

## **PONTIFÍCIA UNIVERSIDADE CATÓLICA DO RIO DE JANEIRO**

### **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

#### **The University**

The Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) was founded in 1940 by the then Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro. Its direction and teaching was entrusted to the Jesuits. At that time, the campus was located in Sao Clemente Street, close to the famous Santo Inacio High School. Fifteen years later it moved to its current location in Gavea, a green residential area in the south of Rio de Janeiro near the cultural and economic centers. Nine thousand undergraduate students and 1700 graduate students attend classes on this lovely campus. On-campus movies, a theatre and a nearby planetarium, as well as intra-mural sports teams and events, are some of the opportunities available to students on this exchange program.

#### **The City**

Rio de Janeiro is a large metropolitan area of several million people with one of the most physically beautiful urban settings in the world. The combination of sea and mountains, with granite islands rising out of the ocean, creates a breath-taking view from the famous Christ statue above the city. However, Rio has all of the issues that face many large cities in Latin America, including abject poverty and incredible wealth side by side. The city has a lot to offer, with excellent restaurants, cultural events and campus activities for the students to explore in their free time.

#### **Academic Calendar**

Because this university is in the Southern Hemisphere, the first semester of the academic year begins in March and continues through June. The second semester begins in August and ends in December, when the summer holiday begins. Students who are not fluent in Portuguese must begin their studies with a pre-semester intensive Portuguese language program in July or January before their first semester of regular studies.

#### **Am I eligible for this program?**

All applicants for study abroad must have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5. Students who do not know Portuguese but have a high level of Spanish ability are good candidates for this program.

**What could I study?**

PUC-Rio has twenty-four departments, with courses in technological, human, social and the hard and technological sciences. However, most of those courses are taught in Portuguese and require proficiency in that language. In recent years, PUCP has expanded the number of courses taught in English, making it possible for students to study there in English while continuing to take Portuguese for Foreigners courses during the regular semester. Information about the courses taught in English can be found at [http://www.puc-rio.br/ensinopesq/ccci/study\\_english\\_puc.html](http://www.puc-rio.br/ensinopesq/ccci/study_english_puc.html). The list is limited but covers several different academic areas.

**What about academic credit?**

Grades received on reciprocal exchange study abroad programs through the University of Oklahoma are posted by the Office of Admissions as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) on the OU permanent record. These grades are not factored into the participant's Grade Point Average. Because each student is enrolled in 12 credits per semester while abroad, participants are expected to enroll in an equivalent number of credits at the host university. Academic systems around the world vary in what equals 12 OU credits. The decision about awarding credits is made in the Office of Admissions at OU.

**Where would I live?**

Students live with host families arranged by the university.

**How much does it cost?**

Costs at OU: All students participating on semester or academic year reciprocal exchange programs are enrolled at OU for 12 credits each semester abroad. Tuition and fees are billed through and paid directly to OU at the appropriate resident or non-resident rate. Fees are charged at the Arts and Sciences College rate, even if the student's major is in a different college. All participants pay a \$10/credit hour study abroad fee.

A \$120 USD orientation/activities fee is charged upon arrival. Housing costs range from US\$300 - 400 per month with breakfast included. (Price in Reals = R\$650 per month). Access to kitchen and laundry facilities and telephone is to be arranged by the student together with the family. Most families live near the university, around 15 minutes by city bus (US\$ .80 fare).

**How do I apply?**

Instructions for applying to any semester or academic year exchange program may be found in the "how to apply" section of our website.

**For more information please contact:**

[ea@ou.edu](mailto:ea@ou.edu)