FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES OF PORTO ALEGRE

The Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre is a public university located in Porto Alegre, the capital of Rio Grande do Sul. Specialized in health sciences, it is one of the most reputable higher education institutions in southern Brazil.

PORTO ALEGRE

Porto Alegre is the capital of Rio Grande do Sul, the southernmost state of Brazil. It is the fourth metropolitan area in the country, with about 4 million habitants (according to the CIA-Factbook), most of them the descendants of German, Italian, Portuguese and African immigrants. It features a high HDI (0.865), the second among Brazilian capitals. Its climate is classified as humid subtropical, with mild to cold winters.

Location

UFCSPA’s campus is located in downtown Porto Alegre, next to restaurants, cultural centers and public transport facilities.

HISTORY

The history of UFCSPA begins in 1961, when was created the Catholic Medicine School of Porto Alegre, attached to the hospital Santa Casa de Misericórdia (the most traditional in the region). In 1980, it was federalized under the name of Fundação Faculdade Federal de Ciências Médicas de Porto Alegre (FFFCMPA), after which it expanded its activities towards graduate education stricto sensu (1988) and began to offer two new undergraduate courses: Nutrition and Biomedicine. This process of expansion results in the transformation of FFCMPA into a federal university specialized in health sciences in 2008 under the name of UFCSPA (Universidade Federal de Ciências da Saúde de Porto Alegre).

UFCSPA TODAY

Since its creation, UFCSPA has received high grades in institutional assessments run by the Ministry of Education. Its activities comprehend teaching (undergraduate and graduate studies), research and extension.
TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses

UFCSPA currently offers 14 undergraduate courses:
- Analytical Toxicology: 5 semesters
- Biomedicine: 4 years
- Biomedicine (evening courses): 5 years
- Food Technology: 3 years
- Gastronomy: 5 semesters
- Healthcare Administration: 4 years
- Medical Physics: 4 years
- Medicine: 6 years
- Nursing: 4 years
- Nutrition: 4 years
- Pharmacy: 11 semesters
- Physical Therapy: 5 years
- Psychology: 5 years
- Speech Pathology: 4 years

Graduate Courses

Graduate courses at UFCSPA comprehend lato sensu modality (specializations and medical residencies) and stricto sensu modality (Health Sciences: Master's and PhD; Rehabilitation Sciences: Master's; Pathology: Master's and PhD; Hepatology: Master's and PhD; Health Education: Professional Master's).

RESEARCH

UFCSPA develops important research activities through a considerable number of research groups and lines. 609 articles, books, chapters and abstracts were published by UFCSPA researchers in 2012.

EXTENSION

As well as continuing education and specific projects in health sciences, UFCSPA offers extension programs and projects in order to promote complementary activities such as music (UFCSPA’s Choir), foreign languages (English, French and Italian), visual arts (with an exposition room), literature (storytelling at hospitals), informatics (Center of Distance Education), and sports.
INFRASTRUCTURE

UFCSPA holds a qualified infrastructure for research, teaching and extension. Every classroom is provided with computers and with environmental comfort. The laboratories are equipped with first-line material (such as PCR Real Time, Pulsefield, and biofreezers). A videoconference room is prepared for distance collaboration with foreign academics. UFCSPA’s library contains more than 20 thousand books on health sciences, as well as research portals and study rooms connected to internet.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Giving continuity to the expansion process that it has experienced over the last decades, UFCSPA currently invests on internationalization through participation in student mobility programs (Science without Borders, PAEC-G) and through agreements with institutions in Latin America, Africa and Europe. One of its aims is to increase its international insertion with the support of its International Relations Office (inter@ufcspa.edu.br) that promotes and keeps track of international activities at the university.

For further information, please visit our website (www.ufcspa.edu.br) or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/UFCS).