UGRCat, the Spanish-English catalogue supporting academic internationalization, reaches 22,000 new users
12/06/2024

News

UGRCat is a bilingual (Spanish-English) catalogue of official degrees and courses offered by the University of Granada (UGR). The tool, which is designed to support and promote academic internationalization, was developed as part of the UGR’s Internationalization Strategy as a response to the institution’s commitment to adhere to the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

The pilot version of UGRCat was launched in 2022. Since the 2023-2024 academic year, the resource has provided comprehensive information on the UGR’s academic offer, including courses, undergraduate degrees, master’s degrees, doctoral programmes and international degree programmes. The catalogue also offers information on administrative procedures related to international students and mobilities, among other topics.

**A centralised gateway to UGR academic programmes and information**

UGRCat (https://ugrcat.ugr.es/, https://ugrcat.ugr.es/en/) is a bilingual (with the potential to become multilingual), centralised and publicly accessible catalogue. Its main objective is to provide information that is adapted to the international higher education framework on the official degrees and courses offered at the University of Granada.
The tool is primarily aimed at international students (Spanish and English speakers), as well as at teaching, management and administrative staff — both those at the UGR and those working at our partner institutions — who are involved in the internationalization of education. For this purpose, UGRCat has been designed as an access point to the UGR’s academic degrees, providing brief and accessible descriptions of the main features of each curriculum.

In addition, in accordance with the guidelines of the European Commission’s ECTS Users’ Guide 2015, as well as the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, UGRCat includes information for international students and our partner universities in the “About the UGR” section. In this regard, UGRCat aims to provide an initial overview of important topics related to studying at our University, including: access and admissions; academic progress rules; the grading scale in Spain; languages of instruction; available language courses; academic calendars; courses with support in foreign languages; the UGR’s Induction Days for International Students; the cost of living in Granada; health insurance and assistance; residing in Spain; and more.

About the UGR

http://www.ugr.es/en
How to access and consult the information

UGRCat features a simple and advanced search system for consulting the information in the catalogue, as well as an alphabetical index and a degree map.

Depending on their profile and needs, users can search for degrees and courses by branches of knowledge, keywords, campuses, faculties/schools, semesters, languages of instruction, mobility periods, identification codes, etc.

The information fields included in the datasheets for each degree and course provide a brief description of the characteristics of each programme. For example, the Bachelor’s Degree in Archaeology features a table with general information about the degree, the ISCED field to which it belongs, its main objectives, the competences to be acquired, the title awarded, the admissions process, as well as the courses and possible specialisations available on the programme in question.
Figure 5: Example of a bachelor’s degree datasheet (https://ugrcat.ugr.es/en/titulacion/bachelors-degree-in-archaeology-3/)

Data on impact and reach

It is worth pointing out that between 01/01/2023 and 08/03/2024, UGRCat was consulted by 23,000 users. Among this total, 22,000 were new users whose visits coincided with the inclusion and publication of the full academic offer of the UGR in the catalogue.

Figure 6: No. of users between 01/01/2023 and 08/03/2024: 23,000 (20,000 new users)

Moreover, although a significant number of users accessed the catalogue from Spain (6,143 between 01/01/2023 and 07/03/2024), the tool is also employed by user groups from countries with which the UGR maintains close ties (e.g. Italy, Germany, France and Poland). Furthermore, the peaks in visits to UGRCat occurred in September and February, coinciding with the beginning of the first and second semesters, respectively.

Figure 7: Top 5 countries in terms of users (01/01/2023 to 07/03/2024)

In short, as an information and dissemination tool that reflects the specific aspects of
studying at our University, UGRCat not only promotes academic internationalization, but also makes it possible to monitor the international interest generated by the programmes on offer at our institution.

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