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Portuguese Introductory I

PORT-1003 (3 credits)

Portugal: Sustainability and Environmental Justice

This syllabus is representative of a typical semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.

Course Description

This Portuguese Introductory I language course is designed to meet the needs of SIT students with minimal or no Portuguese language proficiency. The course focuses on oral expression, comprehension, structure, and grammar and integrates the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and adopts a student-centered learning approach. Students engage in class activities and are encouraged to speak Portuguese to their language competence. Student's learning is enhanced and reinforced through the utilization of audio and visual aids, regular field visits, and weekly tutorials. Course content focuses on grammatical structure, greetings, verb conjugation and tenses, regular and irregular verbs, prepositions, possessives, definite and indefinite articles, demonstrative pronouns, object pronouns, adverbs, indefinite pronouns, and negative, affirmative, and interrogative forms.

Language of Instruction

Portuguese

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Build basic language skills through listening speaking, reading, and writing at the introductory level;
- Use the most common verb tenses of Portuguese;
- Demonstrate basic understanding of short texts in Portuguese;
- Develop basic vocabulary and specialized terms used in everyday life in Portugal.

Course Requirements

Students are required to complete approximately one hour of homework assignments daily. The assignments consist of written and oral exercises from textbooks. Class attendance, participation, and preparedness are required.

Course Texts

Abrantes, A. M. (2019). *Ora Viva!* Lidel.

Course Schedule

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Please be aware that topics and excursions may vary to take advantage of any emerging events, to accommodate changes in our lecturers' availability, and to respect any changes that would affect student safety. Students will be notified if this occurs.

Module 1:
Greetings
Introducing yourself
Introducing others
The numbers
The family
Uses of verbs *SER* and *ESTAR,* verb CHAMAR-SE
Question Words
Alphabet and Numbers
Demonstrative Pronouns
Possessives (1st and 2nd person singular)

Module 2:
Countries and nationalities
Origin, address and marital status
Present Tense of Regular Verbs ending in -AR
Feminine and masculine, singular and plural
The Possessives
Yes/no questions
Prepositions DE and EM (contraction with definite article)

Module 3:
Professions, occupations, hobbies
Comparisons - Adjectives - Opposites
Prepositions of place
verbs *SER* and *ESTAR*
Noun-adjective agreement
Affirmative and negative sentences
DESDE and HÁ

Module 4:
Telling the time
The meals/food vocabulary
Expressing preference
Describing the daily routine
Definite and indefinite articles
Time Expressions
Present Tense of Regular Verbs
Verb IR
Verb IR+Infinitive
Verb ESTAR a + infinitive

Module 5:

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Making plans
To make an invitation/To go to a show
Days of the week, months, seasons
Asking directions
Prepositions of location and movement
Prepositions of time
Adverbs of time
The public transportation
Modal verbs: QUERER, PODER, TER (DE)
Selection of short stories in Portuguese (reading and written/oral comprehension exercises)

Assignments and Evaluation

Assignment Descriptions and Grading Criteria

1) Homework and Quizzes (10%)

Homework usually encompasses not only language content taught but also interactivity with host family members. Students are also given regular quizzes on the content taught: verb tenses, language structure, and vocabulary

2) Mid-term Written Exam (10%)
The mid-term is applied in the first half of the course. Students are asked to answer questions, provide fill-in the blanks answers, complete sentences, and write task-based answers.

3) Mid-term Oral Exam (20%)
Students meet individually with the teacher to answer questions based on the language structure covered in the first half of the course.

4) Final Oral Exam (30%)
Students are encouraged to do one of the following tasks or a combination of them:

A. Give an individual short presentation about their experience in Portugal;
B. Role-play determined situations that reflect their daily activities in the host country;

5) Final Written Exam (20%)
Students are asked to answer questions, write short paragraphs, create dialogues, provide fill-in the blanks answers, complete sentences, and write task-based answers.

6) Participation (10%)
This includes active involvement in lectures, readings, discussions, and excursions using the following criteria:

- Attendance - promptness to class and positive presence in class.
- Active Listening - paying attention in class and during field excursions, asking appropriate questions, showing interest and enthusiasm (this includes body language), entertaining contradictory perspectives, taking notes.

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- Involvement in Class Discussions - either in small or large groups, sharing knowledge. This means challenging yourself to speak up if you usually don't, and also means allowing others to speak if you are a person who tends to dominate class discussions.
- Group Accountability – positive participation in the group during field excursions and classes; not keeping others waiting.
- Displaying Respect – culturally appropriate interaction with hosts, SIT program staff, SIT lecturers and communities.

Assessment:

Homework and Quizzes – 10%
Mid-term Oral Exam – 20%
Mid-term Written Exam – 10%
Final Oral Exam – 30%
Final Written Exam – 20%
Participation – 10%

Attendance and Participation

Due to the nature of SIT Study Abroad programs, and the importance of student and instructor contributions in each and every class session, attendance at all classes and for all program excursions is required. Criteria for evaluation of student performance include attendance and participation in program activities. Students must fully participate in all program components and courses. Students may not voluntarily opt out of required program activities. Valid reasons for absence – such as illness – must be discussed with the academic director or other designated staff person. Absences impact academic performance, may impact grades, and could result in dismissal from the program.

Late Assignments

SIT Study Abroad programs integrate traditional classroom lectures and discussion with field-based experiences, site visits and debriefs. The curriculum is designed to build on itself and progress to the culmination (projects, ISP, case studies, internship, etc.). It is critical that students complete assignments in a timely manner to continue to benefit from the sequences in assignments, reflections and experiences throughout the program.
Example: Students may request a justified extension for one paper/assignment during the semester. Requests must be made in writing and at least 12 hours before the posted due date and time. If reason for request is accepted, an extension of up to one week may be granted at that time. Any further requests for extensions will not be granted. Students who fail to submit the assignment within the extension period will receive an ‘F’ for the assignment.

Grading Scale

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-

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77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
below 64	F

Program Expectations

For the successful completion of the course, participants will be requested to:

- Attend classes regularly and avoid leaving the room frequently. Full attendance is expected.
- Be punctual to class.
- Hand in homework assignments in a timely fashion. Late papers will not be graded in full.
- Engage actively in classroom and out-of-the-classroom activities. Individual effort in oral production is key to effective learning and an integral part of the evaluation by the instructor.
- Display a respectful attitude while listening to peers and/or interacting with native speakers of any social or ethnic nomination. Prejudice and demeaning comments of any nature will not be tolerated

SIT Policies and Resources

Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad Handbook and the Policies section of the SIT website for all academic and student affairs policies. Students are accountable for complying with all published policies. Of particular relevance to this course are the policies regarding: academic integrity, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), research and ethics in field study and internships, late assignments, academic status, academic appeals, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and misconduct, and the student code of conduct.

Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad Handbook and SIT website for information on important resources and services provided through our central administration in Vermont, such as Library resources and research support, Disability Services, Counseling Services, Title IX information, and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion resources.

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