



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2025/26

Course title: Portuguese Beginner Part I (A1.1) – on campus

Course descriptor/objectives

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore Portuguese for the first time. Participants will develop some basic reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours.

By the end of the course (part I & II) participants will be able to:

1. Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type.
2. Introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have.
3. Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

Learners will be exposed to both European and Brazilian Portuguese through a variety of materials from both regions.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

Language-specific information:

With its reach extended by colonial movement, Portuguese has around 250 million speakers across the globe, who are referred to as Lusophones. It is the second most used Romance language after Spanish and is the official language of Portugal, Brazil, Cape Verde, Angola, Mozambique and many more. The Portuguese spoken in Portugal and Brazil differs in some aspects but remains intelligible to speakers.

As a Romance language it was derived from Vulgar Latin and, as such, is easier to pick up with a prior knowledge of Spanish, French or Italian. A defining feature of the language is its use of nasal vowels.

Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore Portuguese and build cultural understanding.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

To be confirmed by the teacher.