# Studying in Bahia, Brazil

Opportunities for Masters and PhD formation

# Brazil – quick facts

• 220 million people [6<sup>th</sup>] – 8,5 million km<sup>2</sup> [5<sup>th</sup>]

Portuguese colonisation

• Independent in 1822

• Republic since 1889

Federal system 27 states



### Brazil – quick facts

- Strong regional social, economic and demographic differences – 5 geographical regions
- 85% living in urban environments
- Most populous metropolitan areas
  - São Paulo (Southeast) 20 million
  - Rio de Janeiro (Southeast) 12 million
  - Belo Horizonte (Southeast) 5 million
  - Brasília (Center-West) 4,5 million



# Brazil - Higher education

- Public and private institutions
- 68 federal universities (112 public universities)
- 62 federal technical institutes
- ~ 1 million enrolled in federal universities
- ~ 120,000 in post-graduate courses
  - Masters ~80,000
  - PhD ~40,000

# Brazil - Public higher education

- Entirely free (no tuition, no fees)
- Concentrates virtually all scientific research
- Undergraduate courses 4 years usually
- Masters 2 years / PhD 4 years
- Access to graduate courses by an public selection process, usually comprising a research project, an interview and a written exam

### National postgraduate system

- Academic autonomy
- Federal supervision and policy-making
- Push for greater internationalization
- Better evaluated Graduate Programs usually explore more international collaborations and are expected to both send their students for stays abroad and receive international students

## Scholarships

- A number of federal and state-level agencies provide scholarships for Masters and PhD students, irrespective of nationality
  - Awarded after the student is approved
  - According to classification in the selection process
  - Affirmative action provisions
    - people of African or Indigenous descent
    - other groups historically discriminated against

## Scholarships

- A smaller number of opportunities are offered to international students
  - Funding agencies run the selection process directly, in consultation with hosting universities
  - Round trip air tickets usually provided
    - PEC-PG (Convention Student Program PostGrad) suspended but expected to be relaunched soon
    - Coimbra Group of Brazilian Universities (yearly)

## Scholarships

- Masters R\$ 2,100 monthly (US\$ 420)
- PhD R\$ 3,100 monthly (US\$ 620)
- Cost of living varies widely, but for Salvador
  - Room in shared house (monthly) R\$ 800 to 1,000
  - Meal in University Restaurants R\$ 15
  - One-way public transportation fare R\$ 5
  - Mobile monthly internet access R\$ 70

#### **Graduate courses**

- Original research
- Five 60-hour subjects, in the first two semesters
- Additional mandatory activities
  - Research line seminars
  - Participation in congresses
- Mid-term qualification examination
- Thesis or dissertation public defence session

### Language

- Most Brazilians do not speak any English
- Classes and activities conducted in Portuguese
- Most of mandatory readings in Portuguese
- Some Graduate Programs may accept thesis and dissertations written in English if requested
- Portuguese is a romance language, very close to Spanish and related to French and Italian

### Language

- Some universities teach regular Portuguese courses aimed at foreign students and visiting researchers
- Initiation courses are sometimes online and can be taken prior to the actual trip to Brazil
- More advanced courses are in-person and should be taken in parallel with the graduate course activities

# The Federal University of Bahia

- 48,000 undergraduate students
- 8,000 postgraduate students
- 6,000 professors and faculty
- 104 undergraduate courses
- 78 graduate programs
- 23 university libraries



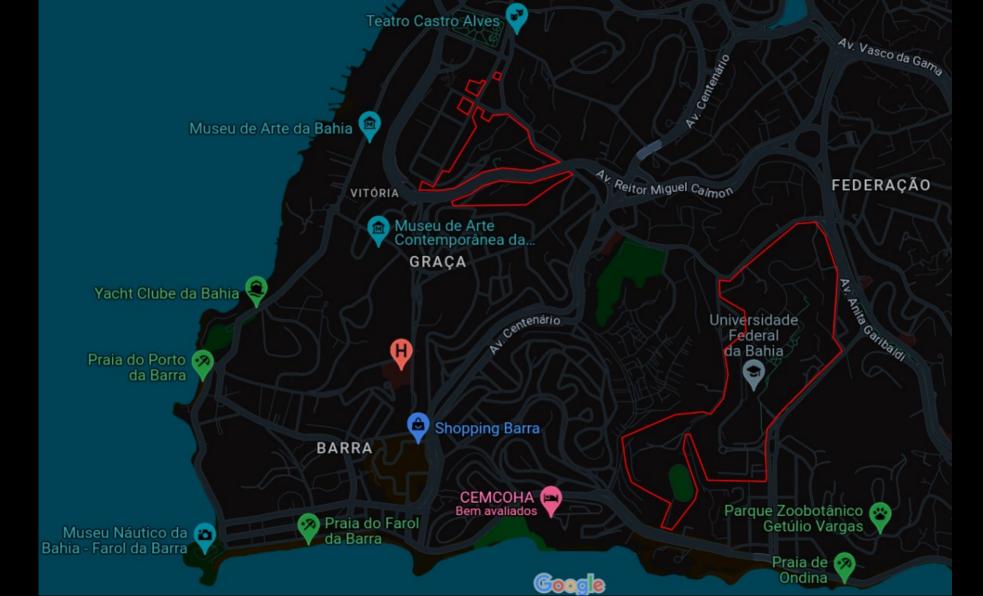
# The Federal University of Bahia

- Established in the 1940s with the reunion of preexisting schools and the creation of new ones
- National reference in the Arts
   (Schools of Plastic Arts, Theatre, Dance, Music)
- One of the main national references in studies on slavery, race relations and Africa
- Leading university in the Northeast region

#### Main schools of interest

- School of Philosophy and Human Sciences
  - Graduate programs in History, African Studies,
     Anthropology, Sociology, Philosophy, Museology,
     Gender and Feminist Studies
  - Centre of African and Oriental Studies
  - Afro-Brazilian Museum & Ethnology Museum
- School of Education
- School of Linguistics and Literature









#### Salvador da Bahia

- First Brazilian capital (1549-1768)
  - Largest city in the Southern hemisphere
  - Colonial export economy based on slavery
- Population by self-declared race
  - Black 35% (Brazil as a whole 10%)
  - Brown 49% (Brazil as a whole 45%)
  - White 16% (Brazil as a whole 43%)

#### Salvador da Bahia

- Cradle of Afro-Brazilian culture
- Hotspot for Brazilian anti-racist struggle
- Multiple connexions to the "Black Atlantic"

- But huge social and economic disparities
- Strong correlation of race and class













