

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
In Orbit - Postgraduate Space Education (4)

Author: Mr. Ian Grosner
Brazilian Space Agency (AEB), Brazil, iangrosner@gmail.com

Prof. Daniel Freire e Almeida
Catholic University of Santos, Brazil, danielfreire@unisantos.br

THE FIRST POSTGRADUATION COURSE IN SPACE LAW & POLICY OF BRAZIL

Abstract

Since 2021, Brazil has had the first, and unique, a postgraduate course in Space Law and Policy organized and hosted by Catholic University of Santos (*Universidade Católica de Santos* - UNISANTOS). The program has special features and, in addition to being the first in Brazil in the Space Law segment, according to the National Registry of Higher Education Courses and Institutions (*e-MEC*), of the Ministry of Education of Brazil, emphasizes on the professional development of postgraduate students. In the same sense, it uses interactive and active methodologies to build knowledge of Law and Space Policy. Proposed and idealized by GROSNER (2020), the program was deepened in detail by BITTENCOURT and FREIRE E ALMEIDA, and later incorporated values and educational principles of the promoting institution (UNISANTOS). In fact, the course reveals a planning structured in eight special modules, with a view to achieving innovative skills and abilities in Space Law. These modules bring together unprecedented topics in postgraduate courses in Brazil, and are led by Professors from Brazil and abroad. The modules, arranged in three academic semesters, with 360 hours of teaching and learning, cover Space Law and Policy through International Law, International Space Law, Brazilian Space Law, Space Policy and International Relations, new actors in Space Law, Internet Law and the Space Environment, and Research Methodology Applied to Space Law. In this orbit, the objective of the course is to develop competencies and skills that maximize knowledge and enable professionals to be trained for advanced practices of the national and international legal and political regime of Space Law. The target audience, and actual students, is professionals with a degree in Law and higher education in several related areas, among them, International Relations, Administration, Aerospace Engineering and Social Sciences. The curriculum follows the guidelines developed by the UNOOSA, that could encourage further studies within the Member States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy. This article aims to describe how the course was structured, the impacts on Brazilian society, in order that is the first program of the country, and the initial results of the opening class graduated (2021-2022). The text is developed as a result of documentary analysis, interviews and bibliographic materials. The initial conclusions indicate positive training results, contributing to the development of law and space policy in Brazil, with professionals (postgraduates) able to lead significant initiatives in the space segment.