

Portuguese as an Additional Language (PLA) regular courses – 1st term - 2017

The Department of Language Proficiency of the Office of International Affairs (DRI) and the Faculty of Letters (*FALE*) from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (*UFMG*) announce the beginning of the registration period for **Portuguese as an Additional Language (*Português Língua Adicional - PLA*) regular courses** to be offered during the first semester of 2017.

Important Dates:

Apply for the Placement test (Through the DRI website)	Until 10/02/2017
Placement test (online)	14 to 24/02/2017
Placement test (face-to-face)	08/03/2017 (2 p.m. to 5 p.m.)
Placement test results	10/03/2017
Beginning of the classes	13 and 14/03/2017
Registration on the PLA courses	15 and 16/03/2017

What is the target audience of PLA regular courses?

PLA courses 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, professor or researcher at the university.

If you do not have an affiliation with UFMG, you cannot take these courses. We suggest that you look into the courses offered at CENEX (Extension Center - Faculty of Letters - UFMG). For more information, please visit their website < <http://www.letas.ufmg.br/cenex/>>.

What is the statute of these courses?

Students do not have to pay for regular subjects that are offered at UFMG. This is the same with PLA regular courses, but they are responsible for occasional expenses with materials. PLA regular courses are included in the students' academic records. If a student gets a minimum of 6 points (from a scale of 0 up to 10) as their final grade and attends at least 75% of the term classes, they will be entitled to **4 credits** (amounting 60 class hours) for completing one of the courses.

Attention: If you are not able to attend **at least 75% of classes** (for example, because you will arrive in Brazil after the beginning of the term, or will return to your country before the end of classes at UFMG), you **cannot** participate in the PLA regular subjects.

Attention: After enrolling, the student can only drop a course upon formal request to UFMG, according to the university rules and calendar. If you drop out of a subject without a formal request, **you will fail** and it will be registered on your academic record. It is not possible to drop a subject after the date that is mentioned at UFMG calendar.

Which regular PLA courses will be offered in the 2nd term of 2017?

The PLA courses offered in 2017/1 are:

Subject	Time
Portuguese as an Additional Language Basic (UNI 045) - Class A	Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:50 – 13:30
Portuguese as an Additional Language Basic (UNI 045 – Class B)	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:50 - 13:30
Portuguese as an Additional Language Intermediate (UNI 046 – Class A)	Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:50 – 13:30
Portuguese as an Additional Language – Intermediate (UNI 046 – Class B)	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:50 - 13:30
Portuguese as an Additional Language Oral and Written Production through Communicative Tasks (UNI 047)	Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:50 – 13:30
Portuguese as an Additional Language Academic Writing (UNI 048)	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 17:00 – 18:40

All courses will take place at the Pampulha campus. Please check the map here: <<https://www.ufmg.br/conheca/mapas/>>. The exact place of each course will be informed on March 10th, along with the results of the Placement Test. You will find this information at DRI website: <<https://www.ufmg.br/dri/>>.

Can I choose which PLA subject I will attend?

No. Each of the subjects above is oriented towards students with a specific level of proficiency in Portuguese. 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 subject or another depends on the results of this test.

How is the Placement Test organized?

The test is organized in two parts:

- Part I (online) – After the entry period, you will receive an e-mail with a link for the online part of the test, which should be answered between February the 14th and the 24th of 2017.
- Part II (face-to-face) – On March the 8th, the face-to-face part of the Placement Test will take place from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. as part of the Exchange Student Orientation Week. The information concerning the local of the Placement Test will be available at DRI's website.

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

All students interested in taking one of the PLA regular courses who have previous knowledge of the language, except those that fit into one of the cases below, shall take the Placement Test. Therefore, it is necessary to register, filling the form available [here](#) **until February 10th, 2017**.

You are exempted from the Placement Test if:

- (i) you have already taken regular subjects of Portuguese as an Additional Language at UFMG (UNI 045, UNI 046, UNI 047 and/or UNI 048);
- (ii) you have already taken the Portuguese for Foreigners offered at CENEX (Extension Center - Faculty of Letters - UFMG);
- (iii) you have been approved at *Certificate of Proficiency in Portuguese for Foreigners* (Celpe-Bras), elaborated and awarded by the Brazilian Ministry of Education; or
- (iv) you have completed the Portuguese as an Additional Language – Holiday Course offered by DRI and FALE in July 2016.

In the four cases above, it is necessary to fill out the form that it is available [here](#).

If you are exempted from the Placement Test because of (ii) or (iii), you should:

- 1) fill out the form < <https://goo.gl/forms/w7iqFGjwICxFuEt2> >; and
- 2) send an e-mail to <proficienciaportuguesufmg@gmail.com> expressing your interest in attending a PLA subject and stating the reason why you do not need to take the Placement Test. You should attach a declaration or a certificate from CENEX or Celpe-Bras.

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

Maybe. If you have some proficiency in Portuguese (reading, writing, listening and/or speaking) you should take the test. Remember that you may have acquired 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, then 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.

Attention: If your **native language is Spanish** (or you have an advanced level of proficiency in that language), and you have had no or very limited contact with the Portuguese, you do not need to take the Placement Test, unless you want to. In this case, you will take the subject "Portuguese as an Additional Language - Basic". This class will focus Latin language speakers who understand Portuguese relatively well, but have little proficiency on oral or written production.

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

Until March the 10th, **the results of the Placement Test will be announced at <https://www.ufmg.br/dri/>**. At that same moment, the students who were exempted from taking the Placement Test will also be informed about the subject that they will attend.

After checking the subject in which you should enroll, **you will get more information about registration and the beginning of classes**

If there is any overlap between PLA and another subject in which you are enrolled, the UFMG enrollment system will not allow your registration for the PLA subject. For example, if

you take a class that ends at 12:00 p.m. and plan to get a course of Portuguese as an Additional Language which starts at 11:50 a.m., this is not possible.

May I enroll in other subject other than the on wich I've been selected to?

No. Different subjects have different objectives, and different Portuguese proficiency levels. Higher or lower, depending on the case.

May I enroll in two diferente PLA regular subjects on the same semester?

No. As mentioned above, each subject targets students on different proficiency levels.

After the subject is complete, will I receive a certificate of proficiency in Portuguese?

Not exactly. No specific declaration of conclusion of the Portuguese course is emitted. Although, you certainly can request a school record from the collegiate of your course, in which will include completion of the PLA subject, your grade in it, as well as other subjects you may have coursed. If you return to your country before acquiring your school record, we urge you to contact the Bem-Vindo program through the email <bemvindo.ufmg@gmail.com>.

Are there other PLA courses offered in UFMG?

Yes. If it is you wish to study PLA, but cannot attend any PLA regular subject, you can look for the courses offered by the Extension Center (CENEX) at Letters Faculty of UFMG (FALE). Those courses are open for the external and internal community of UFMG. You can find more information at the website <http://www.lettras.ufmg.br/cenexx/>

If you have any doubts, please send an email to this address: proficienciaportuguesufmg@gmail.com.

Have a nice semester!

Português como Língua Adicional team - UFMG.