

Course: Advanced Portuguese (Brazilian) POR/300

Course Organiser: Ms Mariana Cunha (m.cunha@qmul.ac.uk)

2 c.u.

Semester: 5 and 6

Overlap: None

Prerequisite: POR 200

Timetable: Three hours by arrangement

Assessment: One three-hour examination (75%) and one oral examination (25%)

Description:

This course is for students who have completed Intermediate Level Portuguese and/or who have returned from their year abroad. The focus will be on fluency, expansion of vocabulary, grammatical accuracy, advanced oral and reading comprehension, and development of writing skills. Students will explore texts from a variety of registers, with emphasis on films, documentaries, magazines, and newspapers. Students will also be exposed to literary language and regional variation by reading short-stories by prominent Portuguese, Brazilian, Angolan and Mozambican writers.

The course comprises two components:

Language course: This part of the course (2-hours/week) will build on students' knowledge of Brazilian Portuguese acquired in the Introductory and Intermediate levels. The main aim will be to expand even further students' vocabulary, to strengthen their speaking, and writing skills, as well as their ability to speak critically about a written or visual text.

Brazilian Culture: This part of the course will consist of 1-hour weekly lectures/seminars delivered in Portuguese on various aspects of Brazilian culture. It will also explore cultures and literatures of other Lusophone countries, by focusing mainly on aspects such as music, folklore, cinema and literature. Students will also be asked to participate on events taking place across London (such as lectures, seminars, and conferences) that deal with Brazil or with aspects of Brazilian culture, outside designated university course hours. Students are expected to write and submit critical summaries of these academic/cultural events. The course organiser will inform students in advance and will be expected to attend a reasonable majority.

Coursework:

The coursework for this course consists of:

- One weekly written text of about 150-200 words on a pre-arranged topic;
- Critical summaries of Brazilian academic/cultural events, when required;
- An academic essay between 2,500 and 3,000 words in length, written in Portuguese on a designated subject connected with the culture classes given weekly. The course organiser will provide a list of essay questions in advance and the essay is due on the first day of the exam term.