

Department of Spanish & Portuguese  
May, 2009

## **Proposal for a Revision of the Undergraduate Portuguese Minor**

### **I. Introduction**

With this document, the Department of Spanish & Portuguese is submitting for consideration a proposal for a revision of the Undergraduate Portuguese Minor. This is, we believe, a relatively small adjustment in the program intended to strengthen the program core and also to streamline the categories of offerings. The total number of hours required for the Minor does not change and the overall requirements remain similar to the present Minor.

### **II. History**

Over the last several years, the Department has sought to strengthen its Portuguese offerings by hiring new faculty, creating several new courses, changing a few others, and developing an Individualized Instruction program (I.I.) at the elementary level. A logical next step is to adjust the undergraduate Major and Minor in order to accommodate the new courses and with a view to strengthening the program.

The revision was proposed and developed directly by the present Portuguese faculty. When the I.I. program was created a few years ago, student interest in Portuguese increased noticeably. This in turn encouraged the faculty to add several upper-level courses and to change others in order to facilitate the pursuit of Portuguese at higher levels.

Earlier in April 2009, the revised Portuguese Major received final approval by OAA, and the present revision of the Minor is intended to complement and create greater parallelism between the new Major and the Minor.

### **III. Tracking Portuguese Enrollments**

Over the last several years, we have observed clear increases in Portuguese enrollments.

#### *Elementary Portuguese and Individualized Instruction:*

Autumn, 2005	17 students in regular P. 101, plus 16 I.I. students
Autumn, 2006	21 students in regular P. 101, plus 28 I.I. students
Autumn, 2007	32 students in regular P. 101, plus 28 I.I. students

#### *Portuguese for Spanish Speakers:*

Portuguese also has a special course sequence for entering the major program, Portuguese 501 and 502, Portuguese for Spanish Speakers. Students with prior Spanish language background take this two-quarter introduction to the language and are then eligible to take major-level courses. Recent enrollments in 501-502 have been:

2006: 501, two sections, 42 total  
502, two sections, 36 total

2007: 501, two sections, 38 total

502, two sections, 34 total

In the same period, the number of Portuguese majors and minors has risen as follows:

	Majors	Minors
Au. 2005	8	7
Au. 2006	15	12
Au. 2007	19	24
Au. 2008	15	27

(NOTE: 2008 Majors total includes **three double majors in Spanish and Portuguese**)

Enrollments, then, have been undergoing a clear increase that we want to nurture by offering a stronger core and a more flexible set of course options.

#### IV. Existing Minor in Portuguese

A Minor in Portuguese at present consists of a minimum of 20 credit hours chosen from the table below. In special cases Portuguese 693 can be arranged to a maximum of fifteen (15) hours, but not to replace a regularly scheduled course. Portuguese 401 is the required course.

##### Advanced Language/Linguistics

401	Grammar Review	5 hours
402	Portuguese Reading and Listening	5 hours
403	Portuguese Conversation and Composition	5 hours
510	Portuguese Translation	5 hours
611	The Portuguese Language	5 hours
730	Topics Portuguese Linguistics	5 hours

##### Literature

450	Introduction to the Study of Literatures and Cultures	5 hours
551	Survey of Portuguese and Brazilian Literature I	5 hours
552	Survey of Portuguese and Brazilian Literature II	5 hours
595	Special Topics - Foreign Study	1-15 hours
650	Topics in Lit. of the Portuguese Speaking World (Repeatable)	5-15 hours

##### Culture

560	Culture and Civilization of Portugal	5 hours
561	Culture and Civilization of Brazil	5 hours
595	Special Topics - Foreign Study	1-15 hours

**Electives** *Students may choose any course from the “advanced language” list or:*

693	Individual Studies	1-10 hours
694	Group Studies	1-15 hours
697	Study at a Foreign Institution	1-10 hours

#### V. Proposed Minor in Portuguese

A Minor in Portuguese under the newly proposed plan consists of a minimum of 20 credit hours chosen from the table below with the help of an academic advisor. Portuguese 401 or 402 or 403 (i.e. any ONE of those three courses) and 450 are required. Students must then choose 5 credits from Advanced Language/Linguistics courses and 5 credits from Literatures and Cultures

courses (see corresponding lists below). Please keep in mind that the prerequisites must be observed.

### **Required Orientation Courses (10 credits)**

One course from the following three:

401 Advanced Portuguese Grammar	5 credits
402 Portuguese Reading and Listening	5 credits
403 Portuguese Conversation and Composition	5 credits

AND

450 Introduction to the Study of Literatures and Cultures	5 credits
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### **Advanced Language/Linguistics (5 credits)**

401 Advanced Portuguese Grammar	5 credits
402 Portuguese Reading and Listening	5 credits
403 Portuguese Conversation and Composition	5 credits
510 Portuguese Translation	5 credits
595 Special Topics in Foreign Study	1-15 credits
611 The Portuguese Language	5 credits
730 Studies in Portuguese Linguistics	5 credits

### **Literatures and Cultures (5 credits)**

551 Literature from the Middle Ages to Neoclassicism	5 credits
552 Literature from Romanticism to the Present	5 credits
595 Special Topics in Foreign Study	1-15 credits
560 Cultural Expressions of Portugal and Lusophone Africa	5 credits
561 Cultural Expressions of Brazil	5 credits
650 Studies in Literatures and Cultures of the Portuguese Speaking World (Repeatable)	5-15 credits
750 Studies in Literatures and Cultures of the Portuguese-Speaking World	5 credits

### **Electives**

In special cases, upon approval by an academic advisor, the Elective courses below can be counted toward Minor requirements.

693 Individual Studies	1-10 credits
694 Group Studies	1-15 credits
697 Study at a Foreign Institution	1-10 credits
H783 Honors Research	3-5 credits

## **VI. Explanation and Rationale for the Proposed Minor**

Over the last several years, the Portuguese faculty members have developed several new courses (402, 403, and 450, see above) that offer a wider range of choices to students. They have also modified or adjusted other courses (401, 551, 552, 560, 650) to make them more current. Such new courses and course changes became possible as more students entered the program and the demand for courses grew. All course changes have been submitted through normal curricular channels and have been approved or are in the final stages of approval.

As noted above, the new Portuguese Major that integrates these changes was recently approved by CCI. Our goal now is to update the Portuguese Minor in a similar way, albeit with one significant difference from the new Major in the area of Core Requirements.

Following is an explanation of the various program changes.

**a. Change in Core Requirements:**

Without increasing the overall number of hours in the minor, the proposed program increases the core requirements from one, Portuguese 401, Advanced Portuguese Grammar, to two: we have added 450, Introduction to the Study of Literatures and Cultures, and have made the program more flexible, yet still demanding, by allowing students to take EITHER 401 OR 402, Portuguese Reading and Listening, OR 403, Portuguese Conversation and Composition (i.e. any ONE of 401, 402, or 403). One clear advantage to this change is that it makes the structure of the Portuguese minor more like that of the Department's Spanish minor. It also makes the required courses similar across the Major and Minor. However, the choice between 401, 402, or 403 in the Minor is sought because of the realities of scheduling in the program. Each of these courses will be offered only once per year; as a result, it will be difficult for minors to design their programs and quarterly schedules in an efficient way if only one of them (e.g. 401, as in the Major) is required. By providing the option of taking any one of these courses, students will be able to enter the Minor at more convenient points in their program, and yet still have the option of taking one or both of the other courses during the remainder of their Minor. Academically, the Portuguese faculty members feel that any one of 401, 402, or 403 would offer a comparable challenge and solid foundation to a student choosing to minor in Portuguese.

**b. Streamline Offerings:**

In the present minor program, literature and culture courses are categorized separately, and students are effectively required to take every course in both groups. In the proposed new minor, the courses have been arranged into a single category covering both literature and culture. This gives students greater flexibility within a streamlined category. Literature and culture courses are organized into the same category because we believe that a categorical distinction between these two areas is artificial and belongs to an earlier era when literature was viewed as autonomous or self-standing, a separate entity in its own category. Contrary to that, today's culture courses usually carry literary components, and literature courses are inevitably oriented toward cultural issues. Literature and culture belong together.

Course choices in literature and culture now include updated versions of previous offerings (551, 552, 560, 561, 650, 750) plus the new 450. Portuguese 750 used to be an elective but is now incorporated into the category of Literatures and Cultures to encourage more students to take higher-level offerings.

A related aspect of this adjustment is that the titles and part of the content of the 500- and 600-level courses have been changed in order to provide a clearer historical sense of their content. Thus, for example, the 551 and 552 sequence used to be called *Survey of Portuguese and Brazilian Literature, I and II*. Now the two courses will be called *Literature from the Middle Ages to Neoclassicism*, and *Literature from Romanticism to the Present*, respectively. In a similar vein, 650 used to be called *Topics in Literature of the Portuguese-Speaking World*. The new title of the course is will be *Studies in Literatures and Cultures of the Portuguese Speaking World*. As in other areas of the program, this expresses our attempt to bring culture and literature together.

The Department will offer more courses per quarter only as the number of majors and minors continues to grow.

**VII. Four-Year Plan**

Following is a basic four-year plan for the proposed Minor in Portuguese:

One benefit of the Portuguese Minor is its flexibility and responsiveness to the interests of the individual student. This particular program takes advantage of the student's interest in culture and literacy. The program presented here assumes placement into Portuguese 101 OR Portuguese 501 (for students who have studied Spanish previously) at the start of the freshman year (OPTION A and OPTION B below, respectively). A student may place at a lower or a higher level. The departmental academic advisor will facilitate proper placement and work with you to select the courses that best fit your needs and interests.

Course	Credit hours
<b>FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR <u>OPTION A</u> (Beginning with Portuguese 101-104)</b>	

**Freshman Year Option A**

Portuguese 101 (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Portuguese 102 (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Portuguese 103 (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Other General Education Courses	30
Survey	1
<b>Total hours for year</b>	<b>46</b>

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**Sophomore Year Option A (NOTE: 401 could be replaced by either 402 or 403)**

Portuguese 104 (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Portuguese 401 Advanced Grammar (required)	5
Portuguese 450 Introduction to the study of Literatures & Cultures (required)	5
Courses in Major and GEC Courses	30
<b>Total hours for year</b>	<b>45</b>

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**FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR OPTION B (Beginning with Portuguese 501-502)**

**Freshman Year Option B**

Portuguese 501 Portuguese for Spanish Speakers (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Portuguese 502 Portuguese for Spanish Speakers (prerequisite for the minor)	5
Other General Education Courses	35
Survey	1
<b>Total hours for year</b>	<b>46</b>

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**Sophomore Year Option B (NOTE: 401 could be replaced by either 402 or 403)**

Portuguese 401 Advanced Grammar (required)	5
Portuguese 450 Introduction to the study of Literatures & Cultures (required)	5
Courses in Major and GEC Courses	35
<b>Total hours for year</b>	<b>45</b>

***NOTE: JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEAR ARE THE SAME FOR ALL MINORS***

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**Junior Year**

Portuguese 611 The Portuguese Language	5
Portuguese 552 Literature from Romanticism to the Present	5

Courses in Major and GEC Courses	33
Free Elective	5
Total hours for year	48
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<b>Senior Year</b>	
Courses in Major and GEC Courses	45
Free Elective	5
Total hours for year	50
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Total hours in minor	20
Total hours in Major and GECs	138
Total hours free electives	10

### **VIII. Assessment**

The Department has submitted regular assessment reports for the last couple of years, and full information on Departmental activities in this area is on file. Interviews and questionnaires of Portuguese minors will provide an excellent opportunity to assess the success of their program.

### **IX. Conclusion**

Six full-time faculty members presently teach Portuguese. These faculty members cover every major area of the field: Linguistics, as well as the Literatures and Cultures of Brazil, Portugal and Luso-Africa. We also have lecturers and graduate teaching associates (in Spanish, with doctoral minors in Portuguese) who handle lower-level courses. We are therefore well positioned to implement the revised minor without difficulty. It is our hope that the program can be approved as soon as possible.

**The Ohio State University  
Colleges of the Arts and Sciences  
College of Humanities**

**Portuguese Minor (Portgese, 400)**

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Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
298 Hagerty Hall, 1775 College Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43210-1340  
614-292-4958  
<http://sppo.osu.edu/>

A minor in Portuguese consists of a minimum of 20 hours chosen from the lists below. In special cases 693 can be arranged to a maximum of five hours, but not to replace a regularly scheduled course. Please keep in mind that prerequisites must be observed.

After an academic advisor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese has approved the Minor Program Form, you should file the form with your college or school counselor. For further information about the minor program, contact the department.

#### **Prerequisite courses**

Students demonstrate proficiency at the level of 104 by examination or by one of the following paths:

Option 1: Portuguese 101, 102, 103, 104:  
(Classroom or I.I. setting) 20 credit hours  
Option 2: Portuguese 501, 502:  
"Portuguese for Spanish Speakers" 10 credit hours

#### **Required course (10 credit hours)**

Portuguese 401 or 402 or 403 and Portuguese 450

#### **Advanced Language and Linguistics (5 hours)**

Portuguese 401, 402, 403, 510, 595, 611, 730

#### **Literatures and Cultures (5 hours)**

Portuguese 450, 551, 552, 560, 561, 595, 650, 750

Please note that these courses encompass a wide variety of topics which include language, literature and culture. Visit <http://sppo.osu.edu> for additional information.

#### **Portuguese minor program guidelines**

The following guidelines govern this minor.

Required for graduation No

Credit hours required A minimum of 20

Transfer credit hours allowed A maximum of 10

Overlap with the GEC Permitted

Overlap with the major Not allowed and

- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The same courses cannot count on the minor and on the major.

Overlap between minors Each minor completed must contain 20 unique hours.

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.

Approval required The minor program description sheet indicates if the minor course work must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor

Filing the minor program form The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school counselor.

Changing the minor Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor

## TRANSMITTAL HISTORY FOR PORTUGUESE MINOR REVISION

### **CCI Arts and Humanities Subcommittee- Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

Excerpt from Unapproved Minutes

#### 6. Portuguese Minor Revision

- They are keeping this Minor aligned with the Major, and with the Spanish minor that was previously approved. The change is small, no change to credit hours.
- They count this as 20 hours, but with prereqs and placing out of 101-104 the minor could be as high as 40-50 credits.
  - a. Coursework in minors in Foreign Languages in general do not “count” until you start 104. This demonstrates proficiency as indicated on their Advising Sheet
- 100-levels cannot count on Majors as well
- Portuguese 501-502 are for Spanish-speakers, a compressed version of 101-104
- This minor creates more flexibility for students to obtain the minor, and with these not being large enrollment classes students can get into these courses regularly; makes for a more diverse student body as well.
- Another fine presentation for the Spanish/Portuguese Dept
- Hubin, Eyerly- **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

### **College of Humanities Curriculum Committee- Friday, May 22, 2009**

Excerpt from Unapproved Minutes

#### 14. Portuguese Minor Revision

- Keeping credit hours the same, increase electives- after 20 hrs of prereqs, this is an 8-course minor
- Increasing required courses allows students to enter the minor in qtrs when the previous (401) course is only offered in the qtr before. 402 & 403 have been added and students can take them at any time.
- Greater expertise in the practical language that emerges from the doubling up of the language requirements
- This is not retroactive
- Electives- 697, study at a foreign institution- are required courses dealt with by advising? It was left vague to be able to handle it through advising. The assumption is that students wouldn't go abroad before having the orientation courses, as well as having a literature course.
- **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED- Johnson, Roth**