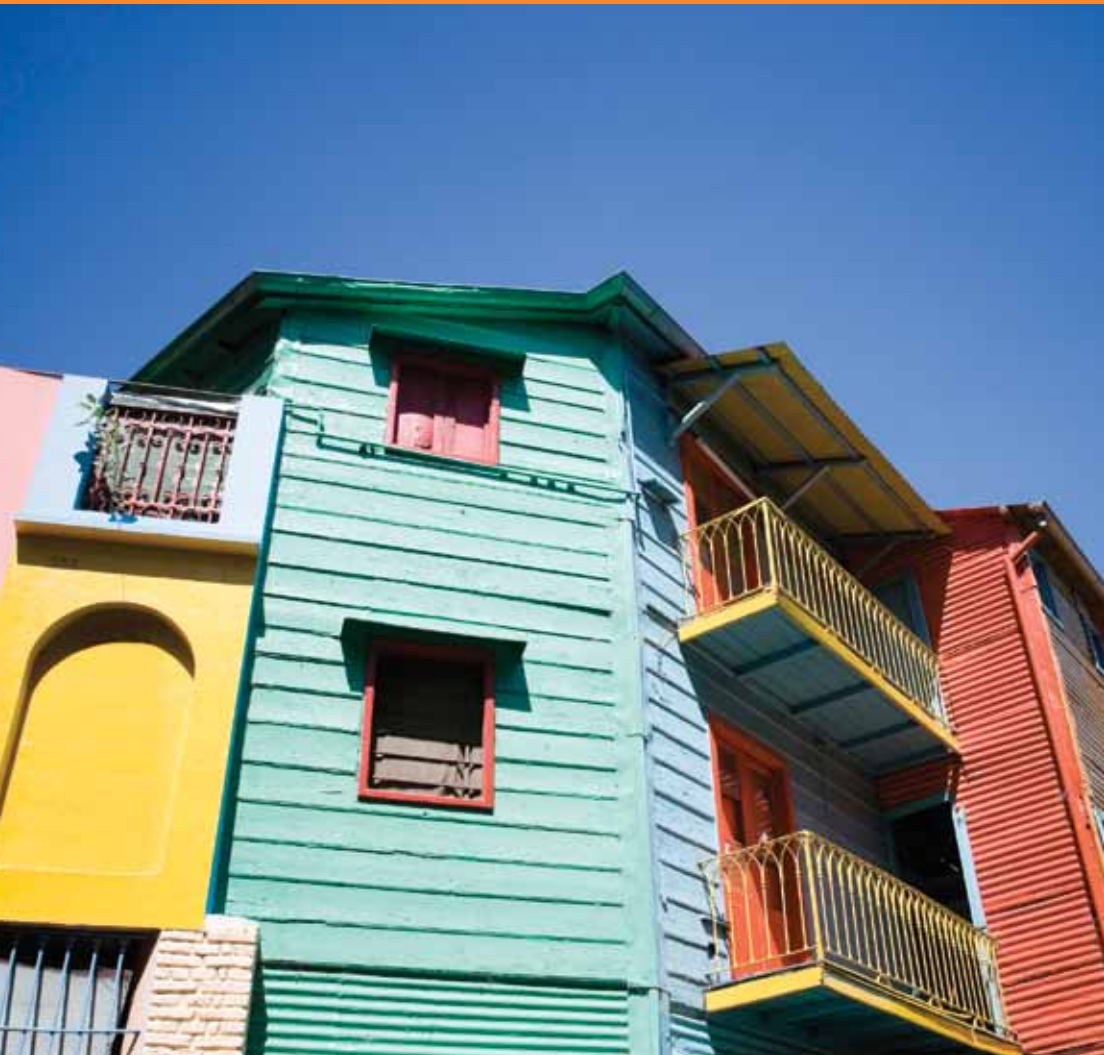


BOSTON COLLEGE

# Latin America



Office of International Programs



CAMINITO AMIGO  
LA VIDA DEL BARCELONÉS

# Welcome to Latin America



**W**hile sharing a common Spanish heritage and language, the countries of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, and Mexico each offer a unique cultural milieu. Buenos Aires boasts plazas and tree-lined avenues and offers a distinct European feel, while Santiago de Chile has a rich city landscape surrounded by beautiful mountains. Quito, the heart and soul of Ecuador since the times of the great Incan empire, is perched on a high plateau in the Andes Mountains, while Puebla in Mexico is situated in a valley and serves as a gateway to nearby mountains. Latin America's largest country, Brazil, shares a unique cultural and linguistic heritage with Portugal and Rio is one of the

world's most beautiful and fastest-developing cities.

Boston College students wishing to spend a semester or year in Latin America have many options. Students with the equivalent of four semesters of Spanish can choose from programs at top-rated, comprehensive institutions with a broad discipline range such as the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile or Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina, as well as smaller, more tailored programs like at the Iberoamericana University Puebla or the Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Level of immersion varies by program. No matter what students' academic and personal interests entail, they will find a suitable program in Latin America.



Courtesy of Universidad Torcuato Di Tella

**Universidad Torcuato Di Tella**    
www.utdt.edu

Founded in 1991, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (UTDT) is a small, private institution with 1500 undergraduates. UTDT utilizes an American-style academic system, and a large number of its faculty are internationally renowned. Among the best private universities in the country, UTDT has top programs in business, economics and other outstanding programs in history, international relations, law, political science, literature, and anthropology. Students take all courses alongside their Argentine counterparts.

### Program Highlights

- Weekly workshops in business, social sciences, and architecture
- Modern facilities and excellent services
- A diverse student body

**Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina**     
www.uca.edu.ar/

One of Argentina's largest private universities, the Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina (UCA) is located near Buenos Aires' old port. Founded in 1958, UCA is comprised of 12,000 students and has a strong connection to its Catholic tradition. It houses Argentina's first business administration department, and features the country's most renowned music program. The university offers courses in economics, business, political science, international relations, law, computer science, philosophy, literature, history, communications, music, education, and theology. Students can take courses alongside international or Argentine students.

### Program Highlights:

- Peer advising system which pairs UCA students with international students
- Community service opportunities
- Argentina's most modern urban campus with state-of-the-art facilities

## **BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**

Situated between the Andes Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean, Argentina is South America's second largest country. In 1516, European explorers arrived in the country and in 1580 Spain established a colony on the site of Buenos Aires. Today, Argentina has a population of over 36 million and its European heritage can still be felt in the country's culture, architecture, and cuisine. Sometimes referred to as the "Paris of South America," Buenos Aires is Argentina's industrial, financial, commercial, and cultural center. This city's openness to political and public dialogue and its flourishing art scene provide visitors with a rich intellectual experience.

### The Program

Students take courses at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (UTDT) or Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina (UCA). All BC students enroll in a three-week early-start intensive Spanish language course, a semester-long Spanish language class, and an Argentine history course complemented by cultural activities. An on-site coordinator organizes activities and gives local support for BC students. Students live with a host family during the intensive Spanish course, and reside with a host family or in an apartment during the semester.



## RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

First colonized by Portugal in 1500, Brazil is South America's largest country and boasts one of the world's most sizable economies. Located in its southeast region, Rio de Janeiro impresses visitors with its climate, topography, and cosmopolitan flair. A breathtaking view of this "cidade maravilhosa" can be appreciated from the top of Corcovado mountain, site of the famous statue of Christ the Redeemer. Home to over seven million people, Rio has a vibrant art, theater, and music scene and is a tropical paradise offering fifteen miles of pristine beaches and coastal mountains.

### The Program

[www.puc-rio.br/ccii/](http://www.puc-rio.br/ccii/)

The Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) is a private, Jesuit institution with a student population of approximately 13,000. The university is internationally recognized as one of the most important research centers in Brazil and is one of the top two universities in Rio. Four academic centers specialize in theology and human sciences, social sciences, science and technology, as well as biomedical sciences. All BC students take an early start intensive Portuguese class and a semester-long Portuguese course. Students study alongside their Brazilian counterparts. Housing options include homestays.

### Program Highlights

- An on-site coordinator organizes activities and gives support to BC students
- Extensive sports opportunities



Rio de Janeiro



## SANTIAGO, CHILE

Situated between the Andes Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, Chile is a long, narrow country whose diverse geography includes mountains, deserts, forests, glaciers, fjords, and lakes. Spanish explorers arrived in the sixteenth century, and their culture dominated Chile. Today, Chile is one of South America's most stable and prosperous nations, with a high quality of life, political democracy, and social advances which are reflected in the recent election of its first female president. Santiago, Chile's capital city, has over six million inhabitants and is the country's industrial and financial center. Located in a valley surrounded by mountains, the city has a mix of modern skyscrapers, nineteenth century European buildings, and Spanish colonial adobe bungalows. Santiago offers the vibrant cultural opportunities of a major metropolis as well as a relaxed Latino ambiance.

### The Program

Students take courses at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC Chile) or Universidad Alberto Hurtado (UAH). Upon arrival, BC students have an intensive orientation to Santiago, Chilean culture, and the Chilean academic system and take an intensive three-week Spanish course. Housing is with local families or in apartments.

One of South America's premier universities, PUC has four campuses spread throughout Santiago, with its main campus downtown. The university, which has 21,000 students, offers a broad curriculum with academic strengths in business, economics, political science, history, education, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, and psychology. BC students take an interdisciplinary seminar on Chilean culture, history, and politics. This program offers a total-immersion context, and is recommended for students who are independent. PUC Chile's International Office offers on-site support.

### Program Highlights

- High-immersion experience
- One of Latin America's best universities



Located in downtown Santiago, UAH was founded in 1997 and has almost 4000 students. A small Jesuit university whose teaching and research incorporates a humanist mission, UAH's academic strengths include philosophy, humanities, psychology, social ethics, human development, education, economics, and business administration.

### Program Highlights

- A "Poverty and Development" course which includes a service learning component
- A small university atmosphere with individual attention

## QUITO, ECUADOR

Ecuador, which gained its independence from Spain in the early nineteenth century, is a culturally diverse nation situated near the earth's equator. The country is a patchwork of highland and jungle regions with colonial cities, snow-capped volcanoes, unspoiled beaches, the Amazon rainforest, and the Galápagos Islands. Quito, the capital city, has a population of approximately 1.5 million and is a blend of Indigenous, Spanish, and contemporary influences. The city takes great pride in its rich colonial tradition, preserved in the architecture and splendor of its churches and monasteries. Quito has been named Patrimony of Humanity by UNESCO because of its beauty and historical wealth, and the city is a bustling metropolis with modern neighborhoods, high-rise office towers, chic outdoor cafés, nightclubs, and shopping plazas.

Located in the Tumbaco Valley just outside of Quito, the Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) is a small, private university enrolling 4000 students. Founded in 1988 and modeled on the American university system, USFQ offers a wide-ranging curriculum in the humanities, business administration, development studies, and applied sciences. After a fifteen-hour intensive Spanish language review and a week-long orientation, students select courses that offer a range of interaction with Ecuadorian students. All students take a Spanish language course and a course on Ecuadorian history and culture. Housing is with local families.

### Program Highlights

- An on-site coordinator offers personal support and organizes regular BC activities
- A variety of community service projects during the semester
- A four-day trip to the Amazon rain forest, jungle hikes, visit to the Galápagos Islands (fall only), and Peru/Bolivia trip (spring only)



Courtesy of Myra Chai

## PUEBLA, MEXICO

With an estimated population of 109 million, Mexico is the world's most populous Spanish-speaking country. The culture of Mexico is a rich blend of pre-Hispanic civilizations and Spanish culture. More recently, the United States has contributed greatly to the social fabric of Mexico due to cultural, economic, and political factors. Today Mexico possesses a largely urban population, with over 75 percent of its people living in its cities. Known as the City of Angels, Puebla is located in the central part of Mexico and is the fourth most important city in the country. It was established by Spain in 1531 on the main route between the port of Veracruz and Mexico City. The principal city of colonial Mexico, it is situated in a broad, high valley and has been recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

### The Program

[www.iberopuebla.edu](http://www.iberopuebla.edu)

Universidad Iberoamericana is a private, Jesuit institution which has six campuses including its newest campus in Puebla. The university boasts a comprehensive curriculum including liberal arts, law, economics, and business administration. BC students take an early start Spanish course and regular Spanish-taught courses with Mexican students. The university offers special programs for international students, including service activities. Housing options include dormitories, apartments, and rooms with families.

### Program Highlights

- Small faculty to student ratio and individual attention
- Comprehensive orientation program
- Access to modern university facilities, including a comprehensive library and sports facilities
- Visits to museums and archeological sites



Puebla, Mexico

In addition to these BC programs, students also have the choice to enroll in approved external programs. For details visit [www.bc.edu/international](http://www.bc.edu/international).



Iguazu Falls, Argentina courtesy of Kerry Brennan