

SEE-U Brazil

The Atlantic Forest & Pau Brasil National Park

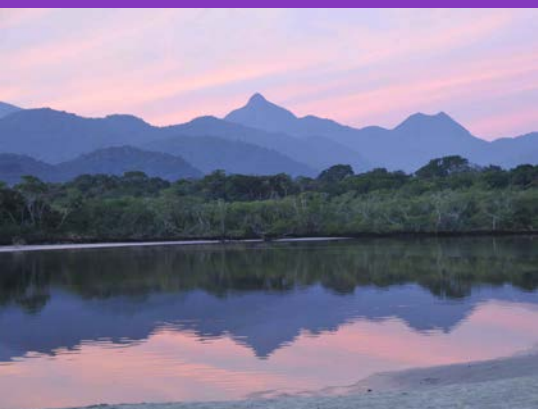
6 credits, 5 weeks

Summer 2019: June 3—July 5 (tentative)

Instructor: Dr. Tim Kittel,
University of Colorado Boulder



Rio Picinguaba



Serra Mar



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Students participating in the SEE-U Brazil course spend 5 weeks learning about tropical forest ecology and conservation practices in the Atlantic Forest. The Atlantic Forest is geographically and ecologically distinct from the Amazon Forest. The ecosystems within this region include evergreen tropical rainforests, semideciduous tropical forests, mangroves, and high-altitude grasslands. The Atlantic Forest is one of Conservation International's 35 Biodiversity Hotspots, exhibiting both floral and faunal biodiversity and home to over 20,000 species of plants and 2,200 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians.

In Brazil, you will visit major conservation areas in the Atlantic Forest including Pau Brasil National Park in northeastern Brazil. The park is part of the Central Atlantic Forest Ecological Corridor, a region of high biodiversity containing 60% of the primate and 50% the bird species found only in the Atlantic Forest. In this region, you will meet with leaders of an indigenous peoples reserve and a sustainable farming community and explore the beaches of Porto Seguro.

The course is hosted by Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (IPÊ), one of the largest environmental non-governmental organizations in Brazil. IPÊ has over 20 years of experience in the successful implementation of mammal, bird, and landscape conservation programs and IPÊ scientists are internationally-recognized experts in species and landscape conservation. IPÊ programs serve as case studies for the SEE-U Brazil course, providing examples of successes in linking efforts to support both environmental sustainability and socioeconomic development. Members of the scientific staff interact with SEE-U students on a daily basis, serving as instructors, guest lecturers, or advisors on individual projects.