



Undergraduate Internship Opportunities: A University of Delaware Brazilian Project (2012-2013)

**College of Agriculture & Natural Resources (CANR)
College of Arts & Sciences (CAS)**

Food Security, Bioenergy, and Biodiversity: Issues and Challenges in Brazil

The University of Delaware has initiated a new research and teaching project with the Federal University of Lavras in Brazil (UFLA), supported by the USDA International Science and Education program¹. The project is led by a faculty team from CANR and CAS and is intended to help build long-standing academic programs and research partnerships with UFLA that: (i) enhance the international nature of our curricula in key areas of common interest, specifically food security and safety, bioenergy, animal agriculture, and biodiversity; (ii) stimulate creative thinking in our students about how to develop innovative solutions to complex global agricultural and environmental problems. More details on the project are found at the following link:

<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2012/jul/agriculture-brazil-071411.html>

Four undergraduate internships will be supported by this UD-UFLA project in 2012-2013 which will provide the following opportunities. All interns must participate in both components of the internship (*Curriculum Enhancement and Experiential Learning*):

Curriculum Enhancement: Interns will support faculty efforts to develop or enhance curricula in CANR and CAS courses related to food security, biodiversity, biofuels, and international trade for developed and developing countries, using the US and Brazil as examples. Students will participate in ~10-week internships from April-September of 2012, supervised by UD faculty teams from the five core project areas, with input and support from UFLA faculty and graduate students, to develop teaching modules that can be integrated into existing UD and UFLA courses. The interns will be responsible for developing a minimum of two teaching modules per course (typically a total of 6-8 modules per intern). The modules will consist of comprehensive PowerPoint presentations (~40 slides per module) that provide detailed information on the course topics developed by the interns and their faculty advisors. The process will consist of reviews of the scientific literature, discussions with UD faculty and UFLA graduate students, and electronic communications with UFLA faculty in Brazil who will provide photos, videos and other relevant course material to the interns. Personal interactions between interns and UFLA faculty will also occur when UFLA scientists visit UD. Once developed, teaching modules will be used by UD faculty in their courses and will also be available for use by UFLA faculty. The modules will also be used to develop an online capstone course focused on the five core themes of this US-Brazilian project.

Experiential Learning: UD faculty and undergraduate interns will visit Brazil for ~4 weeks in January of 2013 to interact with UFLA participants and become familiar with agricultural and environmental successes and problems and how these contrast with similar issues in developed countries. The UD team will visit several settings in Brazil, focusing on issues such as cropping systems, agribusiness and economics, animal agriculture, biofuels, and biodiversity. While the focus of these international visits is experiential learning by the UD interns, a key component will also be on-site "case study" workshops conducted by UFLA and UD faculty that engage interns in creative thinking on how to develop practical solutions to complex agri-environmental problems found in international settings. Upon return, interns will be expected to modify course modules developed in 2012 to incorporate information and ideas from the *Experiential Learning* component of their internship program.

¹ USDA-ISE Grant Number 2011-51160-30530

Internship Criteria and Application Details:

1. Applicants must be full-time UD students with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and must be available to participate in the internship program between April of 2012 and June of 2013.
2. The *Curriculum Enhancement* component of the internship will occur during April-September of 2012. Students must be available to assist faculty on a part-time basis in April, May, and September of 2012 and on a full-time basis during June-August, 2012. Interns will be compensated \$4000 for their efforts in this component of the internship, to be paid as hours worked at \$10 per hour.
3. The *Experiential Learning* component of the internship will occur during January of 2013, with some follow-up (part-time) during February-May, 2013. Students must be able to travel to Brazil for up to 4 weeks with a UD faculty-student team. All travel expenses for this component of the internship will be covered by the UD project.
4. **Internship applications are due on March 12, 2012.** Interviews will be conducted shortly after the applications are due and decisions will be announced no later than March 28, 2012.
5. To apply submit the following information to Dr. Tom Sims (jtsims@udel.edu) no later than **March 12, 2012:**
 - Internship application form
 - Unofficial UD transcript
 - Complete and up-to-date resume
 - Letter explaining your qualifications and interest in the internship
 - Names and contact information for 3 references who can provide information on the applicant's qualifications for the internship program
 - Availability for interviews between March 15 to 23, 2012
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Brazilian Scenes from 2011 UD Visit to UFLA

