

Chile

UCEAP Advising Notes

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 an EAP 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 website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the [UCEAP Program Guide](#) from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information

For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising>

Language Prerequisite

For information on how to fulfill the language prerequisite, please read the [EAP Language Prerequisite Guide: Spanish & Portuguese](#).

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 select 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 EAP program adviser during their drop-in advising hours
- 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 of 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.

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.
- **The Intensive Language Program:** There is a three-week Intensive Language Program (ILP) prior to the start of the semester. The ILP is worth 3 units and takes place at the Pontifical Catholic University regardless of your actual host university placement.
- **How many courses/units will I take?** After the ILP, you are required to take a minimum of 12 units per semester. Most students take three to four university classes each semester (most classes at both universities range from 3.3 to 4.6 semester units each). There is a course on [Chilean culture and politics](#) that is organized by and taught at the UC Study Center. Students can also replace a course if they are able to commit a certain number of hours at their internship and complete the necessary academic work related to the internship.

The more informed you are about the history and current affairs of Chile and Latin America, the more fulfilling your study abroad experience will likely be. 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.

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.

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.