

# UW Global Gateway in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## IAP Program Handbook

### Summer 2017

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The Global Gateway in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil program is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in conjunction with the Council on Educational Exchange (CIEE). This IAP Program Handbook supplements handbook(s) or materials you receive from CIEE as well as the **IAP Study Abroad Handbook** and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of printing. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

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# CONTACT INFORMATION

## On-Site Program Information

### Program Leader

Your primary contact in Rio de Janeiro will be the UW Program Leader, Spanish & Portuguese Professor Luis Madureira.

Professor Luis Madureira  
Program Leader  
[lmadurei@wisc.edu](mailto:lmadurei@wisc.edu)

### CIEE Rio de Janeiro Study Center

The program is administered through the CIEE Rio de Janeiro Study Center. The CIEE Rio staff will also be there to assist you and help you with any issues you may encounter.

CIEE's Address:

Ladeira da Glória 26  
Casa 10, térreo  
Gloria, Rio de Janeiro, RJ  
22211-120  
Brazil

Phone: +55-21-98464-5490

Resident Director: Sean McIntyre

## Home University Contact Information

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

International Academic Programs (IAP)  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
106 Red Gym, 716 Langdon St.  
Madison, WI 53706  
Tel: 608-265-6329 Fax: 608-262-6998  
Web: [www.studyabroad.wisc.edu](http://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu)

Erin Polnaszek Boyd  
Study Abroad Advisor  
Phone: (608)265-6329  
[eepolnaszek@studyabroad.wisc.edu](mailto:eepolnaszek@studyabroad.wisc.edu)

Joanna Poinatte  
Enrollment Specialist Advisor  
Phone: (608)265-6329  
[poinatte@studyabroad.wisc.edu](mailto:poinatte@studyabroad.wisc.edu)

## Emergency Contact Information

### IAP Emergency Number

In case of an emergency, contact your on-site staff first using the emergency contact information provided on-site. For IAP emergency contact, call the main IAP number **(608) 265-6329** between 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; after-hours or on weekends call the IAP staff member on call at **(608) 516-9440**. If you call the main IAP number after hours, the message will direct you to call the emergency number, so it's a good place to start if you're not sure about the time difference.

### Emergency Numbers in Brazil

It is important to note that not all international emergency phone numbers are the same. The local equivalent to the "911" emergency line in Rio de Janeiro is:

- 190 - Policia (Police)
- 192 - Ambulancia (Ambulance)
- 193 - Bombeiros (Fire Department)

### Embassy Registration and Information

Program participants who are U.S. citizens must register with the U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) before departure as this will help in case of a lost passport or other mishap. You can register on-line at <https://step.state.gov/step/>. If you are not a U.S. citizen, consult your home country's embassy or consulate to determine if they have similar services.

U.S. Consulate – Rio de Janeiro

Avenida Presidente Wilson

147 – Centro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Tel: (21) 3823-2000

Emergency Contact Number: (21) 3823-2000 (during business hours) or (21) 3823-2029 (after hours)

[acsrio@state.gov](mailto:acsrio@state.gov)

## PROGRAM DATES

Program dates are **May 13 – June 14, 2017**. Detailed program dates are provided in your MyStudyAbroad account. A more comprehensive schedule will be provided as the departure date approaches.

## PREPARATION BEFORE LEAVING

Refer to the Pre-Departure Checklist in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for essential information, as well as the CIEE Handbook. Be certain to read all of these materials carefully, as they answer many common questions about cultural, academic, and health matters abroad.

### Immigration Documents

#### Passport

A passport is needed to travel to Brazil and to obtain your required visa. **Apply immediately for a passport if you do not already have one.** Passport information and application forms can be found on the U.S. State Department website

<http://travel.state.gov/passport>). If you already have your passport, make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months beyond the length of your stay abroad.

**\*Tip: Take a lost passport kit**

It happens. So save yourself a major headache. Take with you two U.S.-produced passport photos, a certified copy of your birth certificate (which you can shrink to wallet size), and the face page of your passport. Keep this "lost passport kit" separate from your actual passport. Also leave one copy of the passport face page with your parents or guardian and give another copy to CIEE staff at the host site.

## **Visa**

A Brazilian Tourist visa is required for the UW Global Gateway program. You will receive instructions from IAP on the student visa application. IAP will submit your visa application on your behalf but it is your responsibility to submit all necessary paperwork to IAP by the requested deadline. U.S. citizens must have a U.S. passport valid for at least six months beyond the end of the program. If you are not a U.S. citizen, contact your Study Abroad Advisor for guidance. It is your responsibility to submit your visit materials on-time to IAP.

You are advised NOT to leave the U.S. for any international travel up to three months before the program begins as your passport must be turned over to the Brazilian consulate for visa processing.

## **Packing and Baggage**

Try to organize and pack a day or two prior to departure so that you can judge if you'll be able to carry your bags (you must be able to do this). Some students have even practiced by carrying their bags around the block! Also, by packing early you'll have time to rest before the long trip.

### ***What are the baggage limits?***

Limits vary. Read the weight limitation and baggage allowance information provided by your international airline carrier. Generally flights overseas permit two pieces of checked baggage and one carry-on piece. Each checked bag must weigh less than 70 pounds. Total dimensions (length + width + height) of the first piece must be less than 62 inches, and the second piece less than 52 inches. Total dimensions of the carry-on must not exceed 45 inches and must be able to fit below the seat in front of you or in the overhead compartment. If your baggage exceeds any of these standards you may be charged for excess baggage. Check with your airline regarding any items that are oversized.

Domestic flights have stricter weight limitations and usually only allow 50 pounds. You will want to keep this in mind for any independent travel you might plan.

## **Climate**

Generally, the temperature in Rio hovers between 70-85 degrees Fahrenheit all year round. But you can expect a few chilly days so pack a sweater. It is a pleasant, rarely stifling environment.

## **Clothing**

Plan to dress much as you do in the United States. While most Brazilian students are casual in dress and jeans, shorts and T-shirts are popular, a clean, neat appearance is expected. Ragged jeans and tattered clothes may be offensive. Brazilians can be very fashionable and the style of dress tends to be cosmopolitan.

Although it is unlikely that you will have the occasion for formal attire we recommend that you bring a nice outfit in case you are invited to attend a graduation or special event. In the summer (November-March), it can get very humid and hot and, as a result, too uncomfortable for jeans. Women often prefer to wear cotton dresses, skirts, or Bermuda shorts in the summer months. You will definitely need rain gear, since it rains a lot in both winter and summer. You will do a lot of walking so bring comfortable walking shoes.

U.S. students have often said they took too much clothing. Don't forget that nothing ruins traveling abroad more than having too much luggage, especially when you have to carry it yourself. You can save packing space by coordinating your clothing so that shirts and sweaters can be worn with different skirts and pants. Bring comfortable walking shoes. Peg the weight of your clothing to the season you go; take wools and heavy cottons for winter and lightweight clothing for the summer.

## **Toilet Articles**

Bring with you things you frequently use that may be specific and available only in the US like vitamins, products from special brands or medicines that require a prescription. Most other toiletries will be available in Brazil for approximately the same cost.

## **Electrical Appliances**

Most of Brazil, including Rio, uses 110- volt current, but some cities use 220 volts. If you bring anything electric, be sure to check the voltage before plugging it in. You could have customs problems with electronics (which are usually highly taxed as imports), but if you can assure them that what you are bringing are personal items, you should have no difficulty. If you bring anything new, make sure you take it out of the packaging. You might be required to have these items written in your passport by the customs officials, and you will be required to take them back out of the country with you when you leave.

Most students recommend bringing your laptop with you, but also know that there are computers at CIEE>

# **TRAVEL AND ARRIVAL INFORMATION**

Gateway students travel together by bus to the airport and on a group flight to Brazil. This is included as part of your program fee. The bus will pick up students in Madison on the UW campus in the morning of May 13<sup>th</sup> and travel to the Chicago O'Hare airport. The bus will then return students from Chicago to the UW campus on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the conclusion of the program.

All participants are expected to fly on the roundtrip flight to and from Brazil. There are no options to extend travel beyond the dates of the program or to take an alternative flight to or from Brazil.

### **The group flight is with United Airlines and the following itinerary (note this is subject to change by airline):**

May 13

Depart Chicago O'Hare (ORD) 5:45PM Flight #722

Arrive George Bush Intercontinental Houston Airport (IAH) 8:30PM

Depart Houston (IAH) 10:10PM Flight #129

May 14

Arrive to Rio de Janeiro (GIG) at 10:10AM

June 13

Depart Rio de Janeiro (GIG) at 8:40PM flight #128

June 14

Arrive Houston airport (IAH) at 5:00AM

Depart Houston (IAH) at 7:15AM, Flight #638

Arrive Chicago O'Hare (ORD) at 9:50AM

# THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

## General Information

UW Global Gateway Programs are short-term study abroad programs that allow you to interact closely with a UW-Madison faculty member. On these programs, a UW-Madison faculty member will lead a group of students to various locations around the globe to introduce them to issues of global importance and in an increasingly interconnected world.

As global competency and awareness of international issues are core to the development of all UW-Madison students, IAP supports this initiative by providing each student selected with a Global Gateway Scholarship, which covers all billed program costs and international airfare. Through these programs, IAP hopes to make study abroad accessible to UW-Madison students, to serve as a gateway to further international opportunities, and to cultivate community at UW-Madison through shared academic experiences abroad.

All Global Gateway participants are students in the first two years of their experience at UW-Madison.

## Course Information

### ***Brazil in Black and White: Race and Ethnicity in Brazil (equivalent to Portuguese 364) – 3 credits***

This course will examine comparatively, and again through a representative selection of literary, cultural as well as scholarly texts, the complex ways in which constructions of racial miscengenation developed in Brazil (as well as in other parts of Latin American, i.e. Mexico) in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This “Lusotropicalism” challenged and opened up paths for rethinking dominate racial stereotypes, and was to play a significant role in dominate formulations of Brazilian national identity. Yet, although initially proposed as an alternative to, and way out of, Western racism, Lusotropicalism has in recent decades come under attack for the racist and patriarchal assumptions that underlie it. In the second part of the course we will take a closer look, from a “hemispheric perspective” (to the extent possible), how movements for ethno-racial recognition and redistributive justice have been transforming Brazil (as well as the hemisphere) at least since the 1970s. We will contrast the earlier ‘lusotropicalist’ account of racial and ethnic relations with these recent political and legal forms of indigenous and black identity recognition, focusing on the changes these movements bring to peoples’ lives and how they afford them novel ways of being and empowerment. This course will be taught by Professor Madureira.

### ***Analysis of Brazilian Foreign Policy (equivalent to LACIS 440) – 2 credits***

This course will discuss the basic concepts of Brazilian foreign policy through a brief social and historical approach. The course will aim to familiarize the students with the historical debates surrounding the formulation of the main tenets of the Brazilian foreign policy. In addition, the course will offer many methodological approaches that permit students to construct a critical assessment of the Brazilian foreign policy. Finally, the course will work to stimulate the analysis of foreign policy as an important mechanism for the development of a solid professional in International Relations. This course will be taught by an instructor from the CIEE Rio de Janeiro center, Professor Ricardo Gomes.

Both courses will mostly be taught at the CIEE Rio de Janeiro center, approximately a 10 to 15-minute walk from the accommodations. Any given lecture may also be taught at different locations throughout the city.

## Registration

IAP will register you for a special “Study Abroad Course” for the term(s) you will be studying abroad; therefore, it is not necessary for you to register on the UW-Madison campus. This is a temporary registration, which will be replaced with the final grade and credit you earn after completion of the program.

## Course Equivalent Requests (CERs) and My Study Abroad

Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison “equivalent” course in order for your grades and credits to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Request (CER) through your My Study Abroad account. Information on the UW course equivalent process is also available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook. To avoid a delay in your study abroad courses posting to your UW Madison transcript, it is important to submit your equivalent information prior to the end of your term abroad.

### Credits

#### *Conversions*

*Brazil in Black and White: Racial and Ethnicity in Brazil* will be worth 3 credits. *Analysis of Brazilian Foreign Policy* will be worth 2 credits.

#### *Limits and Load*

You are required to enroll in both courses while on the Gateway program, for a total of 5 credits.

### Pass/Fail/Drop/Audit

Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies. A Pass/Fail option will be available in the Course Equivalency Request. The due date for Pass/Fail submission can be found in the Academics tab of your My Study Abroad account.

### Grades and Grade Conversions

The UW Global Gateway in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil program uses the following scale to assess grades to be placed on your UW Student Record:

CIEE	UW-Madison Equivalent
A+/A	A
A-/B+	AB
B	B
B-/C+	BC
C/C-	C
D+/D/D-	D
F	F

Please note that Professor Madureira’s course will use the UW-Madison scale, and therefore, no conversion is needed.

## LIVING ABROAD

Educate yourself about your host country. Read the Preparing to Live in Another Culture section of the IAP Study Abroad Handbook. Remember- it won't be possible to prepare yourself completely. There will be situations you will not have anticipated and your flexibility will determine in great part the kind of experience you will have while abroad.

Refer to your CIEE UW Global Gateway Handbook for more information on the program, living in Brazil, health issues, personal safety, phones, mail, money, weather, clothing, packing, and travel. Your CIEE Handbook also includes helpful websites for media and cultural resources on Brazil.

## Accommodations

During the program, all participants will stay at the Royal Regency Palace Hotel. Each room will have two students (each with their own bed) expect for one room which will be a single occupant room given the odd number of students. Rooms will be divided between males and females. Each room has wi-fi access, a tv, air conditioning and a private bathroom. The CIEE Center is approximately a 10-15 minute walk from the hotel.

Royal Regency Palace Hotel  
Rua Artur Bernardes, n° 15 Flamengo/Catete  
Rio de Janeiro, CEP 22220-070, Brazil  
Tel: (21) 22220-070  
<http://www.royalregency.com.br/>

## Money and Banking

Arrive in Brazil with several ways to obtain money so that in the event one method fails or is inconvenient, a back-up option is available. The best way to get money is with a bank card affiliated with Visa or Mastercard. Most major banks in Brazil will allow you to withdraw using your American card. It is only certain ATMs inside these banks that accept international cards. Visa/Mastercard stickers usually indicate that the ATM accepts international cards. Make sure to advise your bank you will be traveling to Brazil. Often banks will cancel cards for security purposes when they see transactions from other countries appearing. Travelers checks are a good idea to have as backup in case your card is lost or stops working.

Brazil's economy has been stable for several years now. However, before leaving the United States students should pay attention to the economic situation because the situation could change. Certain things are more expensive like electronics, brand name clothes, make-up, books or CDs. The national currency is the real (pronounced hay-ow), broken down into 100 centavos.

## Credit Cards

Major credit cards are accepted at restaurants and stores. Past participants highly recommend Visa, MasterCard or Amex. Make sure credit cards will not expire during your stay. If it is not convenient for someone at home to handle your finances and pay your bill, make arrangements to have statements sent to Brazil by airmail. Otherwise the grace period allowed is likely to expire before you receive your statements. Credit cards are a great back up method while abroad in case anything should happen to your ATM/Debit bank card.

## ATM/Bank Cards

Maintaining bank accounts at home and withdrawing money from ATM/MAC machines in Brazil is the preferred form of financial access by past participants. ATM/MAC machines with access to PLUS or CIRRUS banking systems are available in Brazil. You can withdraw local currency from the machine without commission charges. Although the conversion rate is best via ATM most USA banks charge a fee between \$5 and \$10 for international withdrawals. Be sure that you have addressed the following questions if you plan to use a bankcard:

- Verify that your bankcard is valid for an international banking system.
- Call your bank before leaving for Brazil to advise them of your travel. As a security measure, banks will usually put a freeze on cards when charges from foreign countries appear.
- Verify if you can access a savings account with your bankcard abroad. Many past participants have not been able to access their savings account while abroad, regardless if it is within the PLUS or CIRRUS network. Depending on the answer, you should consider transferring your savings funds into a checking account.
- Make sure your PIN is in numbers **not** letters (most ATM/MAC machines in Latin America have only numbers on their keypads).

- From your bank, obtain a list of international banking system ATM machines in Brazil and other locations where you plan to travel in Latin America. The following websites also have international ATM locations: [www.visa.com](http://www.visa.com); [www.mastercard.com/atm](http://www.mastercard.com/atm)
- Check with your bank regarding international transaction and access charges associated with using ATM machines.

While some banks do not impose additional charges for using a bankcard abroad, others can charge up to \$10 per transaction. If your bank charges a high fee, you should consider switching to a bank that charges less, or you can plan to make less frequent ATM transactions in larger amounts.

If you decide to use your ATM/Bank card as your primary way to access money, and the fees charged by your bank are high (per a transaction) then consider purchasing a small lock box (or you may not need it if your suitcase/luggage has a lock). That way, once you locate an ATM closer to the hotel you can take out larger sums of reais at a time and then go immediately to the hotel to put them away.

If this is the way that you choose to access *reais* while in Brazil, you should also bring an “emergency stash” of traveler’s checks or a credit card.

**\* Trap: PIN numbers**

For both credit cards and bankcards, inquire with the issuer to verify that the card is valid for an international banking system. And memorize your PIN in numbers not letters; Foreign phone pads are often configured differently.

## Health

All travelers should consult with their personal doctors before traveling abroad. The CDC currently recommends that all travelers are up to date on their routine vaccinations and should consider additional vaccinations such as Hepatitis A and Typhoid. You are encouraged to read through the Traveler’s Health Information sheet from the [CDC for Brazil](#) prior to departure and to make an appointment with either the [University Health Services \(UHS\) Travel Clinic](#) or your personal provider to discuss your upcoming travel. Make sure to schedule this appointment as soon after acceptance as possible to ensure that you have enough time to secure all recommended inoculations.

## Safety information for Rio de Janeiro

Personal vigilance is key to remaining safe in Rio de Janeiro. Like any big city throughout the world, Rio has its share of crime. Brazil is experiencing rapid political, social and economic change, and does have an undesirable incidence of crime, particularly petty theft. Although Rio is relatively safe, you must be careful about what you do and where you go. You will hear about safety in your pre-departure orientation as well as in your onsite orientation conducted by CIEE. Read the following information carefully and also read the “Safety” section of the IAP Study Abroad Handbook to prepare yourself to take appropriate precautions for your personal safety while in Rio. If you are the victim of any crime while abroad, alert your Program Leader immediately.

General Suggestions about Safety in Rio de Janeiro:

- Tourists are common targets of pickpockets. Be aware of your backpacks and cameras, especially on crowded buses, beaches and other tourist locations. It is not unusual for criminals to carry weapons during robbery attempts.
- Keep valuables in a locked place. Do not carry large sums of money, wear expensive jewelry, or obviously display valuable items (cameras, iPods, laptops, etc.) when you walk on the street. Only carry the amount of money you need with you; leave credit cards, debit cards, additional cash, traveler’s checks, etc. in your apartment.
- Do not carry your passport with you on a daily basis. A photocopy of the front page should be adequate.
- If you are robbed, give the robber your possessions; do not resist.
- Use common sense just as you would in any other big city. Do not walk alone at night, go with other students, and use public transportation recommended by the CIEE onsite staff to get back to your housing.
- Go into a shop or ask security personnel for directions. Do not stop strangers in the street.
- Avoid exploring unfamiliar areas of town on your own.

- Do not go into the “favelas” in Rio de Janeiro.
- If you visit the beach, take heed of any posted warning signs and never swim alone. There are sometimes strong riptides or currents that could prove to be dangerous.
- Do not walk the beaches at night
- You should avoid political demonstrations and other activities that might be deemed political by the Brazilian authorities. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Demonstrators in Brazil may cause public transportation to close. You are urged to avoid areas of demonstrations, and to exercise caution if in the vicinity of any protests.
- If you use a card (ATM, debit, credit) while in Rio, be sure to monitor your account closely for fraudulent charges. When using an ATM, it should be accessed only during the business day at large protected facilities (preferably inside commercial establishments, rather than at glass-enclosed, highly visible ATMs on streets).
- Report to the Program Leader, any incident, harassment or threatening situation which you may experience. They can assist you with filing a police report if necessary.
- Know where you can reach someone in case of an emergency. Carry your IAP emergency card on you at all times.

You are encouraged to read the State Department’s Country Specific information on Brazil that can be found here: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/brazil.html>.

## ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION/WEBSITES OF INTEREST

### Get a Good Guidebook

Past participants recommend that you purchase a good guidebook and read a lot of it before you go! *The Lonely Planet* series is useful. Other guidebooks include the *Let's Go*, and *Real/Rough Guide* series. *Insight* guides provide good background and cultural information. Pay particular attention to sections on obtaining maps and other information from tourist offices, customs of the host country, currency exchange, telephoning home, safety, transportation, and general travel advice.

### Tap Other Resources

Other good ways to learn about your new home:

- Check your college or university study abroad office for useful services and information.
- Seek out Brazilians through cultural organizations, international student organizations, and Portuguese or South America area studies departments or centers at your college or university.
- Surf the web. Many websites, such as [www.lonelyplanet.com](http://www.lonelyplanet.com), offer travel information, slide shows, and tips from other travelers.
- Check libraries for detailed information and keep yourself informed of current events through the news media.

U.S. State Department Students Abroad site:  
<http://www.studentsabroad.state.gov/>

UW-Madison International Academic Programs  
<http://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu>

U.S. State Department:

<http://travel.state.gov>

Center for Disease Control  
<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>

Current exchange rates  
<http://www.oanda.com>

Cost of Living Calculator  
<http://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/>

Lonely Planet  
<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>