USP is one of the most prestigious higher education and research institutions in Brazil and figures among the best universities in the world. With several campuses distributed over eight cities (Bauru, Lorena, Piracicaba, Pirassununga, Ribeirão Preto, Santos, São Carlos and São Paulo) within the state of São Paulo, USP has almost 100,000 undergraduate and graduate students and over 5,500 faculty members.

The schools of USP cover most disciplines and provide students with a fertile study and research environment.

Clock Square | São Paulo Campus
photo by Jorge Maruta and Francisco Emolo
USP was founded in 1934 upon the unification of several pre-existing schools. The newly created Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences and Letters of the State of São Paulo were integrated along with the schools of Law, Medicine, Engineering, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Education, Economics and Veterinary Medicine as well as the “Luiz de Queiroz” College of Agriculture.

In the early days, many professors were invited from overseas to lecture, and they brought with them new standards of research from Europe. They assisted in transforming USP into a vital driving force for national progress, and, during the first twenty years of its existence, the University established several new schools.

Subsequently, the University has expanded both in the quality of its output and in its size, adding the Institute of Biology in São Paulo and the campuses of São Carlos and Ribeirão Preto in the 1950s. Finally, in 1960, in the city of São Paulo, a new University campus, the “Cidade Universitária”, was inaugurated. This resulted in the unification of the majority of the schools and faculties in one location. Nowadays, USP has 48 schools and specialized institutes, 4 physical museums and 4 major hospitals, and it has become an internationally recognized center of excellence in many fields of research.
The individual schools encompass all academic areas and include 332 undergraduate programs and 264 graduate programs. Having an undergraduate or graduate degree from USP facilitates access to excellent job opportunities in Brazil and abroad. Its scientific production corresponds to at least 22% of all that is produced in Brazil. It occupies a total area of approximately 76,440,000m², of which over 2,000,000m² correspond to University buildings. The university does not charge tuition to its students.
The university faculty has had contact with international professors from USP’s very beginning, particularly in certain fields of research. Some of the most outstanding examples include Claude Lévi-Strauss (FRA), Gérard Lebrun (FRA), David Bohm (EUA), Miguel Rolando Covian (ARG), Vilém Flusser (CZ), Ernst W. Hamburger (ALE), Roger Bastide (FRA), Fritz Köberle (AUS), William Hamilton (Reino Unido), Lucien Lison (BEL), Giuseppe Occhialini (ITA), Giuseppe Ungaretti (ITA), Gleb Wataghin (UKR-ITA) and André Weil (FRA).
Besides the main campus and some additional schools spread over the city of São Paulo, other campuses are located in the cities of Bauru, Lorena, Piracicaba, Pirassununga, Ribeirão Preto, Santos and São Carlos.

Given the various fields of interest covered, it is possible for a student to choose in which campus to study or research.

Faculty of Animal Science and Food Engineering | Pirassununga Campus
photo by Cecília Bastos
The university has an active role in disseminating science, culture and quality health care for citizens across the country. Strongly integrated with the local community, USP runs several hospitals, museums and public services that benefit the population. These range from scientific and cultural activities to innovative health care and therapy. Furthermore, most of the services provided by USP are free of charge.

Covid-19 sample collection at CRUSP | São Paulo Campus
photo by Cecilia Bastos
### USP in Numbers

#### Campuses
- Campuses: 8
- Schools and Specialized Institutes: 48

#### Undergraduate Programs
- Programs: 332
- Yearly Enrollment: 11,147
- Applications for the Admission Exam: 122,790
- Enrolled students: 59,779

#### Graduate Programs
- Programs: 264
- Students: 28,363
  - Regular students in Master Programs: 13,358
  - Regular students in Doctorate Programs: 15,005

#### Cultural and Extension Activities
- Extracurricular courses: 1,120
- Museums: 19
- Orchestras: 3
- Choirs: 4
- Theater: 1
- Movie theaters: 4

#### Scientific Output
- Docs in databases: 15,718
  - Web of Sciences: 15,718
- Scopus: 17,403

#### Internationalization
- Partnerships and protocols: 1,796
- Foreign students - Undergraduate: 919
- Foreign students - Graduate: 1,448

#### Libraries
- Physical Libraries: 48
- Digital Libraries: 5
- Printed items: 8,415,623
- Electronic items: 16,971,753

#### USP Manages
- Hospitals: 4
- Radio stations: 2
- Newspapers: 1
- Publishers: 1
- Technology parks: 2
- Astronomical observatories: 4

#### Staff
- Faculty: 5,531
- Technical-administrative: 13,232

Source: Statistical Yearbook 2021
USP INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE

USP International Cooperation Office develops and implements policies that promote the internationalization of the institution. USP International Cooperation Office seeks to:

- Establish cooperation strategies between USP and its international partners;
- Support each of the individual schools’ local international offices in their efforts towards greater internationalization;
- Provide information about research and mobility opportunities for the wider USP community, including undergraduate and graduate students, professors and technical-administrative personnel.
- Foster international academic cooperation.
- Select, organize and disseminate information about programs and initiatives concerned with academic cooperation.