

O. P. Jindal Global University  
Spring Semester 2026

## Introduction to Portuguese Language and Culture

Cross-elective course, currently taught through  
the Centre for Foreign Languages (CFL)  
of the Office of English and Foreign Languages (OEFL)

Course Title: Introduction to Portuguese Language and Culture  
Course Code: OEFL - CFL - EIP  
Course instructor: Prof. (Dr.) Sérgio Meira (sergiomdsc.oliveira@jgu.edu.in)  
Course duration: 15 weeks  
Credits: 4 credits  
Class meeting times: 2 two-hour sessions per week,  
Time: TBD

### Course description

The Portuguese language, currently spoken by over 260 million people in the world, is the second largest Romance language. It is the official language of 6 countries (Brazil, Portugal, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, São-Tomé-e-Príncipe) and co-official in one more (East Timor). It is the language of the first European ships to come to India, and still has speakers in the Indian subcontinent to this day, in the State of Goa. It has an old and rich literature, a deep history, and a great amount of importance in Today's world, mostly via Brazil, the largest Latin American economy and a regional source of growth and economic development. Via Portugal, it is also an official language of the European Union.

This course will familiarize the students with the basics of Portuguese grammar and vocabulary, and also with its literature, music, art, history, and impact on the world stage.

### Course objectives

- To learn the basics of the Portuguese language, both spoken and written, allowing for A1-level expression and communication.
- To expose the students to the most important aspects of Portuguese culture and history, thus introducing them to an important area of today's world

<b>Course Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Activities</b>	<b>Assessment / Activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters</li><li>• Describe in simple terms aspects of one's background,</li></ul>	<i>Learning by Doing:</i> interactive, learner-centric learning with games and activities, role playing, etc. On cultural/historical topics, also class debate and/or discussion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introducing oneself;</li><li>• Making new acquaintances;</li><li>• Describe oneself, one's house, one's interests, and ask about those of others;</li><li>• Express opinions about Portuguese-</li></ul>

<p>immediate environment and areas of immediate need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and use familiar, everyday expressions and very simple sentences in Portuguese, thus satisfying concrete needs.</li> <li>• Become familiar, at a beginner's level, with various aspects of culture and history of Portuguese-speaking countries.</li> </ul>		language culture (books, films, etc. authors, directors, musicians, etc.)
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### Assessment (Grading)

- Internal assessment: 70% (near-weekly assignments, class participation (e.g., in exercises, or in debates and discussions), oral assessment)
- External assessment: 30% (one end-term examination)

### Learning resources and materials

Textbook: Oliveira, Ester. *Português para Estrangeiros*, 3a. edição.

Further materials will be provided by the course instructor as needed.

### Course outline (calendar)

SESSIONS	TOPICS	READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS
1st week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to the course</li> <li>- Alphabet and pronunciation</li> <li>- Introduction: who are you? where are you from?</li> <li>- Verb <i>ser</i> ("to be"): present tense</li> <li>- Introduction to Portuguese culture</li> </ul>	Les. 1 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
2nd week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Salutations</li> <li>- Professions</li> <li>- Verb <i>estar</i> ("to be"): present tense</li> <li>- Brazilian music ("MPB")</li> </ul>	Les. 2 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
3rd week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Verbo <i>estar</i> (cont.): uses</li> <li>- <i>Ser</i> vs. <i>estar</i></li> <li>- Personal pronouns</li> <li>- Brazilian music ("MPB")</li> </ul>	Les. 2 Textbook Exercises Oral participation

4th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Languages, nationalities: <i>que línguas você fala? Qual é a sua nacionalidade?</i></li> <li>- Numbers: <i>quantos anos você tem?</i> ('How old are you?')</li> <li>- <i>O que é isso?</i> ('What's this?'): everyday objects</li> <li>- Brazilian music ("MPB")</li> </ul>	Les. 2 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
5th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Sim e não</i> ('yes and no')</li> <li>- Regular verbs, first conjugation: <i>falar, andar, morar</i></li> <li>- Portuguese music ("Fado")</li> </ul>	Les. 3 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
6th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demonstratives: <i>este, esse, aquele; isto, isso, aquilo</i></li> <li>- Articles: <i>o, a, um, uma</i></li> <li>- Adjectives</li> </ul>	Les. 4 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
7th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More regular first-conjugation verbs: <i>estudar, trabalhar, gostar</i></li> <li>- Brazilian movies: <i>o pagador de promessas</i></li> </ul>	Les. 5 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
8th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locatives (<i>aqui, aí, ali, lá</i>)</li> <li>- Locative prepositions (<i>em, debaixo de, em cima de, atrás, na frente, sobre, dentro de</i>)</li> <li>- Locative interrogatives (<i>onde? aonde?</i>)</li> <li>- Brazilian movies: <i>estação central</i></li> </ul>	Les. 5 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
9th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ser vs. estar</i></li> <li>- Plurals</li> <li>- Brazilian literature: prose</li> </ul>	Les. 6 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
10th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ordinal numbers, 1-10.</li> <li>- Days of the week</li> <li>- Months of the year</li> <li>- Seasons of the year</li> <li>- Brazilian literature: prose</li> </ul>	Les. 7 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
11th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Irregular verbs: <i>ir, vir, saber, querer, fazer</i></li> <li>- Regular 2nd-conjugation verbs: <i>comer, bater, correr</i></li> <li>- Regular verbs: Imperative forms</li> <li>- Brazilian literature: poetry</li> </ul>	Les. 8 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
12th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular 3rd-conjugation verbs: <i>partir, permitir, subir</i></li> <li>- <i>Por que? Porque...</i></li> <li>- Brazilian history: introduction</li> </ul>	Les. 9-10 Textbook Exercises Oral participation
13th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of numbers, ordinals and cardinals</li> <li>- Brazilian History: Is Brazil a Latino Country?</li> </ul>	
14th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Portuguese and Brazilian History</li> <li>- Reading texts</li> </ul>	
15th. week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Portuguese and Brazilian History</li> <li>- Reading texts</li> </ul>	
Reading & Revision Period		

Examination Period