

This syllabus was approved by TnCIS and TBR for Summer 2009

**Prerequisite: None. Course may be offered at 1000-2000 level for Community Colleges.**

**Social Science/Anthropology (2000 or 3000 level)**

**Topics in Anthropology: Introduction to Culture and Language in Brazil**

*Instructor:* Dr. Richard Pace

*Catalog Description.* Course specially designed for the TnCIS study abroad program in Fortaleza, Brazil. An overview of culture and language of Brazil. Topics covered include family, gender, race and class relations; patterns of social interaction, and basic communication skills in Portuguese. (3 credit hours) **No prerequisites.**

*Purpose:* The goals of this course are to enhance the students' ability to observe, interact with, and understand Brazilian culture. The course will explore many facets of culture and language as students' perfect their observational and social interaction skills. The course will cover basic cultural patterns ranging from personal space, non-verbal communication, greetings, gender relations, class relations, family relations. Basic phrases and vocabulary in Portuguese will be presented.

*Course Objectives:* Course objectives include the development of first-hand, field-based knowledge of Brazilian culture. The course is also designed for the students to build a basic understanding of concept of culture and apply it to what is experienced in Brazil.

*Content Outline:* The course covers the following topics:

1. Communicating in Portuguese
2. Overview of Brazilian culture
3. Brazilian family interactions
4. Brazilian Food
5. Brazilian Gender Roles
6. Class and "Race" interactions in Brazil
7. Carnaval, Soccer, Soap Operas – Brazilian Popular Culture

*Texts:* *The Brazilian People* by Darcy Ribeiro

*Instructional Activities:* Daily lectures will be followed by organized outings or individual assignments (cultural observations)

*Resources:* The course uses the local setting as the principal educational resource.

*Grading Procedures:* Grades will be determined by the following:

- 1) Four quizzes over the reading material and observations of the local setting - each worth 25 points.
- 2) A daily journal covering cultural observations worth 50 points.

3) A final covering all readings and observations due the last day of class in Brazil - worth 100 points.

There will be a total of 250 points.

General guidelines for determining grades are:

A	100 – 90	C+	79 – 77	D+	69 – 67	F	59 - 0
B+	89 – 87	C	76 – 73	D	66 - 63		
B	86 – 83	C-	72 – 70	D-	62 - 60		
B-	82 - 80						

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program. Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

**Academic Dishonesty.** Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices: Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

*Prerequisites:* None

**Instructional Hours: In class instruction = 36 hours**  
**Course related excursion 6 hours**  
**Total = 42 hours**

## **Addendum to Syllabus**

- I. The TnCIS Course Review Committee for Summer 2009 Programs requested that courses which use field trips as instructional time provide examples of possible trips in their syllabi. Exact outlines of field trips will be provided after program planning sessions take place in early fall.

The following statement about field trips was taken either from the faculty application form or from field trip plans provided by the faculty.

Students will be expected to analyze their observations in the culture and interviews with the people including their host families. They will also have the opportunity to visit an outreach program in a shanty town accompanied by a UFC professor, visit an Umbanda ceremony, participate in St. John Festivals and watch Caporeira (Brazilian dance/martial arts).