

Universidad Austral de Chile



Overview

Welcome to Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH), a prestigious university founded in 1954 mainly through the initiative of local citizens. It is based primarily in Valdivia (Los Ríos Region), with its campuses on Isla Teja and Miraflores, and satellite campuses in Puerto Montt (Los Lagos Region) and Patagonia (Aysén Region), making it the only university with a presence across three regions in southern and austral Chile.

UACH has a long tradition of undergraduate and postgraduate human resource training, with 65 undergraduate degrees serving more than 17,550 students, 15 PhD and 41 master's programs across various disciplines, and a consolidated policy for research training at the highest level. The UACH ranks 8th nationally in the QS World Top Global Universities ranking and is among the 100 best universities in Latin America, according to Times Higher Education ranking. In the QS World University Ranking by Subject, the Veterinary Sciences area is ranked first nationally and 51-100 internationally. Likewise, the Agriculture and Forestry areas maintain an important third place (201-250) in the top 200 universities worldwide.

UACH is the consolidated university in Southern and Austral Chile with strong academic programs, regional impact, and a rich cultural exchange that makes UACH a great place to study, research, and visit.



Campus Isla Teja

This campus includes several colleges, including **Health Sciences, Life and Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, Forestry, Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, Economics and Business Sciences, and Law School**. All these colleges are located along with the Botanical Garden, UACH Cinema Club, and most of the Colleges. The 12-hectare Botanical Garden, which features a total of 950 plant species, is a unique, beautiful area for a walking trail or a peaceful study place for our students with a total of 950 plant species. In 2012, our Botanical Garden received seeds of Ginkgo biloba, Ilex rotunda, and Cinnamomum camphora, survival tree species from the Hiroshima atomic bomb in Japan, which were grown under strict conditions until finally released into our garden, and today they are part of the Hiroshima Memorial and the project Green Legacy Hiroshima. Additionally, several museums are part of Valdivia's artistic life (Contemporary Art Museum, Philippi Museum, and Maurice van den Maele Museum), and the Film Festival takes place every year in October.

Campus Isla Teja is surrounded by several rivers such as the Cau Cau river, which flows through the northern part of the Botanical Garden; the Calle Calle river flows in the east side of the campus and where the UACH Marine Sports Center is located; the Valdivia river at the south west, and the Cruces river at the south, which provides beautiful views of the wetlands. Here, the **Wetlands Center (CEHUM)** has conducted investigations for over ten years on the Cruces River, becoming a national and international benchmark in wetland conservation and the only center in South America. It has also promoted the implementation of solutions based on the

natural environments, such as purifying wetlands, through various awarded projects and implemented nationwide. These initiatives have led to CEHUM being nominated as a UNESCO Ecohydrology Demonstration Site, the second in Chile.

Likewise, UACH has natural laboratories such as **Arboretum and Santa Rosa Experimental Research Station** (experimental native forests) and **marine experimental laboratories on the Pacific coast** (Calfuco Marine Lab). In addition, UACH has 25 years of trajectory in **Antarctic research**.

Campus Isla Teja Research Priority Areas and Contact Information:

Horticulture, forestry and natural resources	<div>Dr. Esteban Basoalto esteban.basoalto@uach.cl (horticulture)</div> <div>Dr. Eduardo Silva eduardo.silva@uach.cl (forestry and natural resources)</div> <div>Dr. Pablo Donoso pdonoso@uach.cl (forestry and natural resources)</div>
Animal and veterinary science	<div>Dr. Juan Pablo Keim juan.keim@uach.cl (animal science)</div> <div>Dr. Álvaro Morales alvaro.morales@uach.cl (animal science)</div> <div>Dr. Marcelo Gómez marcelogomez@uach.cl (veterinary science)</div>
Communication Studies on Science	<div>Dr. Ana Traverso anatraverso@uach.cl</div>
Wildlife ecology and conservation biology	<div>Dr. Paulo Corti pcorti@uach.cl (wildlife ecology)</div> <div>Dr. Mauricio Soto mrsoto@uach.cl (conservation biology)</div>
Marine Sciences	<div>Dr. José Garcés josegarces@uach.cl</div>
Antarctic Sciences	<div>Dr. Andrea Piñones andrea.pinones@uach.cl</div>
CEHUM	<div>Dr. Ignacio Rodríguez ignacio.rodriguez@uach.cl contacto@cehum.org (www.cehu.org)</div>



Campus Miraflores

This campus, also located in Valdivia, is home to the College of Engineering at UACH, which comprises eight departments offering undergraduate programs in Civil, Mechanical, Acoustics, Electronics, Industrial, Computer Science, Construction, and Naval Engineering. Located on the banks of the Valdivia River, the 10-hectare campus features wetlands, a small forest, and open green areas that provide an inspiring natural environment for learning and research.

The campus community includes over 2,000 undergraduate students, around 120 faculty members, and 40 graduate students enrolled in Master's and PhD programs. Research and innovation are at the heart of Campus Miraflores. The College hosts state-of-the-art laboratories specializing in acoustics, experimental and numerical hydrodynamics, materials, marine engines, power systems, pavements, and geotechnical engineering.

Campus Miraflores research priority areas and contact information:

Engineering	Dr. Gonzalo Tampier gonzalo.tampier@uach.cl
Acoustic Engineering	Dr. Felipe Otondo felipe.otondo@uach.cl



Campus Puerto Montt

This campus serves as the gateway to the Chilean Patagonia and is a key area for the aquaculture industry and sustainable development. The Campus was established in 2008, building upon its presence since 1989, and is in a significant process of growth and development. It supports a community of nearly 4,000 students and 180 faculty members. It offers 17 undergraduate degrees in areas such as Health and Behavioral Sciences, Engineering, Law, and Education. Its postgraduate offerings highlight its research areas. It leads in aquaculture with a PhD program in Aquaculture Sciences, along with Master's programs in Aquaculture Nutrition, Environment, and Biosecurity in Aquaculture.

It also has strong research in psychology with multiple basic and applied research projects and offers a Master's in Clinical Adult Psychology. The field of education is also prominent, featuring four pedagogy degrees and a Master's in Attention to Diversity in Educational Contexts. Its infrastructure is distributed across three minor campuses: Pelluco, Costanera, and Dos Esteros. The Campus is deeply connected to the community. It manages its own Health Center in the La Colina neighborhood, which provides free care to the community and serves as a training center. Furthermore, the university manages the Los Lagos Region's Innovation Center, which brings together industry, local communities, and innovative research to address regional needs, positioning the university as a leading institution in the territory.

Campus Puerto Montt research priority areas and contact information:

Aquaculture Sciences	Dr. Juan Giraldo juan.giraldo@uach.cl
Psychology	Dr. Felipe Muñoz felipe.munoz@uach.cl



Campus Patagonia

Located in Coyhaique, the capital of the Aysén Region, Campus Patagonia is nestled in one of the most pristine and awe-inspiring natural environments in southern Chile. Surrounded by rugged mountains, native forests, and glacial rivers, the campus offers a unique setting for academic exploration and personal growth. Its proximity to the dramatic landscapes of the Patagonian Andes provides students and researchers with unparalleled opportunities to study the region's striking geology, rich biodiversity, and complex ecosystems.

The campus is home to modern facilities, including scientific laboratories, hybrid teaching rooms, and a library, supporting research and education in forestry, veterinary sciences, fisheries, and environmental studies. Campus Patagonia fosters strong community engagement and contributes to the sustainable development of the region.

Campus Patagonia research priority areas and contact information:

To conduct research at Campus Patagonia and participate in outreach activities, please contact the professors and researchers from Campus Isla Teja, as they frequently travel to Patagonia.