



The Rice-UNICAMP Dual-Degree

The History Department at Rice has begun the first dual degree in the humanities with a Brazilian university, the Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP), home of the top rated history Ph.D. program in Brazil. Students who successfully complete the program will receive a Ph.D. in History from Rice and a Doutor em História from UNICAMP.

This dual degree program seeks to train and nurture the next generation of scholars who will be truly international in their research, teaching, and administrative goals. It emerges from the belief that international collaboration will advance scholarship by stimulating global perspectives and that graduate students must be prepared for careers in the increasingly internationalized academic institutions of the future. In addition to the dual degree, the collaboration seeks to create an international community of scholars by including a regular research seminar in which faculty and graduate students in the history departments at Rice and UNICAMP may participate, thus extending the benefits of the exchange beyond the individual students seeking dual degrees. This dual degree program creates a scholarly opportunity that does not exist elsewhere and that will become a unique academic signature of the history departments at Rice and UNICAMP.

The dual degree program will offer graduate education at the highest level to a select group of highly talented students. Graduate students who participate in the program will become a part of an academic community in two countries, will become conversant with and participate in historiographical debates taking place in Brazil and the United States, and will become part of an international cohort of graduate students. We believe that this international experience will result in more sophisticated research and that it will lay a foundation for students to remain in conversation with international colleagues throughout their careers. Graduates of the dual degree program will be highly qualified and unique candidates in what we expect to remain a difficult job market in History in both Brazil and the United States. Their exposure to international collaboration will be a plus for careers in research, teaching, foreign service, and international industry, all of which will, by necessity, be increasingly global. A graduate of this program will bring a high level of international sophistication, linguistic skills, and scholarly expertise to academic institutions, as well as to their research and teaching.

Within the existing graduate programs in history at Rice and UNICAMP, a small number of students from each program may apply to participate. The dual Ph.D. degree program will be tailored for each student and will require completing graduate level coursework first at the home and then at the partner institution, as well as the writing and defense of a dissertation that is co-directed by two advisors, one from each institution.

The dual-degree candidates from Rice will be funded by the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Dean of Humanities, and the Department of History. UNICAMP students will be funded by grants received from the Brazilian national and state agencies CAPES and FAPESP. Rice and UNICAMP will waive tuition and fees for students accepted into the program.