**DISCIPLINA ELETIVA:** BRAZILIAN ENVIRONMENTAL AND URBAN LAW AND POLICY  
**CÓDIGO:** GRDDIRELE080

**PROFESSOR:** RÔMULO SILVEIRA DA ROCHA SAMPAIO  
**CARGA HORÁRIA:** 30h

**EMENTA**
Sustainable Cities in Brazil. The “Right to the City” in Brazil. Federal Environmental Laws and Tools Applied to Local Governance in Brazil. Local Environmental Case Studies of Brazilian cities (São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba and Porto Alegre). Local Environmental Governance and Climate Change in Brazil.

**OBJETIVO(S)**

**OBJETIVOS GERAIS**
This is a course about the policymaking and regulatory process of those environmental aspects of metropolitan growth management in Brazil. Cities are currently the home to more than half of the world’s population. An estimate of the United Nations Population Fund is expecting that approximately 5 billion people will be living in cities in 2030. Large demographic concentrations impose on urban areas pressure upon and competition over natural resources. From waste management, effective and inclusive sewage systems, access to potable water to sustainable land-use policies are some of the environmental challenges facing metropolitan growth management.

Drawing from international recognized principles of sustainable policies at the local level, this course aims at sharing some of the Brazilian examples of challenges and successes in dealing with the environmental aspects of metropolitan growth management processes. Useful experiences and case studies regarding the environmental aspects challenging large and rich metropolitan areas like São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, alongside with creative policy approaches to less developed metropolitan regions like Curitiba and Porto Alegre, for instance, are instrumental in construing an effective environmental lawmaking process to address the abovementioned natural obstacles.

Brazil provides an interesting case study in light of its socioeconomic reality. Brazil is one of the world’s most important economies but also one of the most unequal societies. As a result, the country’s metropolitan areas mix extreme wealthy neighborhoods with extreme poor areas. In the design of local policies or norms of local impact, environmental justice issues are just beginning to be introduced firmly into the policymaking debates. Delineating competencies and jurisdiction over the environmental lawmaking process is another unsettled issue that, in practice, often jeopardizes effective protective and conservation measures at all levels: Federal, State and Municipal. Since municipalities in Brazil are autonomous in relation to the State and Federal governments and enjoy concurrent authority over environmental legislative and management processes, often conflicts of powers arise challenging the implementation of local policies or laws and regulations of local impact.

Furthermore, in a time of global environmental problems, like the climate change threat and considering most of the carbon footprint will be concentrated in metropolitan areas in the near future, addressing sustainability at the local level becomes increasingly more important and crucial. In that regard, the design of laws and regulations concerning metropolitan growth must take into consideration the interconnectivity of local sustainability problems within the urban area and with regional and global environmental threats. Only a holistic approach, one that also pays attention to enforcement and compliance strategies, is able to address effectively the environmental aspects of metropolitan growth management.

**OBJETIVOS ESPECÍFICOS**
The course is divided into 5 sessions. The first session is dedicated to identifying some of the
main environmental challenges facing metropolitan growth management in Brazil. Thus, a brief panorama of the Brazilian history, socioeconomic indicators, geographic and demographic patterns along with an overview of the country’s environmental legal framework constitute useful background information to deepen into the specifics of environmental challenges facing metropolitan growth management in Brazil.

The second session focuses on the legal aspects of developing the “right to the city” in Brazil, mainly on its sustainability component. This session also introduces the 2001 Brazilian Statute of the City and discusses some of the conflicts arising from the environmental concurrent authority enjoyed by the Federal, State and Municipal governments.

The third session aims at introducing the interaction between the 2001 Statute of the City and some general federal environmental law provisions conflicting with and applicable to municipalities in Brazil. This section also covers environment policy tools related to biodiversity conservation, sustainable land-use management and conservationist practices available to local policymakers in Brazil.

The fourth session delves into case studies related to large metropolitan areas in Brazil from selected environmental issues and creative local policy approaches of each of those regions: pollution control in São Paulo; poverty and environment in Rio de Janeiro; green urbanism in Curitiba; and participatory budget in Porto Alegre.

The last session is devoted to the understanding of the role of local environmental governance in light of the global climate change problem. Utilizing the Brazilian case study, the main objective of this last session is to link socioeconomic indicators, vulnerability and promotion of local environmental policies with mitigation and adaptation strategies to address global warming.

BIBLIOGRAFIA BÁSICA
As indicated in the program above.

BIBLIOGRAFIA COMPLEMENTAR
N/A