

PORT 1103: Intensive Elementary Portuguese

Fall 2017

MWF



Instructor:

Email:

Office Hours:

Location:

Required Text: *Ponto de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language, 2nd Edition*. with *My Portuguese Lab* feature

Course Description and Goals

The Portuguese 1103 course is designed to give students the ability to communicate in Portuguese using all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. By the end of the semester students should be able to:

1. Understand spoken Portuguese in a broad range of situations, from day to day interactions to mass-media broadcasts.
2. Read basic newspaper articles, websites, and some literary texts.
3. Express themselves in written and spoken form.
4. Continue learning about the cultures and history of the Portuguese-Speaking World.
5. Learn advanced grammatical structures and expressions to strengthen their communication skills.

In addition, the five Cs of foreign language learning: Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities will play a vital role inside the classroom dynamics.

Course Requirements

Prepare in advance for each class, completing homework and any assignments set by the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to study the assigned grammatical sections and complete the workbook exercises before each class, in order to fully participate in class.

Attendance is mandatory. Regular class attendance is essential for successful completion of the course; attendance is therefore obligatory for all classes. It is your responsibility to attend class and keep up with your absences. In case circumstances arise that prevent you from attending class, you are permitted **four unexcused absences**, about which questions will not be asked nor excuses solicited. Since four classes represent an entire week of formal contact, any absence beyond those classes is considered excessive. These four absences are not "free" but should be used wisely for doctor appointments, minor illnesses, attendance at weddings, etc. **Excessive absences:** If you accumulate five absences or more, **one percentage point** per unexcused absence will be deducted from your Final Grade calculation. **Ten absences will result in a failing grade** in the course. **It is also essential to be on time;** please note that each class hour will be divided into fourths. Every "quarter" you miss is a fourth of an absence, and these will accumulate throughout the semester. Thus, **every four quarters will constitute another absence**. To have your absences excused, you must provide your instructor with official documentation of the reason for your missing class (e.g. extended hospitalization, medical emergency, religious functions, etc.).

Participation Grade

This grade is based on two factors: (1) Evidence that student has prepared for class AND (2) active participation in class activities and discussions. Participation must be in the foreign language (PORTUGUESE) and will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- A= Excellent participation, always well prepared, virtually no English spoken
- B= Good participation, almost always prepared, very little English spoken
- C= Fair participation, generally prepared, some English spoken
- D= Irregular participation, infrequently prepared, English spoken frequently
- F= Little to no participation, infrequently prepared, English spoken consistently

Course Grading Criteria

Quizzes (4 x 5%)	20%
Final Exam	20%
Composition	20%
Homework/Attendance	15%
Class Participation	10%
Oral Presentation	10%
Oral Proficiency Interview	5%
Total	100%

Quizzes (20%): Four quizzes will be given during the semester. Quizzes will focus on listening, reading, vocabulary and grammar. Please see detailed syllabus for these dates.

Final Exam (20%): Cumulative.

Compositions (20%): The specific directions for these assignments will be given on separate sheet. Students are expected to produce two compositions this semester. These will consist of various stages of reviewing and editing, including peer editing. Grading will be based on vocabulary use, correct grammatical usage, structure, and content. A rubric for both writing and grading criteria will be available on Brightspace.

Homework/Attendance (15%): Workbook activities will be graded at the end of each chapter for a homework grade. In addition, the instructor will assign homework on special topics. You will turn in your homework whenever your instructor requests it from you. Finally, you will be held accountable for having read the indicated pages before class.

Class Participation (10 %): You will receive a participation grade at the halfway point of the semester and again at the end of the semester. Major components of this grade will be your avoidance of the use of English or Spanish in the classroom as well as your willingness to participate in conversational activities.

Oral Presentation (10%): Groups of 2-3 students will use Google Earth to make a presentation about a Portuguese-speaking country or region of a Portuguese-speaking country. The presentation will require students to communicate using structures and vocabulary studied in the course, such as location, weather, clothing, and cities. Grades will be assigned individually. The instructor will give further details as the semester progresses.

Oral Proficiency Interview (5%): In order to demonstrate one's ability to communicate in the target language, each student will be interviewed by the instructor for 10 min. Possible topics and questions will be discussed later in the semester.

Grading System

A = 94-100	B = 83-86.9	C = 73-76.9	D = 63-66.9
A- = 90-93.9	B- = 80-82.9	C- = 70-72.9	D- = 60-62.9

B+ = 87-89.9 C+ = 77-79.9 D+ = 67-69.9 F = 0-59.9

Expectations for Student Conduct

Of course, no cell phones, pagers, or other electronic communication devices are to be on or used during class. Students are expected to adhere strictly to the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Honor Code. The course syllabus is a general plan for the course. The instructor may announce changes to this syllabus and to the course.

Student Concerns

Please discuss all questions, problems, absences you might have with your instructor first. Further help can be obtained from the Portuguese Language Supervisor, Senior Lecturer Benjamin Legg
benjamin.legg@vanderbilt.edu

University policy regarding the recording of class lectures & other classroom activities

“The use of technologies for audio and video recording of lectures and other classroom activities is allowed only with the express permission of the instructor. In cases where recordings are allowed, such content is restricted to personal use only unless permission is expressly granted in writing by the instructor and by other classroom participants, including other students. Personal use is defined as use by an individual student for the purpose of studying or completing course assignments. When students have permission for personal use of recordings, they must still obtain written permission from the instructor to share recordings with others.

For students registered with EAD and who have been approved for audio and/or video recording of lectures and other classroom activities as a reasonable accommodation, applicable federal law requires instructors to permit those recordings. Such recordings are also limited to personal use, except with permission of the instructor and other students in the class.”

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/catalogs/undergrad/artscience.html>

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