Portuguese 2401: Intermediate Portuguese I

FALL 2020
Professor: Dr. Debora Zamorano
Time: 3as e 5as 1:30-2:50
Location: on-line

Office: LART 117
Office Phone: 7476360
e-mail: dbzamorano@utep.edu
Virtual Office Hours: M/W: 10:30-12:00
T/R: 12:00-1:30pm
and by appointment

Course Description:
Portuguese 2401 is an intermediate Portuguese language course which builds off the skills, structures and vocabulary that students learn in first-semester Portuguese (PORT 1402 or equivalent). The course uses a variety of language teaching approaches to help students work toward mastery of all four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At the same time students will become familiar with some of the most important cultural traits of Brazil. The bulk of the material covered will be drawn from Chapters 7-11 of Ponto de Encontro.

Course Objectives:
By the end of Portuguese 2401 students will be able to:

☐ Understand the main idea and most of the supporting details of spoken Brazilian Portuguese intended for college students of Portuguese on topics related to the daily life of the student and current affairs.
☐ Speak in complete sentences on the above-mentioned topics with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation and the use of vocabulary and grammar (present and past indicative and present subjunctive) so as to be understood by the native speaker of Portuguese.
☐ Read articles on cultural topics with an understanding of the main ideas and most of the supporting details.
☐ Write a coherent composition of several paragraphs on a familiar topic, such as those mentioned above, with a logical organization and sufficient accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and spelling so as to be understood by the native speaker of Portuguese.
☐ Understand significant cultural traits (lifestyles, attitudes, customs, etc.) of the Portuguese-speaking world, and function appropriately in frequently encountered social situations.

Required Texts:
• MyPortugueseLab with Pearson e-text access card for Ponto de Encontro. By Anna M. Klobucka and others. ISBN: 10-0205978541

Other Resources:
• Online Portuguese Dictionaries:
  • Wordreference: http://www.wordreference.com
  • Michaelis: http://michaelis.uol.com.br
• Online Verb Conjugator: http://conjuga-me.net

Campus Classroom Behavior Policy:
Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions.

Course Requirements:
The main goal when learning a foreign language is the actual use of the language for communication purposes. This involves a great deal of practice. This course is on-line, which means that students will complete all the activities requested on-line. The professor will explain new vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation in real class time. The professor will be available for the remainder of the class to guide students towards the on-line activities. On-line assignments will include oral, written, listening and grammar activities.

The best way to learn a language is by practicing it as often as possible. It is highly recommended that you do 15-30 minutes of online homework or other Portuguese study/practice each day, rather than trying to do all your work the night before it is due. Any student who is unsure how best to practice and prepare should speak with the professor during office hours (or by appointment).

There is NO MAKE-UP of missed class work, quizzes or oral presentations without valid documentation justifying the student’s absence. Talk to your professor as soon as possible about any possible absence or attendance problem.

Students who have the opportunity to practice Portuguese with classmates, tutors, or other Portuguese speakers, are absolutely encouraged to do so; this can include studying for quizzes and exams as well as informal practice. With that said, credit will only be given in this class to work done by the actual student requesting credit and registered for this class. Receiving outside help to complete official course assignments is considered a violation of the UTEP policy on Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty.

With regard to written assignments specifically, no one except the professor (and classmates during peer-editing opportunities) is allowed to see or edit any portion of a student’s composition or presentation. As this course is intended to develop and test a student’s individual ability to understand and produce the target language, the use of a translator (Google Translate, etc.) to write any portion of an assignment is considered a serious violation of academic honesty. Accepting outside assistance or
using a translator to write a composition or presentation is considered cheating and will receive no credit, with the possibility of referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further sanction.

Talk to your professor if you have any questions about these policies and read the information here—http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/

Attendance / Participation:
Even in an online class, class time is essential in order to learn how to use new Portuguese forms and receive feedback from your professor and classmates. Students are therefore required to attend all classes, and actively participate in all classroom activities. **Being prepared for class means arriving on time, having the textbook, having completed any assignments for that day, and having reviewed material from the previous class.**

Students who miss more than three total classes over the course of the semester, will lose five points from their attendance/participation grade for each additional absence. Three tardies are equivalent to one absence. Remember that being late to class not only reduces your opportunities to learn, but also hurt your professor and classmates’ ability to maximize class time for Portuguese study. The professor has the right to drop you from the class if you miss more than 6 days of class or if you are consistently late.

**If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed. Contact a classmate or the professor and consult the syllabus and Blackboard. An absence is not an extension or excuse for turning an assignment in late.**

Cell phones and any other electronic devices must be turned off during class unless otherwise instructed.

**Homework:**
online activities are an essential and mandatory part of the work that you will do each week. A set of activities in MyPortugueseLab will be assigned at the beginning of each lesson and students are responsible for completing both mylab and any other assigned on-line activity by the due date indicated by the professor.

It is imperative that students complete all assignments fully and on time—failing to complete your online activities is like missing class. Most activities are automatically corrected and scored by the online system. To receive credit for an auto-corrected activity, you must receive a score of 70% (if you score below 70%, you should redo the activity until your score is above 70%).

For activities that require you to record your voice and/or write your own thoughts, the professor will give feedback when necessary. Activities in MyPortugueseLab are designed to give you practice with grammar, vocabulary, listening and speaking outside of class—similar to what we do in class. Therefore, practicing a lot is more important than doing everything flawlessly in MyPortugueseLab.

Your final grade for MyPortugueseLab will be based on the percentage of activities you have completed during the semester (i.e. if you complete all the activities on time your grade will be 100%).
At various points, the professor may also assign readings, handouts or mini-presentations. These will be given a either a number grade or a grade of complete/incomplete, at the professor’s discretion.

**Compositions:**
Students will write two compositions. Compositions will be longer and more formal than writing done in other homework assignments. Students should use the textbook and a dictionary to develop their ideas with as much clarity and detail as possible. Topics will be assigned by the professor. Compositions that show evidence of outside assistance or use of a translator will not receive credit.

All students will write two versions of each composition; the first will be worth 70% of the final grade, and the second will be worth 30%. After the professor has returned the first version, students should go through the professor’s corrections and comments, incorporating them into the second, revised version. **If you do not understand a correction or comment, it is your responsibility to ask the professor about it; not understanding feedback is not an excuse to ignore it.**

All compositions must be typed, double-spaced in Times New Roman, 12-point font, unless otherwise noted. Late compositions or compositions that are not typed (doubled-spaced) will automatically receive a grade of zero. Compositions will not be accepted by email or after deadlines unless the student has received prior approval from the professor.

**There will be no make-up for the final exam.** Please take this into account when planning vacations.

**Classes:**
Some classes will be given in real time and in some classes students will work on their own. The professor will let students know in advance when they are supposed to work on their own.

**Oral Exams:**
During the semester, there will be two oral exams. As it is an online class, students will be required to record their presentations and submit them online. Further information will be given during the semester. The professor will provide topics ahead of time. Students should consult with the professor if they are unsure about how to prepare or if they would like to modify the topic in any way. Students who miss an oral exam or present on an unapproved topic will automatically receive a grade of zero.

**Final Presentations:**
Students will do one final presentation about a topic chosen in consultation with the professor. The presentation may be a research project, a skit, or take another form determined at the discretion of the professor. Grades will take into account the creativity and preparation of the group as well as the individual performance of each group member during the presentation.

**Quizzes:**
After completing one or two chapters of the textbook, students will have an in-class quiz on the vocabulary that they have studied. Quizzes may be assigned in groups, individually or as a review paper. Professor will let students know about the format of the quiz in advance. Because using verbs (in complete sentences and with correct conjugation) is an essential part of using a language, the professor will also give quizzes on verbs that students have studied.
Exams:
There will be one written, midterm paper as well as one final paper. Further instructions will be given on the first day of class.

There is no MAKE-UP for quizzes or papers. However, if for reasons beyond your control, you know that you will not be able to take an exam, talk to your professor to arrange an alternate day or time before the day of the test. A student who misses an exam without previously arranging for an alternate day or time must present appropriate documentation of a personal reason or medical emergency in order to avoid a zero in the exam.

Final Grade:
- Attendance / Participation 10%
- MyPortugueseLab Activities 25%
- Group Presentation 6%
- Quizzes 12%
- Compositions (3) 12%
- Midterm Exam 12%
- Oral Exams (2) 8%
- Final Exam 15%

*Attention: The schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change by the professor. Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with any modifications instituted by the professor. Not being familiar with changes to the syllabus or course requirements does not constitute an excuse for late or missed assignments.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS
You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 Health and Safety and Section 1.2.2.5 Disruptions in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

(classes with on-campus meetings) Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.
**Course Resources: Where you can go for assistance**

**UTEP** provides a variety of student services and support:

**Technology Resources**
- **Help Desk**: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

**Individual Resources**
- **Military Student Success Center**: Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- **Center for Accommodations and Support Services**: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- **Counseling and Psychological Services**: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

Commented [BBL3]: You may want to add resources more particular to your discipline.
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