

Portuguese as an Additional Language (PLA)

regular courses – 2014/1

The Department of Language Proficiency in the Department of International Relations (DRI) and the Faculty of Letters (FALE) from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) announce the beginning of the registration for Portuguese as an Additional Language (PLA) regular courses to be offered throughout the first semester of 2014.

What is PLA target audience ?

PLA subjects are exclusive for non-Brazilians, or Brazilians who do not have Portuguese as their mother tongue. To be allowed to enroll in the Portuguese regular courses offered at UFMG, one must be an undergraduate or graduate student coming from a partner institution, or a professor /researcher who: (1) participates in an exchange program, or (2) develops teaching, research and / or extension activities at UFMG.

What is the status of these courses?

PLA regular subjects are included in the students' academic records. If student gets a minimum of 60 points as their final grade and attends at least 75% of the term classes, they will be entitled to 4 credits for completing one of the courses.

Attention: After enrolling, the student can only drop a course upon formal request to UFMG, according to the university rules and calendar.

Which regular PLA courses will be offered in the 1st semester of 2014?

The PLA courses offered in 2014/1 are:

Course	Place (Pampulha campus)	Time	Start of classes
Portuguese as an Additional Language - Basic (UNI 045)	CAD 2 - classroom C213	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 – 13:10	11th February
Portuguese as an Additional Language - Intermediate (UNI 046) - Class A	CAD 2 - classroom B510	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30- 13:10	11th February
Portuguese as an Additional Language - Intermediate (UNI 046) - Class B	CAD 2 - classroom B505	Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30- 13:10	10th February
Portuguese as an Additional Language - Oral and Written Production through Communicative Tasks (UNI 047)	CAD 2 - classroom B304	Mondays and Wednesdays, 17:00- 18:40	10th February
Portuguese as an Additional Language - Academic Writing (UNI 048)	CAD 2 - classroom B312	Mondays and Wednesdays, 17:00- 18:40	10th February

All courses will take place at CAD 2 building, at Pampulha campus. The map can be seen here:
<https://www.ufmg.br/conheca/mapas/>

Can I choose which PLA discipline I will attend?

No. Each of the disciplines and classes above are oriented towards students with a certain level of proficiency in Portuguese. For example, the discipline "Portuguese as an Additional Language - Basic" (UNI 045) is directed to students with low proficiency in Portuguese, while "Portuguese as Additional Language - Academic Writing" (UNI 048) is directed to more advanced students.

The proficiency level of each student will be assessed through a **Placement Test**, in which all interested students shall take part (the exceptions are listed below). Enrollment in one or other discipline depends on the results of this test.

Who should take the Placement Test? How do I sign up for this test?

All students interested in taking one of the regular disciplines of PLA, except those that fit into one of the cases below, shall make the Placement Test. Therefore, it is necessary to make your application, filling the form available [here](#) until January 30, 2014.

You are exempted from the Placement Test if:

(i) you have already taken regular disciplines of Portuguese as an Additional Language at UFMG (UNI 045, UNI 046, UNI 047 and/or UNI 048);

(ii) you have approved at *Certificate of Proficiency in Portuguese for Foreigners* (Celpe-Bras), elaborated and delivered by the Brazilian Ministry of Education; or

(iii) you have completed the Portuguese as an Additional Language – Intensive Course offered by DRI and FALE in January 2014.

In the three cases above, it is not necessary to fill out the form; you shall simply send, until January 30, an e-mail to proficienciaportuguesufmg@gmail.com expressing your interest in attending a PLA discipline and stating the reason why you do not need to take the Placement Test. If approved in Celpe-Bras, please inform in your email the level reached in the examination as well.

I have never studied Portuguese. Should I do the Placement Test as well?

Maybe. If you have some proficiency in Portuguese (reading, writing, listening and/or speaking), you must take the Test. Remember that you may have built this knowledge not only through formal courses, but also by some other significant contact with the language (e.g., listening to music, reading or watching movies in Portuguese, or living in Brazil for some time).

On the other hand, if you have never studied Portuguese, nor had significant contact with the language, you can choose not to do the Placement Test. In this case, you shall fill out the form available [here](#) as well. At the end of the form, you will see a field to indicate that you do not want to take the test in question.

When and where will be held the Placement Test?

The Placement Test will take place on February 4, from 11:30 to 13:00, at Pamulha campus - CAD 2 building. The map can be seen here: <https://www.ufmg.br/conheca/mapas/>. Those whose first name starts with A – K will take the test on classroom **C213**, whereas those whose first name starts with L – Z will take the test on classroom **B510**.

What should I do to enroll in the suggested discipline? When do the PLA classes start?

Until February 7, the results of the Placement Test will be announced at the DRI site. At that same moment, the students who were exempted from Placement Test will also be informed about the disciplines that they will attend.

After checking the discipline in which you should enroll, please attend to the first day of the course for which you have been classified. **Classes will begin on February 10 or February 11**, depending on the discipline (see table above).

On the first day of classes, you shall submit to your Portuguese teacher an identification document (a passport or an identity card) and a proof of relation with UFMG (e.g., a statement from the Collegiate of your course, a proof of the registration number, or a letter from your supervisor). She/he will be responsible for requesting your registration in the competent bodies.

If you have been exempted from the Placement Test, you shall also submit a copy of proof of completion from the Portuguese course previously taken at UFMG (through your academic records or a certificate of completion from the course), or the Celpe-Bras certificate –according to the reason for exemption.

Attention: Your registration can only be confirmed from the moment you inform your registration number to your Portuguese teacher at UFMG.

Are there other PLA courses offered at UFMG?

Yes. If you want to study PLA, but you cannot attend the regular courses offered by UFMG, you can, for example, attend to the courses offered by the Extension Center (CENEX) at the Faculty of Letters from UFMG (FALE). These courses are offered to the inside and outside community of UFMG. For further information, access <http://www.lettras.ufmg.br/cenexx/>.

If you have any doubts, write to proficienciaportuguesufmg@gmail.com.

We wish a great semester for everybody!