USP

Created in 1934 when five established faculties were merged, Universidade de São Paulo is the most prestigious higher education and research institution in Brazil and in Latin America. It has an outstanding international profile and figures among the world's best universities in many rankings.

The university is located in the state of São Paulo, in the richest and most developed region of Brazil. Additional USP *campi* are spread over eight cities: Bauru, Lorena, Piracicaba, Pirassununga, Ribeirão Preto, Santos, São Carlos and São Paulo. USP is active in research and teaching across the full range of the sciences and humanities. Accordingly, the university offers a great variety of undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as many extra-curricular activities. As a public state institution, USP does not charge tuition fees for its undergraduate, Masters and Doctorate degrees.

Universidade de São Paulo consists of 42 schools, 6 advanced research institutes, 4 museums, 2 major hospitals and health centers. Moreover, USP has a partnership with two of the best hospitals in the cities of São Paulo and Ribeirão Preto.

Over 86% of USP's faculty members are full-time, reflecting the university's commitment to be a center of excellence in the development of human resources and in the production of knowledge. The faculty's research output is evident in the many articles published in indexed journals, and in reports, chapters and books published nationally and internationally. The research output of USP alone represents a significant proportion (around 20%) of the total amount of Brazilian scholarly production.

USP fosters the transfer and application of the knowledge generated by the research carried out in its centers and laboratories for the benefit of society. Many members of the USP community are in permanent contact with industries, companies, specialized offices and health centers, and they are active in the development of projects and products and in the application of new techniques and technology.

Since its foundation, USP has attracted many students, faculty members and technical staff from neighboring countries and other parts of the world. The university is guided by its mission to internationalize; it seeks to raise its international profile and develop international cooperation, particularly by supporting exchange agreements with reputable institutions around the world.

USP *Campi*

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USP International Cooperation Office

Universidade de São Paulo's International Cooperation Office (Aucani) aims to enhance USP's ever growing global presence. It does so not only by enabling the mobility of students, researchers, faculty and staff members, but also by creating the conditions for USP to disseminate its prolific research to an international audience, and to ensure that the academic body is familiar with and benefits from the most innovative discoveries from around the world. This exchange process is mutually profitable. As a consequence, each school has its own local International Office offering targeted support for its members.

USP consistently appears in some of the most important world university rankings. In the 2015/2016 QS World University Rankings, which evaluates world class institutions in terms of teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook, it ranks well within the top 120. Furthermore, the 2016 Webometrics Ranking of World Universities presents Universidade de São Paulo as the 49th university in the world with respect to presence, impact, openness and excellence, and in the 2016 Times Higher Education Latin America, USP appears on first place, as the top university in Latin America.

Cecilia Bastos

The performance of the International Office is of major relevance to Universidade de São Paulo, since internationalization is one of its key goals. The university welcomes people from all continents and stimulates this process via networks and consortia. USP has over 1,200 international agreements signed with several institutions all over the world.* Students and faculty members enjoy a multicultural environment with people from different cultural backgrounds.

Paulo Soares

USP International Cooperation Office's (Aucani) main tasks are:

- to promote the mobility of USP's community members, by enhancing cooperation with other universities and supporting its logistics;
- to assist international students, faculty members and researchers before and during their stay at USP;
- to handle the international academic agreements that Universidade de São Paulo participates in.

Caio Albuquerque

* Source: USP in Numbers 2015

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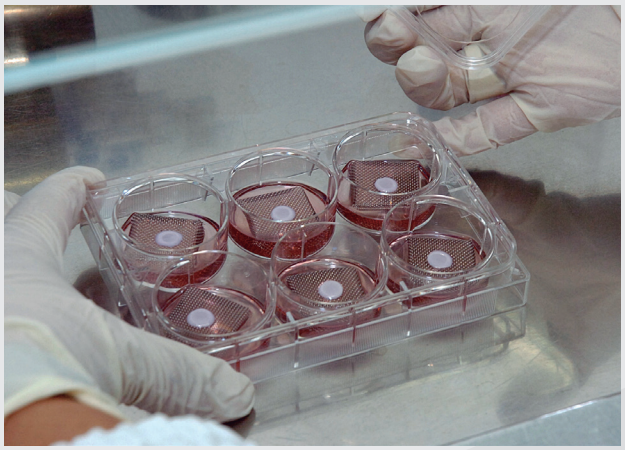
Research

Alongside university teaching and community service, research remains one of USP's primary activities. Indeed, USP is a research-led institution, and since its foundation it has maintained a leadership role in Brazilian scientific and scholarly production. The university benefits from the continuous improvement of its interdisciplinary research centers in collaboration with international partners.

The numbers speak for themselves: USP is a major performer, not only on a Brazilian or Latin American scale, but also worldwide. Brazil is a major contributor to science and scholarship globally, and, as already noted, USP alone is responsible for around 20% of all Brazilian academic output. Over 6,000 faculty members at USP are research active. Between 2011 and 2015, 60,362 publications* - comprising journal articles, books and papers - were launched, 31% of this academic production in international collaborations. The university has established the USP Innovation Agency (Agência USP de Inovação), whose mission is to promote the use of the scientific, technological and cultural knowledge produced by USP to benefit both the state of São Paulo and the whole country. USP has a formidable national and international reputation in applied and pure research, in all fields of knowledge. Its contribution to society is evident in the development of maritime oil platforms, research into human genetics and degenerative diseases in particular, advances in digital television, and the construction of a reservoir used to investigate the behavior of floating structures.

Adilson Manoel Godoy

Cecilia Bastos



Francisco Emolo

Cecilia Bastos

* Source: Data Base Scopus, Elsevier 2016

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Culture and Extension

Archive OSUSP

Universidade de São Paulo offers various cultural events and outreach activities for its students and for the wider community as well. For example, the São Paulo main *campus* (Cidade Universitária) houses the Museum of Contemporary Art (MAC – Museu de Arte Contemporânea) and the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (MAE – Museu de Arqueologia e Etnologia), both with free entrance. Inside this *campus* there is also a movie theater (Cinusp Paulo Emílio), with two free movie sessions a day, often followed by debates and seminars with professors and directors. In the Cidade Universitária there are often significant artistic events, such as monthly free performances by USP's own Symphony Orchestra (OSUSP - Orquestra Sinfônica da USP).

All over the city of São Paulo there are other important cultural centers maintained by USP, such as the Paulista Museum (MP – Museu Paulista), the Museum of Zoology (MZ – Museu de Zoologia), and "Maria Antônia" University Center (Centro Universitário Maria Antônia). Nevertheless cultural initiatives are not restricted to the state capital: there is, for example, the Republican Museum in the city of Itu, among several others.

Besides cultural and leisure attractions, USP runs several hospitals and public services that directly benefit the population. The activities - usually free of charge - range from science and culture to innovative health care and therapy. There are also sports practice centers, theaters and courses that are open to the community in general and sometimes to a specific public, such as the elderly.

José Rosael

José Rosael/Hélio Nobre

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Facilities

USP *campi* offer not only a number of high quality educational programs, but also a varied infrastructure that comprises laboratories, libraries, sports and recreational areas, transportation services, restaurants and cafes, public services and many other facilities. The university also provides student housing, though only for regular students who are accepted after a socio-economic evaluation. These aspects put USP at a high level among the Brazilian universities.

USP's largest *campi* have their own transportation services as a complement to the transportation system of the city where they are located: it happens in São Paulo (Cidade Universitária), Pirassununga, São Carlos and Ribeirão Preto *campi*. The facilities in some of the *campi* include bus transportation, a bicycle sharing system, as well as urban services, such as bus and train/subway transportation, providing accessibility to the *campi*.

Many USP *campi* have sports centers and recreational activities, offering all USP community members with leisure facilities and the opportunity to enhance their quality of life in their free time. Each *campus* also has cafeterias with low prices for students and associates.

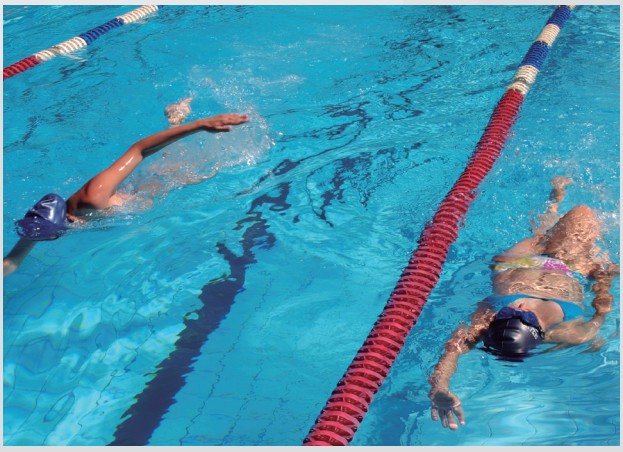
USP has a library system called SIBi (Sistema Integrado de Bibliotecas – Integrated Libraries System), which grants the entire university community easy access to the collection of each school. All schools also have access to wireless Internet, as well as rooms with computer access to Internet and specific software.

To support exchange students facing possible challenges of adaptation, USP has developed USP iFriends, a program which puts volunteer USP students in contact with their foreign colleagues in order to support them in their university activities, improving the integration between international students and the academic community.

All *campi* have branches and/or ATM machines of many national banks. There are also post office agencies in some of them.

Archive FEA

Cecília Bastos



João Neves

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Graduate Studies

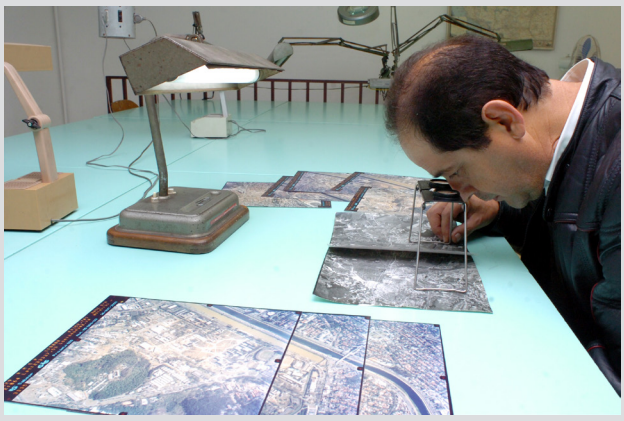
Universidade de São Paulo offers 270 graduate programs* in all areas of knowledge: agricultural sciences, life sciences, health sciences, exact sciences, earth sciences, applied social sciences, engineering, humanities, linguistics, literature and arts, and multidisciplinary courses. USP's provision corresponds to about 10% of all graduate programs in Brazil and 15% of all graduate students in the country: in 2017, there were 25,570 students regularly enrolled in graduate programs at USP. According to the 2012 ARWU (Academic Ranking of World Universities), USP awards the largest number of Doctoral Degrees in the world.

As a common objective, the programs have been fostering highly qualified human resources, focusing on teaching, research and scientific/ technological development. Most of the classes are held in Portuguese, although in some areas there may be classes in English too.

The graduate programs can be offered by a specific school, by many schools (named interschools) or even by many institutions of higher education (named interinstitutions). It is also possible for students to undertake part of their studies abroad. Each school has a graduate committee which is responsible for the organization of the programs and the selection of students for the Master's and Doctoral degrees. Prospective students or those interested in exchange programs abroad are referred directly to the school, faculty or institute website for further information.

In 2011, USP celebrated 100,000 graduate awards, a highly important milestone in the history of the institution.

Cecilia Bastos



Francisco Emolo

Cecilia Bastos

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* Source: PRPG, May 2017

Undergraduate

USP is the largest university in Brazil, offering a wide variety of comprehensive undergraduate courses in the areas of agricultural sciences, life sciences, health sciences, exact and earth sciences, applied social sciences, engineering, humanities, linguistics, literature and arts, as well as multidisciplinary courses. Most of the classes are held in Portuguese, although in some areas there may be classes in English too. USP has a total of 148 undergraduate courses* and some of them can be undertaken in more than one school. It is also possible to study in a foreign partner institution for up to four semesters. In 2016, more than 2,500 USP undergraduate students went abroad on exchange programs.**

Yearly, on average, 11,000 students enter an undergraduate course at USP*. Regular students are admitted to USP in three different ways: the majority are selected on the basis of an admission test called the "vestibular" (organized by FUVEST), or through the Unified Selection System (SiSU) of the Ministry of Education (Federal Government), while others are admitted via a transfer from another institution, or through the Program for Partner Undergraduate Students (PEC-G).

Because of the university's high reputation, USP undergraduate students can easily find job and research opportunities in their respective areas after they achieve their degree. The university provides about 7,000 newly qualified professionals each year*.

Students can also start developing research while they are still taking their undergraduate courses by doing an undergraduate research project, supervised by a professor in the area of their choice. Enrolled students may also attend courses in other disciplines if there are vacancies. Irrespective of the course area, the student will be in contact with world-class professors, professionals and staff, and they will also have opportunities to work with them. USP also regularly offers its students the opportunity to attend cultural events, conferences and distinguished lectures.

Cecília Bastos

João Neves

Natália Dourado

Mariana Chama

* Source: PRG, June 2017

** Source: Mundus System, June 2017

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