Theme for 2010: Diasporas and Globalization

What is a diaspora? For tens of thousands of years, human populations have spread out across the globe, far from their regions of origin: at times voluntarily, but most often as a result of conflict, economic necessity or forced displacement. How, then, does the topic of global diasporas relate to the Portuguese-speaking world, especially in the present age of rapid globalization, in which flows of people, information and cultural products circulate across national boundaries, continents and oceans at an ever-accelerating rate? As the present century unfolds, professionals will increasingly be expected to understand and negotiate with these rapidly changing conditions of global exchange, especially in regions such as southeastern New England, where Portuguese and other migrant communities have been shaping the local cultural and linguistic landscape for generations. With this in mind, how can learning Portuguese help to better prepare students at all levels for these increasingly inevitable challenges for global communication?

Portuguese in the World

Portuguese is a global language spoken by more than 230 million people, and is the official language of eight countries on four continents. After Chinese, Spanish, Hindi, English, and Bengali (Bengali), it is the sixth most widely spoken language in the world. Although the Portuguese language has its formal status in Macau, and with Tetum in newly independent East Timor.

Moreover, Portuguese is also widely spoken outside of its officially recognized borders, most notably by over two million people across the U.S., Canada, and in other corners of the global diaspora. The study of these unofficial Portuguese-speaking communities, especially from here in southeastern New England, encourages further research into areas such as bilingualism, migration and multiculturalism, and underscores the continuing importance of the Portuguese language for scholars in literary and cultural studies, social sciences, business, and other academic disciplines with an international focus.

Summer on the South Coast

The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth is the largest Department of Portuguese in North America, with six full-time professors, eight faculty members in affiliated departments in the humanities and social sciences, and a full graduate program, offering both an MA in Portuguese Studies and a PhD in Luso-Afro-Brazilian Studies and Theory. The university is located on a spacious and modern 700-acre campus in the heart of southeastern New England, encourages further research into areas such as bilingualism, migration and multiculturalism, and underscores the continuing importance of the Portuguese language for scholars in literary and cultural studies, social sciences, business, and other academic disciplines with an international focus.

Summer Program in Portuguese

Cultural Activities

The 2010 Summer Program will provide a full schedule of cultural events showcasing the diversity of the Portuguese-speaking world as reflected in the South Coast region, including: excursions to museums, beaches and community festivals; dinners at local Portuguese restaurants and culinary evenings featuring food from the Portuguese-speaking world; a Portuguese-language film series; a concert series with local professional artists performing the music of Brazil, Cape Verde and/or Portugal; and lectures from noted scholars in the field of Luso-Afro-Brazilian studies and theory. For the latest information and photos from the cultural program, please visit our website:

www.portstudies.umassd.edu/summer/summer.htm
Course Offerings

POR 103
Intensive Elementary Portuguese / 6 credits
This course is designed for beginners who desire to master the basic structures and vocabulary of the language. Students earn two semesters of academic credit in five weeks, by practicing four main language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Each day includes three one-hour sessions in the classroom and an additional hour in the language laboratory. Schedule: Daily (M-F) 9 am - 12:30 pm

POR 203
Intensive Intermediate Portuguese / 6 credits
This course is designed to review the grammar and syntax of first-year Portuguese. Stress is on development of competency in the four main language skills, expanding vocabulary, and using Portuguese in practical situations, as well as reading and analyzing short texts. Each day includes three one-hour sessions in the classroom and an additional hour in the language laboratory. Prerequisite: One year of elementary Portuguese or equivalent Schedule: Daily (M-F) 9 am - 12:30 pm

Conversation Sessions
Informal twice-weekly sessions are designed for both Elementary and Intermediate Portuguese (POR 103 & 203) and focus on the oral practice of the grammatical structures and vocabulary learned in class. Schedule: TH 1-1:50 pm

POR 208
Advanced Grammar and Syntax / 3 credits
This course is designed for students who wish to pursue advanced study of Portuguese grammar. Teaching methodology will employ source texts from linguistics and language pedagogy, and will include contrastive analysis of Portuguese and English grammar. Coursework will emphasize development of skills in speaking and academic writing, and focus on the diversity of Portuguese across the Lusophone world (European, Brazilian, African, North American, Asian), as well as comparisons to closely-related Romance languages on the Iberian Peninsula. Prerequisite: Two years of Portuguese language or equivalent Schedule: Daily (M-F) 9-10:30 am

POR 217/ENL 200
Portuguese-American Literature / 3 credits
This course explores the literature and culture of the Portuguese-American immigrant community in the context of diasporas and globalization. How do the social, political and economic dimensions of transnational migration change the way people understand their own cultural identity and that of others? Through readings, class discussion, community-based activities, archival work, academic writing, and practice in critical thinking and argumentation, students will examine how people of Portuguese descent are represented both in their own and in mainstream culture, and how literary and other creative works by and about the Portuguese in North America address the complex issues of community life, inter-ethnic relations, bilingualism, gender and racial politics that have shaped their lives here. This course is taught in English. Schedule: MTWTh 2:30-4:30 pm

POR 481/581/681/781
Diasporas and Globalization in Lusophone Literatures and Cultures / 3 credits
This advanced undergraduate/graduate seminar will study the contemporary literature and cultures of the Portuguese-speaking world from a comparative perspective, focusing on the topic of global diasporas. Beginning with texts that interrogate Portugal’s historical relationship with the Atlantic Ocean and, by extension, the world beyond Europe, we will then explore theories on diasporas, postcoloniality, transnationalism and globalization in the context of contemporary literary production from Brazil, Africa and Asia. The course will conclude with an overview of cultural production (literature, music, film, media) from diaspora communities outside the official boundaries of the Lusophone world, above all from here in southeastern New England. Prerequisite: Advanced proficiency in Portuguese Schedule: MTWTh 6:30-8:30 pm

Contact information
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General information
Admissions and Enrollment
As the Summer Program offers courses for students at all levels of linguistic and academic proficiency, anyone interested is encouraged to apply for admission. Participants include graduate students from the US and abroad who wish to complement the offerings at their home institution with a seminar from our master’s and doctoral programs, Portuguese language teachers committed to professional enrichment through an advanced seminar, international students who wish to study US multiculturalism in a bilingual Portuguese/English environment, and visiting undergraduates and high school students interested in beginning, intermediate and advanced language courses for enhanced linguistic proficiency and cultural literacy. For all students, placement levels in language courses may be determined by short interview and/or written exam before classes begin. Students can register either by mail or by phone by contacting the University Enrollment Center at 508.999.9129.

Housing
The university provides on-campus housing for the Summer Program in its Woodland Commons residence halls. All students who opt for summer housing receive single rooms clustered in suites. Students are strongly encouraged to speak Portuguese in the shared areas as part of a thorough immersion experience. For rates or to make a reservation, please visit our website.

Tuition, Fees and Scholarships
The cost for the Summer Program is set by the Office of Professional and Continuing Education; updated information on tuition and fees can be obtained on our website. The Summer Program offers a limited number of scholarships based on academic merit and financial need. Some of the scholarships are reserved for teachers of Portuguese. Application forms are available online. The deadline for U.S. students is April 30th, 2010; for international students, the deadline is March 31st to allow time for visa processing. Some applicants may be considered after these dates depending upon the availability of funds.

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