

## Contacts

### Host Institution

Universidade Federal de  
Minas Gerais  
Avenida João Pinheiro, 100,  
Centro  
Belo Horizonte  
Minas Gerais  
Brazil  
30130-180  
+55 (31) 3409-8600  
[dit@direito.ufmg.br](mailto:dit@direito.ufmg.br)  
<https://www.direito.ufmg.br/>

### Post/Commission

Commission for Educational Exchange Between the United States of  
America and Brazil  
Rua Manoel da Nobrega, 595, sala 34  
Sao Paulo  
SP  
Brazil  
04001083  
+551130573703  
[patricia@fulbright.org.br](mailto:patricia@fulbright.org.br)  
<http://www.fulbright.org.br>

### Primary Contact

Marco Antônio Sousa Alves  
+55 (31) 987973943  
[marcofilosofia@gmail.com](mailto:marcofilosofia@gmail.com)

### Secondary Contact

Lorena Martoni de Freitas  
+55 (31) 997162628  
[lorenamartonifreitas@gmail.com](mailto:lorenamartonifreitas@gmail.com)

## Project

### Title of Project

The Critical Law Theory Dilemma: Contemporary Challenges

What Academic Field/Employment Sector is the focus of this project?

Law

What specific specializations within your Academic Field/Employment Sector best match the focus of your project? (Please select up to five specializations)

**Civil and Human Rights Law**; Comparative Law; Constitutional Law and Theory; Cyberlaw and Technology; Jurisprudence

Within what department of your institution will the project take place? (e.g. Program Development, Human Resources, etc.)

Graduate Program in Law

What is the issue or challenge that you are trying to address with assistance from a Fulbright Specialist? (Limit of 500 words)

One of the main challenges facing Critical Legal Theory today concerns the reconciliation between the epistemological assumptions of critique and the demands of praxis to change power relations. This is because, on the one hand, radical critique acknowledges the law as a structure historically linked to a system of domination relations that intersect different kinds of **oppressions of gender, class, and race**. In these terms,

modifying these relations for emancipatory purposes – which is fundamentally the practical task of critique – would theoretically imply dismantling the legal framework and tools inherent to the human rights framework. However, such a conclusion ultimately leads legal research into an epistemological limbo destined for the inertia of inaction, contradicting the very assumptions of critical theory regarding its demand for praxis.

Faced with this finding, it is a task for the Critical Legal Theory to inquire to what extent it is still possible to strategically use the instruments of **Human Rights, especially in times of the global emergence of the far-right and crisis of democratic principles**. With this in mind, the Graduate Program in Law at UFMG seeks an expert in the area of Critical Theory studies who has, simultaneously, experience with **militant legal practice in the contemporary field of Human Rights who can share their experience and methodological tools providing elements for the construction of a solution to this dilemma in a comparative perspective between the USA and Brazil**.

What are the primary objectives that you aim to achieve with the Fulbright Specialist?

#### Objective 1

Share experiences and methodological tools providing elements for the construction of a solution to the critique/praxis dilemma in law field, from a comparative perspective between the USA and Brazil.

#### Objective 2

Promote critical thinking and practical engagement inside legal education.

#### Objective 3

Intensify the international collaboration and exchange of experiences between renowned Brazilian and U.S. institutions.

Please provide a brief description of the proposed project activities, including a list of specific tasks that the Fulbright Specialist would carry out during his/her time with your institution. Please also include the type of individuals or audience that the Specialist would be working with (e.g. faculty/professionals, students, government officials, etc.). (Limit of 1000 Words)

The specialist is expected to engage with our faculty professors, researchers, and students to contribute to our initiatives while developing activities of their choice, such as:

- a lecture within their area of expertise and research.
- a workshop fostering dialogue on critical legal studies and human rights praxis and development.

It would also be interesting for the specialist to make an article available for publication in the School of Law Journal.

How does this project align with your institution's priorities and what do you believe will be the project's overall impact on your institution? In addition, how will the project promote continued linkages between your institution and the Fulbright Specialist and his/her host institution following the return of the Fulbright Specialist to the U.S.? (Limit of 500 words)

**Our Graduate Program in Law at UFMG has always been committed to the development of critical legal knowledge engaged with political reality and social emancipation. From its inception, our program has aimed to foster a deep understanding of the law's role in societal structures and the potential for legal frameworks to**

either reinforce or challenge systems of oppression. The arrival of a foreign specialist in the field is aligned with this mission, as it provides an opportunity to enrich our program with insights from a U.S. perspective.

Consequently, several major impacts are expected in our institution if we host a Fulbright Specialist. Their skills will enrich the academic milieu with new theoretical approaches, methods, and perspectives, and this diversity of views will greatly facilitate thinking among students and faculty members.

Additionally, having a Fulbright Specialist on campus encourages sharing ideas about best practices between one's own institution and theirs. These may include, in the future, collaborative research programs, writing articles together, or teaching each other courses that facilitate cross-cultural interactions between institutions, leading to a richer academic community.

Furthermore, the specialist's engagement with our program will serve as a driving force behind international cooperation and partnerships. Establishing connections with the specialist's home institution could promote US-Brazil joint conferences, student exchanges, and collaborative research projects, among other things. These ongoing connections will ensure that the achievements of this specialist's visit continue even after leaving UFMG, hence ensuring long-engendered interactions and collaborations between our institution and the international academic community at large.

To sum up, having a Fulbright Specialist working in our post-graduated law course carries forward our promise to critical legal education within social contexts. It will enrich our academic environment, strengthen international cooperation, and promote continued collaboration between our institution and the Fulbright Specialist's home institution. We believe that the exchange of knowledge and ideas facilitated by this project will contribute to the advancement of legal scholarship and the promotion of social justice both locally and globally.

## Locations

Please list the location(s) where the Fulbright Specialist would conduct their work (e.g. the primary location of your institution, multiple sites around the country, etc.). Please be specific and include the exact addresses where the majority of work will occur. With the exception of projects falling under a trilateral grant initiative, Fulbright Specialist projects are restricted to one country. All project activities must take place in the country requesting the project.

Faculty of Philosophy and Human  
Sciences (Fafich/UFMG)  
6627, Antônio Carlos Avenue,  
Pampulha  
Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais  
31270-901  
Brazil

UFMG School of Law  
100, João Pinheiro Avenue, 11th floor,  
Vilas Boas Building  
Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais  
30130-180  
Brazil

## Timeline

In general, all projects designed by host institutions must adhere to the below eligibility requirements.

**Length of project:** The length of a Fulbright Specialist project must be a minimum of 14 days and a maximum of 42 days, including travel days, weekends, and holidays.

**Multi-Visit (Serial) projects:** A Multi-Visit project is one in which a Specialist conducts more than one visit to the host institution for the purpose of necessary program evaluation or follow-up. If a project is approved to be Multi-Visit, all visits must occur within a one-year period, which is calculated by adding 12 months from the initial start date of the first visit through the end date of the final visit.

- A Multi-Visit project cannot include more than three visits in total, and all visits must not exceed six weeks (42 days) in total. In addition, each visit must be a minimum of 14 days.
- Please note that the majority of approved projects are not Multi-Visit, and project proposals should provide a strong justification for why more than one visit is necessary to achieve project outcomes.

Is this a Multi-Visit (serial) project?

No

### Visit 1

Desired dates for a Fulbright Specialist

4/1/2025 to 4/15/2025 (15 days)

Is there flexibility in the timing of the project outside of the dates that you selected above? Please describe why or why not. Please note that preference may be given to projects that have flexibility due to needing adequate time for administrative processing of project proposals. In addition, if your project has greater flexibility with timing, you may have more Specialist candidates to select from as they may require flexibility due to their other professional obligations.

Yes. We are very open and willing to receive the Fulbright Specialist throughout the year, except for February, July, and December (due to students' vacations).

In general, host institutions are required to provide the Specialist with lodging, meals, and in-country transportation, either through monetary or in-kind contributions, throughout their full stay in country. However, if your institution is unable to cover these costs, in certain countries, there may be limited funding available to support these expenses, so please contact your Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy for more information.

Primary Point of Contact for all accommodations for the Fulbright Specialist

Lorena Martoni de Freitas  
+55 31 99716-2628  
[lorenamartonifreitas@gmail.com](mailto:lorenamartonifreitas@gmail.com)

If the Primary Point of Contact for all cost share is different than the above individual, please provide that information.

Marco Antônio Sousa Alves  
+55 31 987973943  
[marcofilosofia@ufmg.br](mailto:marcofilosofia@ufmg.br)

## Total Visit Cost Share

\$2,100.00

### Lodging

Please describe the type of lodging that you would arrange for the Fulbright Specialist. Please note that all lodging accommodations must be made in advance of the Specialist's travel. If the Specialist will be paid directly for their lodging accommodations, please indicate the amount to be paid per day for lodging.

Considering the short-term nature of the project, accommodation is proposed at a hotel near the UFMG Law School, to be paid with funds/benefits from this Fulbright grant (per diem).

#### Lodging Type

Hotel

#### Lodging Accommodation

Ibis Belo Horizonte Liberdade Hotel  
602 João Pinheiro Avenue  
Belo Horizonte  
Minas Gerais  
Brazil  
30130180<https://all.accor.com/hotel/5298/index.pt-br.sh...>

Please indicate the start and end dates that the above lodging accommodation is available.

4/1/2025 to 4/15/2025

If the lodging accommodation is not available for the full duration of the Specialist's stay, please describe the alternative lodging accommodations that you intend to arrange.

The UFMG School of Law is located in the heart of a large city (with almost 6 million inhabitants), and there are several lodging options just a few meters away. In addition to hotels, it is also possible to rent an apartment (via Airbnb).

What is the estimated cost of the lodging accommodation in U.S. dollars?

\$1,500.00

Is your institution able to fund the cost of the lodging accommodation?

No

If your institution is unable to fund the cost of the lodging accommodations, limited funding may be available depending on your country. For questions, please contact the Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy in your country.

### In-Country Transportation

Please describe the in-country transportation arrangements for the Fulbright Specialist. The arrangements should include transit to and from the Specialist's lodging and project site, as well as other local daily travel (e.g. restaurants, markets, grocery stores, pharmacy, etc.). If the Specialist will be paid directly for the transportation expenses, please indicate the amount to be paid.

The in-country transportation will mainly consist of Uber/taxi services, including trips from the airport to the hotel and from the hotel to the university, as well as other local daily travels (e.g., restaurants, markets, grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.).

The funds/benefits from this Fulbright grant (per diem) are expected to cover these costs.

What is the estimated cost of the in-country transportation in U.S. dollars?

\$300.00

Is your institution able to fund the cost of the in-country transportation?

No

If your institution is unable to fund the cost of in-country transportation, limited funding may be available depending on your country. For questions, please contact the Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy in your country.

## Meals

Please describe the meal arrangements (three meals per day) for the Fulbright Specialist (e.g. cafeteria, restaurants, etc.). If the Specialist will be paid directly for the meals, please indicate the amount to be paid.

All the suggested hotels offer a breakfast service included in the daily rate, and there are numerous restaurant options nearby for lunch and dinner.

The funds/benefits from this Fulbright grant (per diem) are expected to cover these costs.

What is the estimated cost of the meals in U.S. dollars?

\$300

Is your institution able to fund the cost of the meals?

No

If your institution is unable to fund the cost of meals, limited funding may be available depending on your country. For questions, please contact the Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy in your country.

## Airport Pick-Up and Drop-Off

What airport in your country do you recommend that the Fulbright Specialist travel to and from?

Belo Horizonte International Airport (CNF)

Please describe the arrangements for the Specialist's arrival and pick-up from the airport, including the name of the person that would greet the Specialist. In addition, please provide any special notes or instructions that would assist the Specialist in preparing for his or her arrival.

Prof. Marco Antonio Sousa Alves will meet the specialist at the airport.

### Specialist Qualifications

Below are the Academic Field/Employment Sector and Specializations that are the focus for this project as specified in the Details tab. If your project does not include a named Specialist, World Learning will identify individuals on the Fulbright Specialist Roster whose academic and professional background match the identified sector and specializations.

Academic Field / Employment Sector	Specialization(s)
Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jurisprudence</li><li>• Civil and Human Rights Law</li><li>• Comparative Law</li><li>• Constitutional Law and Theory</li><li>• Cyberlaw and Technology</li></ul>

Will any project activities require that the Fulbright Specialist be proficient in a language other than English?

No

What qualifications, professional experience or specific skills would be helpful for a Fulbright Specialist to have in order to successfully implement the proposed project? Please be as specific as possible to support the identification of appropriate Specialists. (Limit of 500 words)

The project aims to attract a specialist in the field of Critical Legal Theory, with extensive theoretical and practical experience—including litigation and public policy transformation—in the area of human rights, particularly concerning the challenges faced in their implementation by contemporary democracies, such as:

- The continuous growth of the incarcerated population and its racist implications.
- The continuous growth of inequalities, despite ongoing wealth production, and how the ecological crisis tends to intensify them.
- The continuous growth of surveillance and security practices that violate fundamental civil and political rights.

Therefore, we seek a specialist who is well-versed in the state-of-the-art of Critical Legal Theory and who, from this theoretical standpoint, can share their activist experience in the field of human rights, providing practical engagements and methodological insights from a comparative USA-Brazil perspective.

### Named Specialist Requested

Have you pre-identified an individual you propose to serve as the Fulbright Specialist for your project?

Yes

Named Specialist:

Bernard Harcourt  
Columbia University  
Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law, Professor of Political Science  
[bharcourt@law.columbia.edu](mailto:bharcourt@law.columbia.edu)  
(212) 854-1997

Is this individual already on the Fulbright Specialist Roster?

I don't know

How did you identify this individual? Please describe.

Previous professional experience with the individual. By reading his works and monitoring his research, and also by email contacts.

Has your organization previously engaged with this individual? If so, in what capacity?

No

Why do you believe that this individual is qualified and well suited to serve as a Fulbright Specialist with your project?

Professor Bernard Harcourt's work at the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought, developed concurrently with his political engagement in the American penal system, has become a global reference in the field of Critical Legal Theory research, particularly after his New York City Bar Association Norman J. Redlich Capital Defense Distinguished Service Award, a lifetime achievement for his work on behalf of individuals on death row.

Although you have already identified a potential individual to serve as a Fulbright Specialist, would you be interested in receiving additional information about other qualified individuals who may be well suited to your project?

Yes

## Final Reports

Please find below links to the Final Reports for this project from the Specialist, host institution, and Fulbright Commission or U.S Embassy. If a report has not yet been submitted, it will be labeled "Incomplete."

Report	Report Type	Visit Number	Submitted By	Submitted Date
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