



UU Report Study Abroad Form

faculty/college	Rechtsgeleerdheid
level	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's
name study programme	Utrecht law college;

destination city & country	Chili, Santiago
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	01/03/2019
end date	12/07/2019

You are requested to write on the following topics. Text boxes will expand automatically while typing!

PREPARATION
exchange application process
You have to possess a certain level of Spanish (B1/B2) and you have to write a motivation letter to the UU in English and to the Universidad de Chile in Spanish.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Yes they help a lot. If you have questions you can easily call or pass by.
academic preparation
You need to have some knowledge of law, but your bachelor law courses are sufficient. You have a lot of choices of the courses you want to follow; so you can make it difficult or easy. I choose 4 courses; which was enough. You can do more, but they advise 4 courses for exchange students (to ready everything in Spanish takes more time than usual).
language preparation
I didn't have any knowledge of the language before, and level B1/B2 is required. Thus, I had to study Spanish in one year in Holland but it is possible. And when you are in Chile, you learn very fast the language. But, there is the possibility to do additional language courses in Chile. But in my experience, it is necessary to know the language in advance, because few people speak English.
finances
Chile is not a cheap country, like other countries in Latin-America. Chile is expensive so make sure you have saved enough money. The prices are comparable with the Netherlands, but groceries are more expensive. Food in a restaurant is cheaper, so it depends. You don't need to buy books, so in that case you save money too.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
Everything takes a lot of time, with a lot of technical issues. Especially in the beginning. They have a nice working website, u-cursos, comparable with blackboard. You can choose your own courses; I choose 4. 4 or 5 courses are perfect, but you have them all at the same time so don't take too much (except when your Spanish is perfect and the reading doesn't cost you extra time). The abroad office of the UU is very helpful and they are very kind. When you send an email you will receive quite fast an answer, but for the problem to be really



solved: it can take some time. But from my point of view; their organisation skills are quite well and every problem has been solved (despite the time it takes).

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality is different in every course; the teacher has a big role in it. I took four courses: derechos internacionales de los derechos humanos; sociedad contemporánea y corrupción; criminología and antropología jurídica. The course of the human rights was quite intensive, with a (in my point of view) comparable level of Europe. 3 clases a week with material to read. It was a very interesting course and I learned really a lot. On the other hand you had the course about corruption, which was also interesting but less intensive; for example we didn't need to do anything, except the week before the exam. Criminology was a nice course, which was also quite intensive. But there were extra activities; for example a visit to a prison (very cool). But for the exams you had to read a lot (and not easy Spanish). In my opinion the course of anthropology was also very interesting, in which you learn a lot about indigenous culture and rights, in Chile and in other countries (mostly Latin-American countries). So yes, the academic quality depends, but in general I think the quality is ok, precisely because you follow 4/5 courses at the same time, so when it is exam period you have enough to do. In addition, it is quite easy to receive high grades; they aren't reluctant to give you a 6 or higher. But this again, it depends on the teacher; when you have exams, what kind of exams, what are the materials etc.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The university abroad is helping a lot. When you have questions, you can email them or pass by the office. But it is preferable to email them. Some of them can speak English. They are very kind and willing to help.

transfer of credits

The credit system is different; in general, you receive less credits for a course than in the Netherlands. You have different levels of courses with different credits. If you have to receive 30 ECTS, then you must do more than 4 courses.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I went already in February to Chile so I could travel for one month. School starts the second week of March and the first week of March we had an introduction week to the university. It was very nice and well organised. We met other exchange students and got some interesting classes and social activities, like sports and games. We even went to the constitutional court of Santiago, which was located in a very old and beautiful building. We got a tour in the building with interesting information and visited a part of a case (it was nice to see but we didn't understand a thing. Chilean lawyers is the worse to listen too). We also met the constitutional judges. So the week was full of activities and tours in the university buildings and a case. It was really nice to see and meet Chilean people and other exchange students (from all over the world).

accommodation

The university doesn't offer any accommodation, so you have to find it yourself. But, it is very easy to find accommodation. Chilean people offer a lot of houses: you can live with a family or choose a student house. I found my place via '<https://www.compartodepto.cl>'. I had a nice house located in Bellavista (Providencia). The faculty of law is located close to plaza baquedano (or also called Plaza Italia or plaza de la dignidad recently because of the protests)), which is the main square of Santiago. To be precisely it is located at the street Pio Nono in Bellavista, which is the main street to go out by night. It is nice to find your place close to this, preferable in neighbourhoods like Bellavista and Providencia. These are safe nice neighbourhoods located in the centre of Santiago. You have different options to choose a student house or a place in an apartment. It works slightly different there, because you can already accept the offer/house without visiting. But I could recommend to visit the place, because the pictures aren't the same as reality and most rooms are also



overpriced. It is also helpful to see who your roommates are, because most houses you don't have a trial period: you accept what you get for a period of time (most require one semester).

Santiago is expensive so a room will cost you the same as a room in the Netherlands: around 400 euros. But please pay attention: there is no central heating system so in the winter it will get very cold: the temperature outside is the same as the temperature inside... Make sure you make good arrangements with your house boss to have a heater (most times these work on gas; which is also a bit dangerous...). I had a nice little house with 4 other students and a big garden in the street arz. Casanova in Providencia (perfect to have nice house parties but also a bit rest) in a quiet and safe neighbourhood but also close to the party street. It was a perfect location and I am very happy to have stayed there (please contact me if you want to know which house exactly).

So please don't fix a house from the Netherlands, because it is important to see the room and house yourself and which neighbourhood it is located in. You find a place very easily so don't worry, just go book a hostel and then find a place. Make sure that your Spanish is sufficient because most 'house bosses' are going to talk to you in Spanish. If you want to know more you can contact me anytime.

leisure & culture

Chile is a beautiful country and Santiago is a very nice capital. Chilean culture is definitely worth knowing; their national dance is very interesting and with holidays or protests you can see it everywhere. You have lots of museums and cultural centres to go to. There is also a beautiful old theatre and library and other nice old buildings to go to and visit, like la Moneda. There are two nice little mountains which are conferred to parks; like san Cristobal and Cerro Santa Lucia. You should visit them; they are beautiful and the view is also very nice. San Cristobal is the highest mountain in the city and you can go with a Funicular up which is very nice to do. The views are beautiful.

You can follow dance classes of all kinds of Latin-American dances and the university also offers a choir where you can sing and have some performances.

There are a lot of museums, showing the rich history of Chile, from the indigenous people to the dictatorship of Pinochet. Getting to know Chile is very interesting, because it has a rich, but also sad history. The dictatorship of Pinochet plays nowadays also a role in the view of people; because it was a very harsh time which happened not so long ago. Thousands of people disappeared, were killed or tortured and families still have find no justice. That is one of the reasons why Chilean people protests a lot, every week. They have a strong need for justice, and there is yet no justice in the city. It is a very expensive city and the average income is around 400 euros a month, which is very low when the prices are the same as in Holland. People have trouble to pay the bills and have two or three jobs and work in the weekends. It is quite sad. There is also a white upper-class which control the economic activities of the city and there are a lot of people that work/sell on the streets because they cannot find a job or are discriminated (like indigenous people or refugees). There always have been struggles between the state and the indigenous people (mainly Mapuche). They are suppressed by the government. There are also a lot of homeless people, because the state doesn't gives a minimum wage protection. It isn't social at all, everything (even hospitals) are private. So a lot of Chilean people aren't satisfied with the current situation and protests; older people but also students. Students are very involved in politics and social justices, like equality for woman and man. When I was on the university there were some strikes organised by students and even exams were cancelled because of these strikes.

So the nice things about strikes is that you can go on a little holiday or explore the city. The city has enough to offer and every neighbourhood looks very different and has a different atmosphere. That's the nice thing, Santiago isn't a very beautiful city, but it has different faces from very modern high buildings to old and shady neighbourhoods. Don't go everywhere, because some parts are more dangerous than others. But in general you can visit a lot.

Next to the city, the country has a lot to offer. The nature is incredible, from cold weather and wild intact nature in the south to the desserts in the north. The Andes mountains has also a lot to offer (hiking or skiing in the winter). I travelled a lot during weekends or before and after the semester. I went to north- Patagonia (AMAZING) and south- Patagonia, San Pedro de Atacama, Valparaiso, Vina del Mar, Pucon and much more. It is a beautiful diverse country with very wide spread nature, gentle people, vineyards, mountains, beautiful see,



desserts etc. I loved it to visit so much places and everything is well connected by plane (low budget: Sky Airline) or buses.
So to give a short summary: the country is beautiful; the nature, people, culture, history. It is worth getting to know it. It is well connected and there are sufficient options to do.

suggestions/tips

Make sure you know sufficient Spanish and know some of the history in advance. Be also careful, because it is still Latin-America, so there is a chance you'll get robbed. Make sure you read the information about risks on the website of foreign affairs.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain

Definitely. It is a beautiful country. It is accessible and well connected, easy to travel around and the nature is incredible beautiful and mostly intact. The people are very gentle and kind and it is a beautiful culture with an interesting (but sad) history. Definitely worth visiting.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

You can contact me if you wish and I can tell you more about it.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input type="checkbox"/> X bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Cultural anthropology
destination city & country	, Santiago de Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	3 / 3 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	3 / 7 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

You are requested to write on the following topics. Text boxes will expand automatically while typing!

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process in Utrecht was longer than the Chilean one. The university responded very fast and was very helpful. But the whole process took me about one year in total.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The international office has been very helpful. They could answer all my questions and provided me with all the information I needed.
academic preparation	I had about 5 months of Spanish classes. This is useful for the most basic type of interaction. However, Chile is nothing like any other Hispanic country. The accent is super difficult and they talk very fast. I recommend to take as many classes as you can already, but do not expect to understand the classes immediately. The educational level is a lot lower than in Utrecht, but the fact that it is taught in a different language is a bit more tricky. But the teachers are very very helpful, so don't stress too much about that.
language preparation	-
finances	The city is quite expensive for Latin-American standards. How expensive it is, is hard to say since it really depends on the neighbourhood you live in. Prices in supermarkets and rent in the safer and more luxury areas are mostly about the same as in The Netherlands. Once you go to the 'normal' neighbourhoods it is a lot cheaper. The flight is definitely the biggest expense.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	I followed courses at the Faculty of law. Every faculty has their own system which differs a lot. For me, everything was very well organized. It is a bit more 'relaxed' and mostly they answer your questions or worries with a simple 'don't worry' which is in the end always true. It was very easy to apply to courses and there are a lot of students voluntarily helping you with everything. I only had lectures, but other faculties or courses also had seminars. I only had midterms and final exams, but again, other faculties had more exams.
academic quality of education activities	I would say it is comparable to 'HBO'. You had to read a lot, but the questions on the exams mostly focused on questions were you could find the answer to literally in your book.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	



They were from beginning to end very helpful. They responded within the same day and made sure everything was going fine.
transfer of credits
Don't know yet.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There is one week of activities with internationals and buddies.
accommodation
Really, really easy. I made appointments with landlords a few days before I left (loads of houses available) and could immediately move in. I recommend Chileanwayhouses, they offer super enjoyable houses or look at compartodepto.cl. Prices should not be more than 330.000 pesos.
leisure & culture
Did not have a culture shock. Chilean life is very different, but also very familiar..
suggestions/tips
A student visa is not very necessary. It is very expensive and I did not use it a lot. You get on the other hand a Chilean ID card which gives you discount in National Parks and the public transportation. Also, you don't have to leave the country after 90 days if you don't want to.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes! It is an amazing country with great people. The university is quite good and the city itself is great for exploring. Also, it is very safe. Would definitely recommend.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
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Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)
Yes, send me an email (l.nebel2@hotmail.com) or a message on Facebook (Lotte Nebel).

Contact details Student Services / International Office

Visitors' address: Bestuursgebouw, Heidelberglaan 6, Utrecht
+31-(0)30-253 7000
exchange@uu.nl (information/questions)
verslagen.internationaloffice@uu.nl (report)
students.uu.nl/exchange



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Language and Culture studies

destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	30 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	21 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

After submitting the application process through Utrecht University, which went smooth, I had to wait to be officially accepted by the Universidad de Chile. Make sure you're on time with handing all the right documents, as well as for Utrecht University as for the Universidad de Chile.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

My experience has shown that the communication with the Utrecht University has been successful. They always responded on time and answered all my questions. However, keep in mind that sometimes there may be time in between them responding if they are busy or for whatever reason. Therefore, make sure that you are well on time with important questions or document issues just in case.

academic preparation

Academic preparation depends on the courses you are planning to take, but in my case, it was not especially necessary. Although, since I was taking history courses there, it could never hurt to know some historical basic knowledge before going there. Keep in mind that with some of the courses or studies there, you fall in the middle of it, so it could never hurt to maybe do some research about how the courses are being hold. And learning a bit about the Chilean history before heading there could never hurt anyone.

language preparation

After having lived in Spain for a while and taking some Spanish courses at Utrecht University, the Chilean Spanish was still difficult for me. Especially in the beginning it is hard to understand the commonly used Chilean *slang* and to keep up with the fast speaking population. Luckily, after some time of practice it gets easier bit by bit but prepare yourself to not be able to understand everything, especially in the beginning.

finances

Chile is an expensive country to live in. Supermarket prices are comparable to as prices in the Netherlands and the rent may not be as expensive as in Utrecht, but it is certainly not cheap. In addition to the fact that the daily costs do not bother so much that you are probably accustomed in the Netherlands, you also live more ubiquitously there because you probably make more (weekend)trips etc. You should definitely take that in account before going there. Most likely you only go on exchange once and then it is so nice to be able to get everything out of it. I would certainly not cut back on trips there, because the country is so extremely beautiful. And you might only come once to some places you'll see.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)



One week before going there I heard that my semester got delayed for a month because of the strikes going on at the University. Anyway, eventually at the actual start date of the semester and at the academic opening, we received instructions how to apply for the courses. You are not alone in this, so feel free to ask for help on whatever topic and after asking around a bit and finding out yourself, you'll find out how it works.

academic quality of education activities

Although I secretly expected a bit (perhaps with my Eurocentric vision) that the education would be not too hard, I was still surprised that the education was difficult. Of course, it differs from the courses you take and the fact that everything was in Spanish did not make it any easier either. The education at the Universidad de Chile does not really provide seminars, most of the time just lectures. Therefore, sometimes it can be hard to keep concentration for 1,5 hours straight (and they talk a lot!). Besides, the reading material is a lot and since the lack of the seminars there is not a lot of reproduction going on, or at least you will have to invest some time to find out what is important yourself. Everything is very theoretical, which makes it hard sometimes.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counselling and support at the Universidad de Chile can be helpful but prepare yourself that it does not look like Utrecht University at all. Everything takes a long time to be taken care of and it does come down to you in the end. Therefore, it requires a lot of your own initiative. Just take a deep breath every time and also try to learn from their relaxed attitude towards the majority of things, since we tend to hurry everything in the Netherlands, which is great, but there are also other ways to fix things.

transfer of credits

As far as I know it takes quite some time to receive the exact Chilean credits into ECTS, so if you need having them before going back to your home university (if you're graduating immediately afterwards for example), make sure you take care of that while you are still in Chile. As I explained before, everything takes a long, long time, so do everything in advance as much as you can beforehand. Besides that, after some time I finally found out that 10 Chilean credits should be around 7,5 ECTS. But still it is probably the best thing to check it on your own just to make sure, when you're picking your courses.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Do not expect too much from the welcome and orientation programme. Although they planned a 'week' for the programme, it took maybe only one or two days including the academic opening and the subscription for the courses. Their orientation programme did organize a barbeque a week before that, which I would recommend going to, because especially in the beginning it is very important to meet as many people as you can. During the semester they kept on organizing some activities, but I personally did not attend a lot of those events, but it can definitely be worth it.

accommodation

Luckily finding a place to stay in Santiago is not too hard. Especially if you are used to having to find a room in Utrecht or Amsterdam. I would highly recommend staying in a hostel in your first week(s) there, so that you can easily and calmly find a room in a neighbourhood you like most. It can be helpful to think about what you are looking for in a house, since there are quite a lot of options. For example, think about if you want to live close to your faculty. Santiago is a big city, so do you prefer being able to go there by bike, walking or just by bus or metro? Also think about the fact with how many people you would like to live, so in a more quiet or busy house? With Chilean people or other internationals or maybe a mix of those two? I would personally recommend to definitely live with at least some Chilean people, because in my eyes that is certainly part of the whole experience and where you can learn most of.

leisure & culture



Santiago has quite a European vibe for living, although it is probably not the most beautiful city in the world, or even in the country. This does not have to mean that the city has nothing to offer. In contrary, it is a very interesting world city to live in and explore a lot of things.

suggestions/tips

Try to involve into the Chilean culture as much as you can. Try to make contact with people in different ways, eat local things, drink *terremotos* (not too many!) and enjoy living life in a different place. Besides having said that, living the daily live somewhere else does not have to mean that life is always perfect. If you are sad, homesick or feeling whatever, that is okay! You are not just on vacation and you will be learning new things every day. Just try to accept those feelings as well and everything will always be okay. Most of the time you will probably have the time of your life, but still do not feel bad about yourself if you don't for a period of time or a day. And don't forget the fact that there are always nice people on every side of the world, so don't worry too much.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain

I would highly recommend as well as the university as well as the destination to others. It is probably one of the most amazing things in the world to have the experience of living somewhere else once in your life. I would fully accept this experience with both hands and enjoy as much as you can of it. Especially living in Chile is a once in a lifetime experience, considering the fact that the country has literally everything, geographically wise. And even besides that a lot more to offer. The country is unique in multiple ways and to be able to live there is worth so much. Travel as much as you can and learn from the culture and its people. Besides the country itself, the university is also an experience in itself. The humanities faculty where I was studying at, is almost worth a visit anyway. The fact that the students there are so committed to society and so stand up for their rights is unrivalled.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Not in particular, but just go and explore. Chile has so much to offer and it is absolutely an unforgettable experience to live in, so go and explore everything for yourself.

Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)

Students could get in contact with me through mail: eva.haanraadts@hotmail.com or Whatsapp: + 31 6 14 60 53 69.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	REBO
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Economics and Business Economics

destination city & country	Santiago de Chile, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	01 / 03 / 19 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	17 / 07 / 19 (dd/mm/yyyy)

You are requested to write on the following topics. Text boxes will expand automatically while typing!

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
I applied for my exchange with the University Broad programme.	
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
I especially had contact with our faculty and study specific study advisor. He helped me choose subjects that I would be interested in and helped me understand the application process better.	
academic preparation	
No specific preparation other than following the courses at Utrecht University I was supposed to follow.	
language preparation	
I followed the subjects Spaanse Taal 1 through 4, in periods one to four respectively.	
finances	
Working extra jobs as well as writing out and signing financial statements.	

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
Facultad de Derecho en la Universidad de Chile. I followed random elected subjects at this university.	
academic quality of education activities	
The academic quality of education activities was very different than I was used to in The Netherlands. Exams contained much more reproduction questions than they have at UU and the classes did not consist of tutorials but only of lectures.	
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
Excellent counselling and support at la Universidad de Chile. They worked with a buddy system, as well as a teacher as a monitor. At all times these people were very easy to reach.	
transfer of credits	
Up until now my credits have not yet been transferred, however the exam committee did tell me that this would happen.	

STUDENT LIFE	
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welcome & orientation programme
Everything was arranged very well and I have never had such a warm welcome before at any school or university I have been to. The orientation programme was also very well organised with an additional drop and add period for exchange students.
accommodation
La Universidad de Chile does not arrange housing for exchange students, neither is there a campus. There however are many sites where you can find housing.
leisure & culture
The university organised a weekly activity where we would get to know different parts of Chilean culture. This was very fun and educational.
suggestions/tips
I lived in Providencia in Bellavista. I would very much recommend this spot. You don't have to arrange housing whilst still in the Netherlands, but just do house visits when you are there and choose a house you like.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would one hundred percent recommend this university and above all Santiago de Chile to others. Santiago is a very safe metropolitan city, which is quite a unique combination. If you want to learn or improve your Spanish, La Universidad de Chile and Santiago are both great places to do this, as all and everything is in Spanish and in general the people have a lack of knowledge of the English language. Also, I would always recommend La Universidad de Chile as a public university above all other (private) universities, as primarily this is the best university of Chile and secondarily and not less importantly, it is a full Chilean university instead of a lot of private universities to which only the richest Chileans and expat children attend.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Have fun. Difruta.
Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)
I give you permission to put this in the student report on the website.

Contact details Student Services / International Office

Visitors' address: Bestuursgebouw, Heidelberglaan 6, Utrecht

+31-(0)30-253 7000

exchange@uu.nl (information/questions)

verslagen.internationaloffice@uu.nl (report)

students.uu.nl/exchange



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	Geosciences
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Human Geography & Planning

Destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Universidad de Chile
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	21/2/2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	1/7/2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

After the international office accepted your application, you need to apply officially through the website of the Universidad de Chile. The application process was well explained by the international office.

Counselling/support at home university:

I didn't experience any troubles during my experience, so I didn't need any counselling/support.

Academic preparation:

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Language preparation:

When I left Utrecht, I officially had a Spanish level B.1 (the level that is required by the Universidad de Chile).

Finances:

I asked DUO to loan money.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

The Chilean Spanish is different to understand. This is something that you should taken into account when choosing courses that are offered in Spanish. The Facultad of Economia & Negocios recommended internation students to take only courses in Spanish when you have a level of Spanish of at least B.2. At the Faculty of Economia & Negocios it is also possible to take courses that are teached in English. During the first two weeks of the semester, I tried out several courses that were offered in Spanish. At the end of this two weeks I decided to take only courses as the Spanish spoken by the Chilean professors was too difficult for me to understand.



Academic quality of education/placement activities:

In my opinion, the courses that I took were well organized. The courses didn't had a research oriented focus but were more about obtaining knowledge about a particular subject. During the first two weeks of the semester you can try out courses before finally deciding taking them in order to check if you like the course and if you can understand the Spanish that is spoken by the professors.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

At my faculty (Economia & Negocios) there was an international office that you could contact 24/7 in case of emergency. If you had a less severe problem, you could also always stop by the office.

Transfer of credits:

The Chilean system of credits works differently than the Dutch system. This is something you should check in order that you take enough courses to obtain all the credits you need.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

My faculty (Economia & Negocios) offered an introduction day. The Universidad de Chile also organizes a general introduction day for students that are part of the PME program.

Accommodation:

It is easy to find accommodation on arrival as there is a lot of accommodation available in the city. Accommodation is expensive and comparable to Dutch prices.

Leisure/culture:

The city and it's surroundings have a lot to offer (nightlife, museums, parks, nature, concerts). Chile has a lot of destinations that are worth travelling to. During my exchange I also travelled to other countries in South America from Chile.

Suggestions/tips:

Take courses that are offered by the Facultad of Economia & Negocios when you want to be sure that everything is well arranged (things are not that well arranged at other faculties of Universidad de Chile). Every semester, there are a lot of international studying at the Facultad of Economia & Negocios. Therefore, the faculty does a lot for international students (organizing an international fair, offering a buddy program and offering activities that are specially organized for international students by Chilean students). In addition, I recommend to only take courses at one faculty as the locations of the different situations are far away from each other. I also recommend to take at least one leisure/sports course. You won't get credits for the course but it's a great way to meet Chilean students and really feel part of the university as leisure/sports courses are an obligatory part of the curriculum of Chilean students. It is also recommendable trying to make Chilean friends. There are a lot of international exchange students in the city, therefore it is easy to stick to other international students. But what added great value to my experience, was having several Chilean friends (otherwise I could also have doing an exchange semester in Europe for example).

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

I would definitely recommend studying in Santiago. Although I would recommend taking courses at



the Facultad of Economia & Negocios and not at other faculties During my stay, there were several student protests that apparently are happening every year. Several faculties of the Universidad de Chile were therefore for a long period (weeks to months) in strike accompanied by a suspension of classes. The Facultad of Economia and Negocios apparently has never been in strike for a long period of time (only a couple of days). The other faculties of Universidad de Chile are apparently every in strike for a long period of time. My roommates that were studying at the law faculty for example didn't have clases for two months because of the strike that was organized by students.

Studying in Santiago is a great way to improve your Spanish, it's a nice and safe city to live if you take several caution and the city is well developed (comparable to European cities). The only con of living in the city for me, was the air pollution.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	Sociale wetenschappen
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Psychology

Destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Universidad de Chile
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	18-02-2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	12-12-2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

The application process was clear. Keep in mind that you'll also have to write a motivation in Spanish for Universidad de Chile once you are accepted at the UU. They'll have to accept you as well. And a B1 level of Spanish is necessary!!

Counselling/support at home university:

With questions I could always contact international office and I would get a reply really fast which was great!

Academic preparation:

Language preparation: Make sure your Spanish is at quite a high level. Chilean is suuuperfast and they have loads of slang words. I followed Spanish 1 & 2 at Universidad the Chile. But I took some Spanish classes in Chile as well as I had problems with understanding all the content of my course.

Finances:

Chile is not a cheap country. The prices for food, drinks and accommodation will probably kind of the same as in the Netherlands. But make sure you have some savings as travelling in Chile and the surrounding countries is beautiful! A flight to Chile will be expensive as well.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

For me this was all organized really well. You'll get a brochure with all the courses so you can pick your courses in advance. Afterwards you can follow your courses for a week and if you don't like them you can still change them for 2 weeks.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

I'd say that the academic quality at Universidad de Chile is a little bit lower than at the UU. But I took all my courses in Spanish so for me it felt as harder as it took more time to read all the content etc.
Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:
I think it good, I didn't really need support so I can't really tell you a lot about it. You can always ask everything to your teachers, for me they were always willing to help!
Transfer of credits:
--?
Student life
Welcome/orientation programme:
Don't expect toooo much from the welcome programme, it's just a day but everybody is at different campuses so in the end, you'll have to find out everything on your own anyways. But Chileans are super helpful!
Accommodation:
Finding housing is quite easy in Chile! Just join a facebook group for rooms and you will find one quite easily. I would recommend to live in a house with Chileans! 😊
Leisure/culture:
For me Chileans were soo nice! They can seem a little distant in the beginning as they are not really used to gringo's in their classroom. But once they overcome that they are the sweetest people.
Suggestions/tips:
Make sure you follow a course about the history or indigenous people in Chile!!!! It is so interesting!
Conclusions
Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:
YESSSSSS!!!! It was literally one of the best decisions of my life. I liked it so much that I stayed even longer in South- America which probably says enough!!
Do you have any additional advice or comments?:
Just do it. There will be moments in which you will think why am I doing this again? But it is all worth it. Just let it all happen and enjoy!! Chile is sooo beautiful and you will enjoy every minute of it!
Oh and Chileans love to strike, when I was in Chile there was a strike for 3 months. Which was a little bit shit, but also gave me the opportunity to travel and I got private classes which was super usefull!

Contact details Student Services / International Office

Visitors' address: Bestuursgebouw, Heidelberglaan 6, Utrecht

+31-(0)30-253 7000

exchange@qdesk.uu.nl (information) / verslagen.internationaloffice@uu.nl (report)

www.uu.nl/students/exchange



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	REBO
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Bestuurs- en Organisatiewetenschap

Destination city & country	Santiago, Chili
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Universidad de Chile
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	21-02-2017
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	23-08-2017

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

Choosing to which country I wanted to go was the most difficult part of the application process, after this the process was kind of straight forward. Just make sure you start in time to get all the documents you need. For instance, I needed to go to my student counselor to talk about my Study Plan. Making the appointment took some time, because a lot of people need to do this. So take this into account!

For the application process with Universidad de Chile itself, this will all be in Spanish (motivation letter etc.).

Counselling/support at home university:

I think that especially for a university that is a bit less known like mine, you need to figure out most things on your own. In my experience, the home university does not know everything about the courses and specific procedures, so you need to figure out a lot on your own. However, when I had a question, you will mostly get a quick answer.

Academic preparation:

Because this is a university broad exchange program, you can choose from all the courses at the Universidad de Chile. So you do not need a special academic preparation.

Language preparation:

At the Universidad de Chile, almost all courses will be in Spanish. Furthermore, prepare yourself that most (Chilean) students will not or hardly speak English.

I started learning Spanish almost a year before I went to Chile. I first followed some group courses and later some private ones at a language school in Utrecht. My level of Spanish when I went in February was officially B1, but until then I did not have any experience with 'real life Spanish'. I



have to say that it was really difficult in the beginning. Chilean Spanish is probably the most difficult Spanish in the world and in the first weeks I did not understand a lot. However, within a few weeks it improved and I believe my Spanish now is way better than in the beginning.

Finances:

Chile may be in Latin America, but it is in no way cheap! Especially the basic groceries like bread, butter, milk etc. are more expensive than in the Netherlands. I think that overall, my daily life here is a bit more expensive.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

In the first week of the semester, the university will organize a day to welcome the international students. Additionally, you will also receive a date and time to subscribe for your courses. You can still change your courses in the first two weeks of the semester in case that you do not like them.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The academic quality of my courses was good. I also took the Spanish course for foreigners, which was really good.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

Do not expect a lot of counselling from Universidad de Chile. If you have questions, they will answer them, but you have to take the initiative.

Transfer of credits:

I am still in the process of transferring my credits.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

The university offers a welcome day as well as a study abroad program which organises some activities during the semester. However, I was a bit disappointed by the amount of activities in the first weeks. I think that there are roughly 200 exchange students at Universidad de Chile, but these are spread over all the faculties (most of them at the business faculty). I think there is a big difference between some exchange programs in Europe, where you have a big group of Erasmus students, and this university.

However, there is still a lot to do for students and if you live with other (international) students there are a lot of activities you can take part in.

Accommodation:

I started looking for a place when I arrived in Santiago. When you are looking for a place, I would advise you to look in the barrios Providencia, Las Condes or in the centre close to Bella Vista or Bellas Artes. I eventually found something via Facebook with a company that has a few houses with international students as well as Chileans.

Leisure/culture

Santiago is a really nice place to live and there are lots of things to do. The big advantage of Santiago is that it is centrally located in Chile. From here, you can easily reach every other part of the country, which I will strongly recommend you to do!

Conclusions



Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:
Yes I would! Universidad the Chile is well organized and there are a lot of courses you can choose to do as an international student! Santiago is a great city to live and Chile is a beautiful country.
Do you have any additional advice or comments?:
Not really, just that I had an amazing time!

Contact details Student Services / International Office

Visitors' address: Bestuursgebouw, Heidelberglaan 6, Utrecht

+31-(0)30-253 7000

exchange@qdesk.uu.nl (information) / verslagen.internationaloffice@uu.nl (report)

www.uu.nl/students/exchange



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	Social Sciences
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Cultural Anthropology

Destination city & country	Santiago de Chile, Chile
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Universidad de Chile
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	01/02/2016
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	30/08/2016

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

You have provide documents like a financial plan, letter of motivation, and in this specific case something that proves you speak a sufficient level of Spanish.

Counselling/support at home university:

Half a year before going on an exchange there was a meeting organized for the exchange destinations in Latin America. It will really interesting, just too bad there wasn't someone that had been to the University of Chile to talk about their experiences.

Academic preparation:

Not so much. You just have to learn some basic Spanish.

Language preparation:

About a year before going abroad to Chile I started with a Spanish Beginners Course from the Babel Language Institute in Utrecht. After taking two of the beginner courses at Babel I went to Spain for the summer and worked in a hostel for a few weeks. Both experiences were very helpful in introducing me to the language, but the most useful were the courses Spaans Taalvaardigheid 1 and Spaans Taalvaardigheid 2 from the University of Utrecht that I took during the first two periods of the semester. These courses are quite intensive, but are really helpful to learn the language quickly.

Finances:

I saved up some money with my job as a waitress in a restaurant. As well I received the 'student financiering' and some money for the fact that I wasn't using the Student OV chip card for half a year.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):



In the Universidad de Chile I took classes on Cultura of Chile, Anthropology of Migration and a history class about the dictatorships in Latin America of the 20th century. Especially the Migration course was really interesting because we had to investigate a certain group or neighbourhood with immigrants in Santiago. Really interesting way to get to know the city better!

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The beginning of the semester the courses started like they would have in the Netherlands; with a lot to read, and with making plans for papers and tests. However near the end of the semester the teachers seemed to be waiting for the 'paro' (strike), which is almost a planned event by now because it has happened every year for the last five years, which resulted in the fact that the academic activities of the classes were slowed that and almost came to a halt near when the student organizations are starting to organize meeting concerning a possible strike or other actions.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

If you have any questions you can mail to a woman named Leticia who is in charge to help the exchange students. She just probably won't respond to your emails. It's better to visit her office if you want to be helped. You do get help from a student mentor who will be present to

Transfer of credits:

I'm still waiting to get my final notes. After that my list of notes should be transferred to the University of Utrecht where they will review the list and decide how much credit will be acknowledged to each completed course.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

The welcome/ orientation programme offered by the university is very minimal. After arriving there was a welcome ceremony for a day and an informal meeting afterwards to get to know the other foreign exchange students. At least the meeting was nice because I was able to form a group to do some things together the first few weeks. Other than that the uni will try to organize some activities for the exchange students, but not so many and sometimes not so interesting so better to take action yourself and organize something. But there are usually a lot of events in Facebook of parties or cultural events in Santiago.

Accommodation:

The first few days I stayed at a Couchsurfing address. During my stay there I started looking for a place to stay in Santiago. Through the website www.compartodepto.cl I contacted a few places and scheduled some visits to the houses. Eventually I ended up choosing a nice house in Providencia with 9 other 'extranjeros', both students and people working, from countries all around Europe and the Chilean owner of the house.

Leisure/culture:

There is always a lot to do in Santiago! If you go to Bellavista at night there are enough bars and clubs where you can enjoy reggaeton, but if you're not too much in to that Santiago is pretty big on electronic music as well! Anyway, anything is planned on facebook from cultural events and picnicks to the next electronic music party so once you get to know some people in Santiago keep an eye on the events that there are interested in on Facebook!

Suggestions/tips:

Speak as much Spanish as you can, especially with Chileans (even though they speak in their own version of Spanish). Go to a lot of different events to get to know different sides of the city and different people. Try to follow the news in Chile, for example the online news of La Tercera, Chile is a country with a lot of political movement which makes it really interesting to follow the news to understand what's happening on the streets.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

Yes, it's definitely not Costa Rica or Mexico because it can get cold in Santiago and they don't always seem to be prepared for it since the houses usually aren't really isolated and don't have central heating. However Chile is a really interesting country because it seems more stable and organized than any of the other countries in L-A, but at the same time they're still battling with the aftereffects of the recent dictatorship which creates a lot of social movement in the country which is also visible in the streets of Santiago.

And also Santiago is a pretty great city that everything that you can expect of a city. A lot of parties, events and a lot of different neighbourhoods all with a different vibe.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Just do it! The Chilean accent is going to be difficult for everyone, if you speak Spanish or not. I went there with a very minimal amount of Spanish and had difficulties in the beginning expressing myself and understanding people, but try to speak as much Spanish as you can with everyone (!!!). And practice, practice, practice. In the end when you can communicate properly and say typical Chilean things like 'weon' or 'sipo' it will all have been worth it!



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	University College Roosevelt
Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor
Name degree programme:	Liberal arts and sciences

Destination city & country	Santiago de Chile, Chile
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Universidad de Chile
Purpose of exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> study/courses
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	07/07/2014
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	12/01/2015

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

This process actually takes quite some time, and I would definitely recommend you to start early. Particularly from the side of Universidad de Chile communication remains a challenge, and there were some things that were unclear. The most inconvenient issue was the misinformation given to me regarding the starting dates of the academic semester, which subsequently led to missing the full first week of college for some courses and the introduction week. Be aware that every faculty has its own planning (so for example the economy and business faculty starts much earlier than the law faculty). What helps though is to directly call the international office, they are most likely to immediately give you the right information. Don't trust too much on e-mailing.

Nevertheless, it will be the application procedure for UU that will take most time. Besides having an initial procedure for UCR (to be send to the Registrar), after I received approval from that side I had to send an application letter, a list of expected earnings and spending, a recommendation letter from a teacher, and a proof of Spanish proficiency (DELE diploma in my case) to UU.

Unfortunately, UdeChile only notified me somewhere in the end of June that I was actually admitted to their university, hence forcing me to arrange everything very last-minute. Nevertheless, it is not impossible to be prepared on time as a visa isn't really necessary (it is ridiculously expensive, bulks of paper work, and actually completely useless because the money you could spend on this paper could also be spend to a journey abroad, Argentina for example, enjoy your holidays over there and then return back to Chile where you automatically get a new tourist visa that is valid for 90 days..) and housing etc. is to be solved relatively easily in Chile. After receiving confirmation from UU's side,

there is still some work to do for the UdeChile, but it will mainly consist of visiting their (confusing) website to register yourself.

Counselling/support at home university:

Most information can be found on the website of UU. Furthermore, there is an international officer available, but contact took mainly place between me and my tutor at UCR. There was a meeting arranged from UU's side, but I was unfortunately unable to attend this event.

Academic preparation:

One of the requirements of UdeChile is to have a sufficient level of Spanish proficiency (at least when you are planning to study outside the Economy & Business faculty), which is supposed to reach at least a DELE B1 level. I took the B2 level and easily passed it, but I have to say that I was already a fluent Spanish speaker. Regarding academic standards, being a UCR student and accustomed to a high work load, I did not struggle to catch up with my courses. Nonetheless, the two history courses I took were much more intense as expected. Point is that in Latin American countries there is still (too) much attention to purely theoretical learning, so expect to read hundreds and hundreds of pages written in complicated Spanish for every exam, without much variety or interaction. Other courses, particularly the courses created for exchange students in the Economy and Business faculty are honestly a joke. Work expectations are low and most exchange students that only studied in this faculty were more often travelling around the country than actually being present on the campus. The Economy and Business faculty of this university has an outstanding reputation, but that is mainly for their Spanish spoken courses, and not for the English ones (besides a few exceptions).

Language preparation:

See the previous paragraph.

Finances:

I made sure that I saved up some money and I got a small loan from DUO, which I used as a kind of emergency fund (in case I needed a significant amount of cash, let's say for a hospital visit or such). My parents supported me as well, and I could sublet my room, so all in all finances were pretty much secured. However, don't expect a cheap country! Supermarket prices are the same as in the Netherlands and sometimes even a bit higher, and medical costs etc. are really high as well. Only the rent is significantly lower than in the Netherlands. I paid 230 euros a month for a pretty room right in the city centre, 5 minutes walking away from the faculty. Airplane tickets to Chile are also expensive, so bear this in mind. Contrarily, domestic transport is relatively cheap and nowadays it is sometimes even cheaper to fly than to take the bus (and much more comfortable).

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

Very poorly organized to be honest. Once you arrive there, you have to visit the PME (equivalent to



the international office) where you will get a long list with all the courses offered for this semester. However, many times it appears to be that courses are cancelled, or that there is a conflict between time slots, or there is just simply no space left anymore. Leticia Vielma, the contact person for inbound exchange students is a really helpful lady who you can always visit. She simply told me to take five courses in order to get the sufficient amount of ECTS, so this is what I did. I had the feeling that the it was not the PME who was responsible for the unclear structure of the course offering etc., but mainly the faculties themselves, having the PME just desperately trying to fix everything as much as possible. Advantage of this confusion is that it is quite easy to switch of courses and they are not really strict with this either. You are allowed to switch or cancel courses during the first two weeks of the semester.

Keep in mind that education is a hot topic in Chile. With an extensive but ambiguous private system where there is a great discrepancy between excellent and disastrous educational institutions, and a failing public system but with UdeChile as a great exception, Chile is a very interesting place to study. If I am not mistaken the government is currently on its way to drastically reform the educational system, but at the time being this was still advocated by many parts of society. Demonstrations and occupations occurred quite often, but never led to a complete strike down of academic life.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

Some courses were of excellent quality, the history course "Cronistas Andinos siglos XVI-XVII of Prof. Hidalgo Lehuedé was just simply amazing, whereas the other history course "Historia de la Expansión Europea" was of significantly lower quality. The former one was very interactive, fun, but at the same time also intensive, whereas the latter one was quite monotonous. The business courses I took were in English and primarily meant for exchange students: Latin America in World Affairs and Intercultural Business Differences. Both offered few incentives to actually invest time in your study and did not significantly add up to your learning experience. International Private Law was given by the dean of the faculty, and was really interesting to follow, be it that she was 9 out of 10 times incomprehensible due to her accent. In general, Chilean people are really difficult to follow due to their unique accent, so I would definitely not recommend you to go to Chile to learn Spanish. If you want to improve your Spanish proficiency, you are better off in countries such as Mexico, Colombia or Spain, and not in for example Chile or Argentina.

Regarding course selection, what I would recommend you to do is just ask around which professors are the most well-known, and which ones offer the most interesting courses, and then base your decision on the experience of Chilean students themselves.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

The PME is very helpful (especially when I was ill and ended up in the hospital, the officer even visited me personally twice!) but self-incentive is certainly needed! Take your own initiative and go to the offices of the respective faculties, and do not let everything depend upon the PME.



Transfer of credits:

Due to medical complexities I was not able to complete all my courses so eventually my credits obtained in Chile were not necessary anymore to be controlled as I decided to take a seventh semester instead. Nonetheless, I have heard plenty of stories of delayed reception of the grading lists, and mine was delayed too. But after all you have to keep in mind that you are in South America and everything needs its time. It will get there, eventually, but make sure you have some adaptation capabilities because a lot of things could turn out differently or incorrect. Initially, I received a grade list with only four courses mentioned on them (whilst I decided to withdraw from three of the five courses), so I had to contact them again to send me the right grade list with only the two completed courses on it. I got it quite quickly so no need to complain, but it is an indication of how things could go.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

The FEN (Faculty of Economy and Business) had a whole introduction week planned for their incoming students, whereas the PME only had a single day as introduction. It depends how you enter their exchange program. You are also supposed to have a student mentor but I have never met one. I missed the introduction day/week, but what I have heard is that they mainly provide you of general information and the opportunity to sign up for a personal meeting with Leticia who will register you for your courses. Keep in mind that time tables, classrooms etc. are almost always incorrect at the beginning so double-check it at the campus location itself.

Accommodation:

Accommodation is relatively easy to find. Check the website www.compartodepto.com It is super handy and I found a great apartment room with a Chilean guy of my age with who I spent a lot of time with, thereby learning a lot of the Chilean culture. Nevertheless, due to the radical change of living in the Netherlands to a Latino country such as Chile it might be a bit more convenient to live in an international student house. They are generally a bit more expensive but many exchange friends of me resided in such places and had the time of their lives there. It really depends on what you feel most comfortable with, but if I knew that there were many international student houses available I would have chosen such as place (but that is also due to the fact that I mainly had international friends at the uni). It is best to live in the eastern side of the city, everything west of the national palace is generally considered as dodgier to reside, especially for westerners.

Leisure/culture:

Santiago is a wonderful city with countless things that you could do. Going out, dining, cinemas, theatres, Santiago offers everything for every type of personality there is. Even though it is 'aesthetically speaking' not so attractive (it is a very modern city without any real colonial centre as to be found in many other Latin American countries), I still fell in love with this town. Definitely take the opportunity to visit the rest of the country as well, Chile is a marvellous place with very diverse nature and friendly people.

Suggestions/tips:

Countries such as Bolivia and Argentina are easily accessible by bus or airplane, so make sure you



visit more places than Chile alone. Moreover, if you are planning to reside in Chile with a tourist visa (which you get automatically once you arrive at the airport and is valid for ninety days), you assuredly need to leave the country sometime to get a new tourist visa. In general, grab this opportunity to explore and discover, because there is so much to do! Skiing, surfing, backpacking, cycling through the Andes, visiting vineyards, enjoying their national drink 'pisco', you can do it all!

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

I definitely would! If you have an interest in South-America this place offers the greatest opportunities to you. Even though it is not perfect, the moments you experience here are unforgettable, and keep in mind that UdeChile has an outstanding reputation within Latin America, which will enable you to become more accustomed to this continent in a comfortable and secure manner. Academically speaking, there are of course stark differences with the European system, but I have still learned a lot, and for Latin American standards there aren't really that many other places that offer the same level of educational quality.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Just go! Even though I became very ill which led to complications to my study as well, the moments that I revive the most are only positive ones.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Rechtsgeleerdheid
level	Bachelor
name degree programme	Exchange
destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name host institution and/or company/organization	Universidad de Chile
purpose of exchange	Study
departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	20/02/2014
return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	13/08/2014

preparation

exchange/placement application process

You have to write a motivation letter (also in Spanish to show that you have a certain level of the language). Furthermore, you have to follow the normal procedure of the application process which you can find at the UU webpage.

counselling/support at home university

They are very helpful. However, in my case I almost figured out everything by myself, because I was the first student which went to Chile for an exchange.

academic preparation

You only have to fulfil the requirements of the UU (to pass some basic courses/kernvakken)

language preparation

You need a certain level of Spanish, but a language test is not required. For example, the application process and the courses you will follow are Spanish, although you can also choose a few English courses. You don't have to speak it on an academic level, at least I wasn't able to do that but I learned a lot by doing it.

Finances

A retour- ticket is around 1000 / 1100 euro.

A student VISA is 600 euro. (which is really expensive in comparison with other countries!)

Rent for a depto / house is around 250 euro.

Costs for daily needs are quite the same as in the Netherlands. Fruits and vegetables are way cheaper in summer! The metro and micro are quite expensive, around 1 euro for one way (doesn't matter how far).

Chile is not like a lot of other Southern American countries as Peru / Bolivia which are way cheaper!

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

I followed 4 courses, which is very common for exchange students. In the beginning of the semester you have to hand in a form with your courses, but you can change them after two weeks of "trying".

For some courses you get 6 credits, for others 4, the system is not the same as ECTS and I don't know yet how many ECTS I will receive for it. A course includes 2 or 3 classes a week, every class lasts 1 hour and 10 minutes.

The classes are lectures in groups of 30-40 students. The only thing you have to do at home is reading the texts, there aren't real exercises. Every course includes two pruebas and 1 final exam. A prueba is or a written test or a



paper.
academic quality of education/placement activities
<p>Universidad de Chile is one of the 4 best universities in South America and thereby the best Law School of Chile. The quality of the education depends on the course and the teacher. For example, Criminology, one course which I followed, was a really good course, which I can recommend.</p> <p>In contrast to this, there are also courses which have really easy pruebas, you can't even imagine that they can ask you things that literally from the book.</p>
counselling/support at host institution/organisation
<p>Well, here I can write pages about..</p> <p>It's South America, and everything takes a lot of time! We received our student cards (which is not really necessary to have but very useful to enter the library without telling your story again) 2 weeks before the ending of the semester! Thereby, some students were not registered for a course which they were following. Something went wrong with changing the courses, but they never told us.. You have to be relaxed because nothing will happen directly!</p>
transfer of credits
At this moment it is not yet known.
student life
welcome/orientation programme
An assistant of the university will organize a welcome drink, which took place after two months. So, it is up to you to find your fellow exchange students.
Accommodation
<p>The University does not offer you anything, so you have to find a place by yourself. You can find everything at: www.compartodepto.cl. If you create a profile, you will even receive messages from landlords, which makes it even easier! You can better go a week (or a few weeks) earlier to Santiago to visit some houses, because not everything looks like the pictures (that is what I experienced). Thereby, in winter it can be quite cold (as in the Netherlands) and most houses don't have central heating, however they do have common areas without roof, which is not the best combination. And keep an eye on the neighbourhoods, because not every neighbourhood is really safe in the evening/night.</p>
leisure/culture
<p>Two words: Tranquilo (which means calm) and Manana (which means tomorrow). If you leave your typical Dutch characteristics at home, you will fit in perfectly! Chile is quite modern in comparison with the other South American countries. A funny cultural habit is to kiss everyone on the cheek when you see them the first time of the day (even your roommates / landlord and the most random people!)</p>
suggestions/tips
<p>If you want to know more about Chile, do not hesitate to send me a message! I would love to tell more!</p> <p>acmtonis@live.nl</p>
conclusions
would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain
Yes! It is amazing to be a student in Chile, the country is so rich of nature and history! And there is a lot to do in Santiago, you will never be bored!
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Just GO!! You probably have this change once in a lifetime!



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Humanities
level	X <input type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
name degree programme	Taal- en Cultuurstudies
destination city & country	Santiago de Chile, Chile
name host institution and/or company/organization	Universidad de Chile
purpose of exchange	X <input type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	28 / 06 / 2013
return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	17 / 04 / 2014 (one semester of studying and 5 months of traveling in South America)

preparation

exchange/placement application process

I studied Spanish and from the beginning of my study I wanted to go abroad, to a Spanish speaking country. When I was in my second year, I decided to go in the first semester of my third year. I found out that there were a lot of places to go to in Spain, but I preferred going to South-America. There were connections between the UU and Guadalajara (Mexico), Costa Rica and Santiago (Chile). I chose the last one to become my new hometown for one semester. I applied, went to the meetings and arranged a lot. Since there are only two places for UU-students to go to the Universidad de Chile, I had to write an application letter, introducing myself and explaining why I was the person who had to go there. I also had to make a list of my expected earnings and spending in Chile and I needed a recommendation letter from a teacher. I wanted to go to a Spanish speaking country, so I also needed a proof (a letter from another teacher) to make sure that my Spanish was good enough to be able to go to classes in Chile. After a couple of weeks/months of waiting and hoping I received a letter telling me I was picked to go to Chile!

counselling/support at home university

We had a meeting for the people who went to South-America and South-Africa. We could ask questions to students who had already been there and there was also someone from the International Office to give us information and answer questions. International Office also helped me always very well ?? when I had a question during my period in Chile and they responded very quickly ?? as well.

academic preparation

Academically I didn't need a lot of preparation. I went in the first semester of my third year, so I already studied a couple of years. Since I studied Spanish, I knew a lot about Spanish and South-America, but taking those kind of courses is not necessary (but make sure you speak Spanish!).

language preparation

Since I already studied Spanish for two years, I didn't need to prepare my Spanish. Although my Spanish was already very good, I found out that the Spanish they speak in Chile is very hard to understand and very different from the Spanish they speak in Spain. It might be a good idea to look up some Chilean "slang" before going to Chile, so you already know about their own words and accent.

finances



Chile isn't as cheap as most countries in South-America! Rent for my room was about €270,- a month, I lived in a student house near the centre. Especially vegetables are expensive: the prices are almost similar to the Dutch prices!

I worked for half a year full time before going to South-America, so I wasn't really concerning about my spending, but life in Chile is not very cheap.

Going out is cheaper than in Holland, beer and cocktails don't cost very much. But if you are in Chile, you really should save money to be able to travel and discover this beautiful country. Especially travelling is not very cheap, although it also depends on your ways of travelling of course. And save some money for your ticket to actually get there.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

I took 4 courses in Chile: one about Chile, Chileans and their culture; one about modern art concerning theatre, visual art and music; one about behaviour of animals and the last one about the indigenous people in Chile of today.

I really enjoyed all my courses and they all were of high quality. What I really liked was that you have two weeks to choose your courses and in those two weeks you can already go to all the classes and in that way find out if the course is what you want. Switching is not a problem, but some courses have only a few places for foreigners.

I had classes four times a week and also needed to do some self study at home. The time I needed for everything was similar to that in Holland.

academic quality of education/placement activities

The courses were all of a very high level, without being too hard. I really enjoyed all my classes, also thanks to some great teachers. La Universidad de Chile is one of the best of the country and you notice that in the quality of the courses.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

I wanted to switch from classes a couple of times and that was no problem. The support we got was very good, but sometimes a little bit unclear; typically Chilean. But everybody was always willing to help and finally everything went well.

transfer of credits

Still don't know yet.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

I skipped the introduction, because I was still on holiday. But later there was another information day and they showed around the university. The information they gave was not very useful because I already heard about everything from friends there, but seeing the university really was useful since the campus is super big.

We got a book with all the courses and timetables, but beware: those are never correct in Chile! Always ask for updates, because you have to arrange your timetable yourself. If you have two courses on the same time, that is your problem and you have to switch.

accommodation

I lived in a student house near the centre. I lived with 6 other people, some internationals, some Chileans. I had the best time there, also because of all the cultural exchange.

The university has different locations, but I had a bike and lived near the metro so it didn't take me much time to travel around in Santiago, although it's a huge city.

leisure/culture

Santiago is a great city to live, study and go out in. I really enjoyed every single moment I spent there. Since



Santiago is a very big and busy city, the people from Santiago usually go away for the weekend. Me and my friends also did that a lot of times so already in my semester I've seen a lot of Chile. Chileans are super sweet and they always are interested in who you are and where you come from. The nightlife in Santiago also is a lot of fun ;)

suggestions/tips

Learn some Chilean and make sure you have enough money and time to travel!

conclusions

would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain

Yes yes yes! I fell in love with Chile and the Chilean people and also for studying it's a great university. It was definitely the best experience of my life

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Enjoy and make some Chilean friends: they love to show you around and make you some good barbecue meals!



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Utrecht
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
name degree programme	(Neuro) Psychology
destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name host institution and/or company/organization	Universidad de Chile
purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	12/ 07 / 2013
return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	30/ 01/ 2014

preparation

exchange/placement application process

Before placing my application, I was already reading a lot about Chile and got really interested in the country and studying there. I spoke to some Chilean people and got really enthusiastic. The application was quite a lot of work, because not everything was as good arranged as I expected (especially from the part of Universidad de Chile). There were some things unclear, for example about the required Spanish level and the need of a student visa. But: it was all worth it, look into it carefully and start on time doing your application!

counselling/support at home university

During my exchange, I had contact with Laura for Utrecht University. She could answer some questions, that was useful. Also, I contacted the Examboard (Examencommissie) about the courses I was following in Chile.

academic preparation

I finished 2 years of bachelor, the level at Universidad de Chile was quite the same (but it really depends on which courses you pick..)

language preparation

I did Spanish in highschool, so I had some preparation. Still, my Spanish was quite minimal when I arrived. I decided to do a Spanish course at University during my exchange. Useful, but I think I learned more by just being there and only speaking Spanish for 7 months.

Finances

Worked a lot before going! So I saved up some money to go travelling after my exchange.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

I did some courses on criminology/psychology, one on anthropology and the Spanish course. In my opinion, Universidad de Chile offers some quite interesting courses. The first couple of weeks of the semester, it was possible to go to all lectures. This was really useful to make a decision about which courses you like. Organisational issues... present! At first the University seemed a bit unorganized and chaotic. But: also a good point, when you have a problem there is always something they can do for you. Also regarding departure dates, you can ask to do your exams a bit earlier and the University/teacher arranges something for you ☺.

academic quality of education/placement activities

Quite okay in my opinion. Also because I did some courses with a higher level. Some of the courses are just 'for



fun' I guess, you can also choose to do sports as a course haha. So this really depends on what you pick. I think going to a few lectures at the beginning, gives you a good preparation for picking your courses. Also a good point: classes are really interactive! My courses made use of recent papers and literature about the subjects studying. Active students that really participate in class (even better than here in Holland I think).
counselling/support at host institution/organisation
A bit chaotic, but everything will work out. Tranquilo tranquilo is the spirit!
transfer of credits
Went al perfectly. I emailed the Examboard during my stay about the courses I was following, they told me how much credits I would gain for them. When I came back in Holland, I got all my credits without any problems.
student life
welcome/orientation programme
There was a small introduction at University for all the exchange students (I think it's a bigger introduction when you arrive the first semester of Universidad de Chile (march)). It was nice to get to meet some other students. We also got a student-mentor from Universidad de Chile, pretty useful! He could answer all our questions.
Accommodation
I arranged accommodation myself. I stayed in a student house with 7 others. It was a nice location (Barrio Italia) and really nice roommates! The University doesn't offer –as far as I know- any student houses. Most Chilean students still live with their parents.
leisure/culture
In Santiago, there is enough to do! I loved walking around the city, met a lot of Chilean and international friends. There are lots of bars and places to go out (also house parties are a great thing over there!). Furthermore, Chile is a great country to travel. You could go easily by bus for only a little money. For example, Valparaiso is a really nice city with lots of street art and culture. I loved the Chilean nature, with a desert in the north and glaciers in the south. The national park, Torres del Paine, was one of the greatest things I've seen! Furthermore: never met people that nice as in Chile. They are really open minded and invite you to everything. Easy to make friends and get to know the Chilean culture.
suggestions/tips
Go travelling! There are a lot of city's/places only a few hours from Santiago, really worth visiting. Furthermore: try to not only meet international students, but also enter the Chilean society and culture. Great people. And: don't panic about the Spanish, at first Chilean Spanish seems really difficult, but you will get used to it ☺.
Conclusions
would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain
Yes, I had the time of my life in Chile, because of the great people, beautiful nature and interesting courses at University.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Save some time for travelling around South America, great experience.