PORTUGUESE

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Portuguese is taught at Yale as part of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

The major in Portuguese is a liberal arts major intended to develop competence in the Portuguese language and to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of the literatures and cultures of Portugal, Brazil, and African and Asian lands of Portuguese language or influence.

PREREQUISITES

Students begin the study of Portuguese with PORT 110, 125, or S112. After two years of Portuguese language study, or equivalent, students have sufficient proficiency to take advanced courses in Luso-Brazilian literature and culture.

The prerequisite for the major is PORT 130 or the equivalent.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

All students who have not yet taken Portuguese at Yale are expected to take the departmental placement test, with the exception of students who have no previous knowledge of Portuguese whatsoever. The departmental placement test covers reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The placement test will be given at the beginning of the fall and spring terms; see the department website for details.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

The requirements of the Portuguese major consist of ten term courses beyond the prerequisites. Students must take at least five term courses in the literatures or cultures of the Portuguese world. In completing their programs, students may elect up to four courses in other languages and literatures, anthropology, history, or history of art, or from study abroad, that are related to their field of study and approved by the director of undergraduate studies (DUS).

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

All majors must present a senior essay. The essay is written in PORT 491 and/or 492. A maximum of two credits counts toward the major.

ADVISING

Juniors and seniors majoring in Portuguese may, with the permission of the instructor and the director of graduate studies, enroll in graduate courses in Portuguese.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisite PORT 130 or equivalent

Number of courses 10 term courses beyond prereq (incl senior essay course)

Distribution of courses At least five term courses in literatures or cultures of the Portuguese world

Substitution permitted With DUS permission, up to 4 relevant courses from other depts or from study abroad

Senior requirement Senior essay (PORT 491 and/or 492)

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese provides instruction in the languages, literatures, and cultures of the Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian worlds. Courses are devoted to the language and literatures of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America, and to the Portuguese language and its literatures and cultures from Portugal, Brazil, Africa, and other Portuguese-speaking areas. For information about the major and language placement, please visit the department website.

The major in Portuguese develops proficiency in the Portuguese language and provides comprehensive knowledge of Portuguese, Brazilian, and related literatures and cultures. Today Portuguese is the sixth most widely spoken language in the world, with 200 million speakers in Brazil, the world’s fifth largest country. It is an official language of the African Union and East Timor, and it is spoken in parts of Asia, the United States, and Canada. The CPLP (Community of Countries of Portuguese Language) includes Portugal, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, São Tome e Príncipe, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique, and East Timor.

Majors in Portuguese may count up to four courses from complementary fields, including history, history of art, anthropology, area studies, and other languages and literatures, toward the major. Students may also select Portuguese as one of two majors and should consult with the director of undergraduate studies (DUS) about a specialized course of study.

First-year students interested in Luso-Brazilian literature courses should consider the following offerings planned for 2019–2020:

PORT 352, Clarice Lispector: The Short Stories

PORT 385, Brazilian Novel of the 21st Century

Yale Summer Session offers a four-credit summer study abroad program in Brazil in intensive beginning language and cultural history.
PLACEMENT
The departmental placement exam in Portuguese is offered prior to the beginning of the fall and spring terms. Information about the exam and how to preregister for courses can be found on the department website. All students who have not yet taken Portuguese at Yale are expected to take the departmental placement exam, with the exception of students who have no previous knowledge of Portuguese whatsoever.

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED LANGUAGE STUDY
The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers a Certificate of Advanced Language Study in Portuguese. A certificate adviser, typically the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), advises students on the certification process and certifies to the University Registrar’s Office that students have completed the stated requirements before the end of eight terms of study. The Certificate of Advanced Language Study, once certified, is listed on student transcripts.

REQUIREMENTS
Students seeking to earn the certificate are required to take four courses, all beyond the L4 level in their chosen language, at least two of which must be Yale courses designated as L5. Additionally, at least one of the courses must be a 300-level course (advanced undergraduate lecture or seminar) with course materials read in Portuguese and course work written in Portuguese. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must achieve a grade of B or above. With the approval of the certificate adviser, one advanced non-L5 course, conducted in the target language, such as an independent study course, a graduate seminar, or an advanced seminar may count toward certification requirements.

The adviser may approve the substitution of one credit earned as part of a Yale or Yale-designated study abroad program and taught in the target language to count toward the certificate requirements. If the adviser approves courses taken outside of Yale for inclusion in the certificate requirements, students must take the necessary steps to ensure those courses appear on their transcript.

Credit/D/Fail  No courses taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the certificate.

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
Professors  Rolena Adorno, Roberto González Echevarría, Aníbal González, K. David Jackson, Noël Valis, Jesús R. Velasco (Chair)
Senior Lectors II  Sybil Alexandrov, Margherita Tortora, Sonia Valle
Senior Lectors I  María Pilar Asensio-Manrique, Mercedes Carreras, Ame Cividanes, Sebastián Díaz, María de la Paz García, María Jordán, Rosamaría León, Juliana Ramos-Ruano, Lissette Reymundi, Lourdes Sabé-Colom, Virginia Santos, Terry Seymour, María M. Vázquez
Lectors  Carolina Baffi, Luna Nájera, Giseli Tordin

View Courses

Courses

PORT 110a, Elementary Portuguese I  Staff
Basic vocabulary and fundamentals of grammar through practice in speaking, reading, and writing, with stress on audio-lingual proficiency. Introduces Brazilian and Portuguese culture and civilization. L1  RP  1½ Course cr

PORT 120b, Elementary Portuguese II  Staff
Continuation of PORT 110. To be followed by PORT 130. Prerequisite: PORT 110. L2  1½ Course cr

* PORT 125b, Intensive Elementary Portuguese  Staff
An intensive beginning course in Portuguese that covers in one term the material taught in PORT 110 and 120. Admits to PORT 130. Basic vocabulary and fundamentals of grammar and phonology through practice speaking, reading, and writing, and listening with stress on audio-lingual proficiency. Advanced students and speakers of other Romance languages, with permission of instructor. Qualifies students for summer study abroad in Brazil (L3-L4). L1, L2  2 Course cr

PORT 130a, Intermediate Portuguese I  Giseli Tordin
Contemporary and colloquial usage of Portuguese in the spoken and written language of Brazil. Grammar review and writing practice. Readings on Brazilian society and history are used to build vocabulary. Exercises develop students’ oral command of the language. L3  RP  1½ Course cr

PORT 140b, Intermediate Portuguese II: Portuguese Through the Arts  Staff
Continuation of PORT 130. Grammar review, conversation, cultural topics, and readings from Brazilian literature. Concentration on varieties of artistic and cultural expression. Counts for the major in Portuguese. Prerequisite: PORT 130. L4  1½ Course cr

* PORT 150b, Advanced Practice in Portuguese  Staff
Advanced conversation and composition, with an introduction to Luso-Brazilian literature and culture. After PORT 140 or equivalent. May be repeated for credit. L5  RP
PORT 151a, Re-acting: Drama in Portuguese  Giseli Tordin
This course introduces more diverse and sophisticated linguistic structures based on the studying of a variety of works of theater plays of the Portuguese-speaking world, mostly from Brazil. Learning Portuguese through drama allows for a richer understanding of content, historical periods, different gender and social-class perspectives, along with linguistic structures and lexical choices in a variety of contexts. In addition, we study how a variety of authors designed different destinies for the underrepresentation of women and subvert a set of beliefs insofar as to reinstate women center-stage, among other themes. The practical component to this course involves active participation in a wide range of tasks and activities, with focus on practices with theatrical readings, production of scripts, podcasts, clips, and adaptation of some short stories into plays. Also, students are invited to develop a theatrical reading along with the elements of scenography to constitute its production, and write a digital article about this experience to be published at our magazine: Revista dos Estudantes de Português da Yale. Prerequisite: PORT 140 or equivalent.  L5

* PORT 350b / LITR 252b, Machado de Assis  Kenneth David Jackson
The place of Machado de Assis in world literature explored through close reading of his collected short stories in translation. Focus on Machado’s hybrid literary world, skeptical critique of empire in Brazil, psychological and narrative constructions. Readings and discussion in English; reading of texts in Portuguese for Portuguese majors.  WR, HU  TR

PORT 351b / LITR 286b, Pessoa, Lispector, Rosa, Saramago  Kenneth David Jackson
Study of works in translation by four contemporary masters in the Portuguese language, Fernando Pessoa, Clarice Lispector, João Guimarães Rosa and José Saramago. These authors radically experiment with prose in order to question notions of identity, existence, and meaning.  WR, HU

* PORT 352a / CPLT 657a / LITR 256a / PORT 652a, Clarice Lispector: The Short Stories  Kenneth David Jackson
This course is a seminar on the complete short stories of Clarice Lispector (1920-1977), a master of the genre and one of the major authors of twentieth-century Brazil known for existentialism, mysticism and feminism.  WR, HU  TR

* PORT 385a / LAST 385a / LITR 260a, Brazilian Novel of the 21st Century  Kenneth David Jackson
Changing narratives, themes, styles, and aesthetic ideals in current Brazilian prose and poetry. The writers’ attempts to express or define a personal, national, and global consciousness influenced by the return of political democracy to Brazil. Focus on readings published within the last five years. Readings and discussion in English; texts available in Portuguese.  WR, HU  TR

* PORT 471a and PORT 472b, Directed Reading or Directed Research  Kenneth David Jackson
Individual study for qualified students under the supervision of a faculty member selected by the student. Approval of the director of undergraduate studies is required.

* PORT 491a and PORT 492b, The Senior Essay  Kenneth David Jackson
A research project designed under a faculty director, resulting in a substantial paper written in Portuguese, submitted to the DUS and a second designated reader.