

THE FIELD

The Portuguese major allows students to improve their language skills to use in the U.S. or different Portuguese-speaking countries, including Brazil, Portugal, Cape Verde, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, and São Tomé e Príncipe. Students develop their knowledge of the language by exploring the culture, history, literature, music, and cinema of Portuguese-speaking populations from around the world, as well as the important contributions made to American culture by the thousands of Portuguese, Brazilian, and Cape Verdean peoples living in the United States. Portuguese majors may pursue secondary education certification in conjunction with the major.

A minor in Portuguese is available (umass.edu/spanport/portuguese-minor).

THE MAJOR

The undergraduate major in Portuguese consists of 36 credits. None of these credits may be taken pass/fail, and a grade of C or better must be obtained in each course. Students with previous experience with the language should contact the Portuguese advisor (portuguese@umass.edu) to schedule a placement test and select the appropriate courses. Students who speak Spanish should take the Portuguese for Spanish Speakers course offered every spring.

The major's core includes courses in Portuguese language, linguistics, Portuguese or Brazilian culture and literature, as well as the Junior Year Writing and the Integrative Experience requirements. To complete the major, students are required to take PORT 230 and PORT 240, two advanced language course and six upper-level electives. Two of these courses may be taken in areas related to the major (history, political science, anthropology, art, Spanish, literature, etc.). Courses taken outside of the department must be at the 300-level and above. All upper-level courses must be chosen with the advisor's approval. See details on website (umass.edu/spanport/portuguese-major).

HONORS

Students may pursue honors opportunities within the major. Contact the Portuguese advisors for more information (portuguese@umass.edu).

STUDY ABROAD

Majors are encouraged to study abroad in a Portuguese-speaking country and should consult an advisor as early as possible. We offer programs in Portugal (Lisbon) and Brazil (Florianópolis).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many career opportunities open to Portuguese majors in private businesses and industries, health- and community-related services, and the federal government, especially in certain areas such as Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida, California, Texas, and Georgia. Majors in Portuguese may enter a teaching career either in bilingual education or at the traditional secondary level (Portuguese as a second language). College of Education courses required for state certification are often incorporated into the undergraduate program. Portuguese majors may complete a certificate program in an additional area to prepare themselves for a wider range of professional possibilities.

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS

The humanities focus on human creativity, endeavor, and culture. The imaginative and creative arts — literary and performing — derive from life and teach about human behavior and constructs of social reality. The history of social, political, and economic systems illuminates and shapes the present and the future. Students in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts are expected to broaden their perspectives on individual and cultural expression within their own and other societies, to understand the development and evolution of the discipline of study in relation to the culture from which it emanates, and to learn the methods by which knowledge in the discipline is gained.

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