

## COURSE AGENDA - LET 3307-1 – Brazilian Culture and Portuguese Language

Beginner Portuguese

Class time: Mon – Sat, 09:00 - 10:15AM

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This is a beginner intensive Portuguese language and Brazilian culture course. This hands-on course will integrate real-world experience in Brazil into the classroom. Students will use the language to immerse themselves in, and get a deep understanding of, the Brazilian culture and the cultural elements that influence current socio-economic, political, and business aspects of contemporary Brazilian society.

### **Course Objectives**

- Develop basic abilities to function in the language in actual communicative situations
- Develop learner's ability to navigate social and professional events and engage in basic communication tasks
- Learn the necessary strategies and skills to become independent language learners
- Obtain a deep understanding of Brazil, its culture and its people in the current world scenario

### **Course Approach:**

This course uses an information-based communicative task approach in which students exchange real-life information about themselves with their classmates and instructor. This is not a traditional grammar class that focuses on mechanical practice and discussions of grammar. Therefore, students need to study all grammar points and vocabulary **before** coming to class. The instructor may give brief explanations regarding the daily class material, but the majority of class time will be dedicated to putting the new information into practice. *It is imperative that you come prepared to class.* Otherwise, you will not be able to follow along with the activities.

### **Required Reading**

- Reader prepared by instructor – Available for purchase in Brazil
- Larousse Concise Dictionary: Portuguese-English/English-Portuguese
- Brazil, Country Travel Guide, Lonely Planet

### **Recommended Additional Reading**

- "Brazil - Culture Smart! The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture", Sandra Branco and Rob Williams, Kuperard; Reprinted edition edition (September 5, 2006).
- "The New Brazil", Professor Riordan Roett, Paul H Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University (Director of the Western Hemisphere Studies and Latin American Studies Programs). Brookings Institutional Press; 1st edition (August 2, 2010).
- "Brazil on the Rise, The Story of a Country Transformed", Larry Rohter. Palgrave Macmillan (February 28, 2012).

### **Grade Distribution**

Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	30%
Team project	20%
Assignments	10%
Participation	20%

### **Participation and Daily Preparation:**

The importance of class participation in any foreign language course cannot be stressed enough. Students need to come to class prepared, with homework completed, and ready to participate. Students are expected to participate actively in drills, discussions, paired or group work, and always make efforts to speak Portuguese in class. Class participation includes being prepared in class and completing in-class assignments.

All work assigned for study outside of class must be completed promptly. No late work will be accepted. Your instructor will be specific about deadlines. Make sure to check the syllabus for guidance and meet with your instructor throughout the term about any questions you may have. Remember that participating in class is important for your grade.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is part of your participation grade. It is mandatory and includes arriving on time each day. In order to help acquire a foreign language, you must attend and participate regularly to internalize the structures you have learned. If you miss classes, you will find yourself behind the other students and your learning experience will become harder and less enjoyable.

You will lose a point from your final participation grade for each unjustified absence. Additionally, every three times you arrive late will be counted as an absence.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for all work covered that day. Coursework missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made up.

### Homework

On the first day of class you will receive the Class Activities document which lists all the homework that needs to be completed and the respective due dates. The exercises allow you to learn, practice, review and test yourself on the material you have learned and will learn in class. You are expected to complete the homework for each day before coming to class. For example: Homework listed for July 5 should be ready when you come to class on the 5<sup>th</sup>. This will allow you to fully participate during class and will directly impact your participation grade. You should bring up in class any questions that arise while you are doing your homework.

### Exams

There will be a midterm and a final exam. The test dates are specified on this syllabus. Each test will have both a written and a listening comprehension component. Because language learning is a cumulative process, grammar and vocabulary from previous classes are always considered "fair game." **Missed exams cannot be made up.**

### Academic Hours and Course Credits

Depending upon the session selected, this course will include either 48 or 64 academic hours, the equivalent of 3.0 or 4.0 credits. Students should expect to be in class in the morning and to have professional visits to leading Brazilian and international companies in the afternoons.

### Use of Electronic Devices in the Classroom

No text messaging or emailing will be tolerated during class. Cell phones must be turned off or on silent and kept in your backpack or pocket during class.

### Detailed Course Program

#### 1ª Semana

Our first week together will give you "survival" language skills that will be useful throughout your stay in Brazil.

Data	Tópicos
Terça, 2 de julho	Opening Ceremony
Quarta, 3 de	<b><i>Oi, tudo bem?</i></b> Introduce yourself and others. Greet people. Practice expressions of courtesy in real-life situations. Lots of pronunciation

julho	practice to build a strong foundation.
Quinta, 4 de julho	<b>O que você vai pedir?</b> Learn the Brazilian menu. Talk about foods that you like and don't like, and those you need to try in Brazil. Practice for dining out situations.
Sexta, 5 de julho	<b>Quanto custa?</b> Ready to go shopping or pay for that delicious dinner? Learn the numbers, the Brazilian currency, and key shopping vocabulary.
Sábado, 6 de julho	Review and practice exercises.

### 2ª Semana

Data	Tópicos
Segunda, 8 de julho	<b>Que dia é hoje?</b> Get ready to make appointments in Portuguese. Learn the days of the week and how to tell the time. <a href="#">Learn with songs</a> : <i>Toda sexta-feira</i> , by Adriana Calcanhotto. Days of the week. Verb Ser. African influence in Brazilian culture and religion.
Terça, 9 de julho	<b>Cariocas são bacanas.</b> <a href="#">Learn with songs</a> : <i>Cariocas</i> , by Adriana Calcanhotto. What is it to be a Carioca? What is it to be Brazilian? The Brazilian regions and stereotypes. Learn lots of new vocabulary and the verb Ser.
Quarta, 10 de julho	<b>Ele é muito simpático.</b> Describe yourself and others. Continue practicing the verb Ser, learn how to ask and answer questions, learn to create negative statements.
Quinta, 11 de julho	<b>Você tem irmãos?</b> Learn family vocabulary and talk about your family. Learn the possessive pronouns (my, your, our, their) and verb Ter. <a href="#">Learn with songs</a> : <i>Meu Bem</i> , <i>Meu Mal</i> , by Gal Costa. Possessive pronouns. Practice the verb Ser as you learn new vocabulary. Discuss the typical Brazilian family.
Sexta, 12 de julho	<b>Você está bem?</b> Express emotions and feelings. Ask and answer questions about the location of places and things (where is? where are?). Learn the verb Estar and lots of new vocabulary and useful phrases.
Sábado, 13 de julho	Review and practice exercises.

### 3ª Semana

Data	Tópicos
Segunda, 15 de julho	<b>O que ele está fazendo?</b> Talk about actions in progress (I'm writing, you're learning.)
Terça, 16 de julho	<a href="#">Learn with movies</a> : <i>Caroneiros</i> . Brazil and Latin America: culture and relationship.

Quarta, 17 de julho	<b><i>O meu dia-a-dia.</i></b> Talk about the here and now, usual actions, and your daily routine. Learn the simple present (presente do indicativo).
Quinta, 18 de julho	No class today
Sexta, 19 de julho	Review for test
Sábado, 20 de julho	Session A1 Final Session A3 Midterm Session A1 Graduation Dinner

#### 4ª Semana

<b>Data</b>	<b>Tópicos</b>
Segunda, 22 de julho	<b><i>Eu gosto de você.</i></b> Talk about likes and dislikes. Learn the verbs Gostar and Preferir. Present tense continued.
Terça, 23 de julho	Review
Quarta, 24 de julho	Session A2 Final Session A2 Graduation Dinner
Quinta, 25 de julho	Transfer to São Paulo
Sexta, 26 de julho	<b><i>O que você vai fazer amanhã?</i></b> Talk about the future. What are your plans for tomorrow? Learn verbs Poder (to be able to) and Querer (to want). Cultural component: Relationship with time. What does yes/no really mean? How to make invitations. How to politely say "no".
Sábado, 27 de julho	Let's put it all together. Practice and review class to integrate all you have learned so far.

#### 5ª Semana

<b>Data</b>	<b>Tópicos</b>
Segunda, 29 de julho	Review
Terça, 30 de julho	Final Exam Graduation Ceremony
Quarta, 31 de julho	De volta pra casa