

Quinn Middle School
Portuguese, Grades 5, 6 and 7
2017/2018

Sra. Almeida



SYLLABUS

Purpose of Course:

To introduce students to the Portuguese language and its many cultures, starting in the fifth grade and continuing through the seventh grade, with a progression of more complex structures and concepts.

Course Objectives / Goals:

- To promote the study of the Portuguese language so that students are energized to fully exercise and develop their skills;
- To build students' appreciation for the diverse cultures, peoples and lands of the Portuguese speaking places and to pique their interest in the world;
- To allow students to develop their courage, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, independence and critical thinking skills via their language learning;
- To provide authentic situations of intercommunication and cooperation among students in Portuguese.

Class Expectations:

- Students must arrive on time to class (or with a pass).
- Students must have their materials with them (binder, lined paper, dividers, pencil, page protectors, and pencil sharpener). Students are allowed to share binders with other courses provided there is enough space for Portuguese materials (that is, they are not crammed in the binder).
- Students must adhere to the classroom rules (see below).
- If a student is absent, she/he is responsible for obtaining class content information, worksheets, and homework assignments.

Rules and Logical Consequences:

The rules and consequences for the Portuguese class were derived from a class discussion of how we want the class to look, sound and feel. We discussed and agreed to all our rules, after which we all signed a classroom contract for the school year. Rules and consequences are posted in the classroom, and a copy is included in each student's binder. Students who demonstrate exemplary classroom citizenship may be nominated for Student of the Month.

Class Routines:

A student serving as *o professor/a professora do dia* will kick off and help out in class, and all students are encouraged to do so throughout the trimester and to have fun with it. As in any modern language class, speaking the target language is essential. Only by speaking Portuguese can students improve their skills. At times, speaking will feel awkward and slow. However, it is important to bring the language alive by speaking it without worrying about errors or perfect pronunciation. This may not be comfortable for some students, particularly when some are less talkative than others. Therefore, it is everyone's job to create an open, supportive and trusting learning environment that encourages risk taking.

After School Support and Communication:

All students should touch base with Sra. Almeida about any concerns they may have either before or after class (or school) or via email. Students who would like extra review of material or time to catch up on classwork or a project are encouraged to see Sra. Almeida on Wednesdays after school. Every term, Sra. Almeida will make every effort to schedule individual check-ins with students to review progress and performance to date. Students will also have the opportunity to reflect on the term and offer Sra. Almeida any suggestions for improving the course.

Grading Policy:

There are three assignment types that account for each student's final grade for the term:

Assignment type	Assignment weights	Description
Classwork and Formative Assessments	45	Includes punctuality, preparation, participation, speaking Portuguese, paying attention/raising hand before speaking, staying on task, working well with classmates, exerting good effort, having a positive attitude, respecting one another and Sra. Almeida. May also include small quizzes and assessments.
Interpersonal Performance Assessment	40	Interpersonal Assessment: Evaluation of students' interpersonal skills (dialogue / verbal communication).
Homework	15	Written assignment every other week and 15 minutes of practice daily; written assignments are not graded but must on time, complete and show good effort for full credit; 50% credit for assignments up to one week late. More than one week late homework assignments get 25% credit.