PORTUGUESE

Director of undergraduate studies: Kenneth David Jackson
(k.jackson@yale.edu); span-port.yale.edu

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. See the department website for placement test times and 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.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

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)

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 130a, Intermediate Portuguese I  Staff
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 150a, Advanced Practice: Brazilian Culture through Black Lives  Giseli Tordin
This special topic#Brazilian Culture through Black Lives#offers an overview of the sociocultural diversity in Portuguese language through arts, street-arts, film, music, and theoretical and literary texts created by Afro-Brazilian authors. This course offers an opportunity to study the correlation between culture and language through Afro-Brazilian perspectives from authors including Lélia Gonzalez, Clementina de Jesus, Carolina Maria de Jesus, Conceição Evaristo, Machado de Assis, among others. Students can improve their Portuguese language skills by developing podcasts, clips, and digital essays using different technologies. After PORT 140 or equivalent. May be repeated for credit.  L5, HU

* PORT 353a / LITR 290a, Machado de Assis: Major Novels  Kenneth David Jackson
A study of the last five novels of Machado de Assis, featuring the author’s world and stage of Rio de Janeiro, along with his irony and skepticism, satire, wit, narrative concision, social critiques, and encyclopedic assimilation of world literature.  WR, HU

* PORT 394a / LAST 394a / LITR 294a, World Cities and Narratives  Kenneth David Jackson
Study of world cities and selected narratives that describe, belong to, or represent them. Topics range from the rise of the urban novel in European capitals to the postcolonial fictional worlds of major Portuguese, Brazilian, and Lusophone cities. Conducted in English.  WR, HU  TR

* PORT 471a, 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, 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.