

Summer School in Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

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I took a class called "Good Journalism is Alive" for about three weeks, from June 22nd to July 10th. Since journalism was a brand-new field to me, and I preferred an interactive, hands-on class over a traditional lecture-style one, I decided to sign up for this course. During the first week, we focused on theory to build a general understanding of journalism. In the second and third weeks, we jumped into practical sessions—writing and recording our own podcast and radio scripts, and even conducting interviews and debates in a real studio. What I found most exciting was the hands-on directing experience, where I got to wear professional broadcasting gear, adjust camera angles, and coordinate with the control room to lead the flow of the show. This practical process really made me realize how much of an impact journalism can have on people and why it matters so much. It was a truly meaningful experience for me.



The first day of summer school kicked off with an opening session where we got a general introduction to the school, emergency contacts, and the academic calendar. On top of that, UAB organized various cultural activities, such as Barcelona architecture tours and festival visits, to help visiting students mingle and get closer. I actually took advantage of a school-supported tour to 'La Pedrera,' one of Antoni Gaudí's

masterpieces. It's a place that usually costs quite a bit of money to visit as an individual tourist, so it was a fantastic opportunity to explore it completely free of charge. The university campus itself is also very spacious and pleasant. There are student cafeterias, cafes, and lounges scattered everywhere, making it super convenient to grab a meal, have a cup of coffee, or just hang out during breaks between classes.



I stayed in a shared house with a friend of mine in a neighborhood near the school called 'Sabadell,' which we booked through Airbnb. Although we had to pay an extra fee to use the microwave and washing machine, the room condition and facilities were top-notch. Plus, the hosts were incredibly thoughtful, so we had a wonderful, hassle-free stay for three weeks. There were plenty of supermarkets nearby, so we kept our meals simple by shopping at the local markets, eating instant food we brought from Korea, or eating out at local restaurants. Best of all, the Can Feu station in Sabadell, where we stayed, was only two stops away from the campus on the S2 line. It took only about 20 minutes to get to school, and not having to waste a bunch of time commuting was definitely the most convenient part of my stay.



Coming to a foreign country, I was initially quite worried about whether I would adapt well to the classes. Fortunately, I was able to meet friends from various nationalities, chat, share our experiences, and quickly bond. Sharing our values during class and naturally introducing each other's cultures made experiencing cultural diversity incredibly fascinating. Looking back, three weeks felt so short and flew by in the blink of an eye, but it was an invaluable time of my life where I got to live abroad and build precious memories and experiences.

