Universidade de São Paulo
São Paulo, Brazil
www5.usp.br/english/=en

Fast facts
- Language of instruction: Portuguese
- Number of students enrolled: 95,000
- Number of campuses: 8
- Academic year: August-June
- Autumn Semester Equivalent: August – December
- Spring Semester Equivalent: February – June

Located in the southeastern region of Brazil, the University of São Paulo is the largest Brazilian public university and the country’s most prestigious educational institution.

Things to do
With a population of more than 11 million inhabitants, São Paulo is the largest city in Brazil and the seventh largest city in the world.

Brazil is both a tropical paradise and an exciting cultural destination with attractions for all tastes, from idyllic beaches and jungle explorations to world-class art museums and the pulsing rhythms of Rio’s Carnival.

According to the Lonely Planet guide, Brazil’s attractions extend from frozen-in-time colonial towns to otherworldly landscapes of red-rock canyons, thundering waterfalls and coral-fringed tropical islands. Then there’s Brazil’s biodiversity: legendary in scope, its diverse ecosystems boast the greatest collection of plant and animal species found anywhere on earth.

Brazil’s top sights include: Sugarloaf Mountain, Christ the Redeemer, Ibirapuera Park and Iguazu Falls.

Travel opportunities
Brazil dominates most of the South American continent and is bordered by 10 of the 12 South American countries, making it fairly easy to enter by land. However there are also a number of direct flights between São Paulo and Santiago (Chile), Cordoba (Argentina), Santa Cruz (Bolivia) and Lima (Peru).

Flight times range from 2-6 hours.

Climate
In summer (Dec–Feb), the weather is generally hot and humid (up to 29°C) with occasional rainfall and storms. Fall (Mar–Apr) and winter (Jun–Aug) are much cooler and drier (min. 13°C).

Finance 2018/19
Bursaries available:
- Global Travel Bursary (means-tested): £750 dependent on household income for students beginning their studies in 2016. Students who started their studies before 2016 should see the finance webpage, as the award criteria differs (available to students classed as Home Students for fees purposes and accepted to study abroad as part of the University-wide exchange programme).
- Santander Scholarships for Latin America exchanges: 5 scholarships of £1000 each for students who will be studying for 3-12 months in Brazil. If you are selected to study abroad at the University of São Paulo, you will be sent further details of the Santander scheme and how to apply for it.

Approximate living costs per semester:
- Return flight from UK (av. 14 hours) £500-800
- Visa costs £135+
- Health insurance (compulsory) £150+
- Accommodation £2000-3000

Approximate living costs compiled from external sources and the partner university website.

The cost of living in São Paulo is roughly 35% lower than that of London.

Accommodation
There are no accommodation options for exchange students within the campuses. International students are required to live in private accommodation, generally opting for nearby private student apartments (also called ‘Repúlicas’). The USP International Office provides a list of housing options nearby the university.

The rent of a room or accommodation can vary greatly, depending on location and features offered by the house and the neighbourhood. The main campus located in the Perdizes neighbourhood is considered to be an expensive place to live in São Paulo.

For further information regarding alternative housing options outside the campuses, please contact the local International Offices. The University of São Paulo strongly recommends that students take part in the iFriends programme in order to find out more information about accommodation.