



Agroecology Sustainable Agriculture and Biodiversity Spring Break Study Tour in Southern Brazil

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

- Explore different agricultural regions in Brazil while staying at international agricultural universities in São Paulo and Curitiba.
- Gain an awareness of critical issues in sustainable crop protection within the context of larger ecosystems and global agriculture.
- Visit local farms and industries to learn about Brazilian sustainable agricultural and environmental management strategies on crops such as citrus, sugarcane, and soybean.
- Hike through the Atlantic Forest, study exceptional biodiversity, stroll through botanical gardens, enjoy a city tour, and experience the culture of Brazil.

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Tour description and requirements

Brazil Sustainable Agriculture and Biodiversity Study Tour

Spring Semester Curriculum

Before the trip

Students will meet weekly for a series of seminars on topics including:

- The land-grant university in the 21st century
- The cooperative extension system
- USDA agricultural research
- A tour of Penn State experiment farms

Students will develop an introduction to Brazil, working in groups to create presentations on topics such as:

- Geography
- History
- Government structure
- Agricultural statistics
- Culture

Concurrently, students will also create a parallel overview of the United States.

After the trip

Each group will prepare a 10- to 15-page report and will communicate their findings in an oral presentation to be given two weeks after the conclusion of the trip.



Spring Break in Brazil

Participants are hosted by the University of São Paulo Luiz de Queiroz School of Agriculture (ESALQ), located in Piracicaba, São Paulo, and the Federal University of Paraná, located in Curitiba, Paraná. Accommodations will be arranged by these host universities.

Possible site visits

- Citrus plantation and processing plant
- Sugarcane plantation and processing plant
- Soybean plantation and processing plant
- Botanical control facility
- Ethanol production facility
- Tea plantation

Possible sightseeing and cultural events

- Atlantic Forest, one of the oldest living forests in the world
- Botanical garden tour
- Curitiba city tour
- Receptions with Brazilian students

For additional information, contact Kate Butler at katebutler@psu.edu.

Expenses

Please note that this budget is an estimate based on previous study tours and current rates. A budget for the current trip will be provided during the first information session.

Transportation	
To and from U.S. airport	\$100
Airfare	\$900
University lodging	\$360
Meals/activities	\$800
Student insurance	\$30
Visa processing fees	\$210
Total	\$2,400

Students will be eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 from a U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education grant run through the College of Agricultural Sciences Office of International Programs.

Additional scholarships may be available. For an application, please contact Ketja Lingenfelter, study abroad coordinator, at kmw209@psu.edu.

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