Study Abroad Program: JHU in Salvador, Brazil

Afro-Brazilian History & Culture

Intersession 2017 (January 8th – January 26th 2017)

General Information
Course: AS 362. 252.30 Study Abroad Program: Afro-Brazilian History & Culture
Semester: Winter 2017
Director: Flavia Azeredo-Cerqueira
Contact: flavia.azeredo@jhu.edu
Phone: (410) 516.6738
Office hours: Wednesday 1.30 to 4pm or by appointment
Library: ACBEU

Course Description
Afro-Brazilian history and culture is a course that introduces students to the history, culture, language, and society of the Afro-diaspora in Brazil in a pragmatic way while ensuring appeal to a broad cross-section of Johns Hopkins undergraduate majors. The course will take place in Salvador, one of Brazil’s foremost cultural centers. Students will have the opportunity to take a walk on the cobblestone streets of the restored Pelourinho district “old city” a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the largest group of Baroque buildings in the Americas, examples of Portuguese colonial architecture and historical monuments. Join a street celebration and feel the infectious rhythms of Bahia’s African-inspired music and dance, and taste acaraje, moqueca, vatapa and other delicious Afro-Brazilian dishes. This course will use a cross-disciplinary approach to help student immerse in the history and cultures of the African diaspora in Brazil, while considering their own place in history and in contemporary society. This intersession course will interest students from all backgrounds and majors.

Course Objectives:

- To provide a rigorous introduction to the history, society, and culture of Afro-Brazil before students depart through intensive, on-campus pre-departure academic seminars, led by Flavia Azeredo-Cerqueira involving reading and discussion of important academic books and articles.
- To offer a unique experience available only through study abroad. The group will have exclusive guides and specialist lecturers to meet, greet, advise and introduce the students to the diverse topics covered on the program.
- To combine in-country site visits and cultural tourism with academic rigor. During the in-country component of the trip, Dr. Azeredo-Cerqueira will complement local site visits and special invited expert lecturers with formal seminars addressing the historical, social, political, and economic context, which will include discussion of reading assignments.
- To encourage students to connect their experiences with classroom training through post-Brazil learning assessments. In addition to a journal, which students will keep during the in-country part of the course to record and reflect on their experiences, students will be expected to submit a ten-page paper within a week of returning to the US. The students will be asked to combine insights gained in-country with the academic writing about Brazil with which they will have become familiar both before and during the trip.
- To develop basic skill in the Portuguese language. A portion of the course will be dedicated to the study, albeit superficial of the language, in order to better understand the Brazilian culture and society.
  - Language Content – Grammar, vocabulary and social language integrated within topical, communicative units.
  - Develop basic knowledge of the Portuguese language;
  - Understand how the Portuguese language sound system works;

Each location visited represents an opportunity to feature a dimension of Brazil and the Afro-Brazilian world that should appeal to the group’s multi-disciplinary interests: art, religion, music, dance, culinary, history, geography, politics, and more.

Course Requirements
1. Attend pre-departure seminar on campus in December 2016.
2. Complete the required readings both prior to the pre-departure seminar as well as those that will be assigned for the in-country academic component of the course.
3. Attend all meetings and scheduled events (i.e. all tours, all academic seminars, guest speakers etc.). You are expected to be an active participant during the seminars both prior to the trip and during the trip. You are expected to arrive on time for all events. Failure to do so will result in failure of the course, being sent home, or both.
4. Write a daily log/journal of activities to be checked by the instructors during the course.
5. Write a 10-page paper on return due no later than Friday, February 3rd. The students will be asked to combine their practical experience of being in Brazil (reflected in their journals) with insights drawn from academic texts studied prior to and during the in-country portion of the course.
6. Treat every person we encounter in Brazil with respect.
# Itinerary

**SUNDAY, January 8**: Arrival, transfer to the hotel, check in at Hotel Sheraton; free to rest; 
Welcome dinner at 7:30pm at the Hotel restaurant,

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td>Morning: 10-12:15 Orientation with Prof. Clara Ramos and Prof. Flávia Cerqueira 12:00pm Welcome lunch with host mothers Afternoon: 2:30-5pm Walking tour on the neighborhood with FRED</td>
<td>10 Morning: 9-10:30 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2 – 7pm Portuguese class with SIMONI</td>
<td>11 Morning: 9-10:30 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2 - 5pm Lecture about Brazilian Art and contemporary issues with Prof. Cloves Oliveira(UFBa)</td>
<td>12 Morning: 9-10:30 Portuguese class 10:40-12:15 Lecture Dr. Azeredo-Cerqueira about historical 18th period, mining and geographical/ ecological aspects of the area</td>
<td>13 Morning: 9-12 Visit Sant’Ana de Mesquita and UFBA Prof. Anthony Russell - Wood’s collection</td>
<td>14 DAY TRIP TO PRAIA DO FORTE Leave ACBEU at 8:30am Lunch at Casa de Nati 1pm Return to Acbeu at 5pm</td>
<td>15 Free</td>
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<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>16 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Lecture about Afro-Brazilian religion with Maílson Valdina Pinto</td>
<td>17 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Workshop at the Modern Art Museum (Art) Evening: 8:30pm Concert/concert in Pelourinho</td>
<td>18 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Visit Pilão de Prata terreiro with FRED</td>
<td>19 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Workshop with João Conceição (Percussion) Evening: 8 – 9pm Folk Ballet in Pelourinho</td>
<td>20 LENCÓIS Leave ACBEU 7am (visits and lectures about historical 18th period, mining cycle of diamonds, the geographical ecological aspects of the area)</td>
<td>21 LENCÓIS Sunday (Cachoeirinha) Check out at 12:30h Lunch at Bode Grill at 12:45pm Return to Salvador at 2pm</td>
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<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td>22 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Lecture and tour with Eder Muniz about Graffiti in Bahia and Brazil. Evening: Free</td>
<td>23 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Lecture and tour with Eder Muniz about Graffiti in Bahia and Brazil. Evening: Free</td>
<td>24 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Visit STEVE BIKO NGO - Education and affirmative action in Brazil</td>
<td>25 Portuguese class Afternoon: 2-5pm Final feedback 12:30pm Farewell lunch with moms at SENAC (Culinary School)</td>
<td>26 Return to the US</td>
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**Notes:**
- As you can see, the schedule is very full, with exciting tours of major sites. However, there will be “free” time during the program. You may want to acquire and bring with you to Brazil a traditional tourist guidebook (e.g. Moon, Lonely Planet, Let’s go) to help you plan, unsupervised free time, including evenings. The instructors can provide further advice if you require it.
- Whether or not we have a guest lecture, we will have a seminar lasting at least 50 minutes once a week in order to discuss assigned reading from the course packet or the Skidmore book (see below), in addition to what we’ve experienced that week. All of the required readings are listed below. The location and time of the seminar will vary. Regardless of where and when it takes place, your attendance and participation is required.

**Academic Pre-Departure Seminars and Orientation:**
- Monday, December 12: 11-12:30am.

N.B. Attendance required at all information sessions, seminars, and orientations.

**Required Reading**

**PRE-DEPARTURE**


Documentary: Black in Latin America - Brazil: A Racial Paradise? - PBS

**WEEK 1**


**Wednesday** 01/11 - Thomas Skidmore, Brazil: Five Centuries of Change. 2nd ed. (Oxford University Press, 2010), Ch. 3 & Ch. 4


**WEEK 2**

**Monday** 01/16 - *The African religion of Brazil*, Roger Bastile, chapter. 6, 10 and 12. [https://books.google.com.br/books/about/The_African_Religions_of_Brazil.html?id=eTPByICog1cC&redir_esc=y](https://books.google.com.br/books/about/The_African_Religions_of_Brazil.html?id=eTPByICog1cC&redir_esc=y)

**Monday** 01/16 – Castilo, Lisa. Icons of Memory: Photography and its uses in Bahian Candomble, 2009

**Monday** 01/16 – *Performing Brazil: Essays on Culture, Identity, and the Performing Arts*. 

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Thursday 01/19 – Brazilian Popular Music and Globalization. New York: Routledge, 2002. Ch. 9 & Ch. 10


WEEK 3


Suggested Readings

Thomas Skidmore, Brazil: Five Centuries of Change. 2nd ed. (Oxford University Press, 2010).
Cornwall, Andrea & Alex Shankland. “Cultures of politics, spaces of power: contextualizing Brazilian experiences of participation”.

Suggested Literature Readings


Additional Notes:

- You do not require a computer or tablet in order to complete the assigned reading or work for this course during the in-country portion of the course. You will have physical copies of the books and articles/chapters. You may decide that you want to bring a computer for personal e-mail etc. with you to Brazil. The instructors and Johns Hopkins are not responsible for your computer/tablet in Brazil. Petty crime is a reality of life in Brazil and the instructors encourage you to plan accordingly.

- A word about alcohol and other controlled substances: The legal drinking age in Brazil is 18. Nevertheless, alcohol is strictly forbidden during the JHU “official” components of the trip (i.e. tours, group meals, seminars and so forth). Violation of the policy is grounds for expulsion from the program. Drugs are strictly forbidden. Anyone even suspected of drug use will be sent home on the first flight available.

- If you decide to go out at night (defined as dusk onward), you must do so with at least one “buddy”, another JHU student. Failure to do so will result in immediate expulsion from the course.