

Portuguese as an Additional Language (PLA) regular courses – 2nd term - 2018

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 second semester of 2018.

Important Dates:

Pre-registration for PLA regular courses	From July 03 rd to July 27 th	www.ufmg.br/dri
Placement test	July 31 st , 9:00 to 12:00	Auditorium 1007, Faculty of Letters
Placement tests results	August 03 rd	https://www.ufmg.br/dri/
Beginning of PLA regular courses	August 06 th or August 07 th , depending on the group.	The local where the classes will take place will be available at www.ufmg.br/dri with the placement test results.
Enrollment	Until August 20 th	Students have to present enrollment authorization at the registration department of their course.

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.lettras.ufmg.br/cenexx/>>.

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 2018?

The PLA courses offered in 2018/2 are:

Subject	Time	Professor
UNI 045 - Portuguese as an Additional Language Basic	Friday, 14:00 - 17:40	To be defined
UNI 046 (class B) - Portuguese as an Additional Language - Intermediate	Friday, 14:00 - 17:40	Silvana Maria Mamani (Poslin – FALE)
UNI 047 - Portuguese as an Additional Language Oral and Written Production through Communicative Tasks	Friday, 14:00 - 17:40	Marina de Paulo Nascimento (Posin – FALE)
UNI 048 - Portuguese as an Additional Language Academic Writing	Friday, 14:00 - 17:40	Isis Pordeus (Poslin – FALE)

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 August 03rd, 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.

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 **July 27th, 2018**.

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 course “Aspectos da Cultura Brasileira”, offered through Language Without Borders Program in July 2018.

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/t53DxhkRqhxVOE9Z2>>; 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 July 27th, **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 (August 06th or 07th, depending on the group).**

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 14:05 p.m. and plan to get a course of Portuguese as an Additional Language which starts at 14:00., this is not possible.

Can I enroll in a different subject from the one that was indicated for me?

No. We have different subjects that have different goals, each presupposing higher or lower levels of proficiency in Portuguese. We inform that the two different Basic level courses are also aimed at students with different profiles (speakers of Latin languages, with good capacity for listening and writing in Portuguese, as opposed to speakers of distant languages, with a low capacity of understanding in Portuguese). For all those reasons, students for whom class A was indicated cannot enroll in class B, and vice versa.

Can I enroll in two regular PLA subjects in the same semester?

No, since, as mentioned above, each course is elaborated for students that have a specific level of proficiency in Portuguese.

Will I receive a certificate of Portuguese after concluding the course?

No, certificates are not provided. On the other hand, you can request a transcript, from your course department, in which there will be the information that you have taken the PLA subject, along with your grade, as it happens with other subjects that you have taken at UFMG. If you go back to your country before getting the transcript, we suggest you send an e-mail to bemvindo.ufmg@gmail.com.

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 the courses offered by the Extension Center (*CENEX*) at the Faculty of Letters from UFMG (*FALE*). These courses are offered both to the internal and external communities of UFMG. For further information, please access <http://www.lettras.ufmg.br/cenex/>.

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

We wish everyone a great semester!

PLA - UFMG team