



**Latin American, Caribbean, and
Iberian Studies Program (LACIS)**
INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Proposal for On-line, synchronous Language Instruction

Summer Intensive Portuguese Institute

Summer 2020

The Summer Intensive Portuguese Institute (SIPI) at the **University of Wisconsin-Madison** has traditionally been structured as a five-hour a day, five-day a week, eight week, intensive language course. Typically, the two-and-a-half-hour morning session (8:55-11:25) covered grammatical concepts and structures, while the two-and-a-half-hour afternoon session (1:00-3:30) focused on conversational practice, as well as cultural components and activities.

Due to travel restrictions, SIPI 2020 will be taught over Blackboard Collaborate Ultra. Synchronous instruction will be divided into two sessions: a 90-minute morning session (10:00-11:30) and a 90-minute afternoon session (1:00-2:30). Once again, the morning session will focus on grammatical concepts and structures, while the afternoon session will include conversational practice via breakout (small group) activities, as well as cultural components and activities. Additional course-work (2 hours per day) will include participation in online discussion threads, written assignments (with instructor feedback), and individual viewing, reading, and listening exercises via clips, documentaries, films, articles, short stories, songs, etc. The course will be taught by two native speakers of Brazilian Portuguese, each covering four weeks of instruction. They will be supervised by the SIPI director, who will assist them in the development of course materials. Over the course of the eight-week session, students will complete all thirty lessons of the online, open textbook, *Português para Principiantes*.

In compliance with FLAS requirements this course will offer 120 hours of in-class (synchronous) instruction and 80 hours of asynchronous instruction over a period of 8 weeks.

During SIPI 2019, we developed a great number of activities that would allow a distance learner to join us virtually in the classroom via Skype. These activities included online quizzes, videos, games, and writing assignments. We also made all course content available in downloadable formats (PDF, Word, etc.) including worksheets, handouts, crosswords, exams, readings, etc. We will continue to develop online activities during SIPI 2020.

Required Text: LeRoy, Albuquerque, Hendrickson, Schil, *Português para Principiantes*, 1st digital edition. Available online: <https://wisc.pb.unizin.org/portuguese/>

Claude E. Leroy's *Português para Principiantes*, originally published in 1964, is a time-tested text which can be used in conjunction with a variety of approaches to the teaching of beginning Portuguese. In 2016, a digital re-working and open-access version of the text was launched by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This media-rich text is designed to provide learners with a solid grammatical basis for using Brazilian Portuguese as well as regular opportunities to practice and improve their ability to read, speak, and understand the Portuguese language as it is used in contemporary Brazil. The textbook is currently home to over 130 interactive pieces of content: matching, fill in the blank, drag and drop, multiple choice and mark the word exercises.

Each lesson also includes media recordings of vocabulary words so that students might practice pronunciation. Following each lesson is a dialogue lesson consisting of a recorded conversation that includes the grammar and vocabulary discussed in each that serves to reinforce the learning objectives of each lesson. All of these features will prove invaluable for both in-class/synchronous activities and asynchronous self-assessment as we transition SIPI into a fully digital institute. The full open text is available for download in several formats.

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