

Global Special Study: Chile and Peru

Annie Phillips: MSW Candidate 2014

Introduction

I have an extensive background of travel so my advisor Jorge Delva suggested that I do a global special study in his home country of Chile. I spent two weeks in Santiago attending classes and meeting with professors at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, School of Social Work. During this time I took Spanish lessons from Chilean students, spent a day in a Chilean Prison, stayed with a host family and had many more cultural experiences where I expanded my knowledge of the Chilean culture and the Spanish language. While I did no formal research because of time constraints, leading up to the trip I read several research articles and books about the state of the North and South American prison systems and studied Spanish. On my way home from Chile I stopped in Peru and visited the magnificent Machu Picchu. Upon graduation, I plan to continue studying Spanish in order to better serve Spanish speaking clients.



Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile: This is where I attended classes which were taught in Spanish. I also met with faculty and students and learned more about social work in Chile. Social workers in Chile do not engage in clinical social work. They only focus on macro social work and it is more research oriented.

Cerro San Cristóbal: This mountain is a focal point in Santiago that many Chileans use to hike and exercise on. Chileans are very active and Santiago even shuts down some of their major roads on Sundays so families can exercise without the worry of traffic. Santiago is becoming a very metropolitan city. The building in the picture is the tallest in South America.



Centro Penitenciario Femenino: Chilean Prisons are very different than prisons in the United States. If you want to know more please ask.



Machu Picchu: On the peak of Huyanna Picchu overlooking Machu Picchu. Please ask me about my experience in Peru.