A new course abroad is being developed for UMassD undergraduates to study marine science and ecology at two Brazilian coastal research stations operated by the University of São Paulo (USP). Hands-on activities in the field (conducted aboard a coastal research vessel, shoreline and mangrove excursions on foot and in small boats, etc.) and in laboratories will be emphasized.

The course is planned for May 23 - June 13, 2016

Topics will be diverse and range from:

- estuarine biology, chemistry and geology
- invertebrate and vertebrate marine biology
- coastal currents and tides
- coastal sedimentation & transport processes
- tropical marine ecology
- oceanography of coastal and offshore regions
- use of modern oceanographic methods/techniques

Lodging and meals at the coastal station plus transportation within Brazil will be covered by USP. Estimated total cost per student for first-offering of the course (including the 3 credits, round trip airfare, and program coordination) is ~$2200, with substantial cost-offsets to be provided by UMD and USP.
Coastal Brazil Marine Studies
Prof. Cindy Pilskaln, SMAST
Dept. of Estuarine and Ocean Sciences
May 23-June 13, 2016

Following a week of UMD on-campus meetings to discuss and organize the course plan and logistics, students and faculty travel to the USP coastal research stations in Cananéia and Ubatuba, Brazil for 2 weeks where field and lab-based activities will be conducted. An advance course web site will be available where students will obtain travel information, course requirement details and background reading materials.

At the Brazilian coastal stations, student teams will be organized to work in the field and in the lab on a specific marine topic, guided and mentored by the instructors. Each student will submit a short written report at the end of the course on their topic area, describe what was accomplished in the field and lab, and give their impressions of their Brazil experience.

Contact: UMD International Programs Office:
508-910-6506, or visit room LARTS 016.
Locations and driving distances from Sao Paulo of USP Marine Stations in Ubatuba and Cananeia