

Brazil Study Abroad – Sum II term, 2012

Water resources engineering and watershed management

Courses (Sum II):

- BSE 4304 Nonpoint source modeling and management (3cr)
- BSE 4984 Water Resources Engineering and Watershed Management (3cr)

Course description:

A faculty-led, education-abroad program in Brazil integrates students and faculty from both countries in a technical and cultural program taught in English. Course content: water resources in the ecosystem, human uses and impacts, standards and regulation, management and policy, hydrologic and water quality monitoring, watershed modeling concepts, modeling and monitoring for assessment and design. Integrated exercises provide experience with models used in engineering practice. Comparison of US and Brazilian watershed management. Field trips to broaden technical, cultural and social perspectives.

Faculty leader: Dr. Conrad Heatwole heatwole@vt.edu

Program overview:

A 6-credit faculty-led study-abroad program in Brazil integrates US and Brazilian engineering students in classroom and field study for an interactive technical and cross-cultural learning experience in water resources engineering. Instruction will be in English. An introductory Portuguese class in the first week will provide language basics and some cultural background.

The program is the collaboration of 2 US and 3 Brazilian universities, and a balance between US/Brazilian students in the program will be maintained to facilitate cross-cultural interaction. The course includes classroom study, lab exercises, and field trips. Study/work groups will be frequently used to encourage interaction between students. We will examine technical, legal and social issues in water resource management in the US and Brazil. Field trips broaden technical, cultural, and historical perspectives. At Virginia Tech, credits will meet BSE curriculum requirements.

Cost (estimates as of Feb 2012)

- Program fee (covers lodging, ground transportation, entrance fees): \$1500; \$500 for BSE students (BSE students will be subsidized \$1000 by a grant to the department)
- (Payment dates: Mar 30 - \$500, Apr 26 – balance due)
- Meals: \$250-300
- Airfare – round trip to Brazil: \$1500 (est);
- Visa, immunizations, etc: \$200 (est)
- Virginia Tech tuition: (Summer II tuition with a study abroad discount)

Scholarships: Pratt Foundation: \$1000 (to first 8 participants) **MUST APPLY by March 5**

Schedule

- Mar 16 – applications due
- April – tickets, passport, immunizations if needed; May - visa
- June 28 – Leave for Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul
- July 3-10 - Language study at the Federal Univ. of Santa Maria
- July 11-14 –Vitoria, Espirito Santo, visit city and UFES campus
- July 15-Aug 2 - technical course at Rive IFES campus with field trips on weekends
- Aug 6 – arrive back in the U.S.

NOTE: travel dates are tentative and will depend in part on costs of tickets

Application -- 2012 July Term in Brazil
Water resources engineering and watershed management (6-cr)
Virginia Tech, University of Florida, and Brazilian partners: UFES, UFSM, IFES

Name:		Phone:	
Email:		Graduation date (mm/yy):	
Major:		Cumulative GPA:	

References:

a. Academic advisor:

Name:

Email:

Address:

Phone:

b. Personal reference:

Name:

Email:

Address:

Phone:

Submit the following in attachments:

(these will also be used in assigning Pratt scholarships)

- 1) **Statement of purpose** *Why you are interested in study abroad. What do you expect to gain by participating in this study abroad program?*
Language experience: *(Describe any foreign language experience and competency)*
- 2) **Resume** - *highlighting scholarship, activities, awards, experience*

Program requirements:

1. Register for 6 credits for SumII term. (Course substitutions arranged individually)
2. Complete required University Education Abroad forms and requirements.
3. Have appropriate prerequisites and be in good standing academically.
4. Pay program fee by specified dates.
5. Take a computer along to complete classwork.
6. Participate in language study and courses
7. Learn, have fun, make friends, gain new perspectives, expand your world ...
8. Be a good ambassador for your University and country!

The number of participants is limited. Selection is at the discretion of the instructor, considering course background, academic standing, references, and other factors.

I understand the expectations of the course as outlined above, and if selected, will fully participate and abide by the standards expected of a student at Virginia Tech

I would like to be considered for one of the Pratt scholarship (MUST submit by Mar 5)

Signature: _____ Date: _____