

la fuente

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SELECTIVIDAD IN SPAIN

¡Hola a todos! How is your semester going?

Most of us can still vividly remember what we had been through to get into the university. As such, we all have a fair share of our UPCAT experiences; from the countless preparations to the day of the exam itself. In Spain, students who wish to get a degree also need to pass a test that is somewhat similar to ours. It is called the Selectividad which is a popular name given to the Prueba de Acceso a Estudios Universitarios.

Every June or September, hundreds of thousands of 18-year-olds take the Selectividad university exams to determine whether or not they get into the university and get a scholarship to cover the expenses while studying.

After passing the Bachillerato, the last two non-compulsory years of secondary education, those who decide to stop there will drive themselves onto a somewhat unsteady job market, or take further vocational or professional qualifications such as the Formación Profesional (FP) which is equivalent to the UK's Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) courses.

However, those who want to get higher education and pursue a degree have to pass the Selectividad in addition to the Bachillerato, which is basically a summary of what they have studied during the latter.

Generally, the exam is comprised of subjects taken during the second year of Bachillerato, including Spanish language and literature, foreign language, History or Philosophy and one other school subject. A student may take up to four subject exams, but only the two highest grades will be considered. Normally, a student will take subjects related to the desired degree program.

The grade obtained on the exam is added with the overall grade from the years of Bachillerato. To compute for the results, the Bachillerato grade counts for the 60%, and the Selectividad number accounts for the remaining 40%. Unlike in most countries, there is no official ranking for universities in Spain. However, different schools and courses have a minimum required grade (nota de acceso) that may be subjected to change yearly, depending on the university and the number of slots available for new students.

So that's a part of what university student hopefuls undergo in Spain. Moreover, aside from being one of the months to take Selectividad, September is also the beginning of classes in Spain. And now that they have begun going to school, we hope that they too would be having fun just like us!

NEXT MONTH...

As film festivals in Spain peak in the months of October and November, UP Círculo Hispánico will be showing the following films: *Celda 211*, *Todo sobre mi madre*, *Ochos apellidos vascos*, and *El laberinto del fauno*. Don't miss out on this opportunity to watch great Spanish films!



RECENTLY IN CH...

On September 8, the organization held a Fun Interview and an Amazing Race for applicants for the first semester. The Fun Interview and Amazing Race give the applicants and the members some initial bonding time: during the Fun Interview, everybody gets asked at least one question that allows the group to get to know him or her better; in the Amazing Race, an applicant is paired off with a member to do tasks together.



Also, an orientation for the freshmen, transferees, and shiftees (FSTs) of the Department of European Languages (DEL) was held last Monday, September 22. The organization participated in the orientations, introducing itself to the FSTs of DEL.



ABOUT UP CÍRCULO HISPÁNICO

UP Círculo Hispánico is a non-profit academic oriented organization under the Department of European Languages, duly recognized by the College of the Arts and Letters of the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

The organization was founded in 1964 under the name of Círculo Cervantino. It became dormant during a couple of years, and in 1997 it was re-established as Círculo Hispánico.

UP Círculo Hispánico aims to promote the Spanish language and culture to students and other members of our academic institution. It serves as a venue and support group for students who wish to further their interest in the Spanish language and culture through different activities such as tutorials, exhibits, poetry readings, film showings, etc. It helps in strengthening ties between the Philippines and Spanish-speaking countries. For years, the organization has been helpful in producing esteemed alumni who were and always will be instruments of change in our country.

CONTACT US

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