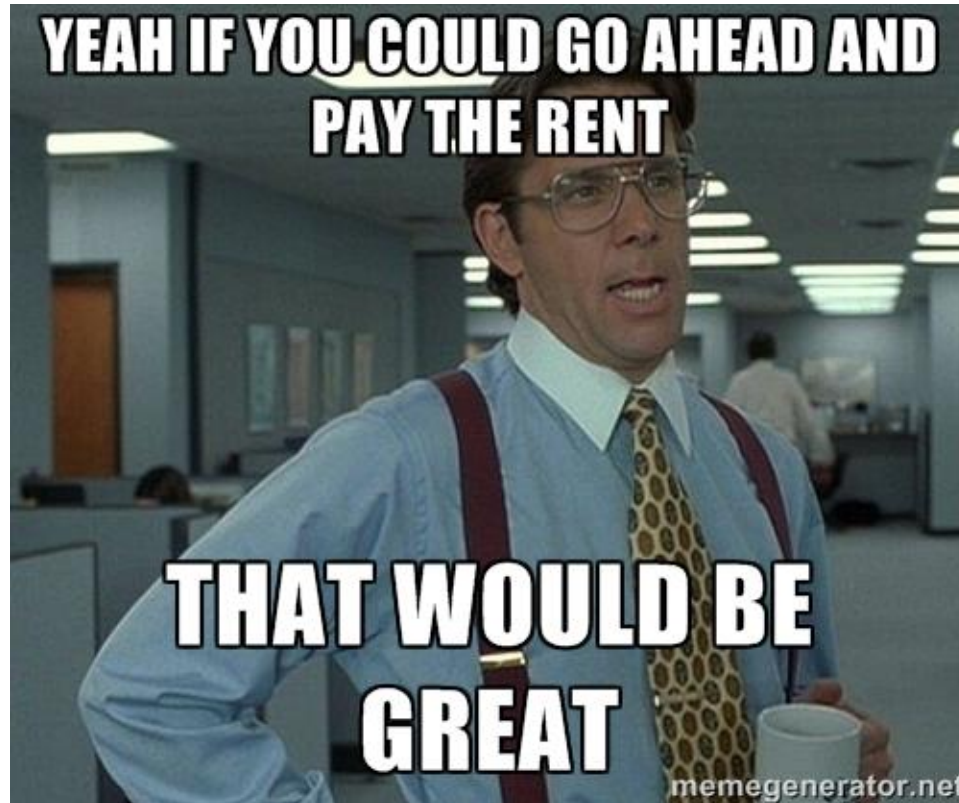
Telephone use in a homestay is restricted to emergency use only. Plan to exclusively use your cell phone.



# Homestay Payment Options

1. You pay in [EUROS](#) directly to your homestay family.

2. You can have the money wired to you via [WESTERN UNION](#).



# Claraval Residence

- You will be billed directly on the [NYU Bursar account](#).
- NYU students make up a portion of those who live in the building. Other residents include Spanish and international students enrolled at local universities.
- Each suite includes two single bedrooms, a kitchenette (small stovetop, microwave, fridge), and a bathroom



SAMPLE ROOM LAYOUT



SAMPLE ROOM LAYOUT

**Questions?** Contact the NYU Madrid Housing Coordinator at [megan.jones@nyu.edu](mailto:megan.jones@nyu.edu)

# Overview of Residence Policies



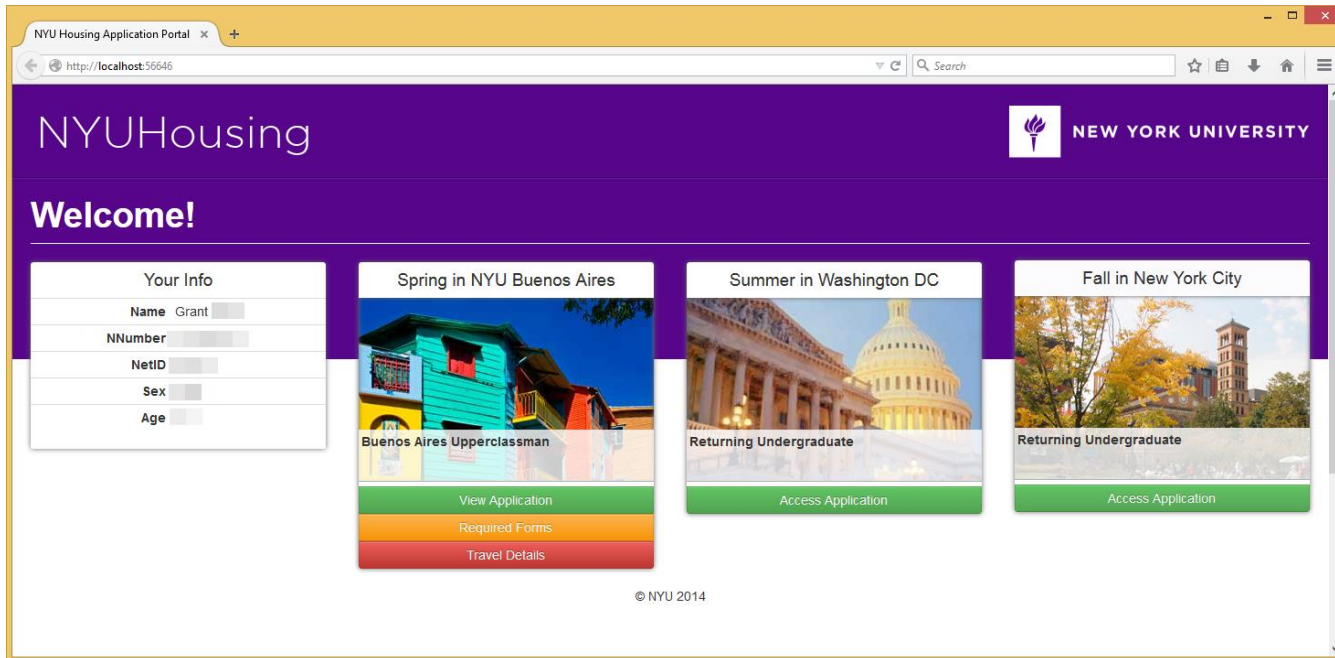
This is a very secure facility that will require ID to access the building

The residence contains study lounges with computer facilities, and other common rooms that are shared by all of the residents of the building. Absolutely NO smoking, alcohol, drugs or indecent behavior will be tolerated in either the student lounges or the common areas.

Please be aware of the Claraval Residence Guest Policy. Students may have overnight guests. But there is a limit to the duration and frequency of hosting visitors. Students must submit a request to host form that can be obtained from the Residence Assistant. Since the rooms only have one bed, the guest will only be allowed to stay overnight if the other student sharing the apartment is a) not spending the night/s in his/her room **and** b) signs a roommate consent form for the guest to use his/her room for the night. The roommate consent form must be turned in together with the request to host form at least 24 hours prior to the guest arrival for review. Approval is not guaranteed. Approved guests must sign in at the front desk before 10 pm.

*For more details, please visit the [Claraval Residence website](#)*

# Study Away Confirmation Portal



The Study Away Confirmation Housing application opened on **Nov 7<sup>nd</sup>** and is due by **Nov 18<sup>th</sup>**. To request to defer the \$1,000 housing deposit, email [housing@nyu.edu](mailto:housing@nyu.edu). **Approval of your request is NOT guaranteed.**

If you have ANY housing questions, email Megan Jones, the NYU Madrid Housing Coordinator at [megan.jones@nyu.edu](mailto:megan.jones@nyu.edu)



If you have immigration, passport, or visa-related questions, email OGS Representative Jessica Walker at [jessica.walker@nyu.edu](mailto:jessica.walker@nyu.edu)!



# Final Checklist

1. [Register for classes](#)
2. Read [Spring 2017 Student Blog](#)
3. Submit [Study Away Confirmation Portal](#) (housing preferences) by Nov 18th
4. Submit [health forms](#) to Student Health by December 1st
5. Arrive in Madrid on [January 22<sup>nd</sup>](#)!

