

Brazil

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's *decision to apply* for an EAP program. The document is *not* a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the [UCEAP](#) and [BSA](#) websites. The best source of detailed program information is always the [UCEAP Program Guide](#) from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Applications 2019-20

Berkeley Study Abroad uses a portal called myapp.berkeley.edu (often referred to as "Slate") UCEAP applications. The portal opens in October, which is when you will be able to start an application to see specific requirements relevant to your program of interest. The link below will provide detailed information about preparing for submitting a UCEAP application.
<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/uceap-how-apply>

RESOURCES

Advisor Contact Information

For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising>

EAP Alums

EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

EAP Alum-Created Resources

Some of our returnees have created presentations to share with others. You can look at their work through the [Student Created Resource](#) Google folder that we will continually update.

Center for Latin American Studies

The more informed you are about the history and current affairs of Brazil and Latin America, the more fulfilling your study abroad experience will likely be. In addition to keeping up with Spanish language study prior to departure, you are also highly encouraged to attend lectures and events put on by the [Center for Latin American Studies](#) at UC Berkeley. You can join [CLAS email](#) list for event reminders.

PROGRAMS

SUMMER SEMINAR AND LANGUAGE, PONTIFICAL CATHOLIC UNIV. OF RIO DE JANEIRO- SUMMER

This new program in Rio de Janeiro was offered for the first time to UCEAP students in summer 2018. Students take a Portuguese language course along with the Brazilian Seminars, which consist of a series of lectures on Contemporary Society. Lectures have a multidisciplinary and broad range focus including Race Relations, Public Policy, International Relations, doing Business in Brazil, Environmental Challenges, the Oil Industry and much more! Each lecture is taught in English by Brazilian experts in their field. This is a great option for students to learn more about Latin America and the world from the lens of the fifth largest country in the world.

The program is open to international participants beyond the UC system, so it's likely that students will attend the seminar course with other international students and young professionals.

PONTIFICAL CATHOLIC UNIV. OF RIO DE JANEIRO- FALL, SPRING, YEAR

The semester or year program at PUC-Rio has two tracks: English Track and Immersion Track. The English Track allows students without prior Portuguese or Spanish background to take limited [course offerings in English](#). Traditionally, there are 20-27 courses offered within this option and approximately half are offered per semester. These courses in English are meant for international students and have a focus on Brazilian or Latin American culture, society or history. The English track caters to those without prior Portuguese or Spanish skills and is best intended for a student who wants to make significant progress in learning the language while taking limited English-taught courses.

The Immersion Track allows students with a minimum of one year of university-level Portuguese *or* two years of university-level Spanish training prior to departure to take courses in a variety of subject areas. The courses in the immersion track will be taught in Portuguese.

Both tracks start with a 3-4 week ILP (Intensive Language Program) that is worth 2-4 semester units and students continue to study the Portuguese language during the semester.

- **Flexibility is important.** Keep in mind that the courses you find in the EAP Course Catalog or on the host university's web site may not be offered the semester(s) you will be abroad. Often times you will not have concrete information about what courses will be offered until a couple months before departure or even until upon arrival in Brazil. Be prepared for the possibility that you will have to modify your plans.
- **How many courses/units will I take?** You are required to take a minimum of 12 (semester) units per semester (this does not include the ILP). Students typically take 3 or 4 courses per semester.

OTHER IMPORTANT DETAILS

Important Visa Information

While you will not be applying for your visa until after you are selected, there are some important things you should be aware of now to ensure you do not have problems later on:

- **It is critical that your full name and the full names of your parents are identical on all documents** (passport, birth certificate, visa application form, etc.). The Brazilian Consulate and other government agencies are very picky about names. For example, if your name is Jorge Amado da Silva, you cannot apply for a visa using the name Jorge A. da Silva, or Jorge Silva.
- **Check your official documents now** and take action if there is any inconsistency in how your name is written on your passport, birth certificate, driver's license, etc. In addition, if there is any potential for future inconsistency in how your name is written, decide before you begin your EAP application how you will write your name.

- **Plan ahead to extend.** It is not always possible that students are able to extend their visas once they are in Brazil. For this reason, if you think there is *any* possibility that you will want to extend your stay in Brazil, make sure to check “Yes” and obtain the necessary signatures on the Departmental Pre-Approval to Extend form (DPA) that you will submit as part of your application. Students are not obligated to stay in Brazil when the “Yes” option is checked, however, a “Yes” now will ensure that you will receive the documentation necessary to obtain a year-long visa.
- **Non-US passport holders plan ahead.** EAP is only able to provide instruction on visa procedures for U.S. passport holders. If you hold passport from a country other than the US, please be sure to contact the Brazilian Consulate to find out what documents you will need for studying in Brazil.

Back to Back programs

Due to the complicated nature of student visas for Brazil, students are not encouraged to participate on UCEAP Brazil as their second of back-to-back study abroad options. If you are able to start with the Brazil program before moving to your second study abroad destination, that would be advised.