

Academic Bulletin for Chile 2025-26 and 2026

Introduction

The Academic Bulletin is the CSU International Programs (IP) “catalog” and provides academic information about the program in Chile. This bulletin applies to students who begin their program in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. This bulletin supersedes any previous bulletin(s) published. This bulletin supersedes any previous bulletin(s) published.¹

CSU IP participants must read this publication in conjunction with the *Academic Guide for CSU IP Participants* (aka the “*Academic Guide*”). The *Academic Guide* contains academic policies which will be applied to all IP participants while abroad. Topics include but are not limited to CSU Registration, Enrollment Requirements, Minimum/Maximum Unit Load in a Semester, Attendance, Examinations, Assignment of Grades, Grading Symbols, Credit/No Credit Option, Course Withdrawals, and other policies. The *Academic Guide* also contains information on academic planning, how courses get credited to your degree, and the academic reporting process including when to expect your academic report at the end of your year abroad.

Access the *Academic Guide* by going to our [website](#) and clicking on the year that pertains to your year abroad. For general information about the Chile Program, refer to the CSU IP website under “[Programs](#)”.

Academic Program Information

CSU IP in Chile is affiliated with Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (UC), known in English as the Pontifical Catholic University, located in Santiago.

Students are expected to have advanced Spanish language proficiency to enroll in courses taught in Spanish although students may also enroll in courses taught in English.

Students enroll in the following:

- Courses taught in Spanish from a wide range of subject areas.
- Courses taught in English from a limited number of subject areas. Course prerequisites may apply.
- Spanish language if one is offered at the appropriate language level.
- Units to total a minimum equivalent of 14 CSU semester units.

Due to the academic rigor of this program, it is not recommended that students take more than 16 CSU semester units per semester.

Students who test above the level of Spanish language courses offered at UC are exempt from this Spanish language requirement.

- Students who test at the B1 using the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) must enroll in Spanish language at the B2 level.
- Students who test at the B2 will be required to take Spanish language at the C1 level if offered at UC.
- Though not required, students who test at the C1 are strongly encouraged to take Spanish language at C2 level, if offered at UC.

Students are expected to select courses in academic subjects for their major, minor, or general education requirements. Students may select one recreation/sport class each semester and earn one CSU unit for each course which will increase their unit load by one unit for the semester.

Academic Year

The academic year in Chile operates on the southern hemisphere calendar, and is divided into two semesters which takes place during the following months:

¹ This bulletin has been updated to clarify guidance regarding the assignment of the CSU grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized). This clarification does not constitute a change in policy.

- Semester 1: March to July.
- Semester 2: August to December.

Registration

Students pre-register for courses three to five business days before the start of the semester through an online registration system and select at least six course options. If students wish to make any changes regarding their pre-selection of courses, they must request a change in-person at UC (as advised by the International Office at UC upon arrival). Generally, students have five to seven business days to change their schedule from the start of the semester. Restricted areas of study are listed on their [website](#).

Language Placement and Courses

Students are required to take one advanced Spanish as a Foreign Language course from the Spanish Language for Foreign Students Program during the regular semester. Students take a placement exam either before arrival or upon arrival and are placed in one at an appropriate language level. Courses focus on all areas of the Spanish language including writing, oral expression, and reading comprehension. In addition to studying the Spanish language, attention is given to intercultural issues such as the analysis of the culturally based communication styles and practices particular to certain social domains. Courses often include interactive activities with the local community and cultural visits.

Students who study for two consecutive semesters continue their studies in Spanish language in their second semester and enroll in the next level of Spanish language, if offered. Students who test above the level of Spanish language courses offered are exempt from this requirement.

Determined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), the CEFR has three broad categories divided into six common language levels which are widely accepted as the global standard for measuring an individual's language proficiency. These six language levels are expressed as A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, and C2 which may also have sub-levels in between levels such as A1.1, A1.2, A2.1, A2.2, etc. The table below represents how CEFR levels of language courses taken at UC equate to course levels (lower or upper division) at the CSU.

CEFR Level Group	CEFR Levels	Descriptor	CSU Equivalent
A: Basic User	A1	Beginner	Lower division
	A2	Upper beginner/Pre-intermediate	Lower division
B: Independent User	B1	Intermediate	Lower division
	B2	High intermediate	Upper division
C: Proficient User	C1	Advanced	Upper division
	C2	Very advanced or Mastery	Upper division

Note: There can be variances amongst language levels taught amongst different institutions depending on instruction, instructional hours, workload, etc.

UC offers the following Spanish language courses for students who place at various levels:

LET123P Spanish as a Foreign Language Upper Intermediate - B2 (4 units). This course corresponds to an advanced intermediate level - B2 of Spanish according to which, in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), the student will be able to understand the main ideas of complex texts, both concrete and abstract. You will be able to relate to native speakers with sufficient fluency and naturalness; You will be able to produce clear and detailed texts on various topics and defend points of view on general topics, indicating pros and cons of different options. The course addresses relevant aspects of Chilean culture that benefit the process of learning and interaction in the language in immersion.

LET124P Spanish as a Foreign Language Advanced Level – C1

This course corresponds to an advanced level C1 of Spanish in which, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), students will be able to understand extensive texts with a certain level of requirement and recognize implicit meanings. They will be able to express themselves in a fluid and spontaneous way with no obvious signs of effort; will make a flexible and effective use of the language for social, academic, and professional purposes; will be able to produce clear, structured, and detailed texts on topics of certain complexity, showing organization, articulation, and cohesion of the text. The course addresses relevant aspects about Chilean interaction culture that benefit the process of integration and learning of the language in immersion.

Course Codes and Levels

At UC, course codes (SIGLA) are made up of three letters and a combination of three or four digits, with some codes followed by a letter, for example LET123H, or ILI1730. The letters indicate the subject area or department. Graduate level courses are numbered 3000. All other courses will be undergraduate courses, which can have either three or four numbers, which follow the three-letter department code. The UC bachelor’s degree (Licenciatura) consists of four years of study in which students take courses in their major and in areas different from their core program (i.e., general education program). The first year of study consists of foundation and introductory courses, or basic science in the case of engineering, math, physics, or computer science majors. Each subsequent year (or level) is more difficult and builds upon the knowledge acquired in the previous year. For CSU crediting purposes, first year courses are generally considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Second and third year courses (levels 2 and 3) are more advanced and considered upper division courses with some exceptions. Fourth year courses (level 4) are considered advanced upper division in which graduate credit may be given, depending on the course. Generally, most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take second or third-year courses as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students’ home campuses.

Grade and Unit Conversion

The grade conversion used for Spanish language courses designed for international students is in the table below.

UC Grade	CSU Grade
6.5-7.0	A
6.0-6.4	A-
5.5-5.9	B+
5.0-5.4	B
4.5-4.9	B-
4.0-4.4	C
3.0-3.9	D
1.0-2.9	F

The grade conversion used for regular university courses is in the table below.

UC Grade	CSU Grade
6.0-7.0	A
5.5-5.9	A-
5.0-5.4	B+
4.5-4.9	B
4.2-4.4	B-
4.0-4.1	C
3.0-3.9	D
1.0-2.9	F

The CSU grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized) may be given in some circumstances. Refer to the Academic Guide for additional grade information.

Unit Conversion Guidelines

Below are the guidelines, which are used to convert UC credits to CSU semester units unless determined otherwise. Exceptions may apply.

UC Credits	CSU Semester Units
5	2
6	3
8 or 10	4
12	5

For CSU students attending a quarter-based campus: To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

Note that the above guidelines apply to academic courses taken at UC (e.g., Humanities, Sciences, Social or Applied Sciences) and do not apply to any recreation classes.

Academic Culture

At UC, most professors conduct lectures and there is little interaction between student and professor. Although professors do have office hours, they use this time for planning, so it is advisable to speak to them after class or be in touch through e-mail. Most professors have “ayudantes,” students who assist them. They can be helpful; therefore, it is advisable to build relationships with the professors and their assistants.

It is extremely important to attend class and to be punctual. It is not uncommon that deadlines for student essays or dates of tests change during the semester. For this reason, it is critical to attend all classes and to reconfirm exam dates and deadline dates of assignments with the professor.

University Courses

Courses Taught in English

UC offers a limited number of courses in English. Courses may not be offered each semester and are subject to availability so students must have back-up courses. Course content may change each semester and may not run if there is low enrollment. There may be course prerequisites for various courses. To view possible courses taught in English, click on this [link](#). Undergraduate students must only select undergraduate courses and must not enroll in courses designed for English language learners.

Recommended Courses

To gain a better understanding and appreciation of Chile, CSU IP participants are strongly recommended to take at least one course that covers Chilean culture, history, politics, or other aspects of Chilean life and society. Examples of courses are listed below. To view courses offered in the past, click on the [link](#).

ICP0109 Seminar: Latin America in the 20th Century ([Seminario: America Latina Siglo XX](#)) (4)

The course presents, in an integrated manner, the different aspects of Latin American events during the 20th century. This through a historical, geographical, and political vision of the facts.

ESO008 Chilean Folklore ([Folklore Chileno](#)) (4)

The course constitutes an instance of reflection on the most relevant aspects of Chilean folk traditions. Its objective is to know, relieve and value the material and immaterial cultural heritage of Chilean folkloric traditions, distinguish, and compare facts, situations and folkloric objects, investigating their roots and regional variants, understand the aspects of the so-called popular wisdom, put in common and distinguish its religious and social components and critically reflect on the relationship between these aesthetic manifestations and the construction of local and regional identities. To this end, face-to-face classes will be held with audiovisual material, supported by visits to museums and galleries and

complemented with field activities, group work and classroom discussions. Through group activities, it is hoped to connect with the contents of the course referring to community work, so relevant in Chilean folkloric manifestations. Upper division.

IHI0213 History of Chile, Nineteenth Century ([Historia de Chile Siglo. XIX](#)) (4)

This course will analyze some of the fundamental processes of the historical evolution of Chile in the 19th century, such as the transition from Colony to Republic, the republican organization, integration into world markets, the exercise of sovereignty and the formation of the nation. Also, it seeks to identify and explain the social and cultural characteristics of society, relating the political and economic processes with the material living conditions of the population. The course considers the use of historical examples for the analysis of conjunctures, characters, events, conditions and situations of specific subjects, groups, and populations, so that, through them, to be able to identify and explain some of the most characteristic facts of the historical evolution of Chile in the nineteenth century. Upper division.

IHI2323 History of Gender in Chile ([Historia de Género en Chile](#)) (4)

This course examines the history of gender in Chile, from colonial times to the present. By doing so from gender analysis, the course contemplates how those ideas about masculinities and femininities in society were historically constructed and influenced other social relations and politics. As a general training course, we will explore the historical roots of two issues that are central to contemporary debates around gender: health and reproduction, and LGBT rights. Through lectures and reading of bibliography and historical sources, we will investigate the links between gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and class, and how these have changed over time. In addition, students will use the tools of the History discipline to assess historical and current issues, demonstrating their synthesis and argumentation skills through small group discussions, reading reports, a film review, and a final research project. individual or group, which can take various formats (video, article, infographic, etc.). Upper division.

Elective Courses

To view departments offered at UC, go to <https://catalogo.uc.cl> and then in “escuela” scroll down and click in the department you are interested in. Then click “buscar” and you will find a list with all courses that the school offers. If you click on “programa” you will find the complete syllabus of the course. Restricted areas of study are listed on their [website](#).

Admission to courses is subject to availability, approval of the host university and the particular department’s prerequisites. Just as is the case with any CSU catalog, not all of the courses are offered every semester so students should be flexible with their selection of courses.

Admission to the School of Music is restricted and requires confirmation by the Music Department at UC. Music students are required to send a study plan to UC in advance and if requested, they may be required to send an audition (by CD or YouTube). UC will inform students if an audition is necessary based on the study plan submitted. Music theory courses are more easily accessible but are still subject to availability.

While CSU IP students primarily focus on taking coursework related to their majors, UC provides the opportunity for students to take courses which may be of special interest to those interested in incorporating Latin American Studies or advanced Spanish language courses into their overall education. Students are advised to consult the UC’s website for specific course offerings: www.uc.cl. Below are some of the courses offered in past years:

Latin American Studies Courses

- Analysis of Foreign Politics in Latin American Countries (ICP0342)
- Art of Chilean Natives (ESO004)
- Asian World and Latin America (GEO2904)
- Borders in Latin America: Globalization and Space Restructuring (ICP0339)
- Chilean Anthropology (ANT400R)
- Chilean Art 1950-2000 (ESO2663)
- Chilean Folklore (ESO008)
- Chilean Politics (ICP0140)

- Chilean Political Organization (ICP0106)
- Contemporary Latin American Film (ESO2772)
- Contemporary Latin American History (IHI0225 taught in English)
- Contemporary Latin American History (IHI0224 taught in Spanish)
- Economic Development of Latin America (EAE283A)
- Foreign Policy Analysis in Latin American Countries (ICP0342)
- Foundation and Development of Latin American Culture (SOL127)

Geography of Chile: Space and Society (GEO111)
 History of Contemporary Latin America (IHI0224)
 History of Chile 19th Century (IHI0213)
 History of Chilean Legal, Political and Social Institutions (DER006F)
 History of Latin America and Chile 17th and 18th Centuries (IHV0101)
 History of Latin America and Chile 19th Century (IHV0102)
 History of Latin America and Chile 20th Century (IHV0103)
 History of Chilean Photography (ESO2282)
 History of the Church in Chile (TBH041)
 Human Rights in Latin America (ICP0458)
 Indigenous Chile and Latin America (IHI0211)
 Introduction to Politics in Latin America (ICP0105)
 Latin American Anthropology (IHA0010)
 Latin American Art (ART0386)
 Latin American Contemporary Film (ESO2772)
 Latin American Culture and Society (PSB408)
 Latin American Geography (GEO2900)
 MaUche Art, Culture and Aesthetics (ESE4441)
 Mexico: History and Culture (IHI2301)
 Modernity and Revolutions in Latin America (ICP0138)
 Music in Chile and Latin America (MUC708)
 Musicology in Latin America (MUC744)
 Pre-Columbian Art (ARO105T)
 Prehistory of Latin America (ANT302Q)
 Political Corruption in Latin America (ICP0125)
 Psychology and Culture in Latin America (PSI2428)
 Regional Geography of Latin America and Chile (GEO604)
 Regional Geography of the World (GEO1012)
 Resistance and Indigenous Political Fights in Latin America (ICP0133)
 Review and Visual Arts in Chile (ESO005)
 Seminar: Latin American 20th Century (ICP0109)
 Theory of Chilean Documentary Cinema (ESO246D)
 Woman and Society in Chile (IHI2371)

Spanish Language and Literature Courses:

Aesthetics of the Hispanic American Tale (ESO234D)
 Analysis of Hispanic American Literary Texts (LET104H)
 Analysis of Narrative Texts (LET224E)
 Analysis of Speech (LET1026)
 Andean Literature (LET297E)
 Cartography and Imaginary of Chilean and Latin American Narrative (LET285E)

Chilean Contemporary Poetry (LET217E)
 Chilean Film and Literature (ESO2421)
 Chilean and Hispanic-America Essay (ILH1220)
 Chilean and Hispanic American Narrative (LET1005)
 Chilean and Hispanic American Poetry (LET1006)
 Chilean and Hispanic American Theatre (LET1007)
 Chilean Poetry of the End of the Century (ESE4036)
 Colonial Literature (LET1004)
 Contemporary Theater: Body, Word, and Document (LET291E)
 Courtesy in Spanish of Chile (LET024E)
 Detective Narrative (LET233E)
 Don Quixote de la Mancha (LET216E)
 Fundamentals of Psycholinguistics (LET1038)
 Gabriela Mistral and Violeta Parra: Crossed Poetry (LET265E)
 History of the Spanish Language (LET1027)
 Introduction to Literary Studies (LET1001)
 Introduction to Academic Reading and Writing (LET174E)
 Introduction to Translation of Technical-Scientific Texts (LET091E)
 Introduction to Translation of Social Sciences Texts (LET092E)
 Introduction to Translation of Literary Texts (LET090E)
 Language and Poetics (LET059E)
 Linguistics Foundations (LET001B)
 Literary Theory 1 (LET1002)
 Literature and Society (LET277E)
 Manifests of Chilean Cinema and Poetry (LET292E)
 MaUche Language and Culture (LET075E)
 Oral and Non-Verbal Communication (LET031E)
 Panorama of the Chilean Novel (LET247E)
 Poetic Analysis (LET211E)
 Pragmatics (LET1025)
 Prose of Borges (LET228E)
 Quechua Language and Culture 1 (LET001E)
 Sociolinguistics of Spanish Language (LET070E)
 Spanish Grammar 1, 2 (LET1031) (LET1032)
 Spanish Literature 1, 2 and 3 (LET1013) (LET1014) (LET1016)
 Spanish of Latin America (LET010E)
 Spanish Phonetics and Phonology (LET1034)
 Spanish Semantics (LET1023)
 The Cinema from Literature (LET243E)
 Universal Literature 1 (LET1011)
 Universal Literature 2 (LET1012)

Contact Information

For questions about courses, registration, or the university, contact Mr. Cristián Bonilla at cbonillam@uc.cl. For questions about CSU IP academic policies and requirements, email csuip@calstate.edu or IPacademics@calstate.edu.