

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM AT UC-CHILE



### ¡WELCOME TO UC-CHILE!

With over 30 years of experience in student mobility, the Pontificia Universidad Católica (UC-Chile) combines a well-rounded and authentic Latin American experience with high-quality academics and warm Chilean hospitality in all of our international programs.

Only students that have been previously nominated by their universities should apply to the international exchange program at UC-Chile. Please consult your university about the steps involved in applying to our exchange program. International students are welcome to apply to the vast majority of our [academic areas](#).

Visit [our website](#) for more information about our international programs.

For the latest information on our university-wide COVID-19 response and protocols, please visit this [site](#).

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

**ACADEMIC LEVEL:** Applicants should have completed at least 2 semesters at their home university. While postgraduate students may apply, the course offerings are at the undergraduate level.

**GPA:** We recommend having a GPA equivalent to 3,0 at the home university.

**SPANISH:** The language of instruction for our bilateral Exchange program is Spanish. Non-native Spanish speakers should complete the language requirement of certification at the CEFR B2 level, accredited by one of the following:

- Official certificate [DELE-Cervantes Institute](#).
- Certificate [Siele-Cervantes Institute](#).
- Official test taken at the home university.



## SUPPORT FOR SPEAKERS OF SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Español UC offers a variety of courses before and during the academic semester.

- Month-long courses at the B1 and B2 levels before the start of the semester.
- Semester long courses at the B1, B2 and C1 levels.
- Taylor-made Spanish courses.

Please review our course programs, costs, and other relevant information on our [website](#).

### IMPORTANT DATES

International students can apply for an exchange during our first or second semesters. They may also participate in a month-long program offered during our “J” terms.

- First Semester: March to July
- Second Semester: August to December
- J-terms\*: January and June  
(\*per credit fee applies)

### NOMINATIONS

**January Term or First semester (March-July):** July 15<sup>th</sup> to October 12<sup>th</sup> of the previous year.

**June Term or Second semester (August-December):** January 15<sup>th</sup> to April 12<sup>th</sup> of the first semester.

Nomination instructions are sent by email. In case you do not receive them, please send a quick note to [exchange@uc.cl](mailto:exchange@uc.cl).

### APPLICATIONS

**January Term or First semester (March-July):** October 30<sup>th</sup> of the previous year.

**June Term or Second semester (August-December):** May 2<sup>nd</sup> of the first semester.

Application instructions and documents can be found on our [website](#).

## UC-CHILE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

### FIRST SEMESTER:

**Classes Begin:** First week of March.

**Classes End:** First week of June.

**Exams:** Fourth week of June to the Third week of July.

### SECOND SEMESTER:

**Classes Begin:** First week of August.

**Classes End:** Third week of November.

**Exams:** Fourth week of November to the third week of December.

### J-TERMS:

We offer special 10 credit courses over 4 weeks in **June** and **January**.

#### 100% Online:

- Intercultural Health (in English)
- La Experiencia de las Artes (in Spanish)
- Latin-American Culture and Literature  
(Spanish at levels A2-B1, B1-B2, B2-C1)

#### In-person with Fieldwork:

Socio-ecológico Sustainability in Southern Chile  
(Available in English or Spanish) *Space is Limited.*

### HOLIDAYS IN CHILE

Learn about Chile’s national holidays [here](#).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

[The Vice-presidency of International Affairs](#) leads and executes the University's international policies related to learning, research, and social commitment, empowering the UC Community to lead and work along with international partners to tackle and develop solutions to global challenges that affect us all.

**Vice-president of International Affairs:**  
Lilian Ferrer Lagunas, PhD, FAAN

**Director of Global Learning:**  
Maribel Flórez, EdM [maribel.florez@uc.cl](mailto:maribel.florez@uc.cl)

**Intl. Student & Scholar Services Coordinator:**  
Julio Gulin, BA [jgulin@uc.cl](mailto:jgulin@uc.cl)

Please send queries to:  
**International Mobility Officer:**  
Patricia Uribe, BA [exchange@uc.cl](mailto:exchange@uc.cl)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### OUR UNIVERSITY

*Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile* (UC-Chile) is a comprehensive research university founded on a mission to offer the country and its youth a distinctive education, based on the universal and inclusive values of the Catholic Church. Our institution shapes leaders to serve the Church and society. Considered the top **#1** university in Latin América for three consecutive years, UC-Chile is also among the top **#121**, in the world. [www.uc.cl](http://www.uc.cl)

### OUR CAMPUSES

UC has five campuses, four in Santiago and one in Villarrica. Among them, you will find the 18 faculties, 61 academic departments and 11 libraries that are the center of university life.

**CASA CENTRAL:** Our main campus is located at the heart of Santiago, it houses **our administrative headquarters** as well as 4 academic faculties. [Visit our campus.](#)

**SAN JOAQUÍN:** By far our largest campus, San Joaquín has become a true university town and is home to 13 of our faculties. [Visit our campus.](#)

**LO CONTADOR:** Home to the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Urban Studies, this 18th century colonial *hacienda* is a National Monument and a testament to the rural Chilean architectural style. [Visit our campus.](#)

**ORIENTE:** This gorgeous neo-Romanesque building was a convent and boarding school until its acquisition in 1971. It is now known as our “Campus of the Arts”. [Visit our campus.](#)

**VILLARRICA:** Our Villarrica Campus, located in one of southern Chile’s most picturesque cities, offers programs in Education and Sustainability with an intercultural focus. [Visit our campus.](#)

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

### UC-CHILE CREDIT SYSTEM

Most courses at UC-Chile award 10 credits. Bilateral Exchange students should take at least 30 UC credits, and no more than 50 credits, each semester. Please check here for more details about the [UC-Chile credit system](#).

### GRADING AT UC-CHILE

At UC-Chile, grades are expressed on a numeric scale from 1.0 (unsatisfactory) a 7.0 (outstanding), where 4.0 is the minimum passing grade.

UC	Estados Unidos	ECTS
7,00 to 6,75	A+	A (Excellent)
6,74 to 6,25	A	
6,24 to 6,00	A-	
5,99 to 5,75	B+	B (Very Good)
5,74 to 5,25	B	
5,24 to 5,0	B-	C (Good)
4,99 to 4,75	C+	
4,74 to 4,25	C	D (Satisfactory)
4,24 to 4,00	C-	E (Sufficient)
3,99 to 1,00	F	FX Fail/Fail

### COURSE OFFERINGS AND REGISTRATION

We invite you to review the ample course offerings open to international students in [this guide](#), regularly updated two months before the start of each semester. For more information about courses available at UC-Chile, check out the online course registration platform, [Buscador UC](#).

Availability to courses is not guaranteed due to fluctuations in demand and here is no guarantee that selected classes will be available. We suggest that students plan accordingly by preparing several choices for each class they intend to take and remaining flexible with scheduling requirements. We invite you to visit classes during the first two weeks before finalizing your decision.



## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### SUMMER/WINTER SHORT PROGRAMS

We offer 10 credit courses in English or Spanish during 4 weeks in **January** and **June**. **100% online:** *Latin-American Culture and Literature, Experience of the Arts, Intercultural Health*, and an **in-person program with fieldwork:** *Socio-ecological Sustainability in Sothern Chile*.

### FREE-MOVER PROGRAM

For students seeking to join us and take regular classes. Learn more [here](#).

### PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

We coordinate clinical internships and rotations for students in health-related fields as well as [research internships](#) guided by one of our outstanding our faculty members.

### TAYLOR-MADE

Groups of 10 or more can work with our knowledgeable staff to design programs that suit their specific needs and interests.

### LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

Our interdisciplinary Latin American Studies Program offers a unique opportunity to analyze the unique characteristics, complexities and contrasts that make up this region of the world from a true Latin-American perspective while immersed in the culture and its people. Offered in Spanish or English, courses range in focus and include history, social sciences, humanities, and art.

Students interested in registering courses in English must demonstrate:

- TOEFL: 80 total score
- IELTS: 6.5 total score
- Regular student status at an English language university.

For more information, please visit this [website](#).

Regardless of the program you choose, **be prepared for an unforgettable experience at UC-Chile!**

We welcome your inquiries at [exchange@uc.cl](mailto:exchange@uc.cl).



#### ACADEMIC RESTRICTIONS:

**Music:** Students can join musical theory and appreciation courses, though practical courses are off-limits for non-degree seeking students.

#### Health fields:

Medicine offers a [Clinical Rotations Program](#) and openings in a select group of courses. There is an internal selection process, and **acceptance to the program is not guaranteed.** Click [here](#) for more details.

Dentistry is off-limits for non-degree seekers.

Nursing welcomes students from [specific programs](#).

Health Sciences (Nutrition, Applied Linguistics and Physical Therapy): though internships in these specific areas are off-limits, students may join theoretical classes, as long as they meet testing requirements and have been specifically authorized.

#### Economical and Administrative Sciences:

Course offerings are limited to students that meet the prerequisites for each course.

**Psychology:** Students may take courses offered at the second to fourth-year levels.

**Biological Sciences:** These courses are off-limits to non-degree seekers.

**Art:** Courses are limited to art majors and students pursuing art degrees. Practical courses require a materials fee, ranging from \$100.000 a \$150.000 (CLP) per course.

**Architecture:** Only 25 non-degree seeking students are admitted to this faculty. There is an internal selection process that requires each candidate to submit a portfolio of their work. **Acceptance to this program is not guaranteed.**

**Physical Fitness:** Students must bring their own equipment, which varies depending on the nature of the course or sport involved.

**Drama:** Students interested in practical courses must submit a video of themselves performing in a scene or monologue in Spanish for review and consideration.

## PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

In case of an emergency on campus, call **+56 2 2354 5000** from any cell phone. At the Villarrica campus, the number to call is **+562 2 411 830**. Calls are attended in Spanish. In case of an emergency off campus, dial **131** for the ambulance, **132** for firefighters or **133** for police.

## STUDENT SERVICES

All admitted non-degree students at UC-Chile have access to the following:

- Student ID card
- Computer rooms (with Ethernet and WI-FI connectivity)
- Student health service (depending on the international medical insurance of each student).
- Fitness rooms and recreational facilities
- Inclusion and academic support

## BUDGET GUIDELINES

\*\* per semester (5 months)

<b>“Consular” Student Visa</b>	Contact the Chilean consulate assigned to your location to request a “visa de estudiante consular”. Please use the map on <a href="#">this site</a> to find your consulate and learn about the requirements and steps involved. Expect to receive your visa approximately one month after the application date. Costs vary according to county.		
<b>Chilean Identification Card</b>	USD \$5 - \$6		
<b>Room and Board</b>		<b>Rent</b>	<b>Meals</b>
	<b>Housing Options</b>	We invite you to review our <a href="#">website</a> for popular off-campus housing providers. UC-Chile does not own housing facilities.	
	<b>Furnished Apartment</b>	USD \$3500 – \$4500	USD \$3500 - \$4500
	<b>Student Residence</b>	USD \$2300 – \$4000	
<b>Family Homestay</b>	USD \$2800 – \$3500		
<b>Transporte local (Santiago)</b>	USD\$1.500 - \$2.500. Los estudiantes pueden acceder a la tarjeta estudiantil (TNE) para descuentos en el transporte público.		
<b>Health Insurance</b>	Every student must arrive with a complete international health insurance valid for their entire stay in Chile. (Insurance must cover COVID-19, and we highly suggest mental-health, dental and eye coverage).		
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	USD \$500 - \$800		
<b>Personal Spending</b>	USD \$1,200 (varies)		

## ORIENTATION AND ACCOMPANIMENT

### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Orientation is just the beginning of your warm UC welcome. Our services staff and student groups will accompany you throughout your stay, helping you navigate life at UC-Chile, stay on target and also have fun.

### ARRIVAL AND ORIENTATION

Upon arrival at UC-Chile, international students can count on support from the vice-presidency as well as from a number of student-groups available and willing to help out with different aspects of their stay. In addition, every semester an orientation activity is held that gives students a chance to learn all about our university's rich legacy and mission as well as about the numerous services, resources, and activities they should look forward to during their stay.

### UC SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Our social activities committee or *Comisión de Acogida UC (CAUC)*, is a group of Chilean and International students, focused on integrating exchange students with the UC community. They organize a series of cultural and recreational activities on and off campus. Visit the [CAUC website](#) and social media for more info (Instagram: @comisionacogidauc y Facebook: Comisión de Acogida UC - Cauc).

*"In my opinion CAUC is a great way to meet new people, as well as explore Chile and Santiago. I'd say that anyone who wants to make the most of their stay here should definitely participate in these activities. The CAUC team is so so nice and fun. They're really open and there to help you out with everything, really just about anything".*

**Emily Steinhauer, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany.**

### PEER MENTORING

The Mentoring Program for International Students (MAI UC) is meant to connect UC students, or mentors, with exchange students right from the beginning to answer questions and help with any obstacles that might arise before and during their stay at UC-Chile. Send any questions to [mai@uc.cl](mailto:mai@uc.cl).

### TANDEM

The Tandem program offers international students the chance to practice Spanish along with a "language partner" or local UC student, while at the same time building your partner's second language skills. On average, around 150 pairs participate each semester to share their knowledge of French, English, Italian, and other languages in exchange for a chance to perfect their Spanish. Find more info on the Tandem [website](#).

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Direction of Student Affairs (DAE) offers many activities to give international students the authentic [university life experience at UC](#). They also offer an array of club sports, cultural activities, and a variety of [workshops](#).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Students are invited to participate in a wide variety of volunteer initiatives within the university or in the surrounding communities through organizations like the campus ministry or [Pastoral UC](#) and the "bridge" program, better known as [Programa Puentes](#).

**¡WE WELCOME YOU TO JOIN OUR UC COMMUNITY!**