



## UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	University College Utrecht
level	bachelor's
name study programme	Liberal Arts and Sciences

destination city & country	Santiago de Chile, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	14/ 03/2022
end date	22/ 08 /2022

### PREPARATION

#### exchange application process

The exchange application process was simple and clear. The motivation letter requires some effort, and the whole situation has to be well planned. Patience is also important, but it eventually works out well.

#### counselling & support at Utrecht University

Very good. It was clear and help was provided during the whole process. There was also a lot of understanding concerning the difficulties with the exchange university that can arise during the time abroad.

#### academic preparation

It is enough with the academics provided in UCU (I believe this applies to UU as well).

#### language preparation

I am a native speaker of Spanish language. Still, the Chilean slang and accent made it hard to communicate at the start. However, seeing some of my exchange manage as not very advanced non native speakers, I think this is possible. Still very challenging.

#### finances

Chile is one of the most expensive (if not the most) countries in Latin America. The rent will probably be cheaper than in the Netherlands, but expect other prices to be similar.

### STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

#### study programme (content and organisational issues)

The University of Chile is very disorganised and slow with all of its processes. There is also a lot of confusion (mainly at the arrival) and a lot of misleading information. However, once here you start to understand this is a general rule when it comes to the country.



academic quality of education activities
The academic quality is excellent. At least studying anthropology and psychology the courses have been challenging and very interesting.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Very weak from the exchange team, but good from profesors.
transfer of credits
This seems to be unclear, but doable, you can easily organise to get enough credits with doing 4/5 courses.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There is not really a big active programme from the Universidad de Chile. However, Santiago is a young city and has many exchange students. The international and the student community is very big. You will meet people easily since there is a lot of organisation from within the students.
accommodation
The accomodation is not too hard to find, and it's cheap. The university does provide you with links and options that are very helpful. Best places to stay are Providencia and Ñuñoa. Avoid the south of the city or the centre (Bellavista, Estación Central, Recoleta).
leisure & culture
Santiago de Chile is a very big city and there is an extremely big offer of activities. Really something for everyone and going on at all times and places.
suggestions/tips
Don't miss out on the opportunity of getting to know Chileans. Exchange students can be easier to meet, but interacting with locals ends up being much more fulfilling.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, the education is very good and the country and city, even if challenging, is very interesting. You can learn a lot academically and personally both in and out of the classroom.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Go to solve things in person rather than through emails or calls. Travel as well, talk to professors and they will be understanding of your situation.



## UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Liberal Arts and Sciences

destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	07 / 03 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	22 / 07 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	
	This was quite a bit more work than I initially expected. It is a lot of forms, letters and general bureaucracy. But as long as you try to treat it as the fun of anticipation ('voorpret' in Dutch), it will be fine.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Great! You just have to send some extra emails to remind people or to ask for help every now and then.
academic preparation	
	I did not need to gain any credit during my exchange so for me this was not too difficult. I would just advise you to do as much work before you go, so you don't have to worry too much during your exchange.
language preparation	
	I spoke some Spanish when I went to Chile, I practised with some friends from Spain and I did some courses up to level B1. But I was still quite lost the first two weeks. The Spanish of Chile is very different and having specialist classes in Spanish is something entirely different. But I learned quicker than I thought, once you have too! So don't worry too much, but I would advise you to speak as much Spanish as you can beforehand, so you can enjoy the experience to the fullest (because also in social settings it is great to speak Spanish as fluently as possible).
finances	
	I basically pumped up my student loans and worked a bunch of extra shifts before the exchange. This way I saved up enough to not worry too much about money during my trip. Chile is not a cheap country, you can even expect to pay more for groceries here than in the Netherlands. But rent, dinner and drinks will be more or less a bit cheaper.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	It was easy enough to pick my courses, they will send you links to the sites with all courses. Just keep in mind that the semester starts a bit later than in the Netherlands, so the signing up to courses starts very late compared to ours. You can also change courses later on. Which might be important, because schedules will also be posted very late. Also big difference: they do ½ courses simultaneously in a semester instead of two blocks of two courses each.



Also: you can expect a strike or two. This means there won't be any classes in general and that can mess up the program of your courses if not the whole semester. But just keep calm, because after some time they will take action for the international students.

academic quality of education activities

This highly depends on your choice of courses. There are ridiculously easy courses but also courses that are much more complicated. Keep in mind that the 'bachelors' are 6 years in Chile compared to our 3 years this means some courses from year 5 can be really hard.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

It was okay. If you sent an email they usually responded, but everything was slow and be sure to ask a couple of times, because communication could be quite unclear. They are really nice though and want to help you so don't be afraid to ask!

transfer of credits

I am still waiting, but they were willing to sent my credits earlier due to my graduation date so that is nice.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

There was one welcome talk in week 2 and a orientation meeting online. Nothing big. Be sure to search for the international community of your faculty, they are way more active than the PME in general but chances are you yourself have to sign up.

accommodation

I used the site ComptoDepto to find a room, but many used Facebook as well or lived in LivinX (a big building full of international students). Rent is a bit cheaper than Utrecht and it is easier to find a room.

leisure & culture

Awesome. There is a lot to do in Santiago and in Chile in general: hiking, concerts, museums, a lot of history, wine etc.

suggestions/tips

Make sure to talk to your Chilean classmates, in my experience it is important to take the first step in contact yourself. Also: make sure your Spanish is as well as it can be. You will learn quickly so don't worry if it is not good yet, but making friends and life in general will just be a lot easier if you speak Spanish. Also don't beat yourself up if you're struggling the first weeks: chilean Spanish is hard if you're not used to it.

Also the parties of Miércoles Po, the encounters of Santiago Speaks and salsa lessons etc are a great way to meet people.

Another thing: the chilean winter is cold, really cold and the houses and buildings are barely heated. So take a good coat and warm clothes if you are going in the months of may/june/july/September.

And travel! Chile has so much to offer: desert, mountains, rivers, lakes... it is honestly such an unique country and I will definitely come back!

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

Yes! It is a good university (although there are some bad courses) and Chile is an awesome country. I have only met nice people, both inside the university as outside and have had an awesome time! So just do it!

do you have any additional advice or comments?



**Universiteit Utrecht**

Don't worry too much, it can be overwhelming to plan and organise an exchange, but it will all work out and be 100% worth it in the end :)



## UU Study Abroad Report Form

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

destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	25 / 07 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	15 / 11 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	I applied with a motivation letter in December 2018 and got a response around February. I remember I got first a confirmation from UU and then -rather late- a confirmation from Universidad de Chile. All communication was really smooth from the beginning, and the faculty of economics -which I applied for specifically- sent me a very helpful set of manuals on how it was to live and study in Chile, how to use all online learning platforms, etc.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	I was invited to a pre-departure meeting where I met with another student who was also going to Chile at the same time. This was very helpful and fruitful as we ended up living together, sharing an apartment in Santiago. The communication with the UU exchange office was smooth all along as well.
academic preparation	I did not prepare much academically for the exchange. Because I went directly to the faculty of economics, I expected to be already acquainted with most topics. I was however expecting something different in terms of quality, as Universidad de Chile is the highest ranked in the country and its entry test are quite selective.
language preparation	n.a. (Spanish is my mother tongue)
finances	I didn't save up much money because I had a research assistant job at a distance at UU while in Chile, so I kept receiving a salary every month.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	<p>Being an international at Universidad de Chile:</p> <p>I initially applied for the FEN (Faculty of Economics) but soon I discovered that I was a PMI (international mobility programme) student as well... this means that I was not only included in the group of FEN international students but also in the wider Universidad de Chile international students group. This was the case for me because UU has an agreement with the whole university in Chile, and not with the economics faculty. In any case, this proved very useful, as my network greatly expanded and I was also offered to take courses at other faculties.</p> <p>Choosing courses:</p>



The first couple of weeks we were told to visit all courses we thought were interesting, and by the end of this starting period, we had to 'drop' the courses we would not take. This created a bit of uncertainty for me because a few courses were overcrowded and therefore had a 'waiting list', however, the teachers managed to get a room large enough to fit us all in the end.

I enrolled in four courses within the FEN faculty, and additionally enrolled in other three in the faculty of Humanities, however, I ended up dropping the Humanities courses because it seemed to me that in comparison to FEN, they were highly unorganised and often affected by protests.

Taking the courses:

Two of the courses I took were in English and two of them in Spanish, however, most students speak fluent English within the FEN faculty, and you are therefore able to ask them questions regarding certain concepts you might not understand in Spanish. Most teachers were also fluent in English.

The teachers who taught the course I took greatly differed in quality and style. One of them was a pioneer of the school and highly ranked national economist, three of them were young researchers graduated from IVY league universities and two of them were recent PhD graduates who lacked a bit of teaching skills but had great content to share.

If you have specific questions about the courses, I attended:

- Gender economics
- Economic growth, integration and technological transformation
- Latin America in World's Affairs
- Economic History 2

And had a brief look into:

- Competition and anti-trust economics
- Urban economics
- Excel workshop

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was outstanding, however, as mentioned above, teachers differed in their ability to teach.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Counselling was appropriately given, the international office helped us through the entire process of application, arrival and adjustment, as well as choosing courses and adding/dropping them.

transfer of credits

This was very satisfactory, as one course a FEN gives you 10EC, which is the most you will see in any of their faculties. I ended up with 40EC while I only needed 15EC to fulfil my exchange.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

Very good welcome and orientation, they taught us a lot about the life in Chile and what to expect, paying attention to prepare us for protests, strikes, and even robbery.

They also made mandatory for international students to teach Chilean students English four times during the exchange, as well as present them with three cultural activities which showed that you bonded with the locals. Examples included going for a hike with the student association, attending an 'asado' (BBQ) at a traditional place, etc...

accommodation



I had no problem to get accommodation because part of my family lives in Santiago. I offered accommodation to another UU (psychology) student and we lived in Providencia at my family's home.

I did see that others did not struggle either, as they all found accommodation rather quickly and close to the faculty. They mostly stayed in Bellavista and Providencia.

leisure & culture

The campus provided us with an enormous amount of activities such as Zumba, Theatre lessons, a private gym, three football and one baseball courts, choir, dance, etc...

They also provided us with a wide selection of volunteering activities which we could take part of during the exchange, as well as internship opportunities.

suggestions/tips

Attend as many courses as you can in the beginning so you can choose wisely.

Visit other faculties too, they seem to have great courses but less demanding, so great for those who do not go to an exchange looking for an academic challenge (while I had three papers to hand in, my roommate only had to write a small essay...)

Don't be scared of robbery/protests/other neighbourhoods, people are very friendly, but just don't walk by yourself in the middle of the night in a neighbourhood you don't know, or walk around the city centre wearing a gold watch, for example...

Do not buy a student visa... you can either travel to another country to get a renewal, or pay 100eur to extend your visa at the foreign affairs department (which I only had to do once). Compared to the 400eur of the student visa, it's worth it!

Take time to travel around Chile! It offers so many beautiful landscapes!

Take time to travel to Peru, Argentina and Bolivia, they are amazing places and you can reach them either hitchhiking, by bus or by plane... so for all budgets!

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

Yes! Chile is a lovely country, full of beautiful things to see and a very interesting -but sad- history. Especially interesting for those looking to understand Latin American politics and economics!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Do not hesitate to contact me for further info ☺





## UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Social Science
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Santiago, Chile
name university abroad	Universidad de Chile
start date	20 / 07 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	06 / 01 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

### PREPARATION

#### exchange application process

Applying for exchange via Utrecht University went smooth. Everything is clear and easy. The only thing I did not like was that I had to wait about 6 weeks to get 'selected' (application deadline December 1<sup>st</sup>, I received the e-mail with the great news January 16<sup>th</sup>. Six weeks of uncertainty is not cool. I hope they change that, as I heard other students who went to North America or Australia for example had already had their confirmation e-mails before the Christmas holidays.)

#### counselling & support at Utrecht University

X at the International Office helped a lot. Support was good.

#### academic preparation

Nvt

#### language preparation

For Chile B1 is 'required'. I did not speak B1 level Spanish before going to Chile, at all. In my experience the universidad de Chile is not so strict on the language requirements. I took two language courses at Fuentes in Utrecht, listened to Spanish music and podcasts and had of course completed the Duolingo Spanish tree. Most of my Spanish I learned in Latin America.

#### finances

Chile ain't cheap. Room rent and services like getting a haircut are cheaper than in the Netherlands, but groceries, consumables etc. are about the same price.

### STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

#### study programme (content and organisational issues)

The social science and philosophy and humanities faculties offer a wide variety of courses.

#### academic quality of education activities

Differs a lot per course in my experience. Overall I found it easier than at Utrecht university. I took a course on the psychology of aging and gerontology which was surprisingly good. Also if you're looking to learn or improve on Spanish, I'd highly recommend doing 'español para extranjeros'. Partaking in that course taught me a lot.

#### counselling & support at receiving university abroad



Lots of support for international students. And how patient they were.. unbelievable. As I spoke practically zero Spanish on arrival and had to explain everything using toddler's vocabulary, the students and counsellors were so incredibly patient.. I felt very welcome and there were always people I could ask for help whenever needed.

transfer of credits

Writing this in February 2020, I did not yet receive my Chilean credits. Note that Chilean summer holidays are from January – March. I got an e-mail bounceback on the international students coordinator's e-mail address that he's out of office until March 4<sup>th</sup>. Should be okay though. I have forms proving that I finished my courses.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

Not too much for the social science faculty. Although there were a lot of cultural activities throughout the semester.

accommodation

Easy to find rooms. Rent will be a little cheaper than in Utrecht. Expect to pay between 250-350 euros.

leisure & culture

Santiago as a city offers a lot of cultural and going out activities. Definitely travel south when you can. Chile is beautiful..

suggestions/tips

Stay calm the first weeks as everything might seem difficult and different. Especially if like me you don't speak the language yet. After some weeks of acclimating, life in Santiago will be easy and lots of fun. For me, coming back to the Netherlands from Latin America was more difficult than arriving in Chile (aka reverse culture shock). Took me about 4-5 days to feel fully nice and back at home.

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

Definitely. The universidad de Chile is among the best Chilean universities. Go sign up right now and hopefully for you there will not be such a long waiting time on the confirmation!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Try to dodge the international bubble, as it's called. I met up with local students and got in touch with Chileans as much as I could and I feel that altered my experience the most. Also traveling of course; Latin America is beautiful and its people are amazing.



## 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

### 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.



## UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input checked="" 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)

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
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.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
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.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
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.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
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?
-





## 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 barbecue 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.



## 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)

### 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



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)



## 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:

-

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 accomodation 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 type="checkbox"/> <b>bachelor</b> <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 type="checkbox"/> <b>study/courses</b> <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:

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### **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 soo 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!