About The Program

The UFMG Summer School on Brazilian Studies intends to give students from all over the world an understanding of key aspects of Brazil from distinct perspectives.

The instructors are professors from UFMG (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais), a leading Brazilian university, recently ranked 5th for best higher education institutions in Latin America by Britain’s Times Higher Education.

Over two weeks of intense learning, meetings will cover the underpinnings of Brazilian politics, history, foreign relations, geography, law, economy, arts and culture.

The Summer School takes place at UFMG’s main campus in Belo Horizonte – the capital city of Brazil’s federal state of Minas Gerais – every month of July.

Lectures on selected topics will be delivered in the morning (at Brasilia Time) through distance learning platforms. After the lectures, there will be Portuguese for Foreigners classes. During the afternoon, participants will be taken on online tours to places of historical and artistic relavance.

Language

All lectures will be given in English. Applicants are expected to be proficient in English. For students whose main medium of instruction during their education was not English, some proof of English proficiency will be necessary. Results of standard English proficiency tests (e.g., TOEFL or IELTS) will be preferable, but other forms of certification for language proficiency in English may be considered, at the Organizing Committee’s discretion.

Why You Should Take The Summer School

This course aims at providing students from around the globe with a solid background in Brazil and Brazilian studies, shedding light on crucial aspects of South America’s giant country and the region in itself. As the world looks ever more interconnected and multipolar, Brazil strikes as a rising power whose understanding might become an asset for future generations of scholars and practitioners, decision makers and takers. Within the ambit of this program, lectures will be delivered on topics as diverse as politics, history, foreign affairs, economy, geography, law, arts and culture, creating a mosaic of highly qualified information and analysis. Introductory classes of Portuguese language – the sixth most spoken idiom in the world today – will help the course taker dig deeper into Brazil’s complexities and make better sense of the country’s subtleties.

Convenors

Prof. Dr. Aziz Tuffi Saliba (UFMG’s School of Law)
Prof. Dr. Dawisson Belém Lopes (UFMG’s School of Humanities)
Prof. Dr. Lucas Carlos Lima (UFMG’s School of Law)
Course Workload
60 hours (4 credits)

Total Course Length
15 days of duration (in July)
60 hours of academic activities, which include:
• 8 lectures delivered by world-class experts on Brazilian Studies
• Lessons of Portuguese for Foreigners
• Online tours
• Cultural activities
• Extra-classroom activities

Brief Description Of Contents
1. Brazilian History
   From the age of European settlement until these days
2. Brazilian Geography
   A huge and most diverse territory, with all that it entails
3. Brazilian Culture
   The cultural richness of Brazilian multi-ethnic and multi-racial people
4. Brazilian Law
   Key elements of the Brazilian Law and legal system
5. Brazilian Society
   Ultra-complex Brazilian society and its main components
6. Brazilian Politics
   Polity and policies in the largest Latin American national community
7. Brazilian Economy
   The engines of Brazil's gigantic economy
8. Brazilian Foreign Policy
   How an emerging power connects itself with the outside world
9. Brazilian Cinema
   The unknown strength of the Brazilian cinema
10. Brazilian Arts
    The artful Brazilians and their most talented interpreters
11. Portuguese Language for Foreigners
    A taste of Brazil through the language
12. Race in Brazil
    An introduction to racial dynamics in Brazil
Application

Applications are open to students and professionals who wish to gain a wide and multifaceted view of Brazil. The Organizing Committee will select students among the batch of applicants. Preference will be given to undergraduate students from institutions that have international cooperation agreements with UFMG. Accepted applicants will receive additional information regarding housing, meals, transportation, safety, weather and visas. Applications can be submitted via e-mail to summerschool@dri.ufmg.br. Please include “Summer school application” in the subject.

Application materials:

a) Letter of motivation
b) One letter of recommendation
c) Curriculum vitae
d) Certification of English proficiency

Contact

For further information, please contact us via e-mail: summerschool@dri.ufmg.br