



Summer School on Brazilian Studies at Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)

1. About the program

The UFMG Summer School on Brazilian Studies aims at providing students from around the globe with a solid background in Brazil and Brazilian studies, shedding light on crucial aspects of South America's giant country and the region in itself. As the world looks ever more interconnected and multipolar, Brazil strikes as a rising power whose understanding might become an asset for future generations of scholars and practitioners, decision makers and takers. Within the ambit of this program, lectures will be delivered on topics as diverse as politics, history, foreign affairs, economy, geology, law, arts, culture and race, creating a mosaic of highly qualified information and analysis.

Instructors are professors from UFMG (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais), a leading Brazilian university, ranked 3rd as best federal university and 6th as best institutions of higher education in Brazil, by [THE World University Rankings 2026](#).

Introductory classes of Portuguese language – the sixth most spoken idiom in the world today – will help the course taker dig deeper into Brazil's complexities and make better sense of the country's subtleties.

During the two-week course, lectures on selected topics will go from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM and Portuguese for Foreigners will be held from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM, Brasilia time, four days a week. (to be confirmed)

Extracurricular activities will take participants to dive into Brazilian culture and history through:

- **Field trips:**
 - [Ouro Preto](#), former mining town, essential to the Portuguese colony economy, located in the Serra do Espinhaço mountains and designated a World Heritage Site

by UNESCO because of its outstanding Baroque Portuguese colonial architecture. Before Belo Horizonte, it was the capital city of Minas Gerais.

- [Inhotim Institute](#), one of the biggest open-air museums in the world.
- **Movie Club**
- **Luau**

Language

All lectures will be taught in English, therefore applicants are expected to be proficient in the language. For students whose main medium of instruction during their education was not English, some proof of English proficiency will be necessary. Results of standard English proficiency tests (e.g., TOEFL or IELTS) will be preferable, but other forms of certification for language proficiency in English may be considered, at the Organizing Committee's discretion.

2. Fees

The program fee is \$1000, encompassing a comprehensive package that includes lectures covering diverse topics on Brazil, Portuguese classes, accommodation, three daily meals, cultural activities and transportation for field trips. The costs of flights, travel insurance and visas are not included in the programme fee.

Considering the SSBS' goal of global insertion and collaboration, invited partners are offered up to one full and one half scholarship according to their expression of interest. This approach stems from the important value added to the course by the presence of students from some of our most esteemed international collaborators.

3. **Period of exchange:** From July 13th to July 24th, 2026 (tentative)
4. **Conditions for application:** The applicant must be a regular student enrolled at the University of Tsukuba. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply.
5. **Details of the syllabus:** <https://www.ufmg.br/summerschool/course-syllabus/>
6. **How to apply**

If you are interested in applying to the Summer School program, please send an e-mail to the South America Team at the Bureau of Global Initiatives, saopaulo-office@un.tsukuba.ac.jp.

In the e-mail, please write your full name, student ID number, affiliation (name of school/college/program) and year.

The schedule for application is as follows:

- a. Deadline to send e-mail to manifest interest in the program: January 14th (Wed)
- b. Deadline to submit documents: February 10th (Tue)
- c. Announcement of results: February 24th (Tue)

7. Necessary documentation (to be submitted by February 10th (Tue))

- Letter of Motivation;
- Letter of Recommendation;
- Curriculum Vitae (in Portuguese, English or Spanish);
- Copy of passport (If the student does not have it by the deadline, it may be sent later);
- Certification of English proficiency (B2 if English is not the first language).