

# GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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Campus Rector Ernesto Silva Bafallay Campus Rector Ernesto Silva Bafallay

#### Welcome to Universidad del Desarrollo!

We are delighted that you have chosen UDD for your international program. We hope it will be the best of experiences, and during your time in our country, you will get to know our landscapes, our culture, and our people.

We are pleased to welcome you to our community of international students. This manual has been created to provide you with useful information and resources that will help you make the most of your academic and cultural experience at our university and in this beautiful country.

From advice on how to adapt to university life in Chile, to information about support services and extracurricular opportunities, this manual is designed to be your guide during your time with us.

We hope you find this resource helpful and that it gives you the tools for to you feel welcome and supported as you explore all that our university and Chile have to offer.

Welcome to UDD, and we hope you enjoy your time with us!

# **Campus Rector Ernesto Silva Bafalluy**

# Universidad del Desarrollo

#### 1) What you should know before your arrival?

#### About UDD

Universidad del Desarrollo (UDD) is recognized as one of Chile's top private universities.

It has eight modern campuses, five in the city of Santiago and three in the city of Concepción, catering to both undergraduate and graduate programs. Entrepreneurial spirit, leadership, and public responsibility are key elements of the university's education.

Its faculty stands out for its excellent academic level and significant contributions to the country's development. Personalized treatment is a hallmark of UDD, facilitating learning in an open and close-knit university environment.

In addition to the high academic level, students have a wide variety of recreational activities, such as sports clubs, theater, volunteering, and leadership clubs. These activities are essential for the formation of well-rounded professionals and can contribute to making your stay in our country a personally enriching experience.

#### Global Challenge

UDD has a powerful international network of prestigious partner universities in America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania. It has developed an attractive variety of undergraduate and graduate programs with the aim of integrating the concept of globalization into its education. Through academic cooperation agreements with over 200 institutions in about 40 countries, it promotes and fosters the development of teaching, research, or academic exchange activities.

#### **Incoming Team**

Globalization Office (second floor, O Building in Santiago Campus, and firts floor in Ainavillo Campus in Concepción) incoming@udd.cl @studyatudd

#### **Global Ambassadors UDD**

Global Ambassadors is a university program where UDD students accompany and support international students during their time in Chile. This program has been present since 2015 on our Santiago and Concepción campuses to provide support for international students coming to UDD.

Today, we have more than 50 students from all careers on both campuses who will accompany you on this journey.

In addition, within Global Ambassadors, we have the Buddy Program, where you can have a buddy to make your integration into the university smoother and more friendly.



@embajadores.globales.udd

) @embajadoresglobalesccp



Chile is a long and narrow country at the end of South America. It has many different landscapes, beaches, forests, mountains, deserts, islands, glaciers, so you will see many contrasts in our country, both climatic and geographical. Throughout the territory, you can explore the warmth of its people and its culture.

In our country, you can enjoy a lot of outdoor life. It has been chosen several times as the best green destination in the world in the World Travel Awards, internationally known as the Oscars of tourism. Additionally, you can try its exquisite cuisine and learn more about the wine industry, which is highly regarded in our country.

Chile is one of the safest countries in Latin America. Like everywhere, it all depends on the neighborhood you go to. Santiago is generally a safe city, but if you go to the historic center, take care of your belongings. The same goes if you go out at night to Bellavista neighborhood or downtown Concepción.

The official language of our country is Spanish. When you arrive in Chile, don't get frustrated if you studied Spanish before and don't understand when talking to Chileans. Chileans speak a very different Spanish from the rest of Spanish-speaking people, so be patient, little by little you will understand our idioms.



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# Cost of Living

#### MONTHLY ESTIMATED COSTS

From USD 360
USD 700 - 900
USD 460 - 800
USD 300 - 500
USD 50 - 70
USD 45
USD 100

#### **OTHER REFERENCE COSTS**

(item reference price)

Monthly mobile phone plan	From CLP 10,000
Monthly home internet plan	From CLP 15,000
Cinema ticket	From CLP 3,500
Monthly gym membership	From CLP 35,000
Lunch menu	CLP 5,000 - 10,000
Monthly basic basket	From CLP 80,000
Espresso coffee	From CLP 1,800
• McDonald's (or equivalent Combo Menu)	CLP 8,000
Can of drink	CLP 1,200

#### Currency

The currency we use is the Chilean peso (CLP). 1 USD equals approximately \$ 900 CLP and 1 euro equals approximately \$ 1000 CLP. It is advisable to exchange money only in banks or exchange houses, never on the street, as well as in shopping malls, although most things can be paid with a card.

Banks are open to the public Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 14:00 and are closed in the afternoons. Exchange houses and trading offices are open Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 20:00 and Saturdays from 10:00 to 14:00. Major shopping centers are open from 10:00 to 21:00 Monday to Sunday.

If you are traveling to less populated regions (mainly in southern Chile), it is best to carry cash, as there are still small towns with poor internet signal where you may not be able to pay with a card.



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#### Why choose Santiago?

Santiago is the capital and main urban center of Chile, as well as the seventh most populous city in Latin America. Santiago is home to the country's main government, financial, administrative, commercial, and cultural institutions.

If you enjoy the life of big cities, where you can enjoy multiple activities with the tranquility that makes our capital the third Latin American city with the best quality of life, then Santiago is the city for you. Santiago is a city of great contrasts, where you can engage in various cultural, sports, and recreational activities.

With a privileged geographical location, from the capital, you can be skiing at one of its well-known ski resorts in just over an hour, or surfing on one of its internationally recognized beaches. This city offers an interesting range of proposals for various tastes.

In the historic center, in downtown Santiago, you can get an idea of what this city was like in its origins, as many of its constructions are preserved as historical heritage.

The UDD campus is located in the Las Condes commune, in the San Carlos de Apoquindo sector. This place is a residential neighborhood with good access, green areas, and quiet streets, where there are commerce and entertainment hubs.

This area is connected to much of the city by the Los Domínicos metro station (from this metro station, the University has shuttle buses to the campus every morning and afternoon).

Regarding the climate, Santiago has a Mediterranean temperate climate, with the four seasons clearly marked throughout the year. During the autumn and winter (March-August), it records approximately 300 mm of annual rainfall and average extreme temperatures of 2°C and 15°C (39°F and 59°F). In spring and summer (September-March), it is very hot, with virtually no rainfall, and extreme temperatures ranging from 17°C to 30°C (55°F to 82°F). 

#### How to get to Santiago from the Airport?

Santiago Airport offers a wide variety of transportation options operating every day of the year. The airport has a shuttle company (minibuses) with a capacity of approximately 9 passengers with a route from the terminal to your destination. Tickets can be purchased inside the airport just after the arrival area, each ticket has an approximate value of \$10,000 CLP.

The most direct and fastest, but also the most expensive, option is the taxi/ Uber. A trip to the city center costs around \$30,000 CLP. Finally, the cheapest option is to take one of the buses that pass every 30 minutes at the passenger exit. This takes approximately 30 minutes to the center of Santiago. The bus fare is \$3,500 CLP.





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#### Why choose Concepción?

Throughout the year, thousands of young people from all over the country come to study at the prestigious universities of Concepción, a city with almost 370 thousand inhabitants.

If you are looking for a quieter, friendlier, and more intimate lifestyle, where your own feet will be your main mode of transportation, then Concepción is the city for you. This does not mean that Concepción is a city completely removed from the activities of a big city, as it is the industrial, cultural, and economic capital of southern Chile.

After Santiago, it is one of the most relevant cities in the country, both for its economic development and its demographic growth. Concepción is also known for its intense artistic and cultural life, with easy access to all the comforts of a city in constant development.

Its most interesting attractions include the University District, a place that has become a symbol of this city since Concepción is known as the university capital of the southern part of the country.

The city is surrounded by beautiful landscapes and has unbeatable tourist routes for visitors. Just an hour from the city are the Termas de Chillán, where you can ski, practice adventure sports, and enjoy the incredible mountain scenery.

Additionally, you can travel along the entire coast of the Arauco province through the beaches of Laraquete, Llico, and Quidico, where the wind favors surfing all year round. You can also visit the beaches of Dichato, Lenga, or Pingueral.

Regarding the climate, Concepción has a Mediterranean temperate climate with maritime influence. Autumn and winter are very rainy with average extreme temperatures of 4°C and 14°C (39°F and 57°F). In spring and summer, there is little rainfall and temperatures range from 10°C to 20°C (50°F to 68°F).

# CONCEPCIÓN

#### How to get to Concepción?

From Santiago, you can reach Concepción by bus or plane. By bus, you can travel during the day or at night. The trip takes 6 hours and costs approximately \$17,000 CLP. The plane is the fastest and most comfortable option; you can reach Concepción in just 45 minutes. The ticket costs around \$50,000 CLP, but if you buy it in advance, you can find it for half that price.

#### How to get to Concepción from the Airport?

Carriel Sur Airport, located 5 km (3.1 miles) from Concepción, has a comprehensive transfer and taxi service for passenger transport to the city. The taxi costs approximately \$10,000 CLP and the trip takes no more than 15 minutes. The transfer, on the other hand, costs about \$8,000 CLP and reaches the city center in the same time.



### **Transportation System**

In **Santiago**, the transportation system is **Trasantiago**, promoted by the Government of Chile, which integrates buses and the metro. To use public transportation, it is very important to know that the means of payment is the Bip! Card, a prepaid plastic card that you can purchase at any Metro ticket office for \$1,500 CLP and reload it as many times as you need. It is important to mention that the Santiago Metro is known for its cleanliness and good service. Traveling by this means is fast, safe, and economical. You can check more about the metro lines at this link: <u>Metro Santiago</u>.

There is a **Bip!** card for students, but only students with a definitive Chilean RUT can obtain it.

There is an app to check bus schedules, which you can download: <u>Red App</u>, this will help you plan your time better. Also, on Google Maps, you can always check the best route for your destinations.

For more information or to know which bus will take you to your destination, you can visit the following link: <u>https://www.red.cl/</u>

Remember that, in Santiago, the university has shuttle buses from different Metro stations to the Campus and some clinical fields. You can review the information at <u>this link</u>.

In **Concepción**, there is a bus system for getting around, however, international students usually live near the University, so they do not use it daily. Unlike Santiago, students can pay the fare in cash when entering the bus.

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION AT UDD

# **Course Selection**

After being accepted as a UDD student, you will receive detailed information about the available courses for your exchange period at UDD. It is the responsibility of each student to enroll in their courses within the established deadlines, which will be informed via email. International students can combine career courses, English courses, courses from other disciplines, and elective courses. The complete list is available on our official UDD website (check the link here).

The course enrollment process is online and takes place during the month prior to the start of classes. You will receive instructions and necessary information via email to complete this process.

It is important for students to ensure that their course selection is approved by the academic coordinator at their home university.

Some courses with a large number of students are divided into two or more "sections" or groups that cover the same content. Students must choose and attend only one section, specified when enrolling in courses (you should pay attention to the course code detailed in the course catalog).

We know that your university requires an academic agreement for the semester you will be at UDD, but it is important to do it when you have all the courses enrolled, as there are always schedule and class modifications, so it is better to wait until you have your final schedule.

## **Assessment System**

The academic model at UDD includes a continuous assessment system that typically includes two evaluations and a final exam. Additionally, during the semester, students have partial assessments such as presentations, tests, group work, and dissertations, among others, as defined by each Faculty. Furthermore, some courses have grades for participation and attendance, so you should check with your professors before planning trips, as this may affect your performance.

It is important to note that the Globalization Office cannot justify an absence from class; this is something you must coordinate directly with your respective professor.

#### Grading Scale:

Students are assessed according to the following grading scale:

- Minimum grade: 1.0
- Minimum passing grade: 4.0
- Maximum grade: 7.0

The final evaluation or exam is mandatory, and students are required to obtain a minimum grade of 3.0 as a condition to pass the course.

#### Credit System:

UDD assigns a specific number of credits to each course in undergraduate programs. Credits take into account the academic work done by the student both inside and outside the classroom and equate to an average of one hour of work per week for a semester.

The equivalence range of 30 ECTS is approximately 45 to 50 UDD credits.

Global UDD

# **BEFORE TRAVELING**

# **Student Visa**

If you are coming to study in Chile for 180 days or more, it is mandatory to process your student visa before arriving in Chile. Students coming for shorter periods must enter with the Temporary Permit and renew it if necessary according to the deadlines and procedures established by the National Immigration Service. It is important to note that the renewal of this permit is for an additional 90 days, and you must pay \$100 USD to do so. You can review the information available on the website of the National Immigration Service

# Medical Insurance

All students must purchase international medical insurance for their stay in Chile. Without this requirement, you will not be able to participate in the exchange program. Once you arrive at UDD, you will need to upload a copy of your medical insurance to your profile on the Mobility Online platform (we will send you an email with instructions).

Consult with your insurance company about which doctors and hospitals have the most coverage or preference. Make sure you understand the process of obtaining reimbursement for your medical expenses while abroad.

Your health insurance must cover your entire stay in Chile.

Global UDD

# **BEFORE TRAVELING**

## Accommodation

Chilean universities do not have on-campus residences, so students must look for accommodation outside of it. It is very important to us that exchange students live in a safe and pleasant place, according to their expectations and resources.

However, although the Globalization Office assists students in their search, each student is responsible for finding housing. In <u>this link</u>, we have compiled alternatives for you that have already been tried by other students before.

## **Voltage and Plugs**

The voltage in Chile is 220 V, and the frequency is 50 Hz. The plugs are type C and L.

#### 2) During your stay

At the arrived

## Welcome Program

Before the academic semester begins, the Globalization Office organizes a Welcome Program for international students. You will receive an email with all the relevant information about this activity.

During this event, you'll have the opportunity to interact with other exchange students and receive all the relevant information to succeed at UDD.

The welcome program includes the following activities: a welcome meeting, a campus tour, an informational meeting, an academic meeting, and a welcome lunch.

### **Phone in Chile**

Multiband Homologation: If you bring your unlocked phone from abroad to work in our country with a chip or SIM, you must register it within the first 30 days in Chile. For more details on this process and how to do it, please check this link.

You have a period of 60 consecutive days, counted from the entry of the device into the country, to complete this registration. However, the device will function for 30 days from activation on the network before being blocked if not registered. To register, even if the device is blocked, you must contact your mobile company or a certified company (check this information at <u>www.multibanda.cl/ia</u>) and complete an administrative registration.

You will need to provide some information about the phone and your personal details, as well as prove that you brought the phone from abroad by making a declaration acknowledging this circumstance and the effects of your phone not being homologated.

## **UDD Platforms**

The University has different platforms where important information for your academic semester is communicated. We recommend that you download all of them and activate them with your UDD username. We will send you the information to activate your accounts and usernames before you arrieve by email.



## **Canvas UDD**

Platform where you can access all your courses and their content, reading materials, recorded classes (only for online classes), grades, schedule, course list, along with your classmates' and professors' emails, etc. <u>www.canvas.udd.cl</u>

# Mi UDD

Virtual application where you can check your weekly schedule, UDD student information, courses, grades, along with your UDD credential. To access the campus, you must have it activated, as you will be asked for a QR code to enter. You can download it on Android and IOS.

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## **UDD Email**

Shortly before your arrival, we will send you the information to activate your UDD email. This will be the official communication channel of UDD, so you must check it regularly.

# UNIVERSITY LIFE

While you are at UDD, you can participate in many university activities to make the most of this experience:

• <u>Vive UDD</u>: Contributes to the integral formation and well-being of students through extracurricular activities based on four fundamental pillars:

- Leadership and Social Impact
- Life and Career
- Well-being and Student Support
- Sports and Culture

• <u>Cada UDD</u>: Is the Center for Academic Performance Support, aimed at contributing to the UNIVERSITY WELL-BEING of UDD students. It accompanies students throughout their university experience, enhancing their performance and well-being, achievement experience, and building a meaningful career. • <u>UDD Entrepreneurship</u>: UDD has been internationally recognized for its entrepreneurship area. There are different programs you can participate in if you are interested in this topic.

• <u>iCubo UDD</u>: You can participate in different academic initiatives of innovation and interdisciplinarity.

# SERVICES AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance: 131

Lide

- Firefighters: 132
- Carabineros de Chile (Police): 133
- Women's Violence Orientation Hotline: 1455
- Investigations Police: 134
  - Air Rescue: 138
  - Maritime Search and Rescue Service: 137





# UNIVERSIDAD DEL DUSAULOLIO 3) At the end of your stay

Final Exchange steps

## **UDD Surveys**

At the end of the exchange period, all students must respond to 2 surveys: "Exchange Experience Survey" and "Teacher Survey" (course and teacher evaluations). It is mandatory to respond to these surveys so that we can send your Grade Certificate at the end of the semester.

## **Grade Certificate**

We will send you the grade certificate to your UDD email once your stay ends. This may take about a month, so we ask for your patience.



# WE HOPE YOU HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE AT OUR UNIVERSITY!