Please review the following information in its entirety and take a copy with you to Chile. This handbook works in conjunction with the Travel Study Student Handbook. Both should be read in detail to help you prepare for your trip abroad.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

All Travel Study Pre-Departure requirements, information, and policies are located online at [www.summer.uci.edu/travelstudy](http://www.summer.uci.edu/travelstudy). Enrolled Students should access the ‘Enrolled Student Webpage’ and log in with the password given in the Confirmation Welcome E-mail. Here is a list of what is required for all students:

- Certificate of Good Standing (Must be Printed, signed by your academic counselor and returned to the Travel Study Office)
- Judicial Review (Must be Printed, signed by your campus Judicial Affairs Office and returned to the Travel Study Office)
- Student Flight Itinerary (Note the Travel Arrangements and Responsibilities Policy)
- UC Travel Insurance I.D. Card (Note Health Insurance and Safety)
- Send a color Passport Copy (Note the Passport / Visas Policy. Upload on Enrolled Student Webpage)
- Send a Passport-Style Photo (Note the Passport / Visas Policy. Upload on Enrolled Student Webpage)
- Health History Form (Must be Printed and returned to the Travel Study Office)
- Complete your Program Registration Form (Reference the Enrolled Student Webpage)

**DEADLINES (ALL PAYMENTS AND PRE DEPARTURE REQUIREMENTS ARE DUE BY):**

- May 1st (Session I programs)

Deadlines are strict. Failure to submit all required pre-departure material by the deadline may result in enrollment cancellation without refund.

**PREPARING TO TRAVEL**

**A. PASSPORTS & VISAS:**

All students are required to have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of the expected return to the United States. You are responsible for obtaining all necessary entry documents before departure for your travel abroad. If you fail to obtain the proper visa documentation prior to departure, you may be denied admittance into Chile, or the U.S. upon return. No refunds shall be given for students who fail to obtain the correct documentation prior to the program start date. Information about how to obtain a passport can be found in the Travel Study Student Handbook.
US citizens pay an entry fee* of **US$ 131** upon arrival at the airport and receive a tourist visa valid for 90 days. This fee **must be paid in cash** with US dollars. The receipt is valid for the life of your passport. Travelers will also be issued a Tourist Card, which will be surrendered upon departure (please keep this slip in your passport – you may staple it to one of the pages). If you are planning on traveling before or after a program, and will be in a country for 90 days or longer, you are responsible for checking with the Chilean Consulate and any other countries to which you are traveling to inquire about visa requirements and to obtain visa(s) where applicable. For more information regarding visas and entering Chile, visit the Chilean Embassy’s website: [www.chile-usa.org](http://www.chile-usa.org)

*This is sometimes referred to as a “Reciprocity Fee.” That is, Chilean citizens pay the same amount upon entry into the US.

If you **are not a U.S. citizen**, you are responsible for checking with the Chilean Consulate and any other countries to which you are traveling to inquire about visa requirements and to obtain visa(s) where applicable. Note this Travel-Study program also visits Argentina; make sure you check the country consulate for visa requirements. **No refunds shall be given for students who fail to obtain the correct documentation prior to the program start date.**

**B. FLIGHTS & FLIGHT ITINERARIES:**

UCI Summer Session highly recommends that all students purchase trip cancellation insurance, **even after the program has reached its minimum enrollment.** When a program reaches minimum enrollment, students will be notified by email. In most cases minimum enrollment will be reached by February or March. However, please be patient, and keep aware that in some cases minimum enrollment could be reached as late as April 15, 2009. Students who purchase trip cancellation insurance can book their flight as soon as possible after enrolling to search for a lower price. Students who choose to wait for minimum enrollment prior to booking their flight are still urged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. In all, trip cancellation insurance is a necessity.

**SUBMIT YOUR FLIGHT INFORMATION:**

All students must submit their flight itinerary. Log on to the [Enrolled Student Webpage](http://www.chile-usa.org) for directions on how to submit your itinerary. Your program coordinators abroad will receive this information, and in some programs it will be used to facilitate an airport pick-up. Should your flight be changed, delayed, or canceled we will be able to determine appropriate arrangements. Students who do not submit their flight information by the due date jeopardize their airport pickup option, if airport pickup is available.

**C. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:**

Please note that it is important to arrive on time and stay for the duration of the program.

**CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION:**

CONTACT PERSON Maria J. De la Maza  
ADDRESS REPUBLICA 470  
PHONE +56-2- 661-8013  
E-MAIL jdelamaza@unab.cl; Chilesummersession09@gmail.com
ARRIVAL: Pick-ups at Comodoro Arturo Merino Benítez Airport (commonly known as “Pudahuel”) will be scheduled based on the arrival dates and times we receive from the participants. Room keys will be issued after check-in. If you’re arriving before June 25th, you must contact Maria J. De la Maza (jdelamaza@unab.cl; Chilesummersession09@gmail.com) at UNAB for advice on accommodations, etc. Students arriving in Santiago a few days before the program need not come to Campus ahead of time and might prefer to spend the time sightseeing! However, please contact Maria by email to let her know you have arrived.

DEPARTURE: Checkout will be the morning (by 11:00 a.m.) of July 31st. On the previous evening, there will be a farewell dinner and party. All participants are urged not to plan on leaving prior to the end of the program. Accommodations can be made for students to stay beyond July 31st for a few days at a reasonable cost. However, as such a stay is not covered by the regular program fee, arrangements should be made with Maria J. de la Maza at UNAB. There is a limited number of rooms available, so book early. Besides that option, UNAB can give you a few other choices to stay longer after the session.

D. DUTY AND CUSTOMS:
Know before you go! When returning home, make sure that you do not bring items that are considered prohibited or illegal by the United States. Upon entry into the U.S. you may be subject to a search, even if you have nothing to declare. You are responsible for knowing what is legal to being home to the U.S. Check the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website before leaving to study abroad. http://www.custums.ustreas.gov/

When arriving in Chile, and before you go through customs, make sure you dispose of or declare whatever vegetables or fruit (or any food item) you may have brought with you (either in your checked baggage or carry-on, or even part of your meal on the plane). Failure to comply will render you subject to a $200 fine to be paid on the spot.

WHAT TO DO IF THE AIRLINE LOSES YOUR LUGGAGE
1. Report your missing items to the proper authorities at the airport. Look for the lost luggage information desk in the baggage claim area of the airport you fly into.
2. Ask them to deliver your bag the Campus Address
   C/O Maria J. De La Maza
   Dirección de Relaciones Internacionales
   República 470, piso 1
   Santiago de Chile

3. Give them the following phone contact information:
   Contact: Maria J. De la Maza
   Phone 661-8013
   E-mail jdelamaza@unab.cl

   They will print out a page with your lost luggage information that will have your claim reference number. Do not lose this piece of paper.
E. MONEY & FOREIGN CURRENCY:

**CURRENCY:** The currency in Chile is the Chilean Peso (CLP). It is important that you understand the currency conversion from U.S. dollars prior to departure. Check an online currency converter [<http://www.xe.com/ucc/>].

**SPENDING MONEY:** You will need to budget for additional meals, souvenirs, excursions, personal trips, and other incidentals. We recommend $1000-1500 U.S. Dollars for the duration of the Travel-Study in addition to expected expenditures before and after the session.

**EXCHANGE:** The use of ATMs is the most convenient way to exchange money in Santiago and all over Chile. A small fee will be charged to your account, but the exchange rate is better than using traveler’s checks. Before you leave make sure you have a **four-digit PIN**.

You must contact your bank to ask about any fees and to notify them that you will be using your card out of the country. Major (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX) credit cards are widely accepted all over the country. It is advisable to carry Chilean currency for use in smaller towns – although dollars are sometimes accepted.

F. ABOUT THE CAMPUS

**IMPORTANT PEOPLE:**
In addition to the lecturers with whom students will interact in and out of their classes, the following are the people with whom there will be the most contact during the stay at UNAB. They will do their best to make your time at UNAB and Chile a meaningful learning and social experience.

*Marta Gamboa, Study Abroad Programs Manager*  
*Will assist students with any concerns during their stay*

*Maria J. De la Maza, Study Abroad Programs Coordinator (Chilesummersession09@gmail.com)*  
*Will assist students with any concerns during their stay and courses of instruction. Is in charge of Program Assistants.*

*4 Program Assistants*  
*Cultural guides and liaisons, exposing students to local activities and dining*

**POSTAL ADDRESS:** If you are receiving mail on campus, the address at UNAB will be:

TO: Your Name Here  
c/o Maria Jose De la Maza  
Universidad Andrés Bello  
República 470, piso 1  
Santiago, CHILE
Or if you are receiving mail at the hotel, the address will be:

TO: Your Name Here
PAX Hotel Diego de Almagro
Av. Libertador Bernardo O’Higgins # 1485
Santiago, CHILE

TELEPHONE: The general hotel phone number is: 56-2-672 6002. Parents and friends may call the general number and can be connected to your room. Keep in mind that Chile is 3 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time, and that telephone operators may take some time to answer incoming calls.

For international calls, you can use pre-paid cards, sold at every kiosk, which include the instructions to make international phone calls either from pay phones or from land phones. There are also public phone companies around the city from where you can make international phone calls, at very reasonable cost.

You may bring your own cell phone, provided it is unlocked prior to departure (please check with your service provider), and buy a SIM chip (for approx. US$12) which will give you a Chilean number and will enable your phone to work as a local pre-paid cell phone. Please reference the Travel Study Student Handbook for more information on cell phones abroad.

INTERNET & COMPUTERS: At the hotel, there are a couple of computers which have internet access, free of charge, and wireless internet access is available in certain areas of the hotel. On campus, computer access is available at the library and at the computer labs all day. Students will be provided a password to access the computers. If you plan on bringing your laptop, be sure to bring a power adapter/converter (so that it is usable overseas!).

LAUNDRY: Overnight laundry services are available near campus and laundry services are available at the hotel (Laundry is not included and you will have to pay for the services!).

SPORTS FACILITIES: The UNAB campus has a gym which you can use Monday through Saturday.

G. WHAT TO BRING

Santiago is a thoroughly modern city. Merchandise available in the U.S. can be purchased there, so it is not necessary to over pack consumable items! You may want to bring your iPod, CD or MP3 player. Hair dryers and all other electric devices will require an adapter and a converter. Bed linen, pillows and towels are provided in the hotel rooms. Note the packing list on the Travel Study Documents webpage.

ELECTRICITY (CONVERTERS & ADAPTERS): The Chilean electrical system is 220 volts at 50 cycles. Plugs take a standardized two-pin format. Most electrical items can be adapted with relative ease, but ask for advice and make sure you purchase a converter and adapter before leaving the U.S., especially for expensive items of equipment.
**DRESS:** Chile sits in the Southern Hemisphere and thus, July is a winter month. Highs average around the mid/high 50s and lows are mid/high 30s. Think San Francisco in winter. You’ll want to bring a coat and a few sweaters, as well as comfy walking shoes. Remember, we also have a couple of nice dinners planned, so bring a little something special (and warm!).

**STUDENTS SAY:**
1. Pack as if you are going to the South Pole. Chile can be cold in winter; the temperature in the afternoon everyday was about 8 degrees Celsius. Also, it snows in Chile, which is not something that Californian kids are used to and means that you should bring waterproof clothing that keeps you warm (ski style clothing)!

2. There are no laundry facilities provided by either the hotel or the school. Try and pack at least 10 days worth of clothes so that you don't have to go to the dry cleaners every other day. It costs about $7 US dollars per load of laundry at the dry cleaners.

3. Buy a book of common Spanish phrases if you are not a native speaker.”

**H. HEALTH, MEDICAL AND SAFETY IN CHILE**

**IMMUNIZATIONS:** Currently, travel to Chile does not require immunizations. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of new health information regarding the locations to which they plan to travel. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) provide a wealth of information for the traveler. Please review the pertinent information on their websites prior to your departure.

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx>
- World Health Organizations <www.who.int/en/>

Routine shots are recommended if you are not up-to-date with shots such as, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccine, poliovirus vaccine, etc. Ask your doctor if any vaccinations are recommended.

The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention currently RECOMMENDS **Hepatitis A** or immune globulin (IG), **Hepatitis B**, **Typhoid**, and **Rabies** as precautionary vaccinations.

**INSURANCE:** When participating in off-campus activities sponsored and supervised by the University, students will be covered worldwide, 24 hours a day, for a wide variety of accidents and incidents while away from the campus. Reference the Travel Study Student Handbook to learn how to register for UC Insurance and for details.

**MEDICAL SERVICES:** The University has First-Aid staff on site for general minor services to be made available to program participants. Students are also free to call to make their own appointments directly and privately if they wish, or to seek immediate medical attention in the event of an emergency. Upon arrival, students should identify themselves to the receptionist as foreign exchange students at UNAB. While this identification does not give special priority, it will be helpful to all parties concerned.
In the event that you require medical/dental attention, please advise UNAB staff immediately as they will assist you in contacting a physician or dentist.

If an American citizen becomes seriously ill or injured abroad, a U. S. consular officer can assist in locating appropriate medical services and informing family or friends. If necessary, a consular officer can also assist in the transfer of funds from the United States. However, payment of hospital and other expenses is the responsibility of the traveller. Before going abroad, learn what medical services your health insurance will cover overseas. If your health insurance policy provides coverage outside the United States, remember to carry both your insurance policy identity card as proof of such insurance and a claim form. Although many health insurance companies will pay “customary and reasonable” hospital costs abroad, very few will pay for your medical evacuation back to the United States. Medical evacuation can easily cost $10,000+, depending on your location and medical condition. For further information: http://travel.state.gov/medical.html

**Prescriptions:** Students will want to take a supply of their current medications to last them through the end of the trip, and some extra in case of loss or damage. It is advised to keep medications in their original container and bring a copy of the prescription from your doctor.

Consult with Maria J. De la Maza to have a prescription filled at a local pharmacist. A receipt should be obtained from the pharmacy and an insurance claim form should be completed after purchase so that reimbursement may be sought upon return to the U.S. If you have a prescription that needs to be filled, please bring the original container and prescription from your doctor at home.

**Hospital:** Referral to a hospital will normally be made by the nurse or by a doctor. In case of accident or emergency, a patient may be taken directly to a hospital by ambulance, and the resulting hospital treatment must be paid for on site, and then reimbursed by the student’s insurance in the U.S., but be sure that the insurance obtained covers the fee for the ambulance (this is not always the case).

**Treatment of Pre-Existing Condition:** Students who are receiving medical treatment of any kind before they leave the U.S., which they wish to have continued after they arrive in Santiago, **must bring a letter** from their home doctor(s) for the doctors who may be involved in Santiago. The letter should provide full details of the condition and specify treatment already given. Resumption of treatment may be delayed if this information is not immediately available. Please advise UNAB staff if you are undergoing medical treatment so they can assist you.

**Dental Services:** UNAB can refer students to an English speaking dentist. The fee for a general treatment is 35,000 pesos (approx. US$55) and students will be responsible for any charges incurred for general dental services. As in the US, dental procedures and fees can vary greatly in Chile, so ask Maria for the best course of action, should a need for a dentist arise.

Please ensure that any insurance you already have or take out for the purposes of this trip, in conjunction with insurance provided as part of the UCI package, provides adequate coverage for all forms of medical emergency while you are traveling (see ‘Insurance’). Please note that your health insurance does not cover theft of personal property. Keep your luggage in sight while traveling, especially in rest rooms, in restaurants and on public transportation. UNAB accepts no liability for property loss, so keep the door to your room locked whenever you go out. In short, the safekeeping of your possessions is your responsibility.
I. MORE HELPFUL INFORMATION:
The following websites have many useful tips and information for students traveling to Chile. Please take a look and learn more about Chile.

www.sernatur.cl
www.prochile.cl
www.gochile.cl
www.lonelyplanet.com

Also, we strongly urge you to visit a bookstore and peruse the many travel guidebooks that are out there! Backpackers/budget travelers tend to like Lonely Planet, Rough Guide or even Fodor’s. There are also shiny (mostly pictures) books such as the Eyewitness Guide, etc.

If you have concerns or questions, don’t hesitate to contact the UCI Summer Session Travel-Study office at (949) 824-0234. For ‘local’ advice, contact Maria J. De la Maza directly via email at Chilesummersession09@gmail.com