LBJ School Intensive Course in Brazil 2014

Rising Powers and Global Governance

Professors Eugene Gholz and Josh Busby

Overview: Leaders around the world confront new policy challenges in key areas of complex global governance such as efforts to respond to environmental degradation, to maintain efficient (and perhaps fair) rules for international economic interaction, and to deal with new threats to public health like HIV/AIDS. On these issues, collective action among countries is required to address threats or capitalize on opportunities, and both traditional and new organizations (civil society / NGOs and private, for-profit firms) challenge the power and appropriate role of the state. At the same time, the economic rise of new powers, notably the so-called BRICS, raises questions about whether the traditional global leaders can handle the challenges alone but also offers some hope for new initiatives to address governance challenges in new ways. This course aims to provide students with a broad survey of the role of rising powers in global governance and to show first-hand the implications of the rising powers’ activities: traveling to Brazil will enable students to discuss these issues directly with government officials and thought leaders in a critical rising power and to see the challenges confronting governance in these countries for themselves. Students will observe the front lines of environmental challenges in industrial zones and in the Amazon rainforest, reform and implementation in the public health system, and the historical and contemporary effects of new export and manufacturing opportunities. By combining an analytical overview with direct engagement, we aim to help students understand the complex global challenges.
Assignments and Grading: Each student will write two five-page papers during the course, each of which will count 40% towards the overall grade. First, you will write a five-page paper that applies the more academic readings for a particular day during the course to analyze a newspaper article or articles (we will provide you the article or articles). On May 5, each student will turn in a list of your top three preferences for the day/topic on which your paper will be due. We will spread out the due dates across the class and avoid too much doubling up, and we will tell each student his/her due date on May 6. Your paper will be due on the day that we discuss the topic in class in Brazil.

Second, each student will write a five-page paper that requires a little outside research; this paper will either more deeply analyze Brazil’s role in governance in a particular issue area (likely a specific issue within the broader topics of trade, health, or the environment) or will compare the effect of Brazil’s rise on an issue area to the effect of one of the other BRICS’ rise. You will propose your detailed topic by the time we depart for Brazil, and we will approve it or offer suggested modifications within a day or two of your proposal. The second paper will be due on the last day of class. Class participation counts for the other 20% of the grade. Class participation is required. Absences will not be permitted, except in the case of a health emergency.
**Reading Assignments and Itinerary**

May 17-24: Rio de Janeiro

**Sunday May 18**

City tour of Rio

**Monday May 19:** What is Global Governance? And What are Rising Powers?


Amaury de Sousa, Brazil’s International Agenda Revisited: Perceptions of the Brazilian Foreign Policy Community, CEBRI, 2008, executive summary.

Guest Speaker (10:30 am): Bernardo Strassburg (on biodiversity and land use)

Afternoon visit: CEBRI (international relations think tank)

**Tuesday May 20:** Indigenization of drugs in Brazil


Day trip to visit FioCruz (HIV/AIDS drug research) and Farmanguinhos (antiretroviral drug manufacturing)

**Wednesday May 21:** Universal HIV treatment and health advocacy

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Guest speaker (10:30): Pedro Villardi, ABIA (AIDS treatment activist)

**Thursday May 22:** Rising economic presence and offshore oil


Afternoon visit (2:00 pm): Petrobras

**Friday May 23:** Natural resource exports


Afternoon visits (1:30 pm and 3:30 pm): Vale and FIRJAN (Brazilian industry association)
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May 24-31: Belem

Monday, May 26: Intro to the Amazon and Brazil in Space


Guest speaker (9:00 am): Dr. Izildinha Fernanda, President of UFRA

Afternoon visit (2:00 pm): INPE (Brazilian space agency)

Tuesday, May 27: Day trip to Macapá: Fair Trade and Agricultural Regulations


Visit to Sambazon (acai export company)

Wednesday, May 28: Federalism and Enforcement


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Day-long visit (9:00 am): SEMA (state government environmental agency)

**Thursday, May 29:** Forest Management (regulation and certification)


Ralph Espach, “When Is Sustainable Forestry Sustainable? The Forest Stewardship Council in Argentina and Brazil,” *Global Environmental Politics* 6, no. 2 (May 1, 2006), pp. 55–84.


Morning visits (9:00 am and 11:30 am): IDEFLOR (forest management agency) and The Nature Conservancy

**Friday, May 30:** Local health, rural/urban differences, and indigenous peoples


Day trip: Light in Brazil on the river (public health NGO)
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Brasilia: May 31-June 6

Sunday, June 1

City tour of Brasilia

Monday, June 2: Diplomacy and International Organizations

Steen Fryba Christensen, “Brazil’s Foreign Policy Priorities,” Third World Quarterly 34, no. 2 (2013), pp. 271–86.


Afternoon visits (1:30 pm and 4:00 pm): US embassy visit and EU delegation

Tuesday, June 3: Waste management and Biofuels


Morning meeting: EMBRAPA (Ministry of Agriculture program for biofuels)

Afternoon trip: Visit to Landfill

Wednesday, June 4: Agribusiness


Marcia N. Macedo, Ruth S. DeFries, Douglas C. Morton, Claudia M. Stickler, Gillian L. Galford, and Yosio E. Shimabukuro, “Decoupling of Deforestation and Soy Production in the
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Ruth DeFries, Martin Herold, Louis Verchot, Marcia N. Macedo, Yosio Shimabukuro, “Export-Oriented Deforestation in Mato Grosso: Harbinger or Exception for Other Tropical Forests?” *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, Vol. 368 (2013). (8 pages)


Visit to modern soybean farm and small-holder farms created by land reform

**Thursday, June 5:** Health diplomacy and Nutrition


Morning visit (11:00 am): Ministry of Health

Afternoon visit: Center of Excellence Against Hunger

**Friday, June 6:** Climate Change Negotiations, REDD+, and Wrap-up


Marco A. Vieira, “Brazilian Foreign Policy in the Context of Global Climate Norms.” *Foreign Policy Analysis* 9, no. 4 (October 1, 2013), pp. 369–86.
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Morning visit (9:00): Ministry of the Environment

Saturday, June 7: Departure for Return to U.S.