

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Brazilian Studies & Portuguese Language in São Paulo

Course Title: Intermediate Portuguese

Course Code: SP/LANG 200

Total Hours: 60

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline: Portuguese Language

Language of Instruction: Portuguese

Prerequisites/Requirements: Required for students with 2 semesters of previous Portuguese language study

Description

This course is aimed at students who have had approximately 2 terms of previous Portuguese language instruction or its equivalent. Course contents cover intermediate structures and vocabulary in Brazilian Portuguese with a communicative approach so that they can enhance their language knowledge and expand it to more elaborate utterances. Language and culture are combined in grammar exercises to provide students with actual linguistic perception and effective communicative tools and strategies in an intermediate level. Students use the textbook and other authentic materials devised by our staff.

The course applies a task-based learning approach, thus providing students with broader communicative skills in a natural context for language use.

Objectives

By the end of the course, students are able to:

- Work out language rules by themselves
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
- Produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- Use cultural and linguistic tools to engage in more complex problem solving.
- Communicate in routine tasks requiring a somewhat complex exchange of information.
- Solve communication conflicts effectively without disrupting interaction.
- Describe present and past events.
- Hold discussions that require hypothetical patterns.

Course Requirements

Homework is assigned for each class. Students should complete all assignments on their own before coming to class. Homework may include listening to audio materials, exploring authentic materials such as websites or local cultural issues, internalizing new patterns and vocabulary, completing written assignments, reviewing material learned in class the day previous, etc. Many assignments are reviewed together in class.

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Class attendance is essential to language learning. An absent student misses important information and practice time, and hinders the group work and discussion exercises of classmates. Tardiness is disrespectful to both the professor and students. If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a class, he/she is marked as absent.

Students who know ahead of time that they will be absent should submit homework assignments early. They should also understand that they are responsible for learning the material on their own time. Asking the professor "What did I miss?" is not acceptable. Students may check with classmates about changes in the syllabus, assignments, etc., and ask the professor for any hand-outs.

Methods of Evaluation

Students are evaluated in the four language areas (speaking, listening, reading, writing) through quizzes, written and oral tests, and class performance. Class performance refers to active participation in class, with both classmates and the professor. Communicative competence is also evaluated, *i.e.* students' actual ability to interact in Portuguese and to solve problems not only by using appropriate language, but also by fitting in social frameworks in a linguistically suitable way.

Missed quizzes and exams may not be made up without appropriate documentation of an excused absence from the Resident Director.

Grade breakdown

Participation and homework	15%
In class quizzes (3)	30%
Cross-cultural activities	20%
Cross-cultural presentation (oral exam)	15%
Final exam	20%

Participation and homework. Your attendance, daily preparation and active participation in class will not only contribute to your learning, but are also important factors in determining your grade. All assignments must be completed as indicated on the syllabus. Homework that is incomplete or late will not be accepted. Students are expected to participate in Portuguese only during each class period. The instructor will monitor student participation on a daily basis.

Quizzes and final exam. There will be biweekly quizzes and a final exam. There are no make-up exams. Exams may not be rescheduled. Failure to attend the final exam results in an F for the course.

Cross-cultural composition. Each student will attend a local event about Brazilian culture and write a typed, one-page essay in Portuguese on what he/she has learned. Please, check the syllabus for the deadline of the one-page essay. A list of possible local events and assignment guidelines will

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be provided by the instructor. This activity serves as practice for the composition. No make-ups or late work.

Cross-cultural presentation. Each student will give a five to ten-minute presentation in Portuguese on the topic chosen for their cross-cultural composition. The cross-cultural presentation is your final oral exam and counts for 15% of your grade.

Primary Texts

Falar... Ler... Escrever Português – Um curso para estrangeiros, Lima & Iunes, Ed. EPU, São Paulo (chapters 14-18)

Materials devised by CET-Brazil staff

Supplementary Texts

Literary excerpts & works

Communicative tables & exercises for oral practice

Authentic texts from Brazilian newspapers and magazines

Samples of audio/DVD materials/Streaming media

Handouts

Pace and Topics Covered

Students cover the following over the course of the semester:

Vocabulary

household (chapter 14)

health (chapter 15)

clothing (chapter 16)

work & leisure (chapter 17)

feelings / emotions (chapter 18)

Grammar

review of verb conjugation patterns: -AR, -ER, -IR: present tense (handouts, CET materials)

review of verb conjugation patterns: -AR, -ER, -IR: simple past tense (handouts, CET materials)

review of verb conjugation patterns: -AR, -ER, -IR: imperfect tense (handouts, CET materials)

contrast simple past vs. imperfect (handouts; CET materials)

narratives (chapter 14, handouts, CET materials)

irregular verbs: review & extension (all chapters)

past and future subjunctive: likelihood and hypotheses (chapters 14-17)

adverbial clauses (chapter 15,16)

prepositional clauses (chapter 16)

perfect subjunctives: intro (chapter 17)

reported speech (chapter 18)

passive voice with –se (chapter 18)

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Communicative functions

(presented through CET materials & Communicative tables)

daily household communication

planning

hypothesizing

agreeing & disagreeing

expressing opinion

interrupting

problem solving

traveling

Brazilian culture

(through authentic texts, handouts and samples of audio/DVD materials/streaming media)

overall contrastive Brazilian geography

literature

Brazilian music

social issues

academic & professional life