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AMERICAN LANGUAGE
& CULTURE INSTITUTE



AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

GREETINGS FROM CHICO!



ALCI faculty and staff

The mission of the American Language and Culture Institute (ALCI Chico) is to serve you by providing the high quality English language instruction, supportive counseling, and academic student services you need to achieve your educational goals.

ALCI Chico facilitates a transition from an intensive English language program to an academic program at California State University, Chico, or other colleges and universities. The program provides general English language skills for students' personal and professional growth, as well as an introduction to American culture and the higher education system.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING ALCI CHICO

- Affordable English language instruction for all proficiency levels – beginning to advanced
- High value program, led by dedicated faculty, utilizing a proven English language curriculum
- Small class sizes and individual counseling from professional advisors
- An opportunity to learn about American culture through academic and social activities
- Take California State University, Chico courses through ALCI Chico Open University
- Meet University English language proficiency requirements through conditional admissions (without taking TOEFL)
- Access to TOEFL preparation courses and testing services
- Math, business, and University preparation courses
- A chance to practice English with a conversation partner

ALCI Chico invites you to study English and experience American culture in Chico, California. We are located on the beautiful California State University, Chico campus, a perfect environment to learn English, experience an American university, meet interesting people, and be successful in your academic studies.

ABOUT THE ALCI CHICO INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM

Established on the campus of California State University, Chico in 1979, ALCI Chico has provided intensive English language instruction for thousands of students from more than 90 countries.

The ALCI Chico curriculum includes specialized core courses (speaking, listening, reading, writing, and grammar) and a choice of electives such as pronunciation, American idioms, cross-cultural awareness, business English, survival English, and academic preparation.

We offer five sessions of intensive English instruction per year to students of all proficiency levels, from beginning to advance. You will attend 20-23 instructional hours each week, providing plenty of time for study, homework and participation in campus, academic, and social activities. Many of our students attend ALCI Chico for several months, participating in consecutive sessions.

ALCI CHICO FACULTY, COUNSELORS, AND ADVISORS

You will find the ALCI Chico faculty, coordinators, and counselors to be very experienced teachers and advisers. Our faculty have advanced university degrees in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) or related fields, and have years of international student service experience. In addition to providing high quality English language instruction, we will also give you the counseling you need to make the most of your academic and social experience in California.

HOW TO APPLY

Please visit the ALCI Chico website for complete application details. Session dates, deadlines and fees are updated on the ALCI Chico website.

To qualify for admission to ALCI, your secondary education must be complete and you must submit the following:

- 1) Financial documentation verifying sufficient funds for educational and living expenses*
- 2) A completed application with a non-refundable application fee*

Apply today at:

rce.csuchico.edu/alci



“Before traveling I was nervous and unsure of my decision. When I arrived in Chico my view totally changed. Everyone at ALCI Chico has been very helpful, making me feel welcome from the start. I love it here. You can take your English classes and also attend the University.

I have met so many friends here. If anyone would ask me if I would choose this town or country again, I would definitely say yes!”

*—Nadya Karoumat,
Germany*

HOUSING AND TRAVEL HELP

There are several quality housing options for ALCI Chico students close to campus, including, off-campus residence halls (dorms), University apartments, private apartments, and homestays (living in a private home with a host family).

Housing in the Chico area is generally less expensive than in metropolitan areas of California. It is relatively easy to find housing on or near campus. Housing prices vary, but you can expect to spend from \$300 to \$900 per month for rent.

The easiest way to reach Chico is to fly directly into Chico Municipal Airport (airport code CIC) from San Francisco International Airport (SFO). There are three to four flights from SFO to Chico daily.

You may find alternative flights that arrive in Sacramento. Airport shuttle services are available from Sacramento International Airport.

ALCI Chico will provide free pick-up from the Chico Municipal Airport if you arrive at the between 8am and 8pm Pacific Time on Monday through Wednesday during orientation week.

You will find complete housing and travel information on our website. As you prepare your application, please contact us if you need help selecting housing or need travel assistance.

ORIENTATION

Before you start taking ALCI Chico courses, we will provide you with two full days of orientation to introduce you to our program so you can get better acquainted with California State University, Chico, the city of Chico, the State of California, and the United States. During orientation you take an English language placement test to determine your proficiency level and then you will be placed in the appropriate class. Our staff provides the advising you need to have a rewarding time in Chico.



University President, Dr. Zingg, welcomes ALCI students

CERTIFICATES AND EVALUATION

ALCI Chico awards three types of certificates to recognize student achievement: attendance, completion, and proficiency. The type of certificate you receive depends on the grades you earn and your language proficiency level at the time you finish your studies. To help you improve your English, your academic performance will be continually evaluated and grade reports will be issued at the end of each session.

CONDITIONAL ADMISSIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY

Through ALCI Chico you can demonstrate English proficiency and gain conditional admissions to the University without taking the TOEFL test. Every year, many of our ALCI Chico students continue their studies at the University or the local community college.



Students enjoy Chico's mild climate year-round

OPEN UNIVERSITY

Open University, through ALCI Chico, provides an opportunity for you to enroll in regularly-scheduled University classes as an ALCI Chico student, without formal admission to the University. Enrollment is contingent on demonstrated English language proficiency, space availability, and approval by the ALCI Chico director or academic coordinator. Open University is an excellent choice for advanced English learners who want to experience the rigor of an American university course along with ALCI Chico coursework.



“Chico is a great town, with plenty of sunshine and nice people. The ALCI teachers are very friendly and have helped me understand the American culture. I have met some new friends through ALCI.

After ALCI I plan to join the graduate program in electronic engineering at Chico State. If you have the opportunity to study in the United States, ALCI Chico is the place.”

*—Minghao Chen,
China*



“People are very friendly in Chico! The students and faculty are encouraging, and I have learned a lot. My English is improving, and I am getting plenty of chances to practice my speaking.

When I am not studying, it is easy to stay active in Chico. I like to take walks in town, go to the gym, and have enjoyed skiing trips to Mount Shasta and Lake Tahoe.”

*—Hae Min Kim,
Korea*

ABOUT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

- Established in 1887, CSU, Chico is one of the oldest universities in California.
- Popularly called “Chico State”, the University enrollment is approximately 15,000, including approximately 550 international students representing more than 60 countries.
- More than 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs are offered, including business administration, computer science, engineering, teacher education, and public administration.
- CSU, Chico is consistently rated among the best Western public universities in *U.S. News and World Report’s* annual guide, “America’s Best Colleges.”
- For the third consecutive year, the *Princeton Review* included Chico State in its listing of “Best Business Schools.”



ALCI faculty and students pose for a group photo

RECREATION AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

As an ALCI Chico student you will have the opportunity to participate in various University and community activities. Visits to popular local attractions such as Bidwell Park, Downtown Chico Plaza, and the Chico Museum acquaint you with the charm of our local community.

You can participate in conversation groups and various social and cultural activities organized by ALCI Chico. These provide valuable opportunities to practice English and learn about American culture in informal and enjoyable settings.

In addition to ALCI Chico activities, the University has a full schedule of special events and more than 200 officially recognized clubs and sport teams. You can easily engage in campus life by joining one of these student organizations.

ALCI Chico Activities

- Welcome orientation and lunch
- Conversation partner program
- University special events
- Trips to San Francisco and Sacramento
- Special shopping trips
- NBA basketball game
- Thursday Night Farmers Market
- International, music and city festivals
- Concerts in the City Plaza
- Theme and adventure parks
- Picnics and barbecues
- Birthday parties
- Movie nights
- Mt. Shasta snowboard and ski trip
- Camping, hiking, and biking trips
- Halloween costume party
- Winter holiday party
- End-of-session luncheon



ALCI students enjoy a luncheon



San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge



“I decided to come to ALCI Chico because I had heard good things about the program. I am enjoying Chico, it is a beautiful place with nice parks. The people are friendly and it is easy to meet people from all over the world that come to study here.

If you asked me where you should study, I would tell you, ALCI Chico.”

*—Abdullah AlMohawes,
Saudi Arabia*



CSU, CHICO ADMISSIONS

Students planning to apply for undergraduate or graduate admissions to CSU, Chico should direct inquiries to:

Office of International Education International Admissions

California State University, Chico
Chico, California, USA 95929-0680

- Web: www.csuchico.edu/international
- Web: www.csuchico.edu/iss
- E-mail: iss@csuchico.edu
- Telephone: 530-898-5415
- Fax: 530-898-6889

American Language and Culture Institute
Center for Regional and Continuing Education
California State University, Chico
Chico, California, USA 95929-0250

- Web: rce.csuchico.edu/alci
- E-mail: alci@csuchico.edu
- Telephone: 530-898-6821
- Fax: 530-898-5668

Chico's excellent location is only a few hours away from many popular tourist areas in California.

- **Sacramento (90 miles)**
Visit the State Capitol building, shop in Old Sacramento and downtown, or visit one of the museums.
- **Lake Tahoe (150 miles)**
World famous place for winter and summer recreation.

- **San Francisco (170 miles)**
Visit the Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, or Alcatraz. Ride the cable cars downtown for lunch or shopping.
- **Los Angeles (475 miles)**
Visit Hollywood, Disneyland, Universal Studios, Venice Beach, and much more.