Chile: Public Health, Traditional Medicine, and Community Empowerment

Country Overview & Packing Guidelines

Spring 2027

Country Overview

GENERAL INFORMATION



The Republic of Chile's recent political history has received widespread media attention. In 1973 a civic military dictatorship, led by General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, stormed the presidential palace and took control of the country. During Pinochet's first six months in office, at least one thousand people were executed; twice as many were killed during the next sixteen years. When Pinochet left the presidency in 1990, the nation returned to civilian rule after eighteen years of dictatorship. Following a series of democratically elected leaders, over the past 35 years Chile has experienced governments of diverse political leanings: center (Patricio Aylwin (1990–1994) and Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle (1994–2000)), center-left (Ricardo Lagos (2000–2006), Michelle Bachelet (2006–2010 and 2014–2018), and Gabriel Boric (2022–2026)), and center-right (Sebastián Piñera Echeñique (2010–2014 and 2018–2022)). In March 2026, the far-right leader José Antonio Kast assumed the presidency, becoming the first president of this political orientation in Chilean history. Kast is an ultra-conservative politician who is proposing transformations to the structure of the state, reducing its size, and implementing significant changes. in the taxation processes of companies and upper and upper-middle class individuals. During the first months of his administration, Kast has pushed forward a series of economic measures that have significantly

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impacted the finances of the country's working and lower-income classes, as well as the middle class. Specifically, there have been increases in fuel prices, a reduction in resources for the public healthcare system, and changes to the state funding allocated to ensure access to education for Chile's poorest populations. This is an ongoing situation characterized by a high degree of uncertainty regarding its social implications.

Often cited as a model economy of the south, Chile's integration with the global economy has not been without painful adjustment and resistance. While per capita income has risen over the last decade, income disparity is one of the largest in the continent and environmental problems have increased. Today, its primary exports include copper, forestry products, fruit, seafood, and wine. Tourism revenue is also a significant industry within the Chilean economy. Several indigenous languages, including Aymara and Mapudungun, are spoken within Chile's sixteen regions. However, Spanish is the predominant and main language of Chile. For many new visitors, adjusting to the local variation of Spanish can be difficult. Chileans tend to speak much faster than natives of neighboring countries, and often drop final syllables and 's' sounds. Additionally, certain consonants can be pronounced more softly than foreigners are accustomed to hearing.

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY

Chile has a very distinct geography. Despite being the longest country in the world, the nation is only 229 miles (370 km) at its widest point. The internal geography of Chile is marked by a diverse variety of landscapes, including deserts, forests, grazing lands, volcanoes, lakes, the central agricultural valley, and the Andes mountains.

SANTIAGO, CHILE: AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURES (°F)

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
86 / 53	86/53	83/49	75/44	67/40
SEPT	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**	
67/41	74/44	80/48	84/51	

Santiago of Chile, founded in 1541 by Pedro de Valdivia in the Mapocho River valley, is a historic center that preserves its old town around the Plaza de Armas, flanked by the Metropolitan Cathedral and the La Moneda Palace. Geographically, it lies at 543 meters above sea level in the Central Valley, with a gentle slope from east to west towards the foothills of the

Andes Mountains, offering spectacular views and a Mediterranean climate with rainy winters and dry summers.

Over the past three decades, since the 1990s, Santiago has experienced an economic boom that has spurred the construction of skyscrapers like the Gran Torre Santiago (Costanera Center), a symbol of its financial modernization and one of the tallest in Latin America, standing in stark contrast to the colonial heritage damaged by earthquakes and fires. Culturally, the Chilean Museum of Pre-Columbian Art stands out, delving into the city's indigenous roots, while neighborhoods like Lastarria and Bellas Artes have flourished with galleries, theaters, and bohemian cafes, attracting a vibrant arts scene. Its metropolitan growth, regulated since 1994, has mitigated uncontrolled expansion, integrating modernity with traditions in a metropolis of about 8 million inhabitants.

Santiago, Chile's most prominent cultural festivals in recent years include the Santiago a Mil International Festival, held every January, which transforms theaters, plazas, and parks into stages for theater, dance, and music with national and international artists, solidifying its position as the country's most important performing arts event. In March, Lollapalooza Chile in O'Higgins Park attracts tens of thousands with concerts featuring rock, pop, and a variety of other genres from global artists, while the Fiestas Patrias (National Holidays) in September fill the streets with fondas (traditional Chilean food stalls), cueca (a traditional Chilean dance), empanadas, and military parades, celebrating independence with popular fervor. Other key events include SANFIC (Santiago International Film Festival) in April, with premieres and film-related events, and the Santiago International Book Fair (FILSA) in October-November, which brings together authors and publishers in an annual literary epicenter.

LOCAL CUSTOMS



Chileans are welcoming and warm. For a foreigner it will be easy to establish a personal rapport with them by showing interest and being friendly. Despite that, it is necessary to take into consideration some local cultural customs that might differ from your own. For example, because of their importance in Chilean society, family, studies, and work are potentially the first topics of conversation. There are distinct boundaries between the private and the public often expressed in a different sense of personal space; for example, affectionate kissing and hugging in social events, and the lack of "political correctness" from the US perspective in referring to people with distinct physical characteristics or behavior. All North Americans and Europeans, for instance, are called "gringos," but this should not be understood as an insult.

LOCAL DIET

Participating in the local food culture is a central aspect of daily life in country. Special or restricted diets may not always be fully understood by your host family, although they may have previously hosted a student with similar dietary restrictions. By trying to replicate your diet at home you may miss out on an important part of your host culture.

If in a homestay:



The local diet in Chile is most based on, in general terms, rice, bread, beans, sauces, soups, fish, pasta, meat, vegetables, and fruits. There are many international cuisine restaurants in the cities, especially Santiago and Valparaiso, which are very cosmopolitan. Considering the distances to the country's capital, in Santiago it is most common for homestay families to gather for lunch in the afternoons, after 6 or 7 pm. Vegetarian students and those with food allergies will not have any problems with their host families, who are familiar with special needs. In addition, vegetarian restaurants are becoming increasingly common.

In a new interesting cultural aspect, that has been generated in recent years, the cuisine of immigrant population groups has been incorporated, especially from Venezuela, Peru or Haiti, who have contributed new flavors to the culinary diversity existing in the country.

If in independent housing:

Around the residence, you'll find supermarkets, butchers, and grocery stores, as well as all the necessary cooking ingredients. You'll also find several shops selling take-out meals. The residence will have a kitchen, freezer and all the necessary implements to prepare meals.

Note: if you have special dietary needs, including allergies, please inform the office of Student Health, Safety & Wellbeing prior to the start of your program (studentwellbeing@sit.edu). We will advise you on realistic expectations about avoiding or incorporating certain foods within the program context.

MEAL PLANNING

Homestay: Homestay families generally provide breakfast and dinner during the week and on the weekend. For students who choose to live with homestay families, all meals for the entire program period are covered either by SIT Study Abroad directly, or through the homestay.

Residential housing: Residential students are responsible for the majority of their meals and should plan accordingly. Meal planning becomes an exciting way to explore local markets, try new ingredients, and even cook with fellow students.

The estimated cost for meals not provided during the program is based on the cost of modestly eating out or buying groceries to prepare your own meals, when cooking facilities are available. If you plan on eating out regularly, you should budget more money. Exploring local food is one of the highlights of living abroad, so give yourself room to savor the experience.

Please remember to budget at least **$1,600** for your meals not provided during the semester. For a breakdown of your program's estimated out-of-pocket expenses, please see the table in the **Money** section of this document.

SAFETY, SECURITY, AND HEALTH

Maintaining good health is essential to having a successful study abroad experience. SIT recommends you do research prior to departure about the health, safety, and security specifics of the country(ies) you plan to visit. Consult the U.S. Department of State website and search their Countries and Areas Archive for international travel information and current travel advisories for each country. Search the Center for Disease Control Traveler's Health page to see travel health notices and vaccine requirements and recommendations for any country(ies) you plan to visit.

SIT recommends doing research ahead of time to stay up to date on It will be critical that you educate yourself about the potential health and safety hazards that may exist in your areas of travel and make informed decisions about what preventative measures to take prior to departure. You should also reference the Health, Access, and Identity information on your program's webpage.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Student Health, Safety, & Wellbeing Team. Students are thoroughly briefed on safety considerations during in-country orientation and are updated throughout the semester if and when circumstances change. For information regarding safety and security, emergency communications, SIT policies, health and personal

property insurance, and general program tips, please read the Safety, Security, and Health document and Student Handbook on your program's predeparture page.

Please note: Some clinical internships require students to provide vaccination records for Influenza and Hepatitis B. Please check with admissions for details.

HOUSING

The housing fee covers accommodations during the entire program period. This includes during orientation, homestays or independent accommodations while at the program base, on all excursions, and during the evaluation period.

This program offers the option of choosing either a homestay or independent housing.

Homestay

As many SIT Study Abroad alumni will tell you, the homestay experience can be one of the most rewarding and most challenging aspects of the program. We hope you will come prepared for the experience and committed to moving beyond cultural immersion as you begin to question, distinguish, and analyze the host culture vis-à-vis your own culture and come to a deeper understanding of both.



Family structures vary in every culture. SIT Study Abroad values the diversity of homestay families, and your family may include a single mother of two small children or a large extended family with many people coming and going all the time. Additionally, please bear in mind that, in many countries, the idea of what constitutes a "home" may be different from what you expect. You will need to be prepared to adapt to a new life with a new diet, a new schedule, new people, and new priorities, and expectations.

Each program's homestay coordinator will be responsible for placing students in homestays. These placements are made first based on health concerns, including any allergies or dietary needs, to the extent possible. **Please note: in order to ensure the best fit for students and**

families, SIT may make final adjustments to homestay placements after student arrival in country. Therefore, SIT will not provide information about your homestay family before you depart for the program.

We seek to foster increased cross-cultural understanding in students by immersing them in local culture through daily life in a new family and community. Students are expected to assume roles as family members, respecting and following host family norms around communications, visitors, and activities of daily living.



In this program, you have the possibility of staying in university residences in the city of Santiago or living and sharing with homestay families in the capital of the country, during eight weeks of the program. There is significant diversity amongst our host families. Placements range from working class to upper middle class. The houses are quite comfortable; some families will have housekeepers and others will not. Students always have their own rooms.

Additional accommodations during the excursions to Arica, Putre, in the north of Chile, and the Temuco-Araucanía region, in the south, include stays in a combination of both homestays and small hotels. These homes are very modest; however, they always have access to safe drinking water and sanitary facilities. Most homestay families do not have a high level of English proficiency, so the experience of living with them offers an excellent opportunity to strengthen one's use of the Spanish language

Students will have their own beds, and often their own rooms. During rural excursions, we recommend that you bring bottled water and be aware that access to telephones and/or Internet will be limited – so planning communication with your family and friends in the US ahead of time is a must.

Independent Housing
Students will stay in one residence in Santiago, where they might be in an individual room. Students in the residence can expect to have cleaning and bed linen washing services, access

to a kitchen for cooking meals, a washing machine in-unit and Wi-Fi. During excursions, all students will be housed in shared guesthouses, field stations, lodges, or small hotels/hostels. Housing options during your Independent Study Project will be worked on together with the program's staff and must be approved by your academic director. Please note that ISP location may be limited due to public health or political concerns.

OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

Students should expect to share a room with one or more students during orientation/launch and while on excursions. The housing options during your Independent Study Project will vary by location and must be approved by your academic director.

TRANSPORTATION

You will use a variety of transportation during the semester, including planes, taxis, and buses. When staying in the Santiago program base, subway, buses, taxis and Uber will be your most common form of public transportation. Most students can expect to travel about 30 minutes each way between their homestay or residence and classes, with a few homestay families living about 45 minutes away.

COMMUNICATION

While you may want to be in regular communication with friends and family from home during the term abroad, please bear in mind that different time zones, unreliable phone lines, and changing program activities can complicate communication.

It's important to be clear with family and friends about your availability during the term. Many students recommend making an appointment to call home or to receive a call. You should also

consider the impact of constant communication with friends and family at home on your cultural immersion.



Visit our Contact & Communication page for practices on program communication, emergency communication, and home institution communication.

PHONES AND INTERNET

Cell Phone Policy

As part of SIT's commitment to student safety and security, all students are required to have a working cell phone capable of making and receiving both local and international calls, including a data plan so that your phone is operational when you are away from wi-fi. Failure to maintain a working phone capable of making and receiving calls/texts will be considered a conduct violation and a breach of our student code. Given the time difference—Chile is typically 2 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST) and 1 hour ahead of Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) during U.S. daylight saving time—students should plan their calls home accordingly.

In terms of cell phones, most SIT students will need to choose an international plan from a U.S. carrier. International SIM carriers may be an option as long as they meet SIT's cell phone policy requirements. Due to recent changes in Chilean law, it is no longer possible for international visitors without a Chilean ID number (RUT) to purchase and register a local phone number in Chile.

Upon arrival in the country, students must register their personal phone numbers with the Chilean government at the following link: Administrative Registration - Homologación Multibanda/SAE. If they do not, the phone's service will be blocked. It is a mandatory procedure under the current legislation for all those who have international phones or numbers. Email and messaging apps like WhatsApp are widely used in Chile and can facilitate communication without incurring high costs, provided students have access to Wi-Fi at their homestays, the SIT program center and some other public and private spaces.

MAILINGS

Unlike receiving a package here in the US, receiving a package at your program site is usually **expensive** and **problematic**. Customs agents must inspect all packages and you, as the recipient, are responsible for duty and storage fees. In addition, there are cases of items being lost in the mail or taking so long to reach the recipient that the recipient is nearly back in the US by the time the items are received. For these reasons, sending packages should be done only for emergency situations. Additionally, sending valuables is highly discouraged. Mailing prescription medication abroad is illegal.

For this program, **DHL, FedEx, UPS services are available in country**. Despite cheaper prices, reliance on the US Postal Service is not advised due to delays and unreliability. When given the option, it's always a good idea to send packages certified and with a tracking number that allows the sender to track the package.

If it is necessary for someone to send you mail, then posted letters and packages should be sent to the following address:

Packages should be sent to the following address via ***DHL, FedEx, or UPS***:

Student Name / Claudia Zúñiga
Almirante Latorre 214,
Santiago Centro
Estación Central,
Región Metropolitana
Santiago de Chile
CP 8370000

MONEY

Most students access funds from their US bank accounts using their VISA or MasterCard debit cards. Any debit card that is linked to the PLUS or CIRRUS networks should also work at ATMs in country. Credit cards (VISA, American Express, MasterCard) will work in all major cities. ATMs are very easily accessible throughout Chile. However, even if you plan to use an ATM card you should also bring cash. Traveler's checks are not recommended because they

generally have a high exchange rate and can only be changed in Exchange Houses ("casas de cambio"), and not in banks. In case of an emergency, it is possible to get cash advances on major credit cards in Chilean banks. The official currency of Chile is the Chilean *peso*, which is divided into 100 *centavos*.

Check current exchange rates: http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/

If using a debit and/or credit card, you should contact your bank and/or credit card companies regarding your travel plans. If you don't inform these companies that you will be away, they will often assume the card has been lost or stolen and will put an immediate hold on the card. You should also check on costs of withdrawal, as these costs vary and can sometimes be very expensive. Renewing and receiving reissued credit and debit cards while on the program will be an expensive and highly inconvenient process. Before you leave for your program, please check the expiration dates on your cards to ensure that they will not expire while you are abroad. It is also very important that you make photocopies of all your debit/credit card information and leave them with someone you trust in case your card(s) is/are lost or stolen.

We suggest that you budget between US $2,000 - $3,700 for out-of-pocket costs not covered by the Tuition and Housing Fees. To determine where you might fall in this range, please examine your spending habits during a typical semester at your home school and consider any exceptional expenditures you may have on the program. Please carefully consider your personal spending habits when creating your out-of-pocket expense budget. Some items to consider are meals not provided by the program, textbooks, Independent Study Project or Internship-related expenses not covered by the program, interpretation services, medical expenses, personal spending, and gifts. Use the average estimates below as a guide to help you plan for out-of-pocket expenses.

Please budget approximately **(homestay option)**:

Personal spending (from past student suggestions):	950 USD
Books, printing, supplies:	160 USD

Visa fee	200 USD
Up-front medical costs:	500 USD
Potential ISP travel expenses:	250 USD
Estimated total:	2,060 USD

Please budget approximately **(student residence option)**:

Personal spending (from past student suggestions):	950 USD
Meals not provided:	1,600
Books, printing, supplies:	160 USD
Visa fee	200 USD
Up-front medical costs:	500 USD
Potential ISP travel expenses:	250 USD
Estimated total:	3,660 USD

Please note that up-front medical costs can vary widely. Though you are completely covered by SIT's travel insurance Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Solutions (BCBS), which you can read more about on our Participant Insurance page, you still may need to pay up-front for medical care and then file for reimbursement.

VISITORS AND FREE TIME

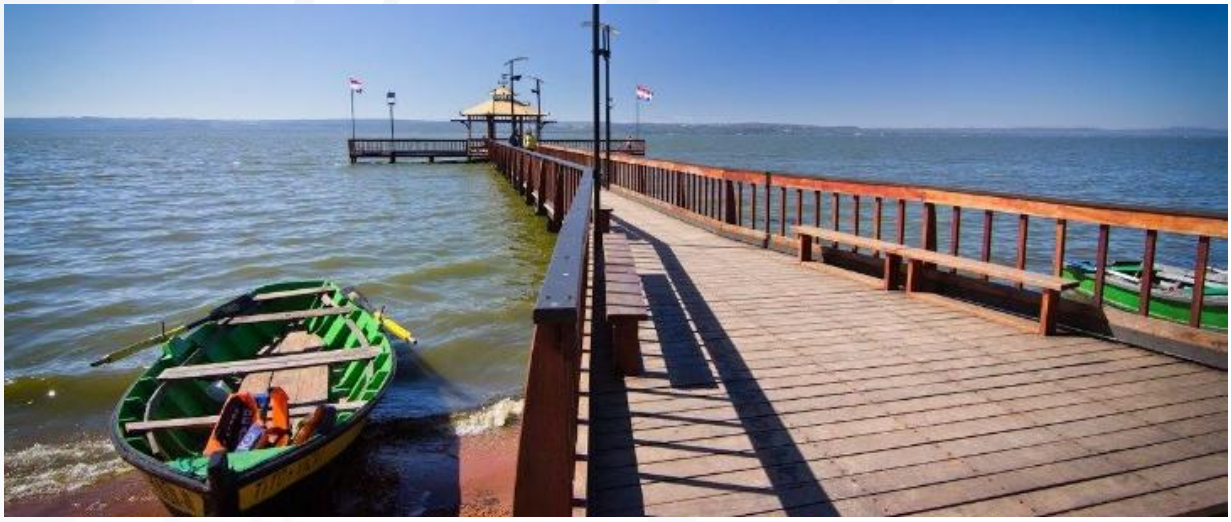
SIT strongly discourages and will not provide support for any visitors to students during the term, due to the rigorous nature of the program and the disruption that such visits cause in program flow and group dynamics. Students should be sure that relatives and friends are aware of this policy and that visits are scheduled for dates after the formal conclusion of the program. Students will not be excused from program components to attend to visitors. See the Attendance and Participation Policy.

If a visitor does come while a program is in progress, they must plan their own independent accommodations; SIT Study Abroad homestay families can accommodate only their assigned student and, due to cultural and contractual understandings with SIT, should not be asked to host students' guests.

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

Please read our full Independent Travel policy for our definition, guidelines and how to access our independent travel notification form. Please note that independent travel is only allowed during program free time and students will not be excused from program activities to travel. SIT is not responsible for any costs of student independent travel including logistics, preparations, cancelation fees, change fees, and any other costs associated with independent travel. We highly recommend you wait to book any independent travel until AFTER arriving on program and receiving the final academic schedule from your program.

During the program, students follow an intense schedule of classes and field-based learning assignments, even during the ISP. Free time for pursuing an independent interest or hobby during the program will be limited. Your admissions counselor can advise you about particular interests you may have. For example, if you must keep in shape for your next athletic season, or if you play a musical instrument and want to know whether to bring it, we can help you to understand your schedule and any concerns or limitations that may exist.



CODE OF CONDUCT AND POLICIES

SIT maintains a Code of Conduct and clear institutional policies regarding student behavior through a commitment to mutual learning and respect for others. Visit the policy page for detailed policies around academic integrity, alcohol and drug use, anti-harassment and non-discrimination, attendance and participation, credit hours, equal education opportunities, grading, housing, independent travel, prohibited activities, religious holiday observance, sexual harassment and misconduct, and withdrawal among others.

Packing Guidelines

LUGGAGE

Please pack lightly and include only necessary items. You should be able to carry all your luggage significant distances on your own. Try to minimize both the number of bags and weight of your bag(s) since you will likely be acquiring more belongings while abroad. We recommend a small daypack, which will also be useful for short excursions when on the program.

If carrying prescription medications, you should carry a letter from your doctor to prevent any concerns at customs or in transit. (Please see the “General Health Tips” section in the Safety, Security, and Health pre-departure document.)

Please check the current requirements of the Transportation Security Administration (http://www.tsa.gov) as well as those of the airline on which you are flying for domestic and international baggage restrictions.

CLOTHING GUIDELINES

While informal dress is acceptable and common in most settings, it is essential to keep a neat, clean appearance. Jeans with holes, sloppy T-shirts, and short shorts are discouraged. People in health facilities, offices, development agencies, etc., are apt to be much more open and responsive if the visitor shows respect by dressing accordingly. It is not necessary to be “fashionable,” just neat and clean. It is very important to have at least one set of clothes for formal occasions, and one set of clothes that can get dirty during different projects or excursions.

You will experience a seasonal change during this semester. Be sure to pack accordingly. The south of Chile can be rather cool and rainy, while the north is warm on the coast and cold at higher altitudes. Dressing in layers is the most sensible solution to Chile's varied seasonal and geographic climates. Bring a pair of sturdy shoes or hiking boots, which will keep your feet warm and dry even in the rain and mud.

EQUIPMENT

We recommend that you bring a small flashlight that will come in handy during the program. It is not necessary to bring a sleeping bag.

COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS

It is recommended that you bring a laptop computer. If you bring a laptop, the computer will be your personal property and responsibility. **It is recommended that you insure your computer, smartphone, or other valuables for full coverage in the event of loss or theft (SIT insurance does not cover personal property).**

Please see the following website for information about electricity, voltage and electrical adapters. http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/.

A laptop will be useful both during the first eight-week period, and especially during the ISP period. The program center and the host family houses have Wi-Fi service. It is not necessary to bring a printer.

We recommend that you bring a voice recorder for the ISP period, to tape interviews.

Electricity in Chile runs on 220-volt current and uses European style connecting plugs. Therefore, if you plan to bring a laptop and/or any other small appliances, be sure to take along a 110-volt and plug converter appropriate for your appliance. These can be purchased at any electronics store (Radio Shack, etc.) in the US. They are also readily available in Chile.

GIFTS

If you are staying with a homestay family, it is best to be prepared with a gift to offer your family in gratitude for their hospitality and as a means to share a part of your culture with them. We suggest one or two gifts that the whole family can enjoy. You may also wish to consider gifts for people outside your homestay family. Try to choose gifts that represent you or the part

of the country and/or community you live in. Think about what your city, state, or local artisans produce. Draw upon your personal interests or hobbies for ideas. Pack a couple of small gifts for children, such as small games, bubbles, or a Frisbee. Even if your homestay family does not have small children, chances are that you will engage with children in your homestay community. Once you are on the program and learn more about the local culture, you will discover other ways to thank your family. Remember to bring pictures of your friends and family to share.

Former students have recommended calendars, picture books, postcards, music, or souvenirs from your college bookstore as gifts.

WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT OBTAIN IN COUNTRY

Imported (North American) brands of toiletries, medicines, vitamins, etc., can be readily bought in Chile, although locally made brands can be a more affordable substitute. For women, there are local as well as North American brands of tampons available.

ALUMNI CONTACTS

If you have further questions, please contact your admissions counselor and/or ask an alumni contact: https://studyabroad.sit.edu/admissions-aid/application-process/contact-a-former-student/.

Don’t miss the Packing List on the next page!

Packing List

These packing guidelines are based on suggestions from past students and your academic director.

Packing List sample:

GENERAL

- 1 dressy outfit suitable for a wedding or important meeting and something for going out in the evenings
- Light, water-resistant jacket
- 1 pair heavy duty, water-resistant shoes or hiking boots
- Windbreaker jacket
- Wet weather shoes/sandals (could be one of above pairs)
- 1 pair sneakers/comfortable walking shoes
- 2 vests for the cold
- 1 scarf or something to wrap your neck
- Swimsuit
- Raincoat or jacket (or shell plus fleece liner)
- 3–5 casual pants/jeans/dresses/skirts
- 2–3 pairs casual pants
- 2-3 warm tops
- 4–5 shirts (1 dressy)
- Underwear (10-day supply)
- Socks
- Pajamas

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- Passport
- 2 photocopies of your passport stored separately from your actual passport
- Photocopy of visa (if applicable)
- Any relevant vaccine records/documents. Note, if you intend to pursue a clinical internship, you will be asked to show proof of vaccination against Influenza and Hepatitis B.

HEALTH/TOILETRIES

- Adequate supply of any medications you use regularly, including birth control. Please make sure you pack *at least* 105 days' worth of your medication (duration of program), as it is expensive and complicated to send these to Chile due to customs and health ministry regulations
- Small first aid kit with Band-Aids, hydrogen peroxide, moist towelettes, and over-the-counter-drugs for minor pain, diarrhea, anti-itching, and motion sickness, as approved by your doctor
- Insect repellent (please bring a cream, not a spray), especially for fleas; topical cream for flea bites
- Sunscreen (SPF 50)
- Extra eyeglasses or contacts (saline solution is available in Chile)

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- Towel
- Sunglasses and hat
- Travel alarm clock
- Flashlight
- Fold-up umbrella
- Homestay family gifts
- Spanish/English dictionary
- Laptop computer for writing papers
- Durable water bottle
- Students are encouraged to bring a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector

OPTIONAL

- Travel guide if you plan to do post-program travel (Lonely Planet is recommended)
- Camera
- Voltage and plug adaptors
- College or university ID