

**PORT 3700 – Film Studies in Portuguese
SPRING 2017**

Course Instructor: Dr. Rêgo

Office: Old Main 211

Office Hours: WF 12:30pm-1:30pm, and by appointment only

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Email address: cacilda.rego@usu.edu

Class Meetings: MWF (9:30am-10:20am) at Old Main, Room 201

No Required Textbook: Readings will be made available in Canvas

Suggested Books/Texts: Students may find useful to have a book of verbs and a good dictionary with them all times.

Course Description and Learning Objectives: This course offers an overview of key aspects of Brazilian culture and history as seen through films, with supporting materials drawn from literature, news articles, academic essays and so on. Students will watch, discuss and analyze films by Brazilian (and/or Portuguese-speaking) directors in order to develop a broader understanding of the history, culture and economic and political issues that have shaped Brazilian society as one knows it today. Some of the issues to be addressed include but are not limited to: the country's ethnic profile, racial relations, the military dictatorship (1964-1985) and its aftermath, women and society, immigration/emigration and globalization. Students will be exposed to these issues through films, and will develop critical tools with which to analyze the films in their thematic content and cinematic/aesthetic aspects. The course will also offer students opportunities to improve their Portuguese language skills and develop their critical skills.

In sum, the main goal of this course is to motivate students to learn more about Brazil, to discuss and write about contemporary aspects of Brazilian culture and society, and become fluent in Portuguese. In more specific terms, these are the goals for this course:

- 1. Gain factual knowledge of Brazilian cultural history;**
- 2. Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of Brazilian intellectual-cultural production through film**
- 3. Develop skills in expressing oneself in Portuguese, orally or in writing**
- 4. Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.**

All course activities will be geared toward these four objectives

Important Guidelines, Policies and Reminders:

1. Less than a C on any assignment, quiz, or exam requires immediate attention. The student must see the instructor to detect and clarify problem areas and discuss ways to improve his/her work/grade.
2. Learning to speak ANY language can only happen when the learner is willing to try and feels comfortable enough to err sometimes. *Effort and engagement in classroom activities is what counts towards a good participation grade.* Sometimes the instructor will offer a correction to your speech if it will help with communication or if the error involves exactly what we are practicing in that particular day. Such correction only means that you are doing a great job speaking in class and your instructor is giving you a pointer on how to communicate even more effectively. It is important that students offer each other respect so that the atmosphere in the classroom supports the learning process of all. Please speak with your instructor outside of class if you have any concern related to class performance or about ways to accomplish your goals in the course.
3. **Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities (Faculty Code):** “Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the right of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of knowledge. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility.”
4. **Students with disability:** The Americans with Disabilities Act states: “Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center, preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format-larger print, audio, diskette, or Braille.” All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible.
5. **Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment is defined by the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as any “unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.” If you feel you are a victim of sexual harassment, you may talk to or file a complaint with the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Office, located in Old Main, Room 161, or call the office at 797-1266.

6. **Academic Integrity:** As per USU policy on Academic Integrity “Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University student.” Students who violate university rules on academic integrity are subject to disciplinary penalties. Academic dishonesty/misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes, threatening the instructor or a fellow student in an academic setting, giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of reports, notebooks or other assignments, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work and/or plagiarizing of another’s work, or otherwise acting dishonestly for the purpose of obtaining/changing grades. For more detail information on academic honesty policies, please see the USU Student Code of Conduct at <http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/studentcode/article5.cfm#secV3>

University Standard: Academic Integrity – “The Honor System”

Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the University by not participating in or facilitating others’ participation in any act of academic dishonesty and by reporting all violations or suspected violations of the Academic Integrity Standard to their instructors.

The Honor Pledge—To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: “I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity.”

Violations of the Academic Integrity Standard (academic violations) include, but are not limited to:

1. **Cheating:** (1) using or attempting to use or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity, including working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually”; (2) depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (3) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work; (4) acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission; (5) continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity; (6) submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or (7) engaging in any form of research fraud.
2. **Falsification:** altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.

3. **Plagiarism:** representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

Further details information on academic honesty policies and consequences for violations of University Standard can be found at
<http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=547>

Note on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a very serious matter and, in some forms, is a violation of the law. The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include warning or reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, and referral to psychological counseling. **The course policy in response to an initial act of plagiarism by a student is to give the student a warning and an "F" grade for the plagiarized assignment and to insert a note in the student's Departmental and University files indicating the nature of the plagiarism act. A second act of plagiarism in the same course will result in an "automatic" receipt of the grade "F" for the course.**

7. **Course Fee:** N/A

8. **Grievance Process (Student Code):** Students who feel they have been unfairly treated [in matters other than (i) discipline or (ii) admission, residency, employment, traffic, and parking – which are addressed by procedures separate and independent from the Student Code] may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code (Article VII, Grievances, pages 25-30).
9. **Withdrawal Policy and “I” Grade Policy:** Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term “extenuating” circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

10. Attendance and Participation Policy:

Participation: Learning to function in another language requires that the learner spend a great deal of time in active contact with the target language and—if at all possible—culture (music, film, video, etc.). To that end daily attendance is crucial,

and the instructor will note active participation on a daily basis. As a courtesy to all, students shall not use the time in classroom to read outside materials nor use personal computers, iPods, iPhones, cellular phones and/or any other electronic devices. Phones should be “off” during class period. If you have a situation requiring an adjustment to this policy, please discuss this with the instructor. Background noise(s) due to loud conversation(s) between or among students is not appreciated by the instructor (or by other students) and may affect students’ participation grade. Some of your work will be completed individually while other assignments will be completed collaboratively. It is the student’s responsibility to document any problems within his/her collaborative group and to discuss these problems with the instructor should they arise.

Class Participation: Frequency and Quality

- A (10 points) = Attends class regularly and *always participates*;
- B (8 points) = Attends class regularly and *sometimes participates*;
- C (7 points) = Attends class regularly but *rarely participates*;
- D (5 points) = Attends class regularly but *never participates*;
- F (0 to 4 points) = *Does not attend class regularly and rarely or never participates*.

Attendance:

1. More than two unexcused absences by the student will result thereafter in one point (1) reduction per absence (up to 5) for attendance grade. Any student who misses 5 classes beyond the 2 absences allowed during the semester will automatically receive an “F” grade for the course. An exception to the attendance policy is a student who travels with the university (i.e. athletes, ambassadors, etc.).
2. Tardiness is neither appreciated nor welcomed and will be treated as an absence unless satisfactory explanation is made at the end of the class period, not at a later date or not at all.
3. Absences are excused for illness, requirement to work, for bereavement (death of an immediate family member, ie, parent, spouse, child, grandparent). A physician’s excuse must be presented in case of long illness; an employer excuse must be presented for requirement to work; an obituary must be presented for bereavement. Students who travel for the university (ie, athletes, ambassadors) need to present official university letter to be excused.
4. If you must leave the classroom for any reason (bathroom, water), please do so in a suitable manner. There is no need to ask permission, but keep exist to a minimum.
5. If the student plans to miss any class period, s/he must contact the instructor beforehand, and must turn in any homework before the due date since after that no late work will be accepted. It is the student’s responsibility to collect missed

handouts, assignment sheets, and other materials made available during his/her absence.

6. Excused absences will not affect the attendance and participation grade. Should illness or emergency prevent attendance, please notify the instructor promptly by phone or e-mail.
7. To leave earlier after signing the attendance list will be seen as a violation of the University's Honor Code. If the student needs to leave due to an emergency, please make the instructor know it before class meeting.
8. If the student must miss an exam for a valid reason (please note: a family vacation, a friend's wedding, his/her honeymoon, etc. are NOT valid reasons), the instructor may allow the student to take the exam early if there is advance notice. If you miss any exam without letting the instructor know in advance that you will miss an exam, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will ask you to prove your emergency. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in a zero for the missed exam.

Much of your learning will occur as a result of your attendance and participation. Class participation includes asking appropriate questions and sharing comments with the class, bringing materials for in-class work, and attending the lectures. I hold very high expectations for all students. Students are expected to look alert, take notes, and think about the ideas presented in class. Simply being in class is insufficient for learning, but being absent from class, either mentally or physically, will certainly prevent you from learning. In-class assignments will be part of the class format. Missed class activities and assignments may not be made up unless under unusual circumstances. It is the student's obligation to find out what missed if absent. Students must obtain missed lecture notes, handouts and any other classroom materials from their peers.

Class conduct: I will treat you with respect and I expect you to extend the same respect toward your classmates and me. *Absolutely NO discriminatory remarks about or behavior directed toward a person's race, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex or disability will be tolerated in the classroom.* As indicated in the Student Code of Conduct "Faculty members of Utah State University have the responsibility and authority to determine, maintain, and enforce an atmosphere in their classrooms that is conducive to teaching and learning, in accordance with University policy and practice." See: <http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/studentcode/article5.cfm#secV3>
Disciplinary action, including student removal from classroom, will be taken by instructor for disrespectful and/or disruptive classroom behavior by student(s).

11. **On Recording Lectures and Publicly Sharing Course Materials:** Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him or her. You must request via email instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class, no later than one week prior to the date of the lecture you wish to record. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material, either online or in hard copy. Moreover, in this course, students and/or guests will have the same courtesy, which means that permission for recording lectures from students and/or guests should be obtained as well.

Course material developed by the instructor is his/her sole intellectual property and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated materials for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

12. **Cell Phones and Computers:** Any student who is observed using their phone will be *marked absent for that day*. This includes talking and text messaging. Further, computers should be used in the class only for note-taking or for classroom activities and projects. Students observed to be using a computer for other reasons (browsing, e-mail, Facebook, other classwork assignments, etc.) will also be marked absent.
13. **Course Content Disclaimer:** Some films screened and discussed in this course may contain materials or language and/or cultural references that some may find offensive. Your enrollment in this course indicates your awareness of this and your willingness to approach these films in an adult, responsible and critical manner. As with films, any other course materials/readings are meant to be examined in the context of intellectual inquiry of the sort encountered at the university level.
14. **Exams and Quizzes** *will not be given on a make-up basis, except in the case of a documented excuse*. For missed quizzes and exams the instructor will record the student's grade as zero (0). Quizzes will be given and corrected in class to help students assess their learning between tests, especially during the units before main exams (1 & 2).
15. **Homework:** the instructor will check assignments periodically. They **MUST** be done at home before the class period. **NO LATE assignments will be accepted.** There will be no exceptions.
16. **Writing assignments** are brief essays for which the student **MUST** use a word-processor. These essays also need be double-spaced, typed in font 12, and pages must be stapled if submitted in hard copy. They will be graded on the basis of creativity and originality, structure, clarity, use of new vocabulary, and

mechanics. *The instructor will NOT accept handwritten and/or single-spaced assignments. As a courtesy to your instructor, please staple all pages. NO assignment will be accepted after the due date. Again, no exceptions!*

See calendar for due dates.

Short Research Paper: There will be one research paper for the course. This will be a short research paper (4-5 pages) on a film chosen by the student. This assignment needs to be typed, double-spaced, and may be written in either English or Portuguese. Student is expected to provide sources in the endnotes and a bibliography or references. Contrary to a personal essay—in which the student presents his/her thoughts, feelings, and opinions without referring to sources of information or ideas, the student need to go beyond personal knowledge and experience to write this final paper.

Citation and Reference Style: Students will follow the MLA as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework.

According to the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, “No matter what your subject of study, learning to investigate, review, and productively use information, ideas, and opinions of other researchers will play a major role in your development as a student. The sorts of activities that constitute a research paper—identifying, locating, assessing, and assimilating others’ research and then developing and expressing your own ideas clearly and persuasively—are at the center of the educational experience” (p. 3). If the student is not familiar with writing a research paper, please consult the MLA Style handbook.

PLEASE NOTE: Students will be required to submit a proposal and working bibliography of his/her final paper to the instructor for approval. Final papers will not accepted/graded unless said proposal has been submitted by due date and approved by instructor. Essays should be original (students cannot submit the same work for credit in more than one class) and the topic must pertain to the course topic and/or materials covered in the semester. Essays must have a clear thesis statement and students must use the mechanics of writing (language and style) clearly and effectively. A working outline is recommended. Although internet search tools and sites can be used as resources, the student MUST avoid online encyclopedias such as Wikipedia. Also, avoid relying solely on internet sources for your final project. “Cut-and-paste” from the internet or any source(s) is considered plagiarism, and student will be penalized for it. The instructor will check ALL reference sources. Faculty may require assignments to be submitted to Canvas. Turnitin will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade.

ALL assignments, if any, submitted in hard copy (printed out) should be typed and stapled in the upper left corner (no plastic spines or covers). It must include

the name of the course and professor, name of assignment, your name, and title on the first page. All other pages must be numbered. Handwritten and/or single-spaced assignments will NOT be accepted by the instructor. Please note that NO assignment will be accepted after the due date.

Give yourself plenty of time to think through your choice of topic, consult materials and write your essay. If you encounter any problems do not hesitate to talk to your instructor, whether to clarify the assignment or to get help in choosing, developing or researching a topic or in preparing the essay. No matter what the emphasis of a particular assignment may be, the student should always be working to improve their writing skills in the Portuguese language. While the instructor will be working with students to make their writing clear, concise and error free, there will be a peer review before the assignment is turned in to the instructor for grade. The student must hand in his/her assignment on time with one or two copies of a complete rough draft for review. No student will be allowed to make up a peer review, so please be on time and participate. Final drafts will be graded on the basis of organization, content, grammar, vocabulary and communication effectiveness.

No Late Papers: Papers should be turned in to the instructor via Canvas by the date/hour specified for each assignment or else the student will receive the grade of zero for the assignment. If the student knows that he/she will be absent or unable to submit the assignment on a due date, the student may turn the paper to me before the day it is due. If any of these deadlines should change at point in the semester, the instructor will make the revision very clear during class time in addition to a confirmation via Canvas Notification.

17. **Oral Presentations** are to be performed in Portuguese. They will be graded on the basis of organization, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, content, and communication effectiveness. If students use PP for his/her presentation(s), a copy of the slides must be given in advance to the instructor.
- a. Make sure to prepare your presentation ahead of time. Please do not prepare for it in class during another student's presentation.
 - b. Class size may require short presentations (approx. 5 min. per student) and may take place over two or three class periods. Once the student signs up for a particular day s/he will be hold responsible for having the presentation ready that day. No late presentations will be assigned. Please plan your presentations carefully in order not to go over your allotted time.
 - c. Presentation topics need to be approved by the instructor.
 - d. Questions? If you have any, please see the instructor to clarify assignment(s).

18. **Rubrics:** For assessment of student's performance the instructor will, whenever appropriate, use rubrics. Why use rubrics? Rubrics provide timely feedback; prepare students to use detailed feedback (as they allow the instructor to more accurately pinpoint

strengths or/and weaknesses); encourage critical thinking; facilitate communication with students; allow the instructor to use only one set of criteria for all students; help the instructor refine his/her teaching methods.

19. Course Evaluation: Students are expected to complete an online evaluation for the course, at their convenience, by clicking on an evaluation link sent to you by email.

20. Grading: Grades will be assigned according to the scale shown below.

A (100-95%); A- (94.9-90%); B+ (89.9-86%); B (85.9-83%); B- (82.9-80%); C+ (79.9-76%); C (75.9-73%); C- (72.9-70%); D+ (69.9-66%); D (65.9-63%); D- (62.9%-60); F (59.9% or less)

Attendance	(0-10 points)	10 %
Participation	(0-10 points)	10 %
Written assignments:	(0-15 points each)	20 %
Homework	(0-5 points each)	10%
Research Paper		50 %
Paper proposal	(0-5 points)	3%
Preliminary Bibliography	(0-5 points)	2%
Complete peer reviewed draft	(0-5 points)	5%
Peer Review	(0-5 points)	5%
Oral Presentation	(0-15 points)	10%
Final draft	(0-10 points)	25%
Total		100 %

NOTE: Final grade will be based solely on the integer value in the scale as shown. The instructor cannot and will not “find” points for the student at the end of the semester simply because the student’s score is near the next grade level. Doing so it would be unfair and unethical to the other students in the class, many of whom will also be a point away from the next grade level. The instructor cannot and will not change a grade arbitrarily in order to meet a student’s graduation and/or scholarship requirements, since by doing so the instructor will be guilty of fraudulent reporting. The instructor will not round grades up or down at the end of the semester. No exceptions! Students must complete and hand in all assignments by due dates in order to guarantee a good grade and pass the course. No grade will be changed unless the instructor has made an error.

21. Student/Teacher Conferences: Students are encouraged to meet one-on-one with the instructor throughout the semester to discuss questions, concerns, progress, etc. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to visit with the instructor; the sooner you meet with the instructor the better!

By accepting this syllabus you have agreed to these guidelines and must adhere to them.

After carefully reading this syllabus, please sign and return the bottom of page to your instructor.

I read and understood the requirements and policies concerning PORT 3700 as stated in the syllabus.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Semester: Spring 2017