

1-15-2011

BRAZIL: ADVENTURES IN ECOLOGY is in its 6th year, and was designed by faculty at North Carolina State University and Brazilian cooperators. The Sao Paulo, the Pantanal and the Amazon have been destinations in some or all of our experiences in Brazil. Students, teachers, administrators, those in business and other endeavors have traveled with us, from many different states, other countries - even Brazil and Finland! To examine the experience in more detail, check out the websites at www.ncsu.edu/scilink and www.holbrooktravel.com

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BRAZIL: ADVENTURES IN ECOLOGY

Schedule July 23-August 3, 2011

PANTANAL/SAO PAULO

The 10 day Pantanal/ Sao Paulo experience provides opportunity for remarkable international comparisons between countries, ecosystems and educational systems. Content experts accompany participants and focus on science literacy, education, and the environment. Learning about Brazil is an integral part of the schedule. The Brazilian Team will provide local knowledge about the environment, specific ecosystem issues, education and the culture of the people. Field studies and applications are emphasized. Each participant, whether student, teacher, business person or interested party will contribute a final project based on the trip, to post on the SCI-LINK website. Several service projects have been requested by Brazilians - such as translating, designing, and the assessment of documents – and will be further examined by participants in 2011.

SAO PAULO

*July 23: Leave on overnight flights to Sao Paulo.

- July 24: Morning arrival on international flights. Opening luncheon of the program at 12:00 noon at hotel. Orientation to Brazil, a unique country. Sao Paulo city tour of historic buildings, parks, and cultural entities with a short walk through the popular Iberapuera Park. Visit Avenida Paulista and MASP's major art collection, walk through the artisan craft fair on the street nearby.

- July 25: Presentation by local experts of Brazilian education, society and culture. Visit Portuguese Language Museum. Walk through, visit book and music stores at a popular local mall. Learn about special Brazilian foods at lunch in the Municipal Market. Visit and tour a private school. Walk through a neighborhood to nearby restaurant for dinner followed by a discussion of The Pantanal, what to expect and how to prepare.

PANTANAL

July 26: Early morning flight to Campo Grande; visit Dom Bosco Museum collections of 10,000 insects, 7,000 butterflies, and local Indian history. Travel along the Aquidauana River to a pousada in the Pantanal; explore, and along the way, look for caiman, rhea, blue macaw, capybara, deer, and giant anteaters. Dinner at pousada.

- July 27: On horseback, observe and photograph in fields, cerrado and forest. Natural habitat area for more than 650 different bird species, such as the American rhea, tuiuiu, toucan, egret and many others. Lectures by naturalist, university faculty, and environmental educator – what is significant about the Pantanal. Boat ride on the Aquidauana River. Fish from the riverbanks.

*July 28: Walk, hike on foot to observe the fauna in fields, savanna and woods. Nocturnal animal watch in open truck safari to see landscape and wildlife: caiman, giant anteaters, crab-eating fox, small anteater, capybara. Owners tell the history of this pousada and the work of the ranch. Our group will volunteer to help with a project for the Pousada – translating a brochure into English for the use of the pousada.

- July 29: Wildlife Watch as we travel to and tour Bonito. Arrive, explore lodge and learn history of the area. Compare topography, soils, and socio-economic focus. Visit the local Recycling Cooperative and NGO where families use recycled materials to support education. After dinner, one local official will present a short history of the area and how ecotourism has played a major role in the development of Bonito. Another presents a different interpretation of socio-economic problems.

* July 30: Tour Bonito, visiting old-style stores and buildings with Pantaneiro supplies and hardware. Visit local grocery store and a milling warehouse. Walk through town and visit handcraft shops and a grocery store. Try local fruit juices

and ices. Following dinner, learn about the birds to look for and observe at the sink hole and the related geology of the area.

- July 31: Visit Buraco das Araras, a large sink hole inhabited by 80 pairs of blue-red macaw and others. Note vegetation changes. Travel to Rio da Prata Ecological Refuge. Snorkel the Olho D'Aqua's transparent blue waters to the Prata River. Hike along trails in the primary forest, comparing to other ecosystems. After a Celebration Dinner, compare evaluations and recommendations for next year.

SAO PAULO

- August 1: Early drive to Campo Grande. Attend a presentation by the SOS Pantanal on different perspectives and social-environmental relationships in the Pantanal. Late afternoon flight, returning to hotel in Sao Paulo.

- August 2: Late breakfast. Repack. Visit a local neighborhood for lunch. Then enter a cemetery and photograph historic structures noting country customs. Visit small local stores, a street fair or local market, returning to the hotel for transfer to the airport. Transport to Guarulhos Airport for international overnight flights home.

*August 3: Arrive home.

CREDIT

One to three graduate/ undergraduate credits may be obtained from North Carolina State University with completion of special requirements (the trip is NOT part of the course). Application for credit **must** be made at the time of registration to Dr. Harriett Stubbs at H.Stubbs@ncsu.edu See Credit for instructions.

PROGRAM LEADERS

Harriett S. Stubbs, Ph.D. Research Associate Professor Emerita; Director, SCI-LINK. Member of the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education at North Carolina State University. Current address: Center for Earth Observation, Box 7106, NCSU. Interest in science education, professional development programs; ongoing research studying culture, environment, and education.

Daniel De Granville. Biologist, nature photographer, guide, naturalist, and photo-journalist. Photographs of Granville's have been published by the National Geographic Society and Conservation International. www.photoinnatura.com and www.fotogramabits.blogspot.com