Chile
UCEAP Advising Notes

COVID-19 Information
The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present challenges related to health concerns and international travel. UCEAP has been updating their website’s Coronavirus Notice with up-to-date information. Please check this website for the most up to date information about which programs are running in the 2022-23 academic year.

Updated August 2021

Objective of the Advising Notes Document
This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for a UCEAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA websites. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website or in the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

RESOURCES
Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and advising availability, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising

EAP Alums
EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

EAP Alum-Created Resources
Some of our returnees have created presentations to share with others. You can look at their work through the Student Created Resource Google folder that we will continually update.

Center for Latin American Studies
Being informed of the history and current affairs of Chile and Latin America can lead to a more fulfilling study abroad experience. In addition to keeping up with Spanish language study prior to departure, you are also highly encouraged to attend lectures and events put on by the Center for Latin American Studies at UC Berkeley. You can join CLAS email list for event reminders.
Research by UCEAP Chile Study Center Director and UCSB Professor Javiera Barandiarán
Science and Environment in Chile: The Politics of Expert Advice in a Neoliberal Democracy
https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/science-and-environment-chile

PROGRAMS

SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTHERN CHILE- FALL

This new program in Villarrica, Chile was offered for the first time to UCEAP students in fall 2018. All students take the five English-taught courses that pertain to the theme of the program. They will start with a Spanish language course at the beginning of the program.

- Spanish for Environmental Studies (1.3 semester units)
- Latin American Biodiversity Conservation (3.3 semester units)
- Territory, Interculturality and Education for Sustainability (3.3 semester units)
- Conservation of Forest Ecosystems and Wildlife (3.3 semester units)
- Planning for Local Sustainability in a Global Age (3.3 semester units)
- Field Methods for Examining Social-Ecological Systems (1.7 semester units)

Space Limitations
This program is a capacity constrained option. For the fall 2021 program, Berkeley has been granted 12 spaces. It is possible that more qualified and appropriate students can be accommodated if other UC campuses do not fill all their allotted spots.

Students interested in this option are highly encouraged to speak with the adviser prior to applying. You may be able to obtain permission to apply to a back-up choice.

Because this program is impacted, applicants need to think very carefully whether this program is the right fit.

Nomination
Those who have high level proficiency in Spanish are encouraged to consider immersion program in Chile, Mexico or Spain because course offerings and choices will be much greater.

The selection criteria we will use for this program include:
- Student’s coursework, background and training in relevant areas
- Student’s declared major
- Spanish language background and prior training (even though this is not a prerequisite)
- Whether the student intend to take courses for major related requirements abroad
- GPA
- Class Standing
- Statement of Purpose: priority will be given to students who successfully convey why the Socio-Ecological Sustainability program in particular is a good fit for them and how the program will benefit them academically, professionally, and/or personally.
- Completeness and thoroughness of application. Incomplete applications without sufficient reason could be denied immediately.

CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES- SEMESTER OR (CALENDAR) YEAR
The Chilean Universities program is a great option for students who have a strong background or training in Spanish. The immersive experience allows students to 1.) improve their Spanish skills significantly in the four month period abroad and 2.) have maximum flexibility in course choices. Students on such a program can be as independent as they like, but still have the support of a UC Study Center on site to assist them with
academic and personal concerns. Additionally, the UC Study Center in Santiago is well-equipped to assist students in securing an internship for the duration of the semester if students are interested.

**Language Prerequisite**
For information on how to fulfill the language prerequisite for the Chilean Universities program, please read the [UCEAP Language Prerequisite Guide: Spanish & Portuguese](#).

**NEW for Fall 2021 and beyond**
The University of Chile has a strong Economics and Business Faculty that offers coursework in English. UCEAP and the University of Chile have agreed to allow students *without* the 2 years of university level Spanish to take Economics and Business coursework offered in English. If you do not have necessary Spanish language background to take classes offered in Spanish, please make sure that the coursework in English at the University of Chile’s Faculty of Economics and Business is a suitable match for your academic needs.

If you choose this route, you must indicate clearly on your application (in the statement of purpose and academic planning form) that you wish to take the limited Economics and Business course offerings in English.

**Language Training on the program**
The UCEAP Chilean Universities program starts with a four-week Intensive Language Program (ILP) before students start regular university coursework. The ILP allows for intensive Spanish language and Chilean Spanish training and is a period to help students transition to and be prepared for regular university coursework for the rest of the term.

**Host University Preference and Placement**
When applying to the Chilean Universities program, you will be asked to rank the two Chilean host universities in order of preference. As an exchange program applicant you need to be aware that space for you at your first choice of host university is not guaranteed.

Whereas the decision to nominate you for the Chile Immersion program is made by the campus study abroad office (i.e. Berkeley Study Abroad), the decision to “Place” you at a particular host university is made by the UC Study Center Director in Chile, who takes into consideration your academic and personal preferences and goals. Your statement of purpose in the application is considered carefully in the decision for your placement.

**What’s the difference between the two host universities? How do I choose which one to rank as my top choice?**
- Review the information on the UCEAP website
- Read the Program Guide
- Research which courses are available at each university
- Talk to the BSA program adviser during advising
- Get in touch with Alums or Reciprocity Students

**What are my chances of being placed at my first choice of host university?**
Typically students are placed at their first choice host university. The placement decisions made by the UC Study Center Director in Chile are based primarily on academic fit. Non-academic concerns such as geographical preference, employment opportunities, etc. are also taken into consideration, but to a lesser extent.

**Political activities’ impact on host universities**
In past years, social and political activity in Chile has also had an impact on classes and strikes at the universities. Disruption to in-class learning is possible. UCEAP and the Santiago Study Center may deem it
necessary and appropriate for students to switch host institutions to alleviate the disruption on students’ academic progress.

Academics

- **Flexibility is important.** Keep in mind that the courses you find in the EAP Course Catalog or on the host university’s web site may not be offered the semester(s) you will be abroad. Oftentimes you will not have concrete information about what courses will be offered until shortly before departure or even until upon arrival in Chile. Be prepared for the possibility that you will have to modify your plans.

- **Internships** Students can maintain a full load or courses during the semester or they can also replace a course with an internships. Students who wish to replace a course with an internship will need to commit a certain number of hours at their internship and complete the necessary academic work related to the internship.

Cal Teach in Chile

For Math or Science majors who are involved with the Cal Teach program on campus, there is a CalTeach internship opportunity through the University of Chile where you can get a field placement at a local school.

Global Poverty and Practice in Chile

Students in the Global Poverty and Practice minor could potentially complete their Practice Experience and/or Global and Area Studies elective requirement while on the UCEAP Chilean Universities (or the UCEAP Mexico Field Research Program or the Berkeley Study Abroad Global Internships program in Mumbai, India). The UC Study Center in Santiago is well equipped and connected to various local organizations and can pair interested students in an internship experience. Internships can be in a variety of fields. A list of examples of [possible internships through UCEAP Chilean Universities](#) program is available.

To facilitate the process, we will ask GPP students to go through a pre-application process. The deadline for the pre-application is late November for summer, fall and academic year participants and it is in late April for spring participants.

MULTISITE: HUMAN RIGHTS AND CULTURAL MEMORY, BUENOS AIRES AND SANTIAGO- FALL

For Advising Notes about the Multisite HRCM Argentina & Chile program, please go to the specific page for this program.

[https://myapp.berkeley.edu/uceap/advisingnotes/multisite_ba_santiago.pdf](https://myapp.berkeley.edu/uceap/advisingnotes/multisite_ba_santiago.pdf)