Dean's Travel Study Program - Comparative Legal Systems: Brazil & Uruguay

The Dean’s Travel Study Program’s Comparative Legal Systems: Brazil & Uruguay course will focus on gaining a basic understanding of Brazil and Uruguay’s legal systems and emerging market economy. Students will participate in pre-departure lectures at St. John’s, guest lectures by law professors, judges and practicing lawyers in Brazil and Uruguay, as well as historical "walking lectures". The travel portion will include stays in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Montevideo including study visits to academic, governmental and legal institutions. The leaders of the Dean’s Travel Study Program will ensure that multiple viewpoints are heard on issues including international business negotiation, corruption, immigration, and politics.

Eligible Students

Currently enrolled and matriculated St. John's University School of Law 2L, 3L, and 4L J.D. students who are in good academic standing may apply for the Dean's Travel Study Program. Should a student be selected for the program and, prior to commencement of the program, lose their good academic standing, they will not be allowed to participate in the program and an alternate will take their place. Students must have a valid passport. Students can apply financial aid to the program cost.

Application Requirements

Applicants currently enrolled at St. John's University are expected to:

2. The application includes two short essay questions (250 words maximum) as to why you wish to participate in the Dean's Travel Study Program to Brazil and Uruguay and what diversity and multiculturalism mean to you.

Selection Process

A committee will make selections shortly after the application deadline. Offers, including a wait-list, will be communicated by November 5, 2019, and students must promptly inform the program director if they will participate. The program cost of $2,100 is due at the time that Spring semester
tuition is due. Details about the program, disclosures and dates of travel are available here: deans-travel-study-program-details.

Comparative Legal Systems: Brazil & Uruguay

This course provides selected second- and third-year students with the opportunity to experience first-hand foreign legal systems. The course includes pre-departure lectures at St. John's, guest lectures by law professors, judges and practicing lawyers in Brazil and Uruguay, as well as historical "walking lectures". The travel portion will include stays in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Montevideo including study visits to academic, governmental and legal institutions.

This graded, one-credit course provides students with a basic understanding of Brazil and Uruguay’s legal systems and emerging market economy. Students will participate in a series of lectures discussing the Brazilian and Uruguayan perspectives on different areas of law and international business transactions. The course examines the various issues faced by attorneys when representing clients in business transactions in emerging markets or developing countries with an emphasis on Brazil and Uruguay. Students will also consider a variety of topics that affect the work of lawyers, including how cultural differences affect business negotiations, how cross-border deals are structured in order to achieve business goals, how corruption impacts upon such transactions, and how workflow is managed in a complex business transaction. As part of the course, students will travel to Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Montevideo for 9 days in early January. While in these cities, students will focus their studies on local law in a variety of practice areas, with a particular focus on international transactions, business interests, and comparisons to other emerging markets.

By the conclusion of the course, students will have gained an understanding of key areas of Brazilian and Uruguayan law, as well as an understanding of the international significance of emerging markets generally. The course will be graded based on participation and two short reflection papers.

Course Instructor

Professor Mark A Meyer
mmeyer@herzfeld-rubin.com
New York Component: WORKING/DRAFT SCHEDULE—Subject to Change

As part of Comparative Legal Systems: Brazil & Uruguay, students will be exposed to the Brazilian and Uruguayan legal and business systems through reading, discussion, and short video lectures. This introduction will begin with a pre-departure class session over the course of one day, attendance in this session is required for all students enrolled in Comparative Legal Systems: Brazil & Uruguay.

November 15, 2019 (full day): Intro Series

January 8-18, 2020: Travel, detailed below

January TBD, 2020: Post-Trip Briefing and Discussion

Travel Component: WORKING/DRAFT SCHEDULE—Subject to Change

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Flight to Rio: JFK Airport meet up 2:45PM</td>
<td>Departs JFK 5:45PM</td>
<td>9 Connect in GRU, arrive in Rio 8:30AM</td>
<td>Bus transportation to hotel: JW Marriott Breakfast Available</td>
<td>10 Group Course Activities Day: Tour Brazilian court and bar association, meet with practitioners</td>
<td>11 Group cultural activity: Visit to Christ the Redeemer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Group Course Activities</td>
<td>Student Free Time Dinner on own</td>
<td>13 Group Course Activities Dinner on own</td>
<td>14 Group Course Activities Dinner on own</td>
<td>15 Depart for airport 1:45PM Flight to Sao Paulo: Departs MVD 5:45PM Arrives GRU 8:30PM</td>
<td>16 Group Course Activity: Law School Visit Dean’s Check-in and Group Cultural Activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Important Travel Information**

- This trip requires all participants to possess a valid passport. For students who possess passports from other countries, it is your responsibility to determine immigration regulations to enter Brazil and Uruguay. Students must possess a valid passport to partake in the travel portion of the course, and if required, must secure a valid visa before the travel begins.

- Students are encouraged to activate international data on their phones before they travel. Whatsapp is a commonly used international messaging app.

- Ashleigh Kashimawo, kashimaa@stjohns.edu, will have international cellular and data and must be contacted about any issues that arise while you are traveling.

**Flights:**

  - LATAM Airlines 8181-4508
- January 12, 2020: Depart GIG Arrive Montevideo General Cesáreo L. Berisso International Airport (MVD) 5:00PM
  - LATAM Airlines 8038
- January 15, 2020: Depart MVD 5:45PM Arrive São Paulo/Guarulhos–Governador André Franco Montoro International Airport 10:30PM
  - LATAM 8047
  - LATAM 8180

**Hotels:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JW Marriott Rio de Janeiro</th>
<th>Hyatt Centric Montevideo</th>
<th>Renaissance Sao Paulo Hotel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address: Av. Atlântica, 2600 – Copacabana Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22041-001, Brazil</td>
<td>Address: Rambla República del Perú 1479, 11300 Montevideo, Departamento de Montevideo, Uruguay</td>
<td>Address: Alameda Santos, 2233 - Jardim Paulista São Paulo - SP, 01419-002, Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: +55-21-2545-6500</td>
<td>Phone: +598-2621-1234</td>
<td>Phone: +55-11-3069-2233</td>
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Costs:

Program Cost: $2,100

This price includes:

- One academic credit for Comparative Legal Systems in the Spring 2020 semester
- Round-trip air travel from NYC to Brazil, one-way flight from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo, and one-way flight Montevideo to São Paulo
- Double occupancy hotel rooms in Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and São Paulo each night of the trip
- Daily breakfast
- Ground transportation in Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and São Paulo to course events
- Trip to Christ the Redeemer
- Cultural activities and tours listed in the final itinerary
- Welcome Dinner and Farewell Luncheon
- International health insurance

This price does NOT include:

- Any applicable costs for purchasing a passport or obtaining a visa (if needed)
- Additional meals not explicitly included
- Any Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and São Paulo travel that students do during free time or events not sponsored by St. John’s Law

Federal student loans may be applied to the cost of the program.
The program cost represents less than the full, actual cost. The Dean’s Travel Study program is underwritten through a generous grant from the Offices of the President and Provost, St. John’s University.
## Instruction Hours and Required Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructional Time</th>
<th>Preparation Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures in New York</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Travel Orientation and Safety Briefing</td>
<td>Readings for Pre-Travel Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>1 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Travel Reading Discussion</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>During Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazilian Court and Litigation Class TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazilian Partner School Class TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montevideo Investment Class TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montevideo Practice and Oversight Class TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazilian Partner School Class TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transnational Law Firm and Legal Discussion TBD</td>
<td>Required Reading for Class #8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>After Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Trip Debriefing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>17.5 Hours Min.</td>
<td>26 Hours Min.</td>
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### Required Materials


Suggested Readings:


vi. Consider reading: Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice by Bill Browder – (You won’t be able to put it down.)
1. Dates, location(s), description of the program, and anticipated enrollment.
   - In New York: various pre-departure lectures and meetings to be determined. See #4 below.
   - In Brazil and Uruguay: Wednesday, January 8, 2020 (leaving JFK) through Saturday, January 18, 2020 (returning to JFK). See #4 below.
   - Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and São Paulo
   - This graded, one-credit course provides students with a basic understanding of Brazil and Uruguay’s legal systems and emerging market economy. Students will participate in a series of lectures discussing the Brazilian and Uruguayan perspectives on different areas of law and international business transactions. The course examines the various issues faced by attorneys when representing clients in business transactions in emerging markets or developing countries with an emphasis on Brazil and Uruguay. Students will also consider a variety of topics that affect the work of lawyers, including how cultural differences affect business negotiations, how cross-border deals are structured in order to achieve business goals, how corruption impacts upon such transactions, and how workflow is managed in a complex business transaction. As part of the course, students will travel to Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Montevideo for 9 days in early January. While in these cities, students will focus their studies on local law in a variety of practice areas, with a particular focus on international transactions, business interests, and comparisons to other emerging markets.
   - 20 students

2. The nature of the relationship with the foreign institution, if any, other than the provision of facilities and minimal services.
   
   Not applicable.

3. Description of each course and number of credit hours.

   See #1.

4. Schedule of classes with days and times for each class.

   New York

   November 15, 2020 (full day): Intro Series
• *Introduction to Investment Climate in Brazil and Uruguay*
  Prof. Mark Meyer

• *Travel and Safety Briefing*
  Ashleigh Kashimawo

• *Introduction to International Business and Regulation in Brazil and Uruguay*
  Prof. Mark Meyer

• *Pre-Departure Orientation & Cultural Etiquette and Expectations*
  Ashleigh Kashimawo and Assistant Dean Alicia Meehan

**January/February TBD, 2020: Post-Travel Briefing**

• *Post-Trip Briefing, Reflection, and Discussion*
  Prof. Mark Meyer, Assistant Dean Alicia Meehan, and Ashleigh Kashimawo

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**Brazil & Uruguay**

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  Group cultural activity: Visit to Christ the Redeemer |
5. **Requirements for student performance and method of evaluating student performance.**

   Grading will be based on two written essays, one to be completed before arriving in Rio and one due upon return to St. John's.

6. **Enrollment limitations on any courses offered and criteria for enrollment, including prerequisites, if any.**

   The program is limited to 20 students. There are no pre-requisites.

7. **Descriptive biography of the on-site program director;**

   Ashleigh Georgia Kashimawo  
   *Director of Public Interest Programming*

   Ashleigh joined the law school in March 2017 as the Director of Graduate Studies, overseeing the Law School’s LL.M. and Legal English programs offices and short term study abroad programs. Ashleigh is a graduate of Wellesley College, and received her J.D. from Harvard Law School.

8. **Descriptive biographies, including academic credentials and experience, of each faculty member responsible for teaching a course.**

   **Professor Mark Meyer**

   Professor Meyer is a leading international lawyer with an expertise in international joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, privatizations, and international arbitrations for corporations engaged in manufacturing, energy, tourism, transportation, telecommunications, real estate development and capital-raising activities. He is also a member of several Panels of Arbitrators including that of the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). Prof. Meyer is an Adjunct Professor of Law at St. John’s University School of Law in New York City where he teaches “Transactions in Emerging Markets”. In 2009, St. John’s bestowed its annual Dean’s Teaching Award upon Mr. Meyer for his outstanding qualities
as a teacher. Prof. Meyer is also a member of the Executive Council of Fairleigh Dickinson University’s School of Public and Global Affairs and lectures there on Foreign Investment in Emerging Markets. He was a special advisor for legal and economic matters to six European heads of state including the Presidents of Romania, the Republic of Moldova and the Republic of Montenegro. In 2007, St. John’s University School of Law conferred upon Prof. Meyer the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa; in 2004, Prof. Meyer was named a Harvard Law School Traphagen Distinguished Alumnus; and in 2011, Fairleigh Dickinson University conferred the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, upon Prof. Meyer. He is also the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in New York.

Assistant Dean Alicia Meehan
Prof. Meyer will be assisted in teaching the course by Assistant Dean Alicia Meehan. Alicia Meehan is Assistant Dean for Admissions and Recruitment. She is responsible for enrollment management at the Law School. Dean Meehan develops and manages the Law School’s applicant pool, evaluates over a thousand applications annually, and distributes scholarship awards. She recruits at events in New York and around the country, and hosts prospective students to campus for visits throughout the year. Dean Meehan has been working in law school admissions for ten years, and before that served as a public service attorney for the New York City Housing Authority. Dean Meehan graduated Vanderbilt University magna cum laude and Brooklyn Law School cum laude. Between her schooling she worked as a public school teacher in Greenville, Mississippi through Teach For America.

9. Contact information of an informed person at the law school.

Sarah Jean Kelly
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies
(718) 990-8358

Marra Guttenplan
Director of Graduate Studies
guttenplm@stjohns.edu
(718) 990-7525

10. Complete statement of all tuition, fees, anticipated living costs, and other expected expenses.

- The program cost is $2,100, inclusive of air travel, double occupancy hotel rooms, ground transportation while in South America, a trip to Christ the Redeemer, a welcome and farewell meal, daily breakfasts, and international health insurance.
- The cost does not include any applicable costs for purchasing a passport or obtaining a visa to enter Brazil or Uruguay, any meals not specifically included in the final itinerary, any local travel that students do during free time or events not sponsored by St. John’s Law. It is anticipated that meals will cost approximately $30 per day.

11. Information regarding the cost and availability of housing made available by the program; or, if the program does not provide housing, information on the availability, approximate cost, and location of housing in the same area.
Hotel accommodations are provided as part of the program cost.

12. **The extent to which the country, city, and facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities.**

   According to the U.S. Department of State, “Brazilian law prohibits discrimination against persons with physical and mental disabilities in employment, education, and access to health care. However, accessibility to public transportation and the ability to accommodate the needs of physically disabled persons are limited in most areas.”

13. **Circumstances under which the program is subject to cancellation, how cancellation will be communicated to the students, what arrangements will be made in the event of cancellation, and information about any prior cancellations, if any.**

   The January Dean’s Travel Study program has never been cancelled since it began operation several years ago. It is not anticipated that there are any circumstances that would require cancellation, except for U.S. Department of State travel alerts or warnings for Brazil or Uruguay. See #15 below.

14. **Relevant State Department Travel Information, including Travel Advisories and Warnings.**

   Please see: [https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Brazil.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Brazil.html).

15. **Refund policies, in accordance with Standard 509(c)(1).**

   If, prior to the commencement of the program, a U.S. State Department Travel Warning or Alert is issued for Brazil or Uruguay, registered students will be notified promptly via email and will be given an opportunity to withdraw from the program. Students withdrawing due to the travel advisory will be provided a refund of all program fees.

   If changes in the course offerings or other significant aspects of the program occur prior to the commencement of the program, those changes will be communicated promptly by email and registrants who have paid a deposit or registered for the program will be given an opportunity to withdraw, with a refund provided for any program costs paid less the deposit.

   If, *during* the course of the program, a student withdraws because of changes in significant aspects of the program, or because a U.S. State Department Travel Warning or Alert was issued for Brazil or Uruguay, or should the program be terminated for any reason, the fees paid by the student will be refunded except for air and hotel payments utilized prior to the date of termination or withdrawal.
Students who wish to cancel their participation in the program for any other reasons after registering must notify the program director on or before November 15, 2019. In such cases, the student will receive a full refund of the program cost, if paid by that date.

Students who submit notice of cancellation for other reasons after November 15, 2019, may receive a partial refund or no refund. The program director will make a decision on any partial refunds depending on the timing of, and reason for, the cancellation on a case by case basis, including costs incurred by the time of notice and whether a student on the waitlist was able to take the student’s spot in the course.