

Portuguese Language Course – Crash Course

Course duration: 18 contact hours + 12 hours of independent study

Objectives

This course is intended for absolute beginners in Portuguese as a foreign language and aims at preparing participants for their first contact with the language and the daily communicative situations they will come across whilst in the country. By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- take part in general conversation and simple interactions in a social context (to introduce oneself, as well as one's family and friends, to talk about one's place of origin, to describe one's work, favorite activities, express preferences, address an interlocutor and respond to his/her questions);
- solve simple daily administrative tasks (fill out forms, start a telephone call, locate an office/person);
- interact in an elementary way in daily communicative situations (shopping, using public transportation, at the restaurant, at the bank, post office, pharmacy, cinema).

Contents

- Topics: personal information, daily activities, jobs, hobbies and leisure, shopping and public services, weather;
- Communicative interactions: to introduce oneself, to introduce another person, to address an interlocutor, to ask for information, to make a request in a shop/at a public office, to express likes, dislikes, preferences, to express courtesy in different social situations, telling the time;
- Structures: simple present (regular and high frequency irregular verbs), periphrastic structures (*estar a* + infinitive; *costumar* + infinitive), pronouns (personal, reflexive, interrogative, possessive, demonstrative), adjectives and comparatives, high frequency adverbs, simple connectors.
- Basics: numbers (cardinal, ordinal), weekdays, months, seasons, colors.

Competences

- Listening comprehension: questions in social contexts, announcements in transportation services, selected TV shows;
- Reading comprehension: reading forms, schedules, menus, personal notes, news headlines;
- Speaking: requesting information, expressing preferences, making compliments and invitations, making an appointment, congratulating;
- Writing: filling out forms, writing brief notes, writing a postcard to a friend.

Bibliography

- Support texts and materials for the course (provided by the school)
- Online resources:
 - o grammar <http://www.flip.pt/tabid/592/Default.aspx>,
 - o automatic conjugator <http://lxcenter.di.fc.ul.pt/services/pt/LXServicesConjugatorPT.html>,
 - o dictionaries *Porto Editora* <http://www.infopedia.pt/lingua-portuguesa/> and *Priberam* <http://priberam.pt/dlpo/dlpo.aspx>

Assessment

- Continuous assessment (in-class and homework assignments): 40%
- Final Exam: 60%