

Chile

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) 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 the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA Adviser for this program.

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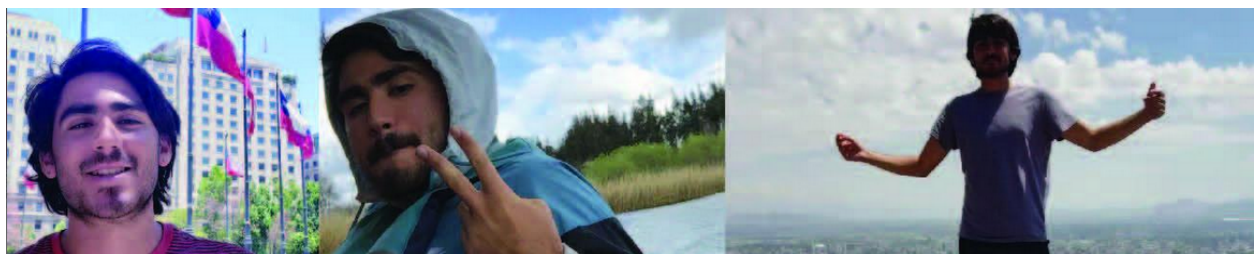
Summary of Programs

	Pre-reqs	Fall	Year	Spring
Immersion				
University of Chile	Spanish 4	X	X	X
University of Chile Business & Economics in English	Business or Economics background	X	X	X
Pontifical Catholic Univ. of Chile	Spanish 4	X	X	X
Themed				
Social-Ecological Sustainability	none	X		
Multisite Argentina & Chile Human Rights & Cultural Memory	none	X		

University of Chile & Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (Semester, Calendar Year)



[Berkeley Stories - Grace N, Fall in Chile](#)



[Berkeley Stories - Andres MP, Fall in Chile](#)

University of Chile & Pontifical Catholic University of Chile Regular Track

Both located in Santiago, the University of Chile and the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile are great options 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 six-month period abroad and 2) have maximum flexibility in course choices. Regular university program students will still be allowed to take some coursework in Business and Economics taught in English if they choose to do so.

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.

For information on how to fulfill the language prerequisite for the regular university track Chile programs, please review the [UCEAP Language Prerequisite Guide: Spanish & Portuguese](#).

What's the difference between the two host universities? How do I choose which one to rank as my top choice?

University of Chile ("La Chile") is a large, public university, and Pontifical Catholic University of Chile ("La Catolica") is a smaller, private university. La Catolica can provide more support to international students and may be an easier institution to navigate and adjust to. La Chile functions quite differently from the UC system, with various facultades that are autonomous from one another. UCEAP students studying there have to be very independent and willing to advocate and problem-solve for themselves since there isn't a central office to go to for support. We recommend taking the following steps to make a decision on which university would be a better fit for you:

- Review the information on the UCEAP website
- Research which courses are available at each university. Note that Business and Econ courses offered in English are only available at the University of Chile.
- Talk to the BSA program adviser during advising
- Get in touch with Alumni or students from PUC Chile & UChile who are studying at Berkeley



[Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile Promotional Video](#)



[University of Chile Info Session](#)



[Study Abroad UCEAP Chile](#)

University of Chile Business & Economics track

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 the 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. This track is intended for those with significant Economics or Business coursework background.

Spanish Language Advisory: This Business and Economics option is open to students without any language background or who have up to Spanish 3 or its equivalent. Students without any Spanish language background are recommended to take a beginner-level course prior to departure. Students with advanced Spanish background (Spanish 4 or its equivalent or higher) will need to apply for the regular university program.

Political activities' impact on host universities

In past years, social and political activity in Chile has had an impact on classes. Strikes at the universities or around the city can happen and 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 or they may recommend alternative learning options.

Academics

Flexibility is important. Keep in mind that the courses you find in the UCEAP Course Catalog or on the host university's website 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.

Students can maintain a full load of courses during the semester or they can also replace a course with an internship. 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 at UC Berkeley, 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

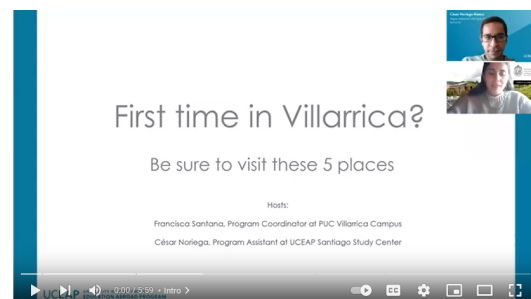
Students in the Global Poverty and Practice minor could potentially complete their Practice Experience and/or Global and Area Studies elective requirement while on the UCEAP Univ. of Chile or Pontifical Catholic Univ. of Chile programs (or the UCEAP Mexico Field Research Program). The UC Study Center 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 Chile](#) 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.

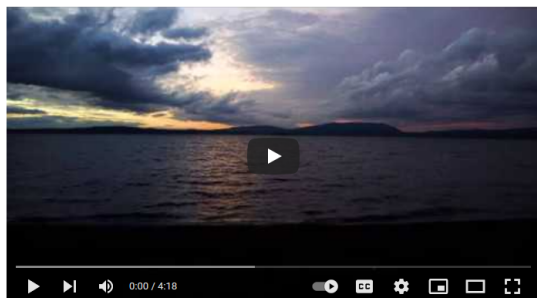
Social-Ecological Sustainability in Southern Chile (Fall)



[UCEAP Social-Ecological Sustainability in Southern Chile](#)



[What to Visit in Villarrica, Chile?](#)



[Cut Down the Trees](#)

In this program in Villarrica, Chile, 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

The Social-Ecological Sustainability program has limited spaces available and qualified applicants are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The fall 2024 application opens on November 1, 2023 at 9am and the UCEAP application submission is the timestamp for consideration of admission to the program.

Students may review the UCEAP application instructions and start preparing any required documents for upload prior to the opening date, but cannot start the application until it opens on Nov 1st at 9am. Be sure to submit the UCEAP application first, immediately followed by the submission of the BSA application (within 24 hours) for all programs. Students may work on their BSA application in advance, but cannot submit until it opens.

Considerations

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

Multisite: Human Rights and Cultural Memory, Buenos Aires and Santiago (Fall)

View [Advising Notes about the Multisite HRCM Argentina & Chile program](#).

Resources

Students with Disabilities

While in Chile, you may find accessibility and accommodation very different from what you experience in the US. While conditions are in the process of improving, many public places are not accessible. Visit [Chilean National Disability Agency](#) (in Spanish) - for information on accessible places in Santiago and other locations.

Review how to request disability-related accommodations on the [I am a Student with a Disability page](#).

LGBTQIA+ Students

Threat to safety in the LGBTQIA+ community is low. Societal tolerance ranges from mixed tolerance to tolerant. Visit [Movimiento de Integración y Liberación Homosexual](#) (MOVILH, in Spanish).

Review [tips and resources for LGTBQIA+ Identifying Students](#).

Working Abroad

According to Chilean visa laws, students are prohibited from working in Chile.

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 former UCEAP Chile Study Center Director and
UCSB Professor Javiera Barandiarán

[Science and Environment in Chile: The Politics of Expert Advice in a Neoliberal Democracy](#)