



Portuguese Language Program in Rio de Janeiro



Full Immersion into Portuguese Language and Brazilian Culture

Program Overview

Rio de Janeiro, the “Cidade Maravilhosa”, provides students with the ideal atmosphere for full immersion into the Portuguese language and Brazilian culture. Students in the program benefit from special lectures and workshops by Brazilian artists, activists, and renowned scholars. A large number of instructional excursions in and around Rio allow students to have hands-on experiences with different social strata of the population. The course is hosted at Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, one of Brazil’s leading universities.

Course of Study

In this second-year-level course in Brazilian culture and Portuguese language, students participate in language sessions and instructional excursions, and experience Brazilian film and popular music, expanding and strengthening their linguistic skills and learning about the history and people of Rio.

The course provides students with numerous occasions to interact with native Brazilians from diverse backgrounds and to speak Portuguese. In class, students can reflect upon the different uses of the language in which they are immersed. They compare levels of formality in written and spoken language, and develop their written and spoken academic Portuguese. Students attain an advanced linguistic level by the end of the course.

Morning sessions integrate intensive language instruction with readings, films, and popular songs, providing a comprehensive overview of the history and culture of the Marvelous City. Afternoon and evening sessions include visits to Old Rio, samba and capoeira schools, the Maracanã soccer stadium, churches, museums, and nongovernmental organizations, offering students an informal experience of the rich cultural and social life of the city. Excursions to additional sites around Rio—such as Parati and old coffee plantations—enhance students’ understanding and enjoyment of Brazil.

Course Credit

For Harvard College students, this program counts as two half-year courses (4 credits each) toward the Harvard College foreign language citation. This course also satisfies the Foreign Cultures Core requirement. Transfer credit: Since degree requirements vary among schools, students are advised to obtain transfer credit approval from their home institutions before registering for Harvard Summer School courses





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Application Information



Application

Harvard students must have completed either Portuguese A, Portuguese Ac and Ad, Portuguese Ba, or the Harvard University placement test. Students must be at least 18 years old to apply. Harvard Foreign Languages and Area Studies (FLAS) students are encouraged to apply.

Costs & Funding

For detailed application materials and up-to-date course costs, please see: <http://www.summer.harvard.edu>. Harvard College students are eligible for scholarships through the Harvard Office for International Programs (OIP). Students may consult the OIP's website or contact the OIP for details. The Harvard College Financial Aid Office summer study webpage also provides information about assistance. Other Harvard students may be eligible for financial assistance through their Harvard financial aid offices.

Accommodations

Students are placed in homes with local families where they experience Brazilian life and speak conversational Portuguese. Each student has a private room in a home chosen by the experienced staff of the university's international program. Access to a kitchen, a telephone, and laundry facilities is arranged between the student and the family. Families live in safe neighborhoods near the university (about 15 minutes by city bus).

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact:
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