

Portuguese 27A: Advanced Composition and Style
Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA
2012

COURSE INFO	
Instructor:	Email:
Classes:	Office Hour:
Textbook: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• King, Larry D. and Margarita Suñer. <i>Para a Frente: An Intermediate Course in Portuguese</i>. 2nd ed. LinguaText, 2004. ISBN: 0942566416 (ISBN-13: 978-0942566413)	
Final exam:	

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES: Portuguese 27A is a summer intensive course to further develop your Portuguese writing skills after your completion of the beginning Portuguese curriculum. It focuses on on short texts of various genres and themes (perhaps along with a book like *Crônicas Brasileiras: Nova Fase*) and assigned writing projects responding to, or within, those genres (such as crônica, poetry, short story, persuasive writing, literary criticism). Class time to be devoted to discussion and analysis of texts, presentation of completed work, and peer editing. Portuguese 27A is part of the second-year series designed to prepare you for upper-division work in which you will be expected to have comprehensive communicative competence.

POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

CLASS DYNAMIC (for all language courses): Class time will be dedicated to communicative activities in Portuguese. You should come to class prepared to participate and to enthusiastically engage in a variety of activities in groups and pairs. Your instructor will present and introduce new language and cultural information and facilitate communication. Class time will not be devoted to lengthy grammar discussions or mechanical or repetitive grammar drills. It is your responsibility to read the grammar explanations in the textbook and to complete the exercises assigned in the textbook, handouts, on the Moodle class page, etc. If you need additional assistance with specific concepts you should see your instructor during office hours. (Please do! I'm happy to help!)

WORKLOAD (for all language courses): Each class will require approximately two to three hours a day of careful and systematic studying. Without sufficient time and solid studying skills/habits, you will struggle to pass this class. You are strongly advised to evaluate your own situation carefully **before** deciding to stay in the class.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT: Our classroom should be respectful, professional, and positive. You are expected to value diversity and to treat all students with respect for their backgrounds, identities, and opinions. You are also expected to show professionalism in class, including: arriving to class on time; turning off cell phones and social networking; and limiting private conversations. Also, as this course requires unrehearsed speech on a daily basis, we must expect some mistakes. The willingness to make mistakes in the pursuit of improvement is an important part of the learning process and a sign of courage; therefore, we will tolerate no ridicule. This classroom is a safe, shared space for the active and exciting discovery of Portuguese. *Please contact me directly with any questions or concerns.*

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students will be expected to adhere to strict standards of integrity, respect, and academic honesty, as outlined in the UCLA Student Conduct Code, found here: <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/assets/documents/StudentCC.pdf>, <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/catalog/catalog12-13-824a.htm>. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, “cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions or facilitating academic misconduct.” For example:

- CHEATING is defined in part as “the use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise”: this includes such practices as using online translation programs to complete assignments or using electronic devices during tests.
- PLAGIARISM is defined in part as “the use of another’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own”: this includes any portion of another writer’s text (i.e. changing a few words throughout does not make it yours), and also includes any direct translations of another writer’s text (Shakespeare in Portuguese is still Shakespeare... it is the same for anything else!).

All assignments must be your own original work, and all words or ideas that are borrowed from other sources for your work must acknowledge the source with proper citing practices (i.e. list your sources, give credit to the source within your text, and, when using direct quotes from a source, use quotation marks.) ***There will be zero tolerance for infractions. All student misconduct will lead to disciplinary procedures, which will result in failing grades and may also result in other sanctions as outlined in the .pdf of the Code, above.*** If you follow these rules, you will achieve and will be proud of your achievements. If you have any questions about academic honesty or citing, **please ask**.

ATTENDANCE: You must be in class and on time daily. Students are allowed 3 undocumented absences per quarter; these are not valid on the day of the midterm, and should be saved for emergencies. Any subsequent absences will lower your *overall final grade* by one half-letter *each time* (i.e. A to A-, A- to B+, etc.). **If you are late for class, it counts as ¼ absence; if you are more than 10 minutes late, ½ absence.** If you have personal obligations that will require you to miss more than 3 class periods, *you should not enroll in this course*. If you are forced to miss more than 3 classes due police, court, or medical emergencies, you should obtain official documentation and then consult with me about making up missed work. ***After the first week of classes, you will be responsible for signing your name on the attendance roster daily.***

LATE/MAKE-UP POLICY: Late assignments will be accepted for a limited time, and on a sliding scale. Your assignment grade will go down a full letter automatically each day the assignment is late (i.e. A to B, B to C). **There are no make-up exams** except due to extreme *and well-documented* emergencies of *your own* such as police, court, or medical emergencies. You must present your documentation within 48 hours of the absence. ***Personal obligations such as employment or dental appointments or personal events such as vacations and weddings are **not** considered an excused absence.*** Check your calendar: if you have unavoidable scheduling conflicts with the midterm or final (other than another final: see below), you should not enroll in this class this quarter.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Any student with a documented visible or non-visible disability should see the Office of Students with Disabilities as soon as possible to arrange for the appropriate accommodations. Your disability and accommodation will be kept confidential. For more information, please visit: <http://www.osd.ucla.edu/Index.htm>. Please note that I cannot discuss or offer any accommodations that have not been documented and recommended officially by the University.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

GRADES: Your final grade will be made up of the following (but may be lowered by poor attendance):

In-Class Performance:	10%
Unannounced Quizzes:	10%
Homework :	25%
Mid-term Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	30%

IN-CLASS PERFORMANCE (10%): This course is based on communication; therefore, active participation in class is essential. Your in-class performance grade will be based on your daily preparedness for class (i.e. ability to demonstrate completion of assigned work) and on your daily willingness to participate in activities, cooperate in group and pair work, and *speak only in Portuguese*.

UNANNOUNCED QUIZZES (10%): There will be several unannounced quizzes on assigned material throughout the quarter, given at my discretion. The purpose of these quizzes is to encourage consistent preparation for class. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If a quiz is missed, the next one will count double.

HOMEWORK (25%): Your homework grade will consist of the following:

- 1) Grammar assignments from the textbook, completed **and corrected in a different color pen**. Your grade for textbook exercises will be based on (1) completeness and (2) completeness of corrections, *not* on the number of correct answers (i.e. it is not in your best interest to copy the answers). The corrected homework is due on days marked below with “ HW] ”
- 2) Written expression: you will be provided with a variety of opportunities to produce writing in Portuguese, such as summaries of news articles, short papers on varied topics, or writing tasks likely to be found in authentic contexts. These will be announced throughout the quarter.
- 3) Oral expression: you will also be provided with opportunities to show your competence in speaking Portuguese with prepared oral presentations, explained on a separate handout.

MIDTERM EXAM (25%): There will be one midterm exam during the quarter. While it will focus primarily on the material covered in the first half of this course, you will also be expected to be able to understand and utilize previously learned skills. The exam will test your listening and reading comprehension, grammatical competence, and written expression. In your written expression, you will be responsible for all verb tenses/modes and other grammatical components covered as well as for having a breadth of vocabulary that will allow clear communication of ideas.

FINAL EXAM (30%): The final exam will be Monday, December 10th from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

The exam will be comprehensive, testing everything we have studied in the quarter. If you have a conflict with another exam, you must present documentation to your instructor by the end of the **fourth week of classes**. (The course with the lowest total enrollment is required to offer a make-up exam. Print out your official class schedule from URSA (showing name and student ID) and bring the final exam schedule to your instructor. Your instructor will determine your eligibility.)

GRADING SCALE:

A+ = 100-98%	B+ = 89-87	C+ = 79-77	D+ = 69-67	F = 59-0
A = 97-94	B = 86-83	C = 76-73	D = 66-63	
A- = 93-90	B- = 82-80	C- = 72-70	D- = 62-60	

For P/NP grading (undergraduates), P = C (73) or better. For S/U grading (graduate students), S = B (83) or better.

***** Consider this syllabus as your contract. By taking the course, you agree to follow the rules, guidelines, and expectations indicated here. *****

COURSE SCHEDULE

This sample syllabus focuses on activities for developing advanced writing skills in Portuguese language over six weeks of instruction.

Specific requirements:

There will be several readings each class, which will be read and then discussed in class. Each week a different type of text will be studied (journalistic, fictional narrative, humor, etc.)

The texts will be used for grammar and syntax training, with corresponding exercises in class. Students may bring to class their questions about a grammatical structure or idiomatic expressions.

Each week students will turn in a 1-2 page composition about one of the texts or another topic assigned by the instructor.

Week 1 - The autobiographical text and the journalistic text

Grammar: formal (oral) vs. informal (written) language; *haver/fazer*; *por* and *para*

Grammar: *ser*, *estar e ficar*.

Week 2 - The opinion text and the so-called “crônica”

Grammar: direct and indirect discourse, passive voice, perfect and imperfect tenses

Grammar: use of foreign words, demonstrative pronouns

Grammar: future subjunctive

Week 3 - The fictional narrative text

Grammar: past subjunctive, comparatives

Grammar: Verbal regency, dialog

MIDTERM EXAM

Week 4 - The critical text (film/literary reviews) and the humor/satire text

Grammar: adverbs, *se* (if) clauses

Grammar: prepositions, verbs ending in *ear* and *iar*

Week 5 - Letter writing: a final exercise in self-expression

Grammar: letter writing styles and templates

Academic vs. creative registers. Verbal concordance/agreement

Peer-criticism and final projects

FINAL EXAM