

FACTSHEET "SEMESTRE EN UNIMAGDALENA"	
UNIVERSIDAD DEL MAGDALENA	
2019	
<b>Address</b>	Carrera 32 No 22 – 08
	Post Code No. 470004
	Santa Marta D.T.C.H. - Colombia
<b>Telephone:</b>	+ 57 (5) 4217940 - Ext: 2278-2279 + 57 (5) 4301292
<b>About the University</b>	<p><a href="#">Universidad del Magdalena</a> is a public university located in the city of Santa Marta, capital of Magdalena, Colombia. Its campus is one of the largest in the region. It received high quality institutional accreditation from the Ministry of National Education, being the second public university of the Colombian Caribbean region to obtain this distinction.</p> <p>The University has 23 undergraduate and 36 graduate programs including four (4) PhD programs and nineteen (19) Master's degree programs distributed among the Faculties of Engineering, Business and Economic Sciences, Health Sciences, Education Sciences, Humanities and Life Sciences.</p>
<b>International Office</b>	The <a href="#">International Relations Office</a> , ORI (by its initials in Spanish), is in charge of managing the internationalization process of the University. Created in 2003, it was established to contribute to the international insertion of the institution through programs and initiatives developed in cooperation with multiple and prestigious allies worldwide.
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE	
<b>Head of the office</b>	Carlos Coronado
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:relinternacional@unimagdalena.edu.co">relinternacional@unimagdalena.edu.co</a> ; <a href="mailto:ccoronadov@unimagdalena.edu.co">ccoronadov@unimagdalena.edu.co</a>
<b>Migration Issues</b>	Oriana Sánchez
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:asesoriasori@unimagdalena.edu.co">asesoriasori@unimagdalena.edu.co</a>
<b>Main Contact Person</b>	Laura Correa, Responsible for incoming students
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:semestreunimagdalena@unimagdalena.edu.co">semestreunimagdalena@unimagdalena.edu.co</a>
NOMINATION/APPLICATION PROCESS	
<b>Partner nomination</b>	The partner university must nominate students to the International Office
	Nomination Deadline for the second semester 2019 is May 30 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Application procedure</b>	Students must fill out the International Student Mobility Program form and letter of commitment. The required documents need to be sent to <a href="mailto:semestreunimagdalena@unimagdalena.edu.co">semestreunimagdalena@unimagdalena.edu.co</a> in one file labeled with the student's NAME AND LAST NAME for the application process. E.g. LUIS ARIAS.pdf
<b>Required Documents</b>	International Student Mobility Program Application Form

	A copy of your passport (MANDATORY)	
	Original transcripts	
	Course equivalence Form (Learning agreement)	
	Letter of Commitment	
	A certificate of Spanish language proficiency - B1 level (a certificate from your home institution, a teacher or a Spanish Institute)	
	Official nomination letter from Home Institution	
	Please find official forms and other useful information <a href="#">here</a> or in the following link: <a href="https://www.unimagdalena.edu.co/Internacionalizacion/Movilidad">https://www.unimagdalena.edu.co/Internacionalizacion/Movilidad</a>	
<b>ACADEMIC INFORMATION</b>		
<b>General Information</b>	Academic Calendar	You can find the latest version of the official academic calendar of the University <a href="#">here</a> . The Academic Calendar is divided into two periods. 1 <sup>st</sup> Period: Begins in February and ends in June. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period: Begins at the end of July and ends in November.
	Orientation Session	1 <sup>st</sup> Period: Last week of January. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period: Last week of July.
	International Student Rights and Responsibilities	International students have the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published <a href="#">University Student Rules</a> and to comply with them, as well as local laws.
<b>Language(s) of Instruction</b>	<b>Spanish</b> Most courses are taught in Spanish. <b>A letter from a Spanish teacher confirming the B1 level, according to the CEFR is desirable.</b>	
<b>Course Offer</b>	Students can choose courses from the different programs offered by our departments. More information on <a href="#">Programs and Courses</a> . If you require further information on course selection, please contact us.	
<b>Language Courses</b>	The Department of General Studies and Languages offers a range of <a href="#">language courses</a> , which international students can access.	
<b>Extracurricular Activities</b>	The University's <a href="#">Welfare Office</a> offers multiple opportunities for the practice of sports, musical and recreational activities within the University Campus. Sports activities include soccer, tennis, table tennis, cheerleading, athletics, indoor soccer, softball, chess, skating, basketball, volleyball and Tae Kwon Do. Cultural activities include folk dances, percussion, folk music, tropical orchestra, jazz, wind instruments, guitar, literary workshops, theater group and vallenato group. Registrations for these activities are carried out within the first two weeks of February (for the first academic semester), and in the first two weeks of August (for the second academic semester).  International students can get involved in volunteering activities as well.	
<b>Recommended Workload</b>	Students should register a minimum of 11 credits and a maximum of 22 credits. Students should	

	<p>follow the minimum requirements of their home university.</p> <p>One (1) credit in our university equals 1.7 ECTS. Moreover, one course of two (2) credits equals 3.4 ECTS and one of three (3) equals 5 ECTS.</p>										
<b>Grading</b>	<p>The minimum grade to pass a course is 300/500.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>481-500</td> <td>Excellent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>400-480</td> <td>Very Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>350-399</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>300-349</td> <td>Sufficient</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-299</td> <td>Failed</td> </tr> </table> <p>Some specific courses grant a qualitative grade: A – Approved, I – Insufficient.</p> <p>Each academic period is divided into three grading stages called “seguimientos” or follow-up periods (seguimientos 1, 2 y 3). The first two follow-ups represent 60% of the total grade of the academic period (30% each one). The third and final one represents 40% of the grand total. Professors, in accordance with academic programs, are autonomous in establishing the evaluation methodology. Moreover, it is common that during each follow-up, partial group or individual evaluations take place with smaller percentages (quiz, workshop, exhibition) leading to an individual examination with a higher percentage towards the end.</p>	481-500	Excellent	400-480	Very Good	350-399	Good	300-349	Sufficient	0-299	Failed
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<b>RELEVANT INFORMATION</b>											
<b>Orientation Program</b>	<p>Unimagdalena has a welcome and orientation session for International students during the last week of January for the first academic semester and during the last week of July for the second semester, participation in this session is highly recommended. Orientation includes: welcome to the University, tour of the campus, presentation of students in Academic Programs and courses, folkloric groups performance, registration in sports, cultural and recreational activities.</p> <p>International Office Staff will accompany international students through the migration process of Visa Registration and acquisition of the ID Card for Foreigners: once they have a definite place of residence.</p> <p><b>International Club:</b> It is a group of students willing to help international students throughout the exchange experience. They carry out several activities involving international students and Unimagdalena’s community promoting an international environment (Field Trips, Language Clubs, Picnics, among others).</p> <p><b>Amigo Unimagdalena:</b> The International student will be assigned with a “buddy” (local student) that will advise them regarding academic issues and also will accompany them during their adaptation process.</p>										
<b>Field/Leisure Trips</b>	<p>Whenever an international student plans a field trip outside the city of Santa Marta, they must notify the International Office with a minimum of 2 days in advance. An effort to include the International Office in travel plans is recommend in order to be advised on the best and safest options. In addition to cities other than Santa Marta, we include in this request of travel notification the vast area of the Tayrona National Park, regardless of whether the trips involves spending the night in the destinations or returning to the city on the same day.</p> <p>Likewise, the International Office also organizes several (one or two) institutional field trips in order to promote socializing within the group.</p>										
<b>Arrival</b>	<p>Please take an authorized taxi at the airport. The cost of this service to the city of Santa Marta is a maximum of \$30,000 COP (to the area of El Rodadero the maximum cost is \$20,000 COP), to the area</p>										

	<p>of Taganga the maximum cost is \$ 35,000 COP.</p> <p>The exchange student will pay the cost of this service <b>directly. Make sure to exchange the foreign currency you bring for Colombian Pesos at the trading office located at the airport.</b></p>
<b>Health insurance</b>	<p>Students <b>must have</b> an international health insurance with a wide health and dental coverage. The minimum coverage required for each item are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Medical Assistance for Accidents: US\$50.000</li> <li>· Medical Assistance for Illness: US\$50.000</li> <li>· Funerary Repatriation: US\$50.000</li> </ul> <p>Please make sure that the insurance includes tropical diseases.</p> <p><b>Yellow Fever Vaccine:</b> Colombia requires a vaccination certificate against yellow fever to foreigners over 1 year and under 60 for access into risk areas. Risk areas: Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Tayrona Park and rainforest areas of the country in the Departments of Meta, Guaviare and Amazonas. In order to obtain proper protection, vaccination is recommended at least four to six weeks before the trip.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> The health insurance needs to be sent to the International Office detailing the aforementioned coverage before arrival to Colombia. In addition, the student must present to the International Office a copy of the insurance upon their arrival; without this document, the student cannot begin classes.</p> <p>Likewise, the student must obtain the obligatory University's Student Health Insurance for \$15.000 COP.</p>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>The university doesn't have accommodation on campus or off campus for students. However, we do provide a list of housing possibilities for them to check out.</p> <p>Exchange students are responsible for arranging housing on their own.</p>
<b>Visa information</b>	<p>Depending on the length of the period of studies and the nationality of the student, they would have to do one of the following process:</p> <p><b>Student Entry Permit (PIP2):</b> stamp on the passport at the airport given to students whose nationality does not require a tourist visa, coming for less than 180 days when they <b>Hand IN</b> the admission letter to the migration officer at the airport.</p> <p><b>Student Entry Permit (PIP5):</b> stamp on the passport at the airport given to students whose nationality is from a EU country, coming for less than 180 days when they <b>Hand IN</b> the admission letter to the migration officer at the airport.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This permit is valid for 90 days, and they have to renew it at Migration Colombia for another period.</li> </ul> <p><b>A Student Visa is required for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange students coming for more than 180 days have to get their student visa before their arrival.</li> <li>• Exchange students coming for less than 180 days and whose nationality requires a tourist visa to enter Colombia.</li> </ul> <p>To check which country nationals need a tourist visa for Colombia:</p>

	<p><a href="http://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/tramites_servicios/visas/cuadro-visas-paises.pdf">http://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/tramites_servicios/visas/cuadro-visas-paises.pdf</a></p> <p><i>Students must send us a scanned copy of their PIP2, PIP5 or their visa once they have it.</i></p> <p><b>STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO START CLASSES WITHOUT THE CORRECT STUDY PERMIT OR VISA.</b></p>
<b>Student ID Card</b>	The student must obtain for \$15.000 COP the obligatory student ID card.
<b>Living Expenses Aid</b>	<p>Money incentive given by Unimagdalena to incoming students selected by the call for scholarships "Semestre Unimagdalena."</p> <p>\$450.000 per month (\$1.800.000 total)</p>
<b>Housing</b>	Family house Room \$350.000 - \$600.000 COP Per month
<b>Transportation</b>	<p>Public bus fare - One way \$1.600--\$1.700 COP</p> <p>Taxis include Taximeter (Minimum cost \$5.000 COP) If the taxi doesn't include the mandatory taximeter please refrain from getting in. Please call the taxi o take it at a taxi station whenever possible.</p>
<b>Information about Santa Marta and Colombia:</b>	<p>The Touristic, Cultural and Historical District of Santa Marta is one of the main tourist destinations in the country for its numerous beaches, nature reserves and its cultural and historical heritage. Founded in 1525, it is the oldest city in the country, the place where the Liberator Simón Bolívar died and it is the main access to the highest mountain in the world in the coastal zone, the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta and its ancient indigenous communities.</p> <p><a href="#">About Colombia</a></p> <p><a href="#">About Santa Marta</a></p> <p><a href="#">Santa Marta on TripAdvisor</a></p>