A) Course Description

This course is an introduction to Portuguese as foreign language, designed to develop a general basic capacity to deal with a limited number of predictable everyday communicative situations. The course includes also an overview of some cultural and sociolinguistic aspects of Portuguese-speaking countries. Conducted in English as well as in Portuguese, and supported by several authentic and specific didactic materials or using new technologies, lessons adopt an interactive approach, based on communicative tasks involving listening, speaking, reading, writing and interacting.

B) Objectives

The aim of this course is to enable students to communicate in the daily Portuguese language using basic Portuguese functions, vocabulary, grammar and phonology, as well as to introduce them to some aspects of the Portuguese culture and other Lusophone cultures.

Upon completing this course successfully, each student will have developed skills in interacting in a simple way in daily spoken language provided the other person talks slowly, clearly and is prepared to repeat or rephrase, understanding and using familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases concerning areas of most immediate relevance (mainly personal and concrete surroundings).

In the scope of Common European Framework of Reference for Languages of the Council of Europe, the aim of the course in the first semester is to make students achieve A1 level (A1.1).

C) Assessment

The final grade for the course consists of the following:

   Participation, discussion and homework 20%
   Midterm exam 30%
   Final exam 50%

Students will take one midterm and one final exam throughout the course. Participating in class does not merely mean attending the sessions but being involved in class activities and showing personal response. It is the student’s responsibility to submit any homework if requested on time and properly. All papers should fit in with the academic writing criteria, be delivered in requested type files and mention their sources.
D) Attendance

It is extremely important to attend classes in order to complete this course successfully. Unexcused absence of more than 12 hours will result in immediate failure. Students should avoid being late to class, otherwise they will be marked as absent, miss class activities and announcements. If students are absent from class, it is their responsibility to find out what happened in that class, and to be prepared for the following class, including the completion of any homework which may have been assigned. In case of an excused absence, a student must submit a legal document to the Students Affairs Office and inform the instructor.

F) Reading list and references

Dictionaries and grammars:


http://www.priberam.pt/dlpo/dlpo.aspx (monolingual dictionary, grammar and verb conjugation)

References to additional and specific readings and web links will be indicated in the course of the semester.

G) Course Outline

**Week 1**  
*Introduction(s) / The Lusophone world and the Portuguese language*  
27.09-01.10

- Introduction to the Portuguese Alphabet, sounds and pronunciation
- Introducing oneself/someone else; greeting someone; leave-taking; expressing gratitude
  - Some address forms and courtesy formula (some particularities of European and Brazilian varieties)
  - Body language and social conventions
  - Verb *chamar-se*

**Week 2**  
*Personal Information*  
04.10-08.10

- Revision: Portuguese Alphabet, sounds and pronunciation
- Giving and asking for personal information (introductions)
  - Interrogative sentences
  - Subject personal pronouns

**Week 3**  
*Personal Information*  
11.10-15.10

- Giving and asking for personal information (introductions: name, marital status, address, countries)
  - Verb *ser* (to be) / *ser de* (to be)
  - Affirmative and negative sentences
  - Verbs: *morar em* (to live in); *falar* (to speak)
  - Portuguese sounds and pronunciation
Week 4  Personal Information  18.10-22.10

- Giving and asking for personal information (nationalities, countries)
  - Interrogative sentences
  - Nouns / gender
  - Definite articles
  - Prepositions *de* (from), *em* (in) – contractions with the definite articles

Week 5  Personal Information / The Lusophone world  25.10-29.10

- Giving and asking for personal information (nationalities, countries, the Lusophone countries)
  - Nouns / gender and number
  - Adjectives of nationalities / noun and adjective accordance

Week 6  Personal Information  01.11-05.11

- Giving and asking for personal information (age, phone number, e-mail, job)
  - Interrogative sentences
  - Verb ter (to have)
  - Numbers (until 20)
- Filling a form
- Giving congratulations / expressing gratitude and apologizing

Week 7  Review  08.11-12.11

Week 8  MIDTERM EXAM  22.11-29.11

**Components**

**Reading and writing**
- Multiple choice, true/false
- Answering to the simple questions given and/or
- Forming simple phrases using the words given

**Grammar**
- Filling the blanks

**Listening**
- Listening to some words and/or a brief text/dialogue: recognition of sounds, oral understanding exercises (multiple choice, true/false; matching)

Week 9  Environment: the town and the house  29.11-03.12

- Asking and giving information about places and about what exists in these places
  - Nouns / gender and number
  - Verb *haver* (there + to be) (some particularities of European and Brazilian varieties)
  - Numbers (until 100)
  - Portuguese sounds and pronunciation

Week 10  Environment: the town and the house  06.12-10.12

- Asking and giving information about places and about what exists in these places
- Identifying things
- Indefinite articles
- Nouns / gender and number
- Prepositions and prepositional phrases: place

**Week 11**  
**Environment: the town and the house**  
13.12-17.12

- Asking for/giving information about places
  - Nouns / gender and number
  - Verbs *ser, estar* and *ficar* (to be)
  - Present tense of regular verbs in –*ar*
  - Prepositions and prepositional phrases: place
  - Portuguese sounds and pronunciation

**Week 12**  
**Environment: the town and the house**  
20.12-24.12

- Asking for/giving information about places and the location of objects on space
  - Definite and indefinite articles
  - Nouns / number
  - Prepositions and prepositional phrases: place
  - Courtesy expressions
- Reading announcements (the house)

**Week 13**  
**Environment: the town and the house**  
27.12-31.12

- Identifying things (house, home, furniture)
- Asking for/giving information about places and the location of objects on space
  - Prepositions and prepositional phrases: place
  - Verbs *ser, estar* (to be)
  - Adjectives: noun and adjective accordance
  - Portuguese sounds and pronunciation

**Week 14**  
**Time**  
03.01-07.01

- Asking/telling the time
  - Hours, day parts, days of the week, months, seasons
  - Prepositions and adverbs: time
  - Courtesy expressions
  - Portuguese sounds and pronunciation

**Week 15**  
**Review and Oral Exam**  
10.01-14.01

**Week 16**  
**FINAL EXAM**  
after 24.01

*Components*

*Reading and writing*
- Reading brief text(s)
- Multiple choice, true/false, matching.
- Answering to the simple questions given and /or
- Forming simple phrases using the words given
Grammar
  - Filling the blanks
Listening/speaking (interaction)
  - Interaction with the instructor during which students are able to answer questions about themselves.