

PUCPR International Exchange Student Fact Sheet 2017



Pró-Reitoria
Comunitária

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná

Office of International Relations

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Web Page	www.pucpr.br or en.pucpr.br for information in English.

APPLICATION

Application Procedures	http://www.pucpr.br/intercambio/applying.php
Deadline	For February entry - (1st academic semester: February – July) July 1st through October 30th. For July entry (2nd academic semester: July – December) February 1st through April 30th.
Total number of exchange places available	If the number of students is not previously stated in our institutional agreement please consult us.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Level(s) offered to Exchange Students	Undergraduate ✓	Graduate ✓
Areas of study	PUCPR is a comprehensive research university. For a list of available undergraduate programs go to: http://www.pucpr.br/graduacao/ For a list of available graduate programs go to: http://www.pucpr.br/pesquisacientifica/mestradodoutorado.php	
Language of Instruction	Portuguese and English For information of available courses in English, please go to: http://www.pucpr.br/intercambio/englishsemester.php	
Language Requirements	PUCPR does not have a language proficiency requirement. We recommend that students attend at least one semester of Portuguese classes before starting their exchange program.	

Portuguese Classes (Mandatory)	It is offered during the semester in 4 (four) different levels: beginner, basic, intermediate and advance (total of 72 hours – 5 ECTS credits) – concurrently with academic courses. Students are placed in the most appropriate level after a placement test taken during the Orientation Session.
Course Load and Required student workload per semester (credits)	<p>PUCPR has its own credit system and it is important to note that this system only takes into consideration the in-class hours, differently from the ECT system that will also count into the subject workload, the students' individual hours of study. So, generally:</p> <p>Theoretical classes – 20 contact hours = 1 PUC credit Practical classes – 40 contact hours = 1 PUC credit</p> <p>Our theoretical subjects can vary from 40 contact hrs (2 hrs per week) to 80 contact hrs (4 hrs per week) and our practical classes can vary from 40 to 144 hrs per semester.</p> <p>Therefore, a full-time student attends around 360 – 420 hours per semester and would get roughly 20 PUC credits, which is equivalent to around 30 ECTS. This would be what we consider a full-time student. International students also need to take Portuguese as a Second Language, which is worth 5 ECTS, so altogether a semester at PUCPR is equivalent to around 35 ECTS.</p> <p>1 PUCPR credit is equivalent to approximately 1.5 ECTS</p>
Course Selection	<p>Students pre-select the courses in the application form (study plan).</p> <p>During the orientation week, all students will meet the academic course coordinator to finalize the study plan. They should be prepared to select new courses if their initial requests are not available. They may also make course changes during the first two weeks of class.</p>
Grading System	<p>Range: 0,0 – 10,0 Passing Grade: 7,0 Minimum passing grade after final exam: 5,0 Mandatory class attendance: 75%</p>
In case of failing, students can take the final exam	Final exams are only applicable if the students have only missed up to 25% of their classes and have their final grade higher than 4,0 (in a scale of 0,0 to 10). Students whose final grades are less than 4,0 won't be able to take the final exam and will have failed the course regardless of their attendance.
When will the transcript be released?	At the end of the academic semester, as soon as our office receives the grades from the Registrar's office.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS INFORMATION

Academic Calendar (it varies every year)	<u>Semester 1</u> From mid February to June 30	<u>Semester 2</u> From the last week of July to first week of December
	2017 Academic Calendar: http://www.pucpr.br/siga/calendario.php	
Orientation Dates	Normally our Orientation happens 1 week before the beginning of the academic semester. Students are notified beforehand about the exact dates and location. Our orientation sessions offer students the opportunity to learn about our universities' processes, meet with the course coordinator and learn about all the support services we have. Therefore, attendance is MANDATORY.	
Student Visa - VITEM IV (MANDATORY)	<p>All international students who don't have Brazilian passport need to get a student visa (VITEM IV) to study at PUCPR.</p> <p>Students should check in the Brazilian Consulate/Embassy website from their country of origin the list of documents required for the visa application. One of the required documents is the Acceptance Letter, which will be provided by PUCPR after receiving and processing the application form. For the visa to be granted, all students must have a valid passport.</p> <p>Note that if the students are studying outside their home countries, the procedures might be different than at the home country.</p>	

	Once the students receive the student visa, they must send us a copy by email. PUCPR will only pre-enroll the students upon the presentation of a copy of their student visa.
Health Insurance Requirements (MANDATORY)	All international students must purchase a health insurance coverage for the duration of the staying in Brazil. As PUCPR does not have health insurance plans available, international students must purchase a health insurance plan (with coverage in Brazil) before leaving their home countries. The health insurance costs varies according to the country of origin, the company and the extent of the coverage. In some countries, visas are only issued after the proof of health insurance coverage is presented.
Medical Assistance	PUCPR does not have medical services on campus but we can easily refer the students to doctors, clinics and hospitals.
Accommodation	There is no on-campus housing available at PUCPR. The international office provides students with a list of off-campus options/suggestions and gives the appropriate guidance regarding local leasing procedures and policies. The list is available to students as soon as they are admitted at PUCPR to start their travel arrangements.
Estimated cost for accommodation monthly	Accommodation: BRL 800,00 – 1.500,00 (monthly)
How can students apply for accommodation	Directly with the real estate companies, homestay providers, boarding houses or leasing offices.
Cost of Living (per month)	Approximately BRL 2,800 (approx. USD 770,00) Food: BRL 800,00 – 1,000 Transportation (public bus lines): BRL 200,00 – 280,00 *1 USD = 3.1642 (Mar 2017)
Other expenses	ADMINISTRATIVE FEE: BRL175,00 (approx. US\$ 55) to be paid upon arrival at PUCPR.
Airport pick-up service	We do not have an airport pick-up service available but we make efforts to put new international students in contact with PUCPR student to make ride arrangements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Pre-arrival materials	The Acceptance Letter will be sent by email to the student and the international office and the original letter will be mailed to the international office of the home institution. After the acceptance the student will receive an email with all necessary information related to the exchange program at PUCPR (student visa, accommodation, academic issues).
Sports Center	International students have free access to one of the available sports activities: fitness center or swimming pool. Students who wish to do both should pay for only one of them. A health check by the gym's doctor is compulsory.
International Lounge	As part of the Portuguese final grade, the students will be invited to introduce their home university at an event called the International Lounge . It is an event that provides our local students the opportunity to meet with our exchange students and learn about their universities, as well as their countries. It is mandatory that all exchange students participate.
Community Project	Exchange students can be involved in one of the community projects offered by PUCPR, those activities can be developed in retirement homes; hospitals; local need community. The activities will be informed in the transcript after the conclusion.
PIBIC International	International students have the opportunity to be involved in academic researches with our professors and be granted with a scholarship. Special calls are open very semester in different areas and the students interested in applying to PIBIC need to register for the program and pass through the selection process. Research is a great opportunity to have a contact with studies' theory
TeaTime Theatre Team (TTT)	The Theater Program offers the Teatime Theater Team (TTT), an English-language theater project open to students of all courses, teachers and collaborators of the Marist Group. The TTT seeks to promote the improvement of theatrical activities and it also allows the practice of a second language.

Buddy Program	The Buddy Program is composed by a group of around 80 local students, willing to assist international students to settle into their new lives in Brazil. The group is very active and organizes parties, trips and outings with the students. They also provide support and information regarding academic and systems of PUCPR. Their email address is: buddyprogram@pucpr.br or check out their FACEBOOK page: IExchange Brasil (https://www.facebook.com/groups/648576101982612/)
Internships	Students will receive support from our International Office in case they decide to undertake any internship.
Extracurricular activities	We promote welcome and farewell receptions and cultural activities.
Video of PUCPR	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkjcS7HUllo

