

YOU + Chile

The equation that changes everything.

Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez
International Student Guide

Santiago • Viña del Mar • Chile



“

The best part is connecting with local students – as an international student, we often stick to our own group, but building that connection with Chileans is really important. I really like UAI because it's very different from my university in Germany; classes here are more personalized, and it's easy to talk to your professors. Overall, my recommendation is to have a balanced experience: study, travel, and make the most of your time”.

Angelina Leschik
Exchange student
UAI Law Faculty
Universitat Münster

Why UAI?

The numbers behind the equation.

When you choose where to study abroad, you're not just choosing a university – you're choosing who you'll become. These are some of the reasons why students from over 30 countries choose UAI every year.



#1

in Chile

International Faculty
(QS World University Rankings 2025)



+200

International Agreements

in 34 countries across 5 continents.



#1

in Chile • #2 in Latin America

Young University Rankings
(Times Higher Education, 2024)



+2.000

exchange students

from more than 30 countries have studied at UAI.



Triple Crown Accreditation

AACSB • EQUIS • AMBA Business School

only institution in Chile with all three.



2

campuses

Santiago (Peñalolén) • Viña del Mar
Both designed by National Architecture Award winner José Cruz Ovalle.

Chile You Will See.

You've heard about the landscapes. The Atacama, Patagonia, the Andes. But there's a Chile that most people never see – until they come. A Chile that challenges you, surprises you, and changes the way you think about the world.



18 million
population



Spanish
speaking



Top 5
safest countries in Latin America



Leader
in renewable energy in the región



Chile will lead by 2030
with 50% of global
astronomical observation



That Chile is waiting for you at UAI.

You will see a country of contrasts. From the driest desert on Earth to glaciers that reach the sea. From colonial architecture to one of the most dynamic startup ecosystems in Latin America. Chile is not one thing – and neither will you be, after living here.

You will see a safe, open city. Santiago and Viña del Mar consistently ranks among Latin America's most livable cities. Excellent public transport, a thriving cultural scene, world-class gastronomy, mountains and the sea visible from the city center. Daily life here is both stimulating and manageable for international students.

You will see a country building its future. Chile leads the region in renewable energy, lithium production, and astronomical research – hosting 40% of the world's astronomical observation capacity. Studying here means being part of that conversation.

You will see yourself differently. That's what Chile does. It doesn't let you stay the same.

SANTIAGO WEATHER



SUMMER
(Dec - Feb)

High: 29°C
Low: 11°C

Sunny and dry.
Almost no rain.
Ski season in the
Andes starts.



AUTUMN
(Mar - May)

High: 22°C
Low: 7°C

Warm days, cool
evenings. Wine
harvest season.



WINTER
(Jun - Aug)

High: 14°C
Low: 3°C

Mild and partly
cloudy. Snow in
the Andes – ski
season at its peak.



SPRING
(Sep - Nov)

High: 22°C
Low: 8°C

Warm and
increasingly
sunny. Blooming
landscapes.
Perfect weather.

VIÑA DEL MAR WEATHER



SUMMER
(Dec - Feb)

High: 23°C
Low: 14°C

Warm, dry, and
sunny. Perfect
for the beach.



AUTUMN
(Mar - May)

High: 20°C
Low: 10°C

Pleasant and
mild. Fewer
crowds, ocean
still warm.



WINTER
(Jun - Aug)

High: 15°C
Low: 8°C

Cool and
occasionally rainy.
The mildest winter
in the region.



SPRING
(Sep - Nov)

High: 20°C
Low: 10°C

Fresh ocean
breeze, sunny
days. Ideal
for exploring
Valparaíso.

Two cities. One experience.

UAI operates in two of Chile's most dynamic cities.
You choose where to study – or explore both.

Santiago – Peñalolén Campus

Chile's capital and its engine: economic, cultural, and intellectual. Home to over 7 million people, it's a city of neighborhoods, mountains, and contrasts. From the Peñalolén campus, the Andes are not a postcard – they're your daily backdrop.

What you'll find: world-class museums and galleries, a thriving food and coffee scene, ski resorts 45 minutes away, street art and nightlife, direct flights to over 40 international destinations.



2 CAMPUSES

Santiago + Viña del Mar

Designed by José Cruz Ovalle, National Architecture Award winner.
69,270 m2 built area.



GETTING TO CAMPUS

Both campuses are served by regular UAI shuttle buses connecting to key points in Santiago and Viña del Mar city center. Schedules are available on the UAI student portal and updated each semester.



LIBRARIES

UAI libraries are available at both the Peñalolén and Viña del Mar campuses, offering physical and digital collections including over 82,000 print titles, 12,000 e-books, and access to more than 16,000 scientific journals. Group study rooms, individual workstations, and research support services are available to all students throughout the semester.

Viña del Mar – Viña del Mar Campus

Chile's coastal gem: beaches, palm trees, and the permanent sound of the Pacific. The campus sits on hills overlooking the ocean, offering a smaller, more intimate academic community – with full UAI academic rigor.

What you'll find: Pacific beaches minutes from campus, the bohemian port city of Valparaíso next door – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – and a lifestyle that balances study and discovery.



FOOD ON CAMPUS

Both UAI campuses offer a wide variety of dining options to fuel your day – from healthy meals and fresh choices to quick bites between classes. Whether you have an hour for lunch or five minutes before a lecture, there's always something good waiting for you on campus.



SPORTS & FITNESS

UAI has fully equipped gyms on both campuses, a wide range of fitness and sports classes across different disciplines, and the opportunity to join official university teams and compete at an intercollegiate level. Whether you're looking to train seriously or simply stay active during your semester, there's a place for you.

An education built for an uncertain world.

The best professional of the 21st century is not the one who has accumulated the most knowledge. It's the one who knows how to unlearn, relearn, recombine, and reposition. At UAI, we call this **FLEXHABILITY** – and it's at the core of everything we do.

What is FLEXHABILITY?

Resilience is no longer enough. Surviving disruption is not an advantage – thriving with it is. FLEXHABILITY is UAI's answer to what the world actually demands: professionals who don't just survive uncertainty, but extract opportunity from it.

A professional who only knows how to do what they already know is a professional at risk. A FLEXHABLE professional is one organizations want to keep – and compete to hire.

How UAI builds FLEXHABILITY:

Liberal Arts Program

Before specializing, you learn to think. UAI's liberal arts core curriculum develops critical reasoning, ethical judgment, and the ability to connect ideas across disciplines – the foundation of any truly flexible mind.

Interdisciplinary Approach

8 faculties. Double degrees. Active methodologies. At UAI, the walls between disciplines are intentionally thin. You are encouraged to cross them.

Real-world Specialization

From business to engineering, from law to psychology, every UAI program combines academic rigor with professional relevance. You graduate with a degree and a master's – ready to lead from day one.

Global Community

66 international full-time faculty from 18 countries. More than 2,000 exchange students. A campus where diversity is not a statistic – it's your daily classroom.

Your university sends you. UAI transforms you.

If your university is one of UAI's partner institutions, you may spend one or two semesters in Chile through our Exchange Program – combining academic flexibility, immersive campus life, and personalized support in one of Latin America's leading universities.

A Flexible Academic Exchange

Academic flexibility is one of UAI's defining strengths. Exchange students may choose from a broad undergraduate offering across multiple disciplines, with courses available in both English and Spanish depending on the semester.

A Fully Integrated Student Experience

At UAI, exchange students are fully integrated into university life. From orientation and buddy programs to clubs, events, sports, and campus facilities, you experience UAI as part of the community – not as a visitor.

Exchange Made Simple

The process is simple: your home university nominates you, UAI supports your application, and our team guides you through the steps needed to prepare for your semester in Chile.

Tuition Information / Callout

Students participating through bilateral exchange agreements are exempt from tuition fees at UAI and remain subject to the tuition arrangements of their home university.

Study Abroad and International Programs. Study here. Grow everywhere.

UAI offers a range of international programs designed for students who want more than a semester abroad – they want an experience that genuinely transforms how they think, work, and lead.



Global Minds Academy

UAI's platform for immersive international education. Beyond the standard semester, Global Minds Academy offers specialized short programs, professional internships, research internships, and premium thematic experiences designed around Chile's unique strengths.

Specialized thematic portfolio includes: Astronomy & Indigenous Cosmologies, Water Management & Climate Justice, Viticulture, Sustainability & Experience Economy, Mining, Sustainability & Green Innovation, Gender, Diversity & Human Rights in Latin America.

UAI Spanish Center of Excellence

An innovative, contextual methodology for Spanish language learning – integrated with cultural and business immersion. Customized programs available. Internationally recognized certification from the Instituto Cervantes (Spain) in currently in process.

Tuition fees

Study Abroad students pay a fee in advance covering tuition and administration. Please contact the International Relations Office or check uai.cl/internacional for current fees.

Semesters:

Fall: August – December Spring: March – July

Academic Flexibility at UAI.

Build your semester across courses, disciplines, and languages.

At UAI, exchange students are not limited to a single academic path.

You can build your semester by combining different course options according to your interests, academic goals, language level, and home university requirements.

This is FLEXHABILITY in practice: the freedom to connect disciplines, explore new perspectives, and design an academic experience that reflects who you are and who you want to become.

Three course pathways

Local Courses: Study alongside Chilean students and access regular undergraduate courses across UAI's schools and faculties. A strong option for students seeking academic immersion and direct integration into local university life.

International Courses: Choose from a curated selection of courses designed especially for international students, with a strong focus on Chile, Latin America, business, culture, sustainability, politics, and social change.

UAI Spanish Center: Strengthen your Spanish through language and elective courses designed for international students, combining grammar, communication, culture, and practical language skills for everyday and academic life in Chile.

Mix, match, and build your path. Our Incoming Team will help you navigate the available options and choose the combination that best fits your semester at UAI.

Local Courses

Study beyond your major. Learn alongside local students.

Exchange students may access regular undergraduate courses across our schools and faculties, giving them the opportunity to study alongside Chilean students and experience university life from the inside.

Your academic path is not limited by your home major. You may combine disciplines, explore new academic interests, and build a semester that connects different fields, perspectives, and ways of thinking.

Course availability may vary by semester, campus, prerequisites, and schedule compatibility. Students are encouraged to review the updated academic offer and plan their course selection with support from UAI's Incoming Team.

Schools & Faculties

Explore courses across UAI's academic areas:

- School of Business.
- Faculty of Law.
- School of Communications & Journalism.
- Faculty of Engineering & Sciences.
- School of Psychology.
- School of Government.
- Faculty of Liberal Arts.
- School of Design.

English-taught local courses

Both campuses offer English-taught courses through UAI's International Management program. Additional English-language courses may be available through other schools and faculties depending on the semester.



Scan to explore the updated academic offer. Course availability changes each semester. Check the latest offer and start building your academic path at UAI.

International Courses.

Chile and Latin America as your classroom.

In addition to UAI's regular undergraduate offer, international students can choose from a curated selection of courses designed especially for them. These courses connect academic learning with Chilean culture, Latin American perspectives, regional challenges, business dynamics, sustainability, politics, identity, and social change.

Most international courses are offered at UAI's Viña del Mar campus and are taught in English, making them an ideal option for students who want to experience Chile while building an academically meaningful semester.

Students may combine these courses with local undergraduate courses, subject to availability, prerequisites, and schedule compatibility.

Business, Innovation & Latin American Markets

- Business Analytics: A Managerial Perspective in Latam
- Business in Contact: Learning from Chilean Entrepreneurs
- Contemporary Latin American Marketing Strategies
- International Business
- Starting Up in Latin America
- Strategic Leadership

Culture, Identity & Storytelling

- Based on a True Story: Latin America on Film
- Fearless Cinema: Chile on Documentary Film
- I Speak from My Difference: A Latin American Literary Counter-Canon
- Latin American Culture and IdentityTell the Tale: Latin American Literature
- The Fabled Last Place: Travel Writing in Latin America

Politics, Society & Global Challenges

- Capitalism, Socialism, and Communism in Latin America
- From Big Stick to Free Trade: Political-Economic Relations US with Latin America
- Globalized Latin America
- Human Rights in Chile
- Social Exclusion and Inequality: Its Impact in Democracy
- Sustainable Development Impact on Poverty

Sustainability, Wellbeing & Contemporary Issues

- Green Economy
- Mental Health and Self-Care
- Shock Doctrine: 40 Years of Neoliberalism
- Intersecting Cultures: Chilean Identity, Globalization, and Social Change
- Follow the Money: Conspiracy and Paranoia in Political Thriller Films
- The Power of the Written Word: Latin America Through Its Texts

International course availability may vary each semester. Students should review the updated offer before registration and may combine international courses with local undergraduate courses when schedules and requirements allow.

Spanish center.

You came with your language. You'll leave with another.

Comprehensive Spanish as a Foreign Language Instruction, Learn Spanish in the Heart of Chile.

Learn Spanish between the Andes and the Pacific- at UAI's Spanish Center where the Faculty of Liberal Arts and International Relations weave language and culture into a single, immersive academic journey.

Types of programs

• Customized

You choose what you need

• Semester

Semester-long academic programs

• Intensive

Full immersion in January (A1-C2)

• Volunteering

Community engagement programs

• DELE

Certification



A life you didn't expect.

In a place you won't forget.

Studying at UAI is about much more than graduating. It's about awakening your adventurous side, trying new things, creating networks that span the globe, and building friendships that last a lifetime. From the moment you arrive, you are part of something bigger than a degree.



Starting Your Journey Pre-Arrival Preparation

Before arriving in Chile, you will take part in online orientation sessions designed specifically for incoming students. These sessions cover visa information, academic planning, campus life, practical arrival guidance, and key information to help you adapt smoothly from day one. You will also have the opportunity to connect with the International Relations team and begin your exchange experience before even boarding your flight.

Welcome Day

Held during the week before classes begin, the Welcome Day helps international students start their exchange with confidence. The day includes campus tours, key academic and administrative guidance, and the opportunity to meet fellow incoming students as well as local buddies who will support you throughout the semester.

Buddy Program

Support at UAI comes not only from staff, but from students as well. Our Buddy Program is powered by volunteer student-led teams in Santiago and Viña del Mar who help incoming students settle in, adapt to university life, and take part in activities and experiences designed to build community both on and off campus.

Life Beyond The Classroom Campus Infrastructure

Recognized for their iconic architecture and unique natural settings, UAI's campuses offer an academic environment unlike any other in Chile. Modern libraries, collaborative study areas, specialized laboratories, and thoughtfully designed common spaces create a university experience that is both inspiring and highly functional.

Student Life & Community

Building community is part of everyday life at UAI. From student-led events and cultural activities to international gatherings and campus initiatives, there are constant opportunities to meet new people, connect with local and international students, and make the most of life beyond academics.

Sports, Wellness & Recreation

Staying active is easy at UAI. International students enjoy free access to fully equipped gyms, diverse sports and wellness classes, climbing walls, and campus sports facilities, with opportunities to join recreational activities and even represent UAI through official university sports teams.

A semester at UAI is an opportunity to go beyond academics and make your exchange truly your own. Whether through building international networks, pursuing personal initiatives, exploring new interests, or engaging deeply with local culture, students are encouraged to shape an experience that supports their personal and professional growth.



FAQ

Who can apply as an exchange student at UAI?

Students from UAI partner universities may apply through their home institution's exchange program. UAI also welcomes international students through additional modalities such as Study Abroad, agency-based programs, and direct enrollment / free mover options.

Do I need to speak Spanish to study at UAI?

Spanish proficiency is not required for all students. However, a recommended B2 level is suggested for students wishing to enroll in regular (local) Spanish-taught courses. Students may also choose from English-taught courses and Spanish language classes.

Are courses offered in English?

Yes. Courses in English are available each semester, with the most extensive English-taught offering located at UAI's Viña del Mar campus. In addition, both campuses offer English-taught courses through the International Management program, while other schools and faculties may provide additional English-language courses depending on the semester.

Can I take Spanish language courses during my exchange?

Yes. International students may enroll in Spanish language courses to improve their language skills, while also having the option to combine these with regular undergraduate courses from UAI's local academic offering.

How do I apply to study at UAI as an international student? Application procedures vary depending on your study modality. Detailed information on the application process can be found in the "How to Apply" section on the next page of this catalogue.

What are the application deadlines?

For Spring Semester (March–July), nominations and applications are accepted from late February through April. For Fall Semester (August–December), the application period runs from August through November.

Do I need a visa to study in Chile?

Depending on your nationality and study duration, a visa may be required. Students staying for one

full academic year must obtain a student visa, which should ideally be requested 2–3 months before arrival. Personalized visa guidance is provided by UAI's Incoming team.

Can exchange students choose courses from different academic programs?

Yes. One of UAI's distinctive features is its academic flexibility, allowing students to combine courses from different schools and disciplines, subject to availability and prerequisites.

How many courses can I take during the semester?

There is no fixed limit on the number of courses students may take, as long as selected courses do not overlap in schedule and meet academic requirements.

Can I study at both Santiago and Viña del Mar campuses?

No. Students are assigned to one campus for the duration of their semester, as most courses are taught in person and campus-based.

How to apply.

UAI offers multiple pathways for international students depending on their study modality.

Exchange Students (Partner Universities)

Who is this for? Students from UAI partner universities

Process:

1. Be nominated by your home university
2. Receive application instructions from UAI
3. Complete your online application
4. Receive admission confirmation and next steps

Study Abroad / Agency-Based Students

Who is this for? Students applying through mobility agencies / fee-paying agreements

Process:

1. Contact your mobility agency
2. Agency coordinates application with UAI
3. Complete required documentation
4. Receive admission confirmation

Direct Enrollment / Free Movers

Who is this for? Independent students not applying through a partner institution.

Process:

1. Contact UAI's Incoming Team directly
2. Receive advising on available options
3. Submit required documentation
4. Complete enrollment process



For detailed application guidance, deadlines, and personalized support, contact our Incoming Team:
Andrés Ordenes (andres.ordenes@uai.cl)
Caroline Cortés (caroline.cortes@uai.cl)





 www.uai.cl/internacional/

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