



**BEGINNING PORTUGUESE I:  
FROM CAMBRIDGE TO COPACABANA**

**Course ID: 13725**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

**EMAIL:**

**OFFICE:**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**COURSE HEAD**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**DESCRIPTION**

PORTUGUESE 10 is an elementary course that provides an introduction to Brazilian Portuguese with emphasis on interpersonal communication as well as the interpretation and production of written and spoken language. Intended for those with no prior experience in Portuguese, this class will transport students from speaking English to carrying on basic conversations with native speakers of Portuguese over the course of one semester, thanks to immersion activities and dynamic, interactive learning. Students will be exposed to contextualized Luso-Afro-Brazilian culture through music, film, literature, and social media, as well as via Teletandem, a weekly online interaction with Brazilian students at the Language Resource Center, unique to the Portuguese Program.

**EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS**

In Portuguese 10 students will:

- Develop the four language skills – aural comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing
- Receive significant input of spoken Portuguese
- Progress from structured to free use of the target language
- Become familiar with the phonological system of Portuguese and practice pronunciation and intonation
- Learn about Brazilian culture through various types of authentic texts and films.
- Use the target language in non-academic settings (language tables, workshops, and Teletandem).
- Engage in and sustain face-to-face conversation with others about topics studied
- Interact in Portuguese with classmates in pairs and small groups
- Become acquainted with elements of Luso-Brazilian culture

Some students may feel anxious when speaking in a foreign language classroom. Note that every effort will be made to create a class atmosphere that is compassionate and judgement-free as possible. Remember: One can only learn how to speak Portuguese by speaking Portuguese.

Students who have prior knowledge of Portuguese, or who have studied Spanish, should contact the course head as it may be necessary to take a placement test or to enroll in POR 10S (Portuguese for Spanish Speakers).



## LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the semester, learners are expected to:

- Greet people and introduce themselves in formal and informal contexts
- Read short and simple texts (e.g. business cards, menus, invitations, and ads on housing, clothing, weather and sports)
- Write messages on topics related to everyday life using the present and past tenses
- Engage in a simple conversation about themselves, friends, family
- Understand questions and words used by the instructor, Teletandem partner, and classmates
- Use the target language to describe people, discussing hobbies, living conditions, clothing and sports
- Sustain a short conversation using appropriate transitions (discourse markers), opening and closing
- Ask and answer questions about present and past actions, origin, locations, and prices
- Recognize and use both the informal and the formal language in everyday situations to order a meal, make a purchase, accept or reject an invitation
- Use communication strategies to maintain a conversation (use and understand facial gestures and expressions).

## COURSE MATERIALS

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

- Clémence Jouët-Pastré et al. Ponto de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language plus MyPortugueseLab with e-text & multi semester – Access Card Package | Edition: 2 - (Same material used in Portuguese Ac)

### SUGGESTED TEXTS

- Collins Gem Portuguese Dictionary English-Portuguese, Portuguese-English. Harper Resource.
- 501 Portuguese Verbs. Nitti, John J. & Michael Ferreira.
- Talking Brazilian. Perini, M. Yale University Press, 2004.

## COURSE POLICIES

### CLASS PREPARATION

Before each class, it is the student's responsibility to study the textbook sections assigned in the syllabus and to review new vocabulary, grammar structures, etc. As new material is presented and practiced in the classroom, the student will understand more, respond better, and learn more efficiently if well-prepared. The instructor's role is to help the student practice, and to clarify when necessary, but not to repeat what is adequately explained in the text.

### ATTENDANCE

Because language learning and teaching rely on active and consistent classroom participation, attendance at every class session is mandatory. After 3 hours of missed class (each class has a duration of one and a half hours), you will be required to speak to the course head to discuss your status in the course. **For every subsequent hour of missed class, your participation grade will be reduced by one grade step (for example: B+ → B). After 6 hours of missed class, the course head may file for your exclusion from the course.** The same will hold for frequent lateness and/or behavior that adversely affects participation and/or class dynamics. Exclusion is the equivalent of a failing grade.



## FORMS OF ASSESSMENT

Dates for all written tests, oral exams, and oral tasks are noted on the syllabus calendar, and announced on Canvas; in the event of any changes, students will be notified in advance.

### 1. WRITTEN TESTS & QUIZZES

There will be two (2) tests and four (4) quizzes. All exams will last 53 minutes. Quizzes will last 30 minutes and will be scheduled on *Mondays* (see the dates below).

The exams will include the following elements: **listening comprehension, grammar / vocabulary tasks and a reading comprehension exercise**; all quizzes will include **grammar and vocabulary tasks**. Exams may also include a section on culture. In addition to regularly scheduled exams and quizzes, weekly (pop) short quizzes (15-minute) may be given.

Tests	Quizzes
Test 1: 16-Oct Test 2: 30-Nov	Quiz 1: 11-Sept      Quiz 2: 25-Sept Quiz 3: 23-Oct      Quiz 4: 06-Nov

### 2. ORAL EXAMS

Students will complete two (2) guided conversations with the instructor. For each student, the instructor will select from a range of oral prompt cards. Each card includes a rubric for evaluation, and introduces a topic for discussion between the teacher and the student, together with prompts for the development of the conversation. Each oral exam will last approximately 10 - 15 minutes, as follows:

- ☐ Non-assessed 'warm-up' conversation (approximately 2 minutes)
- ☐ Time for the student to read the oral exam card and to prepare a response – students may not take notes (approximately 2 minutes)
- ☐ Assessed conversation (3-4 minutes)

The oral exam will take place during the instructor's office hours. The oral exams cannot be taken during class hours and should be scheduled on the dates assigned on the calendar (Oct. 10 and 12; Nov. 20, 21, 27, and 28).

### 3. WRITTEN TASKS

There will be three (3) written compositions – (guidelines and topics will be given in advance). Compositions should be 600 to 800 words, be typed in Times New Roman font (12 pt.), and be double-spaced. They should be turned in on the *Thursdays* assigned on the calendar, and revised after the instructor has provided feedback and an initial evaluation. The two grades for each version of the composition will be averaged. Student visits to the Tutoring Center should be used to practice newly acquired vocabulary, review grammatical structure, and to be exposed to meaningful input of Portuguese. Students should not seek help at the Tutoring Center to review/edit written assignments.

**Deadlines & Themes****Composição 1:**

A letter to a prospective host family in a lusophone country

Versão 1 due 21-Sept; Versão 2 due 28-Sept

**Composição 2:**

Create a dating profile

Versão 1 due 05-Oct; Versão 2 due 19-Oct

**Composição 3:**

A fable

Versão 1 due 02-Nov; Versão 2 due 09-Nov

**4. HOMEWORK**

Homework assignments are to be completed individually unless otherwise noted. Failure to observe this policy may result in a grade of zero (0) for the assignment (please see the Academic Honesty policy below).

The use of the Ponto de Encontro companion website is mandatory. Students must complete the assigned written, oral, and video activities in MyPortugueseLanguageLab. Ideally, students will use the activities to reinforce what has been covered in class. More information on how to access and use MyPortugueseLanguageLab will be given in session.

**MyPortugueseLanguageLab assignments are due on Wednesdays and graded upon completion; Teletandem participation accounts for 5% of your homework grade.**

**5. PARTICIPATION**

Your attendance and active participation are vital in each and every class. This is a significant part of your grade since it is during the in-class interactions that your communicative skills in Portuguese will develop and improve. Your grade will be determined daily by the quality and quantity of your preparation and participation in activities and class discussions.

All attention during class should be focused on the instruction/lecture/discussion, interaction with your classmates, oral activities, and presentations. **Electronic devices should only be used only as requested by your instructor, students' participation grade will be affected if this rule is not observed.**

**6. TELETANDEM**

Teletandem is a project utilized in more than 20 universities worldwide. It provides Portuguese learners with weekly virtual interaction with Brazilian students. The students will be required to participate in this project and use the opportunity to master cultural and linguistic content covered in class. More details will be provided during the second week of class.



## 7. MAKE-UP EXAMS

There are no make-up exams for missed written or oral exams, except at the course head's discretion (and in truly extenuating circumstances). Generally, no late work will be accepted. In case of illness, you must provide an official medical excuse from UHS or your physician.

Make-up homework, compositions and oral exams will be given only in cases of documented emergency.

## 8. FINAL PROJECT

There will be one (1) group project, comprised of a written and an oral component. It is designed to be developed throughout the semester.

Description: This project consists of a creation of a TV show featuring the Lusophone gastronomy. Students will pick a traditional dish from a Lusophone country, recreate the history of it and film the TV show featuring its history (fable) and teach how to make the dish. Students must include 2 commercials to advertise products also created by students.

Length of Script: at least 3 pages (group of 3 students)

Length of videos: at least 15 minutes (group of 3 students)

Evaluation	Deadlines
Writing (grammar, vocabulary and cohesion) - 30% Development of the project - 30% Creativity – engagement - 20% Use of appropriate language structure, vocabulary and pronunciation - 20%	Proposal: 03-Oct First Draft: 26-Oct Final Version Written Part: 21-Nov Final Presentation (video screen in class): 01-Dec



## GRADE BREAKDOWN

Exams (2)	20%
Quizzes (4)	20%
Oral Exam (2)	20%
Written Tasks (3 compositions - 5% each)	15%
Class Participation (5%), Homework (5%) & Teletandem (5%)	15%
Final Project	10%

## GRADING SCALE

95 -100	A	83 – 86	B	73 – 76	C	63 – 66	D
94– 90	A-	80 – 82	B-	70 – 72	C-	60-62	D-
87 – 89	B+	77 – 79	C+	67 – 69	D+	< 60	F

## ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students are expected to complete all assignments independently, unless specifically instructed to work with others. This policy also means that it is unacceptable to ask native speakers or more advanced students to proofread/correct written work. Rules about academic honesty, including plagiarism, will be strictly enforced:

<http://isites.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do?keyword=k70847&pageid=icb.page355322>

The University considers plagiarism a serious offense, and it may result in suspension or even expulsion.

## ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION

Students needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a documented disability are requested to present their letter from the Accessible Education Office (AEO) and speak with the Course Head (whether or not the section leader is also informed) by the end of the second week of the semester. Failure to do so may result in the Course Head's inability to respond in a timely manner. All discussions will remain confidential, although AEO may be consulted to discuss appropriate implementation.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

While in class, cell phones and mobile devices must be in the off position. Laptops and tablets may not be used in class except as specified by the instructor.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

- [Language Tables](#) are a great opportunity to practice course content acquired in class in a tension-free atmosphere.
- [The Language Resource Center](#) is a multimedia computer facility supporting more than 80 ancient and modern languages at Harvard University. Interactive computer and web-based materials are available.
- [The RLL Tutoring Center](#) - to make appointments, click [here](#).
- [Acervo Celpe-Bras](#)



## ASSIGNMENT CALENDAR

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

### WEEK 1

AULA 1	W	30-AUG	FIRST DAY OF CLASS
AULA 2	R	31-AUG	

### WEEK 2

AULA	M	04-SEPT	
AULA 3	T	05-SEPT	
AULA 4	W	06-SEPT	STUDY CARD DAY
AULA 5	R	07-SEPT	

### WEEK 3

AULA 6	M	11-SEPT	QUIZ 1
AULA 7	T	12-SEPT	
AULA 8	W	13-SEPT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 9	R	14-SEPT	

### WEEK 4

AULA 10	M	18-SEPT	
AULA 11	T	19-SEPT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 12	W	20-SEPT	
AULA 13	R	21-SEPT	COMP 1.1

### WEEK 5

AULA 14	M	25-SEPT	QUIZ 2
AULA 15	T	26-SEPT	
AULA 16	W	27-SEPT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 17	R	28-SEPT	COMP 1.2

### WEEK 6

AULA 18	M	02-OCT	
AULA 19	T	03-OCT	TELETANDEM
AULA 20	W	04-OCT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 21	R	05-OCT	COMP 2.1

### WEEK 7

AULA X	M	9-OCT	NO CLASSES - COLUMBUS DAY
AULA 22	T	10-OCT	OE1
AULA 23	W	11-OCT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 24	R	12-OCT	OE1

### WEEK 8

AULA 25	M	16-OCT	TEST 1
AULA 26	T	17-OCT	TELETANDEM
AULA 27	W	18-OCT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
AULA 28	R	19-OCT	COMP 2.2



PORTUGUESE PROGRAM - RLL

WEEK 9	AULA 29	M	23-OCT	QUIZ 3
	AULA 30	T	24-OCT	TELETANDEM
	AULA 31	W	25-OCT	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
	AULA 32	R	26-OCT	FINAL PROJECT FIRST DRAFT
WEEK 10	AULA 33	M	30-OCT	
	AULA 34	T	31-OCT	TELETANDEM
	AULA 35	W	01-NOV	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
	AULA 36	R	02-NOV	COMP 3.1
WEEK 11	AULA 37	M	06-NOV	QUIZ 4
	AULA 38	T	07-NOV	
	AULA 39	W	08-NOV	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
	AULA 40	R	09-NOV	COMP 3.2
WEEK 12	AULA 41	M	13-NOV	
	AULA 42	T	14-NOV	
	AULA 43	W	15-NOV	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
	AULA 44	R	16-NOV	
WEEK 13	AULA 45	M	20-NOV	OE 2
	AULA 46	T	21-NOV	OE 2
	AULA 47	W	22-NOV	MYLANGLAB ASSIGNMENTS
	AULA X	W	22-26-NOV	NO CLASSES - THANKSGIVING RECESS
WEEK 14	AULA 48	M	27-NOV	OE 2
	AULA 49	T	28-NOV	OE 2
	AULA 50	W	29-NOV	TEST 2
	AULA 51	T	30-NOV	FINAL PROJECT FINAL VERSION- WRITTEN PART
WEEK 15		M	01-DEC	LAST DAY OF CLASS
			02-08-DEC	READING PERIOD