Exchange Scheme with the Pontificia Universidad Católica De Chile (PUC)

**Where is PUC?**

Founded in 1888 and located in the city of Santiago, Pontificia Universidad Católica De Chile is one of Chile’s oldest universities and one of the most recognised educational institutions in Latin America, QS ranking places PUC 3rd in Latin America. The student body consists of over 20,000 undergraduates and over 4,000 graduates located in four campuses.

**Who can go?**

- **Two places** (four semester places) will be made available to York undergraduate students in 2020/21. Priority will be given to Language and Linguistic Science students.
- **Students will be required to be proficient in Spanish for this exchange to level B2 CEFR.**
- Due to the nature of this exchange it is only available to students who are able to opt into a 3+1 (with a year abroad) programme.
- Please consult with your department to see if your subject is eligible for this exchange.

**Courses**

- Students studying at PUC will be expected to take a maximum of 80 credits during their year at PUC (i.e. 40 credits per semester). All 80 credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits. **One credit = one hour of work per week.** This includes both contact hours and individual work, during 18 weeks (one semester).
- The course catalogue can be accessed here as a general guide: [uc.cl/en/courses](http://uc.cl/en/courses)
- As an exchange student there are some courses that are restricted.

**How will my marks be assessed/converted?**

- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants. Grades will only be converted for credit replacement students.
- University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables here: [york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5](http://york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5)
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be assessed on your return to York.

**Costs**

*Please note that the costs below are based on previous years and are provided for guidance only. Exact costs may vary due to exchange rates, inflation, personal circumstance and/or other reasons.*

- **Tuition Fees:** Students will pay no tuition fees to PUC and in 2019/20 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
• **Visas:** The most current information found shows the cost of a student visa for Chile is £383 for British citizens. Don’t forget that if you are eligible for the **Travel Grant** from **Student Finance**, you may be able to claim this cost back. Plus £50-£100 for **medical certificates** and £45 for **ACRO Police Certificate**.

• **Medical insurance:** International Health Insurance is mandatory. Students must purchase their own Health insurance in their countries of origin before they travel to Chile.

• **Additional costs to consider:** flights, accommodation, travel insurance and visas (see below), living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

**Financial Assistance**

• **York Futures Scholarship** new for 2019/20. Support for personal and professional development. Funding of up to £6000 available to students applying to study abroad in 2020/21. There are two rounds of applications for this funding, Autumn Term and Easter Vacation/start of Summer Term. We recommend that you apply for the first round of funding to secure this before you have received confirmation of your study abroad place. For more information please see the following web pages: [york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers/skills/work-experience/yfs/](york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers/skills/work-experience/yfs/)

**Visa**

*Please be aware that Centre for Global Programmes staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.*

- Once you are accepted at UC, you will have to apply to a Student Resident VISA at the Chilean Consulate nearest to you. Check the list of Chilean Consulates around the world in the following link: [Chilean Consulates](#).

After you have arrived to Chile, you must follow the following steps:

- Register your VISA at **Policía Internacional** within the first 30 days after your arrival to Chile.
- You must bring your **passport** and the **immigration card** you received upon arrival to the following address: Policía Internacional. National Headquarters of Immigration and International Police, Eleuterio Ramirez 846. Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Email Address: jenaex@investigaciones.cl
- Apply for and get the **Chilean ID Card** ("carnet de Identidad") for foreigners at the **Servicio de Registro Civil e Identificacion**.
- If you did not apply for and obtain a student VISA in your country of origin and decide to get into Chile with a **Tourist VISA** (to get information about the tourist VISA, click here), you must start the application process to obtain a Student VISA during the first 30 days upon arrival.
- For more information visit the **Immigration and Migration Office** located at San Antonio 580, 2nd Floor (Information Office) and 3rd Floor (Visa, Permanent Residency, Sanctions and Tourism). Phone Number: (56-2) 600-486-3000.

**What’s it like to study there?**

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........ my Spanish has improved a lot since I first arrived in July. During the first few weeks, sitting through 90 minute lectures was a struggle and some conversations (especially logistical ones, e.g. setting up a phone contract) provided some tricky moments. Now, lectures are far easier to understand and living in a shared house with 12 international students has meant that Spanish is our only shared language, which has helped me a lot.

Santiago is unlike any European capital city I have visited. The various turbulent periods of recent Chilean history are still controversial among many sectors of society and this is clear in conflicting depictions of Colonialists, early Presidents of Chile, and more recent dictators, throughout Santiago and the country in general. Despite Santiago being South America’s most developed city, it is clear that this is still very much a developing city, though the infrastructure is always changing and I am sure that the city will be a different
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The Chilean dialect is something that I was constantly warned about before my trip, but it was only when I started chatting to Chileans in a more casual and social environment that I realised just how commonplace certain phrases are. You rarely get through a sentence without hearing one of ‘weón’ (mate), bacán (cool/great), or ‘cachai?’ (do you get me?).

The university made it very easy to settle in. The orientation day was very useful for meeting fellow international students, and there are often events to encourage international involvement in the university, and communication between Chileans and international students.

Charlie, History 2018/19

Where will I live?

- PUC does not provide student housing or accommodation for foreign students specifically but have a list of student dormitories and housing options which students can apply for: [uc.cl/en/international-students/get-ready-to-arrive-to-uc/housing](uc.cl/en/international-students/get-ready-to-arrive-to-uc/housing)
- Although they are not affiliated as they are advertised on PUCs housing website, they feel they will be reputable and safe companies.

Is it the right choice for me?

- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the [Considerations Checklist](#) on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

Contact details at PUC

- Ms Paulina Court – **Head of Academic Exchange Program for International Students**
  - Telephone: 56-2-23542406
  - Fax number: 56-2-23542739
  - Email: [pcourt@uc.cl](mailto:pcourt@uc.cl)
  - Address: Division for International Affair, Alameda 340 first floor, 8331150 Santiago, Chile
- Ms. Camila Carvajal - **Assistant to the Head of Academic Exchange Program for International Students**
  - Telephone: 56-2-23542810
  - Fax number: 56-2-23542739
  - Email: [cbcarvaj@uc.cl](mailto:cbcarvaj@uc.cl)

Useful web links

- Main PUC Site
- PUC Exchange Programme
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Cost of living Comparison Site
- Alternative cost of living comparison site

*Please note: The websites listed here are not intended to represent a comprehensive list. The Centre for Global Programmes cannot be held responsible for the content of external websites.*
All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, October 2019.

Students are responsible for researching their own exchanges and making sure that they have considered all costs and the compatibility of the overseas programme to their own degree, in discussion with their departments and supervisors. The Centre for Global Programmes are here to offer support.