

Portuguese Linguistics and Literature (A005430)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

Dutch, Portuguese

Gent

seminar

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Freire Santos de Sena Lino, Pedro António

LW06

staff member

Enghels, Renata

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature \(main subject Iberian-Romance Languages\)](#)

crdts

offering

5

A

[Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

Portuguese, Dutch

Keywords

Portuguese linguistics, Portuguese literature

Position of the course

The course will enable students to further their knowledge of Portuguese history, literature and linguistics, for European Portuguese as well as the Brazilian, Angolan and Cape Verdean variants.

Exchange students may take this course. It does not require knowledge of Dutch.

Contents

On the basis of texts, videos, pictures and other historical sources we aim to discover and interpret Portuguese literature and language, using the tools of linguistics and literary analysis.

Stretching from the Galician-Portuguese songbook (12th-14th century) to Portuguese experimentalist and concrete poetry (20th century), we will track the processes of Portuguese language and literature, with a focus on the 18th-20th centuries.

1. The sound of the sea

The phonological system of European Portuguese and other Lusophone countries; its differences in relation to Galician and Spanish (with analysis and phonetic transcription). A brief journey into Portuguese and Portuguese-language literature and the presence of the sea and voyage. *Literature*: Portuguese-speaking literature (an anthology); *linguistics*: phonological processes (history of the language), Portuguese phonological system.

2. Roots and distance: conservatism and the influence of the sea (14th-16th century)

We will analyse the characteristics of Portuguese Quinhentismo through the lyric poetry of Luís Vaz de Camões and *Os Lusíadas*. At the same time, by looking at Camões's poem we will examine the Quinhentist influence of Latin on the Portuguese language, through the first Portuguese grammar manuals.

Literature: Sá de Miranda, Camões; *Linguistics*: História da Língua (the phases of European Portuguese); the process of unstressed vocalism in European Portuguese; general aspects of semantics.

3. Baroque and Neo-Classicism (17th-18th century)

Literature: Baroque and Classicism, feminist literature.

Linguistics: the first dictionaries, phonology, phonetics and prosody; linguistic

interference.

4. Romanticisms and Realisms (19th century)

Analysis of specific issues related to Portuguese syntax, and a general introduction.

Analysis and discussions of various examples, based on a reading of the play *Frei Luís de Sousa* by Almeida Garrett, and *Singularidades de uma Rapariga Loura* by Eça de Queiroz.

Literature: the three ages of Romanticism in Portugal.

Linguistics: syntax and semantics of Portuguese.

5. Vanguardism (20th century) and Fernando Pessoa

Journeying into the artistic vanguards of the 20th century in Portugal, we will analyse the end of the 19th century and the creation of the magazine *Orpheu*, and the birth of modernism in Portugal. We will analyse questions of syntax, semantics and pragmatics by looking at the inventions of the first vanguard.

Literature: Camilo Pessanha, Mário de Sá-Carneiro, Fernando Pessoa.

Linguistics: evidentiality, PT SVO?; syntactic phonetics.

6. The Golden Century of Portuguese Poetry

Literature: A journey through the Portuguese 20th century. Neo-realism.

7. Brazil

Drawing on Bossa Nova songs, poems and a short story by Clarice Lispector we will analyse and discuss topics and moments in Brazilian literature. This will form the basis for an analysis of the different features of European Portuguese and Brazilian Portuguese.

8. Creoles

Through Cape Verdean music and literature, an analysis of topics and moments in Cape Verdean literature, and an analysis of Cape Verdean Creole.

Initial competences

To have advanced knowledge of Portuguese at B2 level, as acquired through Advanced Portuguese I

Final competences

- 1 To have insight into the history and basic structures of Portuguese, partly from an Ibero-Romance perspective
- 2 To describe and analyse topics from Portuguese Linguistics
- 3 To gain insight into the variation of Portuguese
- 4 To identify linguistic (phonetic, syntactic and semantic) similarities and differences between Ibero-Romance languages
- 5 To acquire extended knowledge of the main Portuguese literary works and its authors, topics and the socio-cultural context
- 6 To have insight into the origins and development of different literary genres in Portuguese speaking countries
- 7 To be able to relate works by comparing and indicating thematic and formal similarities and/or differences
- 8 A good command of Portuguese (lexicon, grammatical structures, wordformation, linguistic creativity, spelling, idiomatic expressions)
- 9 To be able to formulate in a fluent and accurate manner an argumentation in written and spoken (academic) Portuguese; level B2/C1, possibly with responsible use of GenAI where necessary or relevant.
- 10 To dispose of a strong linguistic consciousness; to recognize and value the role of language in human interaction and cultural production
- 11 Make use of digital research environments and search strategies to identify research objects, possibly with responsible use of GenAI where necessary or relevant.
- 12 To use digital methods to collect and manage analogue or digital research objects in a structured way.
- 13 To translate a poem from PT to NL, with the help of a literary translator, therefore developing linguistic competence.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The seminars (online/on campus) consist of a series of exercises and short tasks, as well as a paper and presentation (in particular a literary and linguistic analysis; cf. evaluation).

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Portugese taal- en letterkunde - slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Slides : 400

Oldest Usable Edition : 2024

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Type: Reader

Name: Portugese taal- en letterkunde - reader

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Number of Pages : 150

Oldest Usable Edition : 2024

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

References

Site do Instituto Camões

http://www.cvc.instituto-camoes.pt/cpp/acessibilidade/capitulo1_1.html

História da Língua

<http://cvc.instituto-camoes.pt/conhecer/bases-tematicas/historia-da-lingua-portuguesa.html>

Sobre as variantes do PT

Introdução à Linguística Geral e Portuguesa

Isabel Hub Faria, Emília Ribeiro Pedro, Inês Duarte, Carlos M. Gouveia (org.), Lisboa, Caminho, 2007

Dicionários Porto Editora (PT antes e depois do Acordo Ortográfico, PT/ NL)

<http://www.infopedia.pt>

Primeiros dicionários em Português

<http://dicionarios.bbm.usp.br/pt-br/dicionario/edicao/2>

Exercícios de aprofundamento e revisão

<https://www.instituto-camoes.pt/activity/centro-virtual/recursos-didaticos/fichas-praticas>

<http://www.escolavirtual.pt>

Course content-related study coaching

During and after classes; by appointment; via Ufora forum

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

The student prepares two oral presentations and also a paper on a topic that relates to the course.

Presentation 1: Introduction of the topic. GenAI can be used to find sources, screen, and build arguments. The student will interact with fellow students and the teacher.

Paper: Integration of information from Presentation 1, feedback from fellow students and the teacher, and two additional theoretical texts. GenAI can be used in a responsible manner.

Presentation 2: Summary and conclusion of Presentation 1 and the paper, using new materials and personal critical reflection.

There is an oral examination of the contents of the course at the end of the semester (catch-up week).

Calculation of the examination mark

Oral evaluation (50%); Presentation 1 (20%), Presentation 2 (20%), paper (10%).

Facilities for Working Students

- 1 Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance, with alternative tasks.
- 2 Student attendance during permanent evaluation moments is indispensable.
- 3 Possible rescheduling of the deadlines for the tasks.
- 4 Feedback can be given online.