

Office of International Programs

Valparaiso University • www.valpo.edu/studyabroad • studyabroad@valpo.edu • 219-464-5333

VIÑA DEL MAR, CHILE – Fall, Spring or Year (Universidad Viña del Mar)

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Spring Semester Enrollment: October 1 Deadline (Early Acceptance: April 1 of prior year)

Fall Semester Enrollment: February 15 Deadline (Early Acceptance: November 1 of prior year)

WHO?

- Students whose program interests include both Spanish and Latin American studies may apply to participate in an exchange program in Chile. Intermediate Spanish skills (Spanish 204 or its equivalent, minimally), sophomore standing with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 or better, and approval of the Spanish section are required. Freshmen are encouraged to plan ahead.
- Almost all Valpo students can study abroad in Chile without delaying graduation IF they plan carefully with their academic advisor.

WHAT?

- Students enroll in Spanish courses offered by the Universidad Viña Del Mar (UVM) as well as other courses related to the culture and history of Chile and Latin America. The program is available in the fall semester (August to December), spring semester (March to June) or for the full year. Upon arrival to UVM, students take a placement exam to evaluate their linguistic competence, which places them into intermediate or advanced level course-work. Each level has a personalized curriculum offering course-work with components of communications, grammar and Latin American Literature and Culture.
- In addition to the Spanish language course-work, students can choose from elective courses taught in English (i.e., US/Chilean Business, Intercultural Relations and Communications or Economic History of Latin America) or taught in Spanish (i.e., Current Events in Latin America, Latin American Literature or Latin America on Film). Such course-work can substitute for general education requirements at VU, upon approval from an academic advisor.
- Students have the opportunity to participate in the International Volunteer Program, where students are placed with an organization or service-learning project in the Viña del Mar or Valparaíso region. This is an excellent opportunity for students looking to enhance their language skills and gain experience.
- Independent study can always be arranged with VU faculty. Contact your advisor for details.

WHERE?

- Viña del Mar, also referred to as Viña, is located on the Pacific coast next to Valparaíso, approximately 70 miles northwest of the capital city of Santiago. Both Valparaíso and Viña del Mar form the second largest urban center in Chile with a combined population of 600,000. Viña del Mar is famous for its beautiful beaches and is a vacation destination for Chileans. Valparaíso is a major port city for South America and is a UNESCO World Heritage City full of cultural and historical sites.
- Participants live with a host-family, arranged by UVM, and attend classes in Viña del Mar.

HOW?

You must apply for the program through the Office of International Programs. Applications available online at www.valpo.edu/studyabroad. The OIP is located in the Harre Union, 209, phone: 464-5333.

You should consult with your academic advisor *and* the OIP *as early as possible*. Freshman year is not too early to begin your inquiries about study abroad. Careful planning will ensure your classes taken in Chile can be used for graduation requirements. Consult the VU Catalog under "International Study Programs" for details.

HOW MUCH?

- *Tuition and General Fee:* Students pay the same tuition and general fee to Valparaiso University for the term(s) abroad. Any VU scholarships or financial aid apply, except for aid that requires on-campus participation (work-study and some athletic and music scholarships). Such "on-campus" aid will be automatically re-instated the term the student returns to VU.
- *Air fare:* Students can expect to spend in the neighborhood of \$1200 to \$1400 for travel to and from Chile. Oftentimes, cheaper internet deals are not for longer-stay, round-trip airfare.
- *Housing and Meals:* Students are placed in homestays, arranged through the UVM, which includes 3 meals a day, laundry, internet and an independent bedroom and bathroom. The cost is approximately \$2,800 for a term.
- *Spending Money:* Count on spending at least as much as you do in Valpo, though this amount varies greatly depending on your spending habits and how much you travel. An estimated budget of \$1,500 - \$2,000 should be sufficient for travel, entertainment and miscellaneous expenses for a semester-long program.
- *Awards:* Students are encouraged to apply for outside study-abroad scholarships online at www.studyabroadfunding.org. Federal Pell Grant recipients are automatically eligible to apply for the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for up to \$5,000 towards a term abroad (www.iie.org/gilman).

CONTACTS

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| • Prof. Zamora-Breckenridge | Associate Professor of Spanish | Meier 123 | x 5283 |
| • Prof. Hoult-Saros | Associate Professor of Spanish | Meier 107 | x 5120 |
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<http://www.uvm.cl/> - Universidad Viña del Mar website