

## PORT1402: Beginning Portuguese

**FALL 2023**

**Professor:** Erika Stephens

**Days/times:** TR 10:30 - 11:50 am

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Format:** Online

**e-mail:** [enstephens@utep.edu](mailto:enstephens@utep.edu) (expect a response within 24 hours)

### Course Description:

Portuguese 1402 is a beginning Portuguese language course which assumes no prior knowledge or experience with Portuguese. The course uses a variety of language teaching approaches to help students develop 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. At the beginning, emphasis will be given to listening comprehension and oral skills. As the semester moves on all skills will be practiced and developed. The bulk of the material covered will be drawn from Chapters 1-5 of *Ponto de Encontro*.

### Course Objectives:

By the end of Portuguese 1402 students will be able to:

- Understand the main idea of spoken Portuguese intended for the non-native student on topics related to daily life such as the classroom, weather, clothes, time, the family, daily activities, work, etc.
- Speak in complete sentences on the above-mentioned topics with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation and the use of vocabulary and grammar (using of present and past tense) so as to be understood by persons who are used to dealing with students of Portuguese.
- Read edited materials on familiar topics with an understanding of the main idea and some supporting details.
- Write coherent paragraphs on a familiar topic, such as those listed above, with a logical organization and sufficient accuracy in grammar and spelling so as to be understood by persons who are used to dealing with students of Portuguese.
- Understand significant cultural traits (lifestyles, attitudes, customs, etc.) of Brazilian society and culture, and function appropriately in frequently encountered social situations.

### Required Course Materials:

- *Ponto de Encontro*. By Anna M. Klobucka and others (**2nd edition**) ISBN: 10-0205048498
- MyPortugueseLab with Pearson e-text access card for *Ponto de Encontro*. By Anna M. Klobucka and others. ISBN: 10-0205978541 (recommended browser: Chrome)
- All other materials will be provided on Blackboard

### **Required Technology:**

- A functioning computer or tablet with Microsoft Word or Apple Pages installed
- Internet access capable of supporting live streaming of video and audio
- A functioning camera and microphone for participating in live Zoom sessions and recording short personal videos.

### **Other Resources:**

- Online Portuguese Dictionaries:
  - Wordreference: <http://www.wordreference.com>
  - Michaelis: <http://michaelis.uol.com.br>

### **Accommodations:**

This course has been structured to allow students to engage with material in a variety of ways, with the hope of accommodating a range of learning styles. Any student who may require additional accommodations should communicate immediately with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). The professor, student, and staff at CASS can then work together to determine the most appropriate and effective accommodations. Should any further needs or issues arise, students should communicate with the professor as soon as possible in order to address them.

### **Course Requirements:**

The main goal when learning a foreign language is the actual use of the language for communication purposes. The best way to learn is by practicing it as often as possible. This course is structured to give you live, spontaneous practice one-on-one and in small groups as well as individual practice at home. **In addition to live Zoom classes, you should plan to spend 4-5 hours per week studying, reviewing, and completing individual work in Blackboard and MyPortugueseLab. It is highly recommended to do 30 minutes of work per day instead of trying to do it all at once.**

Students who earn a grade lower than **70** must repeat the course and earn a **70** or better before they will be permitted to continue to the next level.

Students who have the opportunity to practice Portuguese with classmates or other Portuguese speakers are absolutely encouraged to do so; this can include studying for quizzes or 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.**

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:**

A major component of language learning is using the language to interact with other people. For that reason, you will spend 40 minutes in small groups with the professor on Zoom every Tuesday and

Thursday (groups may be rearranged at the mid-point of the semester). This time will also be important for asking questions and receiving feedback and guidance from the professor.

In order to receive credit for your attendance, you must arrive on time and fully participate in all activities. **Full participation means: 1) logging in on time; 2) having your camera and microphone turned on for the entire Zoom session; 3) being logged into Blackboard and having your textbook open (either a physical version or ebook version); 4) doing your best to complete pair and group exercises entirely in Portuguese.**

Using Portuguese to interact with your professor and your classmates is an important aspect of learning the language. You should make every effort to only communicate in Portuguese. Excessive use of English or Spanish in class will lower your participation grade.

Students who miss more than three total class sessions over the course of the semester will lose five points from their attendance/participation grade for each additional absence. Students who regularly arrive more than a few minutes late will lose points for attendance. According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of 'W' before the course drop deadline and with a grade of 'F' after the course drop deadline." See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences.

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 in an assignment late.**

### **MyPortugueseLab Homework:**

Because this is a fully online course, a significant amount of learning and practice will happen through daily homework exercises. You will generally have 5-10 activities in MyPortugueseLab to complete before every class. Some activities take only a minute or two, but some take a little longer, so make sure you give yourself enough time to complete the activities assigned for that day. **They will always be due at 10:30 a.m.**

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%). Activities in MyPortugueseLab are designed to give you practice with grammar, vocabulary, listening and speaking outside of 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% ; if you complete half the activities, your grade will be 50%).

### **Blackboard Homework:**

In addition to the activities in MyPortugueseLab, the professor will assign biweekly homework on Blackboard that you should complete before the next day's class. When the activity is fill-in-the-blank or short-answer, you can simply write your answers in the space provided and submit it. If you are

asked to record your voice, you should upload an audio or video file of that recording before submitting.

Like with MyPortugueseLab, your final grade for Blackboard Homework will be based on how much you complete, not the percentage of answers you get right. Nevertheless, the professor will often give you feedback on your Blackboard homework, so you should click on your grade for each assignment and pay attention to things you need to improve. **Incomplete homework will receive partial or no credit.**

In our Zoom sessions, we will often go over the answers to this homework, but not always, so if you have questions or don't understand any part of the homework, it is very important to make a note of it and ask about it in the next Zoom session (or schedule office hours with the professor).

### **Personal Videos:**

Approximately every two weeks your homework will include making a short video on your phone or computer related to the topic that we are studying. These videos are a way to practice speaking at home and to express your personality in Portuguese. The topic will be assigned by the professor, but you are encouraged to make your videos as lively and creative as possible. **(Just pointing the camera at your face while you read some sentences you wrote is not a good video and will not receive full credit.)**

### **Compositions:**

Students will write two compositions. Compositions will be longer and more formal or creative 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.

Learning to write well is a process, and you are not expected to write flawlessly the first time. Therefore all students will write two versions of each composition; the first will be worth 70% of the final grade, and the second version 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.**

**\* A note about compositions and other written work: The use of a translator (Google Translate, etc.) to write any portion of an assignment is considered a serious violation of academic honesty. Getting assistance (except from the professor or a classmate) 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. If you do not know how to say something, you should use the book, an online dictionary (like [WordReference.com](http://WordReference.com)) and/or ask the professor.**

### **Oral Exams:**

During the semester, there will be two oral exams. These will be conversations with the professor and 1-2 classmates. In each case, the professor will provide topics and example questions for the discussion. Students should consult with the professor if they are unsure about how to prepare. **Students who miss an oral exam will receive a grade of zero.**

### Exams:

There will be one written midterm exam and one written final exam. Each exam will include elements of listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, and composition. Students will take exams on Blackboard using Respondus Lockdown Browser. Students are responsible for making sure that they have downloaded the browser, found a stable internet connection, and given themselves adequate time to complete the exam.

In general, there are no make-up exams. 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 Breakdown:

Attendance / Participation	15%	Personal Videos	5%
MyPortugueseLab Activities	15%	Oral Exams (2)	5%
Blackboard Homework	10%	Midterm Exam	20%
Compositions (2)	10%	Final Exam	20%

### Course Calendar:

**\*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.

#### SEMANA 1

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
29 de agosto	- Syllabus and course introduction	- Comprar livro <i>Ponto de Encontro</i> e se registrar no MyPortugueseLab
31 de agosto		- Registrar-se no MyPortugueseLab

#### SEMANA 2

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
5 de setembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
7 de setembro	*Dia da Independência do Brasil	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 3**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
12 de setembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
14 de setembro		- Vídeo 1 - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 4**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
19 de setembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
21 de setembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 5**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
26 de setembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
28 de setembro		- <b>Escrever “Composição 1”</b> - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 6**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
3 de outubro	- <b>Composição 1 (primeira versão)</b>	- <b>Preparar para “Prova oral 1”</b> - Vídeo 2 - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
5 de outubro	- <b>Prova oral 1</b>	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 7**

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
10 de outubro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
12 de outubro	*Dia das Crianças	- <b>Revisar “Composição 1”</b> - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 8**

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
17 de outubro	- <b>Composição 1 (segunda versão)</b>	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab - <b>Estudar para prova de meio de semestre</b>
19 de outubro	<b>*PROVA DE MEIO DE SEMESTRE*</b>	

**SEMANA 9**

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
24 de outubro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
26 de outubro		- Vídeo 3 - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 10**

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
31 de outubro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
2 de novembro	*Dia de Finados	- <b>Escrever “Composição 2”</b> - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 11**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
7 de novembro	- <b>Composição 2 (primeira versão)</b>	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
9 de novembro		- <b>Preparar para prova oral 2</b> - Vídeo 4 - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 12**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
14 de novembro	- <b>Prova oral 2</b>	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
16 de novembro		- <b>Revisar “Composição 2”</b> - Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab

**SEMANA 13**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
21 de novembro	- <b>Composição 2 (segunda versão)</b>	- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
23 de novembro	*Thanksgiving Holiday	

**SEMANA 14**

<b>Data</b>	<b>Provas e composições</b>	<b>Tarefa</b>
28 de novembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab
30 de novembro		- Tarefa no Blackboard - Atividades no MyPortugueseLab



**SEMANA 15**

Data	Provas e composições	Tarefa
5 de dezembro	- Revisão para prova final	
7 de dezembro	- Revisão para prova final *Último dia de aula	<b>- Estudar para prova final</b>

**PROVA FINAL: 14 de Dezembro (quinta-feira), 10:00am - 12:45pm**