

art / biological sciences / business / chilean studies / education / engineering and technology / environmental studies / geography / history / journalism / latin american studies / legal studies / linguistics / literature / music / philosophy / psychology / religion / social services / spanish language / theology



program snapshot

- Gain an understanding of Chile through CIEE courses that focus on Chilean heritage, identity, literature, art, and history; work with a language partner
- Take advantage of community service and volunteer opportunities, including working in local schools, shelters, and nongovernmental organizations
- Participate in weekend educational field trips to Pucón, where you will experience the Mapuche indigenous community and outdoor activities, as well as in cultural and educational activities, including city tours, concerts, museums, theater performances, soccer matches, and a visit to a rural farming community

what you'll learn

The Liberal Arts program enables students to gain firsthand knowledge of contemporary issues and cultural patterns, helping them better understand Chilean society and develop a critical appreciation of Chilean history and identity. This is accomplished through CIEE courses, cultural activities, excursions, and living with a Chilean family. The program also meets the academic needs of students through regular course matriculation at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (PUCV). In addition, the program aims to help students perfect their Spanish language skills through daily interaction in the local community and through volunteer opportunities.

thoughts from abroad

Valparaíso, ciudad puerto, ubicada a una hora y media de Santiago es bañada y perfumada constantemente por el Océano Pacífico. En esta ciudad se entremezcla el presente y el pasado, conviven armoniosamente lo antiguo con lo moderno, y lo real con lo bohemio. Valparaíso con sus sinuosas escaleras les permiten estar en contacto con lo simple y lo cotidiano de sus habitantes. Son estas escaleras junto con sus funiculares que llevan al centro de la ciudad y conectan con sus cerros. Valparaíso es también poesía ya que uno de los más grandes poetas de nuestra historia, Pablo Neruda, construyó una de sus tres casas en el cerro Florida.

Valparaíso se une con la ciudad balneario llamada Viña del Mar, conocida también como la Ciudad Jardín. Viña es famosa por sus extensos jardines y playas con modernas construcciones, variados restaurantes y clubes nocturnos. Al interior de la región también pueden encontrar apacibles lugares para aquellos que les gusta la vida al aire libre. Te invitamos a conocer el programa de CIEE Valparaíso.

— Marcia Vera, Resident Director

About the Resident Director

Marcia Vera received her B.A. from PUCV in English Language and Literature. Before joining CIEE, she worked as Program Director of International Abroad (ITA)-Chile at PUCV International Programs. In addition, Marcia was an International Counselor at a YMCA branch in Pennsylvania. She also taught international students Spanish conversation and Chilean culture at PUCV. In addition to Spanish language acquisition, her academic focus is in gender and culture studies. She is currently finalizing her M.A. in Gender and Culture in Latin America at the Universidad de Chile.

About the Academic Director

Dr. Haydee Ahumada helps students with course selection and provides academic support. She has a Ph.D. in literature from PUCV and a postgraduate title in Gender and Cultural Studies from the Universidad de Chile. Dr. Ahumada is a literature professor at both PUCV and the Universidad de Chile in Santiago, and her research interests focus on the Spanish exiles in Latin America and their literary production.

about valparaíso and viña del mar

Valparaíso and its twin city of Viña del Mar are located on the Pacific coast, just two hours by bus from Santiago. Valparaíso is a port city, housing the Chilean Congress, and Viña del Mar is a modern resort city, with shops, beaches, and recreational facilities, as well as a residential area. The two cities are part of the Greater Valparaíso area, which hosts the country's third largest population of approximately 800,000 inhabitants, of which roughly 13 percent are university students. With affordable mass transportation between the two cities, students find them friendly locations in which to live and study.

academics

Academic Program

The CIEE Study Center in Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, Chile began welcoming participants in 1997. It is an attractive option for several reasons, including the academic offerings available at PUCV, as well as the student-friendly nature of both Valparaíso and Viña del Mar. The program is intended for students who have at least six semesters of college-level Spanish or the equivalent, and are looking for a program that permits direct enrollment with Chilean university students. It provides personalized instruction and support through both academic and non-academic activities. Given the array of disciplines and courses available to participants, the program is suitable for undergraduate students with strong Spanish language skills from a variety of majors. All courses are taught in Spanish.

Academic Culture

Average class size is 20 to 30 students, and CIEE participants might find themselves to be the only international students in some of their classes. The teaching style tends to be lecture format, with emphasis placed on memorization and note-taking. It can take a while to learn how to study effectively in the Chilean system, especially in terms of acquiring reading material and knowing what the professor expects. Chilean classmates are often an excellent source of help.

University life is quite different in Chile compared to the United States, since the Chilean university is primarily a professional school. While CIEE students have the opportunity to study in almost every department, this is not the case for Chilean students, who study in one discipline area exclusively.

The academic year program includes two semesters of study and can begin either during the North American fall or spring semester. Academic year students who begin their studies during the North American fall semester have a nearly three-month break between se-

esters. There is a break of about two weeks between the (North American) spring and fall semesters.

Nature of Classes

Participants enroll directly in host university courses and take classes with Chilean students. In addition, participants enroll in specially designed CIEE courses that are taught in Spanish to CIEE students only. Spanish language courses are taught to CIEE and other international students by PUCV.

CIEE Community Language Commitment

Students take part in the CIEE Community Language Commitment by speaking Spanish at all times (except in emergencies). This fosters a learning community that contributes to both Spanish language proficiency and understanding of Chilean society.

Grading System

Assessment for CIEE courses is based on class participation and writing assignments. In PUCV courses, students are treated the same as Chilean students; final grades are usually determined by a combination of written and oral assignments and a final paper or exam. The Chilean grading scale is from one to seven, with four being a passing grade. The CIEE office in Chile translates all transcripts and converts grades and credits to the U.S. system according to a standard scale that includes A, B, C, D, or F, with pluses and minuses.

Grades for the U.S. spring semester should arrive at the students' home campuses in mid-September and in early March for the U.S. fall semester. Graduating seniors or others concerned about the timing of receiving grades need to take this into consideration when choosing this program.



where you'll study

The Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (PUCV) is ranked among the top regional universities in Chile. In 2003, it received its designation as a "Pontificia," a distinction given to Catholic universities by the Vatican. The University has campuses in both Valparaíso and Viña del Mar and offers more than 50 undergraduate and 30 postgraduate degrees. Of the 13,000 students at PUCV, six percent are international students, giving CIEE participants a great opportunity to immerse themselves in the Chilean higher education system.

living

Housing and Meals

Students live with Chilean host families, many of whom are located in Viña del Mar and a few in Valparaíso. The sister cities are very close to one another, and PUCV has departments in both cities. Host families are considered an integral part of the immersion into Chilean life. Housing and three meals a day are included in the program fee. Academic year students on the July-to-July program are responsible for housing and meals during the three-month break from mid-December through late February. Calendar year students are responsible for housing and meals during the two-week break.

Online Pre-Departure and On-Site Orientations

Students begin their study abroad experience in Valparaíso and Viña del Mar before even leaving home—by participating in a CIEE Online Pre-Departure Orientation. Meeting with students online, the Resident Director shares information about the program and site, highlighting issues that alumni have said are important, and giving students time to ask any questions before leaving home. The online orientation allows students to connect with others in the group, reflect on what they want to get out of the program, and learn what others in the group would like to accomplish. The CIEE goal for the pre-departure orientation is simple: to help students understand more about the program and site, as well as establish their goals for the program, so that they arrive to the program well-informed and return home having made significant progress toward their goals.

The mandatory one-week orientation is held in the region of Valparaíso. Students are introduced to the country, culture, and academic program and are provided practical information about living in Chile. Students also attend sessions on the history, culture, and literature of contemporary Chile. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout their stay in Chile.

Internet

Students have access to email and the Internet at the Foreign Students Office of PUCV, the CIEE office in Viña del Mar, and at the abundant and inexpensive Internet cafés in Viña del Mar and Valparaíso. As a result, students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops.



eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75
- 6 semesters of college-level Spanish or equivalent
- Spanish language course within the past year recommended

volunteer

Non-credit volunteer work allows students to obtain a comprehensive understanding of Chilean culture and society through their own personal experiences, as well as experiences outside of the classroom. CIEE facilitates these opportunities in various schools, shelters, and organizations throughout Valparaíso and Viña del Mar.

costs

CIEE Fees

Fall 2010: \$12,300
Spring 2011: available 8/15/10
Academic Year 2010–11: \$23,400
Calendar Year 2011: available 8/15/10

The CIEE fees for 2010–11 include tuition, housing, meals, an optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, orientation, immersion activities including language partners and volunteer opportunities, a comprehensive student handbook, pre-departure advising, scheduled activities, field trips, and a CIEE iNext travel card which includes insurance and other travel benefits.

Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2010)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 1,550
Personal Expenses	\$ 2,000
Books and Supplies	\$ 200
Local Transportation	\$ 720
Visa Fee	\$ 150
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 4,620

Check our website for current fees.

duration

Fall
21 weeks: mid-July–mid-December

Spring
21 weeks: late February–mid-July

Academic Year
52 weeks: mid-July–mid-July

Calendar Year
45 weeks: late February–mid-December

culture

Cultural Activities and Field Trips

The program includes visits to sites of historical and cultural importance in Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, including visits to museums in the region, to La Sebastiana (the home of Nobel poetry winner Pablo Neruda), and to the Chilean National Congress.

In addition, there are two weekend excursions each semester. Last year, students visited Pucón, an eco-tourism center on Lake Villarica in the south of Chile, where they visited and participated in the daily life of a local indigenous community and took advantage of the many outdoor activities for which the region is known. The second excursion varies due to seasonal weather factors and available current attractions. In the past, students have participated in guided tours in Santiago, a walking tour of the historical part of the capital of Chile, and guided visits to the Pre-Colombian Museum of Palacio Cousino, among other educational and cultural activities.



coursework

Program Requirements

All students are required to enroll in one and a maximum of two of the CIEE required courses. Students may also enroll in the CIEE elective course. Finally, students enroll in three or four courses offered at PUCV.

CIEE students can take no more than two 2-credit general University courses. Academic year or continuing students are not required to take a CIEE course during their second semester.

Credit

Total recommended credit for the semester is 16–20 semester/24–30 quarter hours and for the year is 32–40 semester/48–60 quarter hours. PUCV courses range from 2–5 semester/3–7.5 quarter hours each. This designation is based on the number of hours students theoretically need to dedicate to the course, both in and out of the classroom. General introductory courses, worth 2 credits, meet at least once a week and are open to students from all disciplines.

Upper-level university courses are usually 45 hours and can range from 3 to 5 credits depending on how much outside academic work is required.

Language of Instruction

Spanish

Faculty

All courses are taught by faculty from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso.



courses

Required CIEE Courses

Student must choose one of the following courses:

HIST 3002 VALP

Geographic Cultural History of Contemporary Chile

This course analyzes the political, social, and cultural aspects of Chilean life in the 20th Century. Students explore and discuss historical documents and testimonials about Chilean social issues. The focus of this course is on the social and cultural landscape of the country. The chosen material seeks to show alternative perspectives of the events of the past century. Through the use of audiovisuals and historical testimony, students reconstruct a variety of spheres of life characteristic of the 20th Century [economy, social relationships, religious practices, and everyday life]. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

LAST 3006 VALP

Valparaíso: History, Cinema, and Literature

This course explores the city of Valparaíso from three different perspectives: history, the cinema, and literature as cultural productions that have been developed as an artistic representation in the national and international context. These themes allow students to explore a theoretical framework within which to analyze texts, documents, novels, and movies, helping them acquire a deeper awareness of Valparaíso. Coursework is combined with participation in discussions, experiential activities, and independent research work. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

LITT 3001 VALP

Contemporary Hispano-American Short Stories

This course immerses students in Hispano-American short stories written in the latter half of the 20th Century, with a focus on the analysis and discussion of new trends and issues in Latin American narrative. Famous authors including Julio Cortázar, Borges, Monterroso, Donoso, and García Márquez, among others, are studied in depth. Coursework is combined with experiential activities and independent research work. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

CIEE Elective Course

CLST 3001 VALP

Seminar on Living and Learning in Valparaíso

The CIEE Seminar on Living and Learning in Valparaíso is designed to improve students' intercultural communication and competence while studying abroad by considering how Chileans are different from and similar to themselves and others. The course offers opportunities, both in and outside the classroom, to develop insights and the skills necessary to interact effectively and appropriately, and to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the cultural richness of Chile. Contact hours: 25. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (PUCV) Courses

Language Courses

Advanced Spanish Communication and Chilean Culture

This course emphasizes oral and written communication through learning about Chilean culture in texts and oral presentations. The purpose of the class is to improve the intercultural ability of the student. Contact hours: 90. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

Advanced Spanish Grammar

This course emphasizes the morphological aspects of Spanish grammar, reinforcing them through reading and writing assignments and analyzed in communicative contexts. The students improve their grammatical competence of Spanish as a second language. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

Advanced Spanish Writing

This course is designed to help those students who already have a strong command of the Spanish language reinforce their Spanish writing skills, especially their ability to compose essays for the academic setting. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

Other PUCV Disciplines

The University offers a wide range of courses in many disciplines including, agronomy, architecture, biology, business administration, chemistry, engineering, environmental sciences, fine arts, foreign languages, geography, journalism, mathematics, music, philosophy, physics, psychology, theater, and zoology. The following list is a representative sampling of courses available at PUCV and a listing of some of the more popular courses taken by international

students at PUCV. Syllabi are available upon request. Students may enroll in any courses for which they meet the prerequisites. All course selections are made in consultation with the resident staff and a designated staff person from the University. Not all courses are available every semester. The reality of the academic system in Chile is such that course listings and course availability are not determined until immediately prior to the start of University classes in a given semester. The final list of courses is available during orientation.

Arts

America Workshop: Urban Space
Basic Concepts of Cinematic Language
Cinematic Directors
Contemporary Theater Workshop
Drawing Workshop
Latin America in Texts and Images
Pre-Colombian America in Texts and Images
Performing Arts Workshop I, II
Sculpture: Molds and Clay
Serigraph
Seminar: Analysis of Poets Theater Workshop: Introduction to Acting

Biology and Natural Sciences

Agricultural and Chilean Society
Environmental Impact
General Biology
Introduction to Oceanography
Landscape Ecology
Marine Biology
Marine Pollution
Natural Resources and Climate Change

Business and Commercial Engineering

Advertising and Media
Business Administration I, II
Consumer Analysis
Economic Development
Finance
Human Resource Management
International Politics
Introduction to Economy
Macroeconomics I, II
Marketing I, II
Microeconomics I, II
Operations Management
Organizational Sociology
Principles of Administration
Theory of Communication

Education

Camping Techniques and Outdoor Education
Children's Literature in Kindergarten Education
Chilean Traditional Mapuche Games
Educational Psychology
Folklore Dances
Man and Games
Mountain Sports
Strategy of Learning Spanish
Traditional Chilean Dances

Geography

Biodiversity and Sustainable Development
Environmental Impact Evaluation
Geo-Ecology of Chile
Geography of Chile
Geography of Latin America
Human Geography
Introduction to Mountaineering
Meteorology
Regional Geography of Chile
Urban and Rural Geography

History

Chilean Art and Society in the Pre-Hispanic Era
Chilean Independence and State Formation
The Construction of Collective Memory
Economic and Social History

General Anthropology
Hispanic America
Historical Formation of Hispanic American Culture
History of Chile I, II
History of Chilean Art
History of Chile: Pre-Columbian and Conquest Era
History of 20th Century Latin America
International Relations
Modern Chilean History
Pre-Columbian Cultures
State Formation in Latin America
Urban History and Regional History of Valparaíso

Law

International Politics

Literature and Spanish

Chilean and Hispanic American Literature I, II, III
Chilean Theater in the 20th Century
Classic Spanish Literature I, II
Contemporary Spanish Literature I, II
Dialectology
Medieval Spanish Literature
Oral and Written Expression
Phonetics and Phonology
Spanish Stylistics (Linguistics)
Textual Linguistics

Psychology

Anthropology
Developmental Psychology
Education Psychology I, II
General Psychology
Human Communication Theory
Social Psychology I, II
Sports Psychology and Sociology

Religion

Biotechnology and Bioethics
Culture and Gospel
Ethics and Meaning in the Modern Culture
Hinduism and Christianity
Interpersonal Relationships: Anthropological Perspective
Inter-Religious Dialogues
Introduction to the History of the Religious
Origins of Christianity
Psalms
Sexuality and Ethics
Studying the Prophets

