

BRAZILIAN CULTURE

Spring 2009

Department: Engineering and Computer Sciences

Course: Brazilian Culture

Professor: Augusta Vono (Modern Languages Department)

Classroom: Academic 1 – room 130 – Biscayne Bay Campus

Schedule: Saturdays – 9:00 to 12:00 A.M.

Duration: March 7 to April 18, 2009

Instructor: Augusta Vono

E-mail address: vonoa@fiu.edu

Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays – 3:00 to 5:00 P.M.

Office location: DM building, room 493D – Tel. (305) 348 2049

Text Book and Course Materials supplied by Prof. Vono:

- BRAZIL IN BRIEF (fifth edition) Cultural Department, Brazilian Embassy
- Brazil and the USA – What Do We Have in Common? Brazilian Embassy
- Rio de Janeiro
- Brazilian Portuguese (teach yourself) – ISBN 0-07-141378-2

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

1st Week – March 7

What do you know about Brazil? (initial quiz)

Brazil – Government and Society

Brazilian Environment

2nd Week – March 28

History

Political Institutions

3rd Week – April 4

Cross - Cultural Aspects

Do's and Don't's

Cultural Differences

4th Week – April 11

Rio de Janeiro – the city and touristic places

5th Week – April 18

Conclusion

Final Quiz

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce you to cultural, historical, geographical, social, and political aspects of Brazil. We will also talk about what the U.S. and Brazil have in common. The do's and don't's are an essential cultural component of the course. Besides using the books with detailed information about Brazil, we will be seeing DVDs. My intention is that the course, although very informative, can be interactive and motivating. I expect the students to be engaged in our discussions. The course will be conducted in English, but questions about Portuguese are welcome. Attendance is important as we will not have much time to learn a lot of information about Brazil. Students will be given an initial quiz on Brazil, and will have to take a final quiz about what was discussed throughout the course.

For your information:

The FIU Department of Modern Languages offers a **Study Abroad Program in Belo Horizonte, Brazil (6 credits)**, during Summer B every year. If you are interested in participating, please contact the director of the program, Prof. Vono, on vonoa@fiu.edu.

We also have the **Brazilian Culture Club** with many cultural activities related to the Brazilian culture and language. If you want to join our club, talk to your professor.

For your information, our Department of Modern Languages holds a proficiency exam in Portuguese called **CELPE-BRAS**, which is an official exam and certificate granted by the Brazilian Ministry of Education. For more information please contact Prof. Vono.

**THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE NECESSARY
CHANGES IN THE SYLLABUS.**