**SENIOR UNIVERSITY AT THE UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE VALÈNCIA (SPAIN)**

The Senior University is part of the Vice-Rectorate of Social Responsibility and Cooperation at the Universitat Politècnica de València and **it is in charge of creating and managing the educational program for seniors over 55 years old.**

It was created in 1999 thanks to a collaboration agreement with the Generalitat Valenciana whose purpose was to organize and carry out educational activities with subjects specific to university education, with the goal of integrating people over 55 years old into the university life, widening their cultural knowledge with different subjects to those taught in the university, and encouraging interrelationships with younger students.

Thus begun the organization of courses for seniors at the UPV at its main campus of Valencia (Campus Vera) and currently **being taught at its three Campuses:** Vera, Alcoy and Gandia.

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**SENIOR COURSES**

Objective: to integrate into the university life people over 55 years old with concerns and wishes to continue enriching their education and culture. This is intended both to people who did not have the opportunity to study at a university, as well as to those who did but maintain their enthusiasm to continue learning.

* Offering 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, depending on the campus. In the case of Vera Campus (Valencia) offering SENIOR DIPLOMA (1st, 2nd, 3rd senior course).
* The duration of each course is one academic year (from October to May).
* The courses are made up of 10-12 subjects that cover the different branches of knowledge: Humanities, Art, Music and Film, even Health Science or Applied Sciences.
* The total number of classroom time is 120 hours/year, complemented with different activities.

**MONOGRAPHIC COURSES**

* Continuation of the Senior Courses, allowing the student to maintain their association with the UPV
* Variable duration: minimum of 10 hours/ maximum of 110 hours
* Different subjects, highlighting among others:

HUMANITIES HISTORY OF ART

PSYCHOLOGY FILM

LITERATURE LANDSCAPING

ARCHITECTURE ENOLOGY

FINE ARTS HEALTH

LANGUAGES /NUTRITION

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS (TICS)

In 2018 the Senior University obtained the AENOR certification for the implementation of its services offering and participation in the Pegasus Quality Program (program for improvement in the administration and university services) at the UPV.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**1. SENIORS AND SPORTS**

* Organized in collaboration with the Sports Services of the UPV.
* Made up of three activities: Senior tonification with recommendations on healthy physical exercises; Latin Seniors, with Latin dances under the concept of fun and health and Walk UP.

**2. ENJOY YOUR SURROUNDINGS - UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE VALÈNCIA - UNIVERSITAT DE VALÈNCIA**

* Joint program with the Senior University (UPV) and the Nau Gran (Universitat de València)
* Dedicated to the historical heritage of Valencia
* Objective: facilitate the interuniversity cooperation in the area of university programs for senior citizens (PUMs).

**3. EXCHANGE PROGRAM SENIOR UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE VALÈNCIA - UNIVERSIDADE DA CORUÑA**

* Academic Exchange Program between the University Programs for Seniors at the Universidade A Coruña and the Universitat Politècnica de València
* Senior students attend the courses taught in the destination university as well as participate in cultural activities and getting to know about emblematic places of the city.

**4. LECTURES AND CONFERENCES**

* Opening and Closing. Handing out diplomas for the school year.
* PoliformaT: about using the online platform for the UPV
* Annual organization of various lectures and conferences about current events or general interest topics

**5. COLLABORATION ON EUROPEAN, NATIONAL, REGIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS**

**6. PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION IN DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS**

INTERNATIONAL: International Association of Universities of the Third Age (A.I.U.T.A).

NATIONAL: Spanish National Association of University Programs for Older Adults (AEPUM).

GENERALITAT VALENCIANA

- Joint Body of Monitoring and Control of the Agreement between the Generalitat Valenciana and the UPV for carrying out educational training aimed at the group of people over 55.

- Counsel for Adult Education.

AYUNTAMIENTO DE VALENCIA

- Education Commission for the Aging and Cultural Promotion of the Table of Active Aging at the Ayuntamiento de Valencia.

- Mixed Commission for the Evaluation and Follow-up of the Collaboration Agreement between the Ayuntamiento de Valencia and the Universitat Politècnica de València in the area of the Senior University at the UPV.

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

- Network of the Universities for Seniors in the Public Universities in the Comunidad Valenciana.

- Work Group of Senior Classrooms in the Xarxa Vives network.

**ANNEX**

Figure 1. Evolution in the number of students in the Senior University at the UPV

Table 2. Evolution in # of Monographic Courses offered in the Senior University at the UPV

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In Collaboration:

Conselleria d' Educació, Investigació, Cultura i Esport