

IASAP-BV HANDBOOK

This handbook provides practical information for prospective students, applicants and participants. A more detailed description of the program can be found on the School of Architecture website, www.arch.illinois.edu, and/or the Study Abroad Office’s website, www.studyabroad.illinois.edu.

For questions and comments please consult Rhonda Frank (rfrank@illinois.edu; 217-333-7720).

All IASAP-BV participants must carefully and thoroughly read all the information provided in this handbook. It is also very strongly recommended that participants’ parents read these documents as well.

IASAP-BV Handbook organization (index)

1. IASAP-BV’S program description
 2. Program’s mission
 3. Studying abroad in times of COVID-19
 4. Special notes about the Barcelona Program for AY 2021-2022
 5. ETSAV, our host school
 6. Registering at the ETSAV
 7. Program regulations
 8. Application process
 9. Passport and visa requirements
 10. Considerations on costs and fees
 11. Academic course organization
 12. Calendar organization
 13. Student housing
 14. Health care and student wellbeing
 15. DRES
 16. Money matters
 17. Traveling from Chicago to Barcelona – El Vallès
 18. Practical considerations
- Appendixes:
- # 1: Schedule of meetings,
 - # 2: Spanish visa requirements for all students
 - # 3: Costs and fees

1. IASAP-BV’S Program Description

The Illinois Architecture Study Abroad Program in Barcelona-El Vallès (IASAP-BV, or “Barcelona Program”) is the flagship international program of overseas studies of the Illinois School of Architecture. It is a comprehensive international learning experience for students enrolled at the Illinois School of Architecture (ISoA) of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The IASAP-BV is a unique opportunity for living and studying in a historically and architecturally vibrant overseas environment while simultaneously offering a curricular structure that is fully equivalent –in content and academic rigor— to the courses offered at the Illinois campus.

The Barcelona program is academically rigorous, intense, challenging, and broadening as it exposes students first-hand to the architecture of Western Europe. Moreover, it provides a wealth of opportunities for professional and personal growth through a wide range of curricular and extracurricular activities, and possibilities for independent travel throughout the Mediterranean basin and Europe.

2. PROGRAM'S MISSION

The Program's mission is to provide students with a multicultural and cross-national approach, enriching their personal and professional development. It is committed to providing a holistic and dynamic architectural education that includes required courses and a wide range of curricular and extracurricular activities that focus on an integrated approach to the discipline of architecture, continuing the students' academic education on the same path toward graduation with a degree in Architectural Studies from the School of Architecture of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

3. STUDYING ABROAD IN TIMES OF COVID – 19

The IASAP-BV program has established measures and protocols aiming to protect the wellbeing of participants. Preventive measures are institutionally taken to minimize the risk of contagion as much as possible, but they can only be effective if students, professors and staff follow these measures collectively and individually both inside and outside the school. Even then, no matter how well organized we are and how much we try to be responsible and abide by all the protective and preventive measures, we cannot control all the factors involved in this unprecedented pandemic.

Responsibility is a key element that is equally shared by the program's faculty and staff, the host school, and students. We can mitigate or reduce risks, but we cannot eliminate them. If there is a characteristic of this "new normality" it is that it changes very often. Because of this, students should be very attentive to messages from the program and be ready to adjust to changes as they are imposed by local/school authorities, and by the University of Illinois.

Due to its location and to the institutional agreement with our host *Universtat Politècnica de Catalunya* (UPC) and the *Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès* (ETSAV), the program (students, faculty and staff) must strictly follow and abide by the rules and procedures established by Spanish and Catalan authorities as well as the protocols created by the above mentioned hosting institution. Besides, as a part of the Illinois School of Architecture, protocols and rules of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be applicable to our program as long as they do not contradict any of the abovementioned authorities or are beyond the program's means. For example, testing, an expensive procedure that requires a medical prescription, is not available in Spain unless there is a suspicion of contagion.

Since protocols and rules change often as the pandemic unfolds, students will be informed about them upon their arrival in Barcelona. At this point, it is important to note that students will be required to respect and follow those protocols, including those imposed by the university residence. Maintaining a good information flow is essential to be updated on any modifications.

Teaching and Traveling:

For academic year of 2021-2022, courses may be taught in a hybrid format. In the in-person format students and professors will need to adapt and respect the rules of the institutions and local governments. Please note that because of the conditions of the pandemic there may be moments in which circumstances may oblige to return to online teaching.

Concerning traveling, both individual and group travel will adapt to the evolution of pandemic conditions and the governmental/institutional protocols in place. From the point of view of the program, when preparing program-organized group field trips, choices will be determined by the conditions and preventive measures required at potential destinations.

Regarding individual independent travel, students will need to follow the program's protocols that will be communicated and discussed with them during the first week of their arrival in Barcelona. While students will be given orientation and the IASAP-BV's program coordinator will try to help them organize their trips, students will need to be proactive and thorough regarding COVID-19 preventive measures when preparing for their travels and activities.

These are some of the procedures currently in place:

- Program group travel will only happen when and if conditions allow. Bigger buses will be rented to allow interpersonal distance whenever transportation is needed. The selection of places to visit and lodging will consider the respect of sanitary protocols.
- University Housing: especially during this year, the program will rent two extra individual rooms to isolate and quarantine students to prevent contagion as needed. These rooms will be exclusively for IASAP-BV participants.
- Health care issues: IASAP-BV has promoted the signature of agreements between the International Health Insurance company and two of the most important Spanish Hospital groups. These agreements aim to facilitate medical access to IASAP-BV students when they travel in Spain and contact medical services from these two groups. In the same way, while living in Sant Cugat del Vallès, two local agreements have been promoted to make sure that program participants receive medical attention. A third agreement has been promoted with a hospital group in Barcelona.
- On the date of arrival, students will receive more information about how to handle different situations, particularly concerning health care. They will also receive complete information regarding emergency numbers and how and when to use them. Besides the information, students will receive a carry-on wallet size card with emergency numbers that they should always have with them.

FYI: The European Community countries have a unique emergency number: 112 where they respond to emergencies in English among other languages.

4. SPECIAL NOTES ABOUT THE BARCELONA PROGRAM FOR AY 2021-2022

In AY 2021-2022, the IASAP-BV will have different formats. Junior, senior and graduate-level students enrolled at the Illinois School of Architecture of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are eligible to participate in the program.

The yearlong comprehensive international learning experience is tailored for undergraduate students (juniors and seniors). Nonetheless, considering the particularities of this past and current year, seniors may choose to participate during one semester only (please note that yearlong applicants may have priority over senior-level one-semester applicants). And, for the first time, graduate-level students may also participate in the IASAP-BV for one semester.

5. ETSAV, OUR HOST SCHOOL

The IASAP-BV is part of an overarching institutional agreement between the Schools of Architecture of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the *Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya* (UPC) that provides for a significant and long-term academic collaboration. Thus, the IASAP-BV is hosted at the *Escola Tècnica Superior*

d'Arquitectura del Vallès (ETSAV), one of the two architecture programs of the highly ranked UPC.

For more information about the host school visit

> www.etsav.upc.edu and https://www.upc.edu/en?set_language=en

6. REGISTRATION AT UPC/ETSAV

Students participating in the IASAP-BV need to register at the *Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès*. The registration process must be completed individually by each student prior to coming to Barcelona.

How to register? In the Spring, incoming program students will receive an email from the ETSAV's International Office with instructions for registration. This email is usually written in three languages (English is one of them.) It is very important that all students comply with this requirement in a timely basis in order to be properly registered at the UPC and to be able to use the ETSAV's facilities. (Instructions will include a deadline).

Not complying with this requirement of the program's host institution may result in the student's exclusion from participating in the IASAP-BV. If questions emerge, please contact either the Illinois School of Architecture or the IASAP-BV's administration (magali@illinois.edu).

7. PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Students participate in the IASAP-BV as University of Illinois students. Consequently, they are required to follow the University of Illinois *Student Code* (<http://studentcode.illinois.edu>) and are subject to the same rules and discipline standards as they are on the Illinois campus.

All participants of the IASAP-BV must comply with the Program's rules. The rules are based on the understanding that as participants in one of the University's overseas programs, students are "ambassadors" of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Therefore, the students' academic and personal behavior must be exemplary at all times. As a reminder, as part of the application process, students will sign a Program Dismissal Form regarding conduct, an Acknowledgement of Risk and Release of Responsibility form regarding extraordinary circumstances, a Release of Information form to other group participants, and an Acknowledgement of DRES regarding any necessary accommodations.

These forms are available in the study abroad website:

<http://www.studyabroad.illinois.edu>

Withdrawal from the Program

If for any reason you cannot carry through your commitment, please report immediately to Rhonda Frank (rfrank@illinois.edu and 217-333-7720). We must have a written record of your withdrawal.

Dismissal

If a student's conduct while participating in the Program is deemed undesirable or prejudicial to the University community's best interest, as described in Part 3 of the *Student Code*, the student will be required to return to campus for the continuation of her/his studies and for possible disciplinary action. In addition, any student who has been accepted to the Barcelona Program, but fails to meet the responsibilities of participation while in Europe, may be dropped from the Program.

Students involved in unlawful acts deemed detrimental to the welfare of the Program will be promptly dropped from the Program and the University so notified (i.e., participation in the political affairs of a foreign nation, possession or distribution of narcotics, destruction of property, improper or disturbing behavior especially as a consequence of alcohol consumption, etc.).

Encumbrances

Academic and administrative offices may place encumbrances on your record for academic reasons, funds owed to the University, judicial reasons, and for failure to meet medical/immunization requirements. If you have an encumbrance(s) on your record, resolve it with the appropriate campus office as soon as possible. You will be informed of any encumbrance(s) when you register. Failure to resolve an encumbrance prior to 5:00 p.m. of the first day of instruction will result in cancellation of your course registration for the term.

Students are responsible for any damage to their housing or to the school and must pay for repairs or replacement. Individual students are financially responsible for any bills incurred by them while in the Study Abroad Program. Students not paying immediately will be encumbered by the University.

8. APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, visit the study abroad website at www.studyabroad.illinois.edu Click on Create App if you are ready to apply. Click “Okay” in the pop-up box to acknowledge that you will be charged \$100.00 on your student account when you apply.

This is a non-refundable application fee. You will be asked for your username and password. Your username is your net id. Your password is your active directory password. On the Program Application Page, fill out all required forms.

Application Deadline: January 31, 2021

For further information about the application process please visit: [Study Abroad - School of Architecture \(illinois.edu\)](http://www.studyabroad.illinois.edu)

Requirements for ALL participating students:

- All courses taken at time of application require a letter grade.
- GPA will be strongly considered for participation in this program.
- Attend all scheduled meetings to prepare for the program and complete all required administrative and bureaucratic preparations for long-term study in Spain in a timely manner. Meetings take place in the Spring semester prior to departure (between early February and early May). See [Appendix #1](#) for schedule of meetings. (Separate meetings will be held for those participating in the Spring one semester program.)
- Comply with the schedule of payments shown in [Appendix #3](#). (Some payments are due in the Spring and Summer semesters before leaving.)
- When due, register at UPC/ETSAV. You will receive a message with instructions around April 2021.

9. PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

All students participating in the IASAP-BV must have a valid passport and must complete all the requirements for a long-stay student visa to study in Spain. (For more information visit: www.studyabroad.illinois.edu/support-resources/passports-visas). In addition to other preparations, the preparatory meetings held during the Spring semester will assist

students with this process.

Because the visa procedure changes often, details about the visa procedure will be provided as a separate document. (see [Appendix #2](#))

10. CONSIDERATIONS ON COSTS AND FEES

Participation in the Barcelona Program requires the payment of a Program Fee in addition to regular tuition and fees required for enrollment at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Program Fee covers the cost of student lodging (housing at the double occupancy rate), round-trip airfare to Barcelona, and other expenses incurred on behalf of the students for some of the required academic activities of the program such as some field trips, immigration procedures, administrative expenditures, and general office management.

In AY 2021-2022, all admitted applicants will receive an Allen Scholarship that will effectively reduce the out-of-pocket fee. The amount will be determined in the Spring semester, but it can be safely estimated between 5% and 10% of the Program Fee.

Program fees do not cover personal living expenses (utilities, cell phone/communication, travel, food, etc.).

Program fees and personal living expenses change yearly and cannot be established with an absolute accuracy because some costs may change drastically from one year to the other -especially this year due to the pandemic - and because of the fluctuation of exchange rates (Euro/dollar).

Costs and fees for juniors, seniors and graduate-level students for both yearlong and semester options are provided in separate documents.(see [Appendix #3](#): "IASAP-BV Costs and Fees" for AY 2021-2022).

11. ACADEMIC COURSE ORGANIZATION

The courses offered at the IASAP-BV are: Architectural Design studio (6 credit hours), Architectural History (3 credit hours), and Overseas Architectural Studies (3 credit hours). All of them are taught in English and are fully equivalent in content and rigor to similar courses offered on campus. While equivalent in content, all courses are adapted to take full advantage of the program's extraordinary location in one of the most architecturally attractive environs worldwide.

The structure of Architectural Design studios is similar to equivalent courses on campus. Architectural History courses are taught as a mix of traditionally formatted in-class sessions and a multitude of field trips and visits to historically significant sites and buildings. Overseas Architectural Studies is unique to the study abroad program; it consists of a series of autonomous and interrelated course-modules, workshops, fieldtrips and assignments designed to maximize the overseas learning experience.

For students who need to complete additional required courses and/or need credit hours during the period of studying abroad, the School and the Program will assist them by establishing valid alternatives (i.e., online courses, locally-offered equivalent courses, independent studies, etc.) to make sure that they continue on track towards graduation.

12. CALENDAR ORGANIZATION

The calendar is based on the Illinois' school calendar but adapted to the program's location and its pedagogical needs. It is designed to combine rigorous academic content with opportunities for independent study- travel.

Simply stated, it consists of two semesters separated by a winter break. A week-long period for independent travel is built into the calendar of activities in each of the two semesters.

Throughout the year, the calendar of activities is demanding; time and focused dedication are necessary to complete course-related assignments. Thus, the weekly load is intense and filled with various course-related activities in studios, classrooms and field trips to architectural landmarks in Barcelona and its environs.

The typical calendar structure is as follows:

- First week of September (after Labor Day holiday) > Program/Fall semester starts in Barcelona-El Vallès.
- Third week of December (generally between December 18-22) > Fall semester ends.
- Mid-late December through first week of January > winter holidays
- First workday after January 6 > yearlong classes resumes/ Spring semester starts
- Early May (on Wednesday before Commencement weekend at Illinois) > end of AY activities of the Barcelona Program.

Participants in the yearlong format must be in Barcelona-El Vallès on the first day of activities of the Fall semester.

Participants in the semester-long format must be in Barcelona-El Vallès on the first day of activity of each semester.

Exact dates will be communicated to all participants long in advance.

A more detailed calendar for the academic year is typically issued in mid-Summer (July) prior to the beginning of the yearlong activities in September.

For reference purposes only, a sample calendar from previous years will be available on the program's website: [Barcelona Study Abroad - School of Architecture \(illinois.edu\)](http://Barcelona_Study_Abroad_-_School_of_Architecture_illinois.edu)

13. STUDENT HOUSING

Lodging for students is included in the Program Fee (see [Appendix #3](#)).

Typically, students live at Unihabit Sant Cugat, a university residence that is adjacent to the ETSAV. Because of the challenges imposed by the pandemic and despite all of our efforts, for the year 2021-2022 we cannot yet confirm that students will be placed in Sant Cugat's university residence. Another residence may be reserved to lodge program students. Precise information will be available around March 2021.

More information about lodging is available at the website: [Barcelona Study Abroad - School of Architecture \(illinois.edu\)](http://Barcelona_Study_Abroad_-_School_of_Architecture_illinois.edu)

14. HEALTH CARE AND STUDENT WELLBEING

The physical and mental wellbeing of students is a priority at the IASAP-BV, as it is throughout the University of Illinois. In Spain there is a very broad range of private health care services and providers. Students in need of medical attention have a wide scope of choices.

During the year abroad, students are covered by an international insurance agreement required by the University of Illinois. This is a "world class coverage plan" administered by Arthur J. Gallagher International Insurance through International Safety and Security

at UIUC (<https://safetyabroad.illinois.edu/insurance/coverage/>). Students are covered for the duration of the study abroad program. The cost of the insurance coverage is \$365 which is paid by individual students through their student accounts.

All students must read and be knowledgeable of the insurance policy and rules. It is important to verify what kind of coverage will be given in the different places students plan to visit/travel to. During the summer, prior to traveling to Barcelona students will receive a letter with details of health information that may be useful to have while they are abroad, the letter will include a list of administrative documents that will need to be sent to the IASAP-BV program coordinator.

Once in Barcelona, students will receive information on how to handle eventual health issues/situations. The IASAP-BV program coordinator follows closely all health-related cases and may assist students with medical appointments, follow-up and completion of claim reimbursements from the insurance company.

Since the wellbeing of students includes prevention of health problems and promotion of good general health and wellbeing, the IASAP-BV program coordinator offers sessions of mindfulness to students interested in its benefits. And to keep students physically fit, there are many options in Sant Cugat where students can practice different sports in group or individually.

It is advisable that students carry their medical information with them. Medical history with personal main health events and current problems, allergies, etc. may be needed in the eventuality that a student experiences a health problem while in Spain/Europe. Vaccination records are also important. It is important/advisable that vaccinations be up to date.

If traveling outside Spain, it is necessary to check the health care requirements for each country of destination and research how to fulfill them. Students are responsible for obtaining the proper protection.

Students with a known health care concern

If students are aware of any health care concern, it is advisable that they contact the IASAP-BV's program coordinator (magali@illinois.edu) who will be able to assist with the coordination of appointments, serve as a translator if necessary, and help with follow up as deemed necessary.

Students under medical treatment before coming to Spain

Students under a special medical treatment can bring a 3-month supply of their medicine with them with the prescription to demonstrate that they need this medication. Bringing the prescription will also demonstrate that they are under treatment. A letter from the physician accompanying the prescription may be useful when going through customs.

In each country, pharmacies only recognize and accept prescriptions produced by national/locally registered physicians. Therefore, students under medical treatment need to visit a local doctor to get their prescription. Not all medicines approved in the United States are approved in Europe, and the dosage may differ. Prior to departure to Barcelona, students should verify with their physicians the availability and dosage of the prescribed medicine while in Europe. Please note that brand names change; what is important to know is the active drug name and dosage, frequency, and length of treatment.

Arthur J. Gallagher International Insurance

The University of Illinois international insurance policy with Gallagher includes medical benefits, personal property coverage (but no electronics), security evacuation expenses, accidental death and dismemberment benefits. For more information about these insurance benefits please read the material provided by the Health Insurance and the International Safety and Security office. Before seeking care, if possible, call Gallagher

to set up an appointment and have the cost covered by a Guarantee of Payment (GOP). If you already sought care and paid, you need to submit a claim by filling out the study abroad claims form, together with the itemized bill and receipts (translated into English) including the amount paid in US dollars to the claims company listed below within 90 days of the treatment or covered loss. Please note that medical benefits do not include routine eye or dental exams. Students are encouraged to have these check-ups, if necessary, before the beginning of the program. Other exclusions/exceptions apply, for a full list of coverage and further information please visit <http://safetyabroad.illinois.edu>.

Call Gallagher for a GOP at: 1-866-693-6873 Toll-Free; 1-312-935-9242 Direct Dial.

The University of Illinois student policy number for Gallagher is GLM N10893392.

Submitting claims is a procedure that can be completed online. Students should read and follow the insurance directions when filing their health care claims.

UIUC Student Insurance

All University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign students who are eligible are automatically assessed the student health insurance fee every semester that they register for classes, unless they have previously applied for an exemption (details below). Students who are enrolled in the Barcelona Program will be assessed the student health insurance fee if they have not previously exempted and will be enrolled in the UIUC Student Health insurance as well as the required International Insurance for the semesters during which they are registered. The details of the Student Health Insurance plan are available at the Student Health Insurance website (www.si.illinois.edu). This is a worldwide plan and may not be opted out of in favor of the International Insurance. The only students who are eligible to opt out of the UIUC Student Insurance are those who have comparable outside coverage (e.g. through their parents, work, etc.) Exemptions last for the duration of the academic year. Any medical expenses not covered by the International Insurance plan may be submitted to the UIUC student health insurance.

If you are not registering for the semester after studying abroad, and you wish to have Student Health Insurance coverage after your 6-10-month International Insurance coverage ends, you are eligible for a one-semester extension, to take effect after the last semester in which you were assessed the UIUC Student Insurance. Students must complete the “Extension Form”, available at www.si.illinois.edu, under the “Forms” tab during the enrollment change period at the beginning of the semester for which the extension is to be applied. The form is completed online, and payment made by credit card online as well. The insurance fee will not be billed to your account for a semester in which you are not registered. For extension period deadlines for each semester, or more information about the extensions, you may contact the office: *Student Health Insurance at McKinley Heath Center, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., Lower level Room 29, Urbana, IL 61801; 217-333-0165; insure@illinois.edu; fax: 217-244-9886.*

15. Disability Resources and Educational (DRES) services while abroad

The IASAP-BV does its best to accommodate students’ needs and ensure their wellbeing. This said, IASAP-BV has limited resources (human and material) and also has to adapt to the host school’s resources and the university residence procedures. Students requiring/needing accommodations modifications or adjustments to instructional methods and course requirements, or any other kind of accommodation, should consult with the Study Abroad and DRES offices (<https://www.disability.illinois.edu/academic-supports/accommodations/study-abroad>) and with the IASAP-BV program coordinator (maqali@illinois.edu). regarding the feasibility of accommodation needed.

The IASAP-BV coordinator will work with the Study Abroad and DRES offices on campus

and with the local host school and university residence and health care facilities to check that accommodation needed is feasible and thus search for the best plan of accommodations whenever they will be feasible and possible.

16. MONEY MATTERS

First and foremost:

WE STRONGLY DISCOURAGE STUDENTS FROM CARRYING SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF CASH WITH THEM ON THE FLIGHT TO BARCELONA OR WHILE TRAVELING IN EUROPE.

The reason is simple: currency exchange outlets make a substantial profit with each operation. The exchange rate they will offer—even when they announce “no commissions”—is very unfavorable, often up to 10% less than the real value of the dollar. It is therefore much better to withdraw cash in local currency at ATM machines.

Participating students can withdraw money in local currency from most ATM machines using their US based debit/credit cards. The conditions of these depend on both the local ATM's bank and their bank account at the country of origin. Before arriving in Spain, students should inquire at their personal bank (in the US or country of origin) about international banking transactions and how the management of their own bank accounts can be facilitated while they are abroad.

Some American banks offer very interesting international options for students studying abroad. Check with your local bank.

Having a local bank account is not required, but it can be practical and helpful for everyday life, facilitating activities such as shopping, having a Spanish cell phone, going to the gym, and placing lodging reservations throughout Europe (transfers are easy and not expensive because of inter-European bank agreements). Cell phone retailers and service providers will require payment through direct withdrawals from a Spanish bank account.

17. TRAVELING TO BARCELONA - EL VALLÈS

All students are required to be in Barcelona – Sant Cugat the first day of the program of each academic semester.

There are two options available to travel to Barcelona, Spain:

- a. The School of Architecture arranges a group flight from Chicago – Barcelona for all program participants. Flight date reservations are set around the dates of the program's beginning and ending activities and adapt to the program's academic calendar.
- b. Students may travel on their own to Barcelona, Spain.

In this case, students traveling individually to Barcelona should contact the IASAP-BV's program coordinator 10 days prior to their arrival and inform her about the date and time of arrival and flight number.

Students traveling independently to Barcelona, will receive helpful information regarding how to arrive at the university reserved housing and to the ETSAV in Sant Cugat del Vallès.

18. PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

On electrical appliances

Electrical items in the U.S. are designed for voltage/frequency of 110Volts/60 Hz; but in Europe, electrical power supply uses voltage/frequency of 220Volts/50Hz. This means that, for example, if you use an American hairdryer in Europe, it will certainly “fry” or burn rather quickly. Some products/brand names (hairdryers, for example) are designed for traveling; they have dual/compatible voltage and frequency. In general, electronic devices adapt well to the electricity because they have an internal converter. Nevertheless, it is important to check the information of all the electrical/ electronic devices that will be brought to Europe.

Plugs/outlets differ a lot from country to country. An international plug adaptor might be useful. Note: plug outlet adaptors do not convert voltage nor frequency, just adapt to the outlets.

Shipping/mailling packages/items to/from Spain

Spanish postal services are slow and may be unreliable; this makes them expensive when quality of service and price are concerned. There are reliable private postal services, but definitely more expensive. Any shipping through these companies needs to be established online. Whether posting or receiving packages through a public or private postal service, local customs fees may apply. It is important to keep this in mind because sending an inexpensive present/souvenir to a family member/ friend may result in a very expensive and time-consuming activity for the recipient.

Assuming that housing is confirmed in Sant Cugat at the Unihabit University Residence, your mailing address in Sant Cugat will be:

YOUR NAME
UNIHABIT SANT CUGAT
Calle Pere Serra, 1- 15 / Room number
08173 Sant Cugat (Barcelona), SPAIN