

1 History 3290, Ebert, Winter Intersession Study Abroad, January 1-21, 2024

History 3290, Winter Intersession Study Abroad, Porto, Portugal.

Special Topics in European History: Portugal - History, People and Culture

3 hours, 3 credits

Professor: Christopher Ebert, History department - Brooklyn College.

Course Description:

This course is an overview of the history of Portugal from its founding monarchies during the Middle Ages through its integration in the European Union in the present day. Classes and field trips will introduce students to the history of the country through the lens of politics, society, religion, food, culture and Portugal's extensive empire in Africa, Asia and South America. Along with the instructor, who is a historian of early-modern Portuguese imperial expansion, students will interact with period specialists to understand Portuguese history into the modern world, as well as contemporary Portuguese culture and society.

Objectives of Course:

1. Introduce students to the history and culture of Portugal.
2. Train students in the interpretation of primary and secondary sources in a variety of contexts.
3. Enable students to articulate the major socio-political trends which have characterized Portugal over many centuries.
4. Develop in students the analytical skills needed to critique and employ written sources in their argumentation.
5. Enable students to articulate their interpretation of primary and secondary sources in class discussions.
6. Offer students a hands-on, interactive experience of contemporary Portuguese society, including meeting local people and experiencing culture and foodways.

Outcomes Anticipated for Course:

By the end of this course students will have:

1. Mastered at an appropriate level the historical content relevant to the topic.
2. Demonstrated in discussion and short writing assignments knowledge of how Portugal has developed over time.
3. Evaluated critically in discussion and writing the assigned texts.

Attendance Policy: Students are required to attend all classes and activities except in the case of illness.

Evaluation: Participation in discussion/activities 50%, Travel/class journal 50%.

Tentative Syllabus:

<u>Unit One</u>	Peoples, Cultures and Colonies through the mid Eighteenth Century.
January 1	Arrival Day
January 2	Morning Orientation: 11-13h00 (Ebert). Lunch. Afternoon guided walk: getting around Porto 14-15h30 (Ebert). Dinner 19h00 (Ebert).
January 3	Course Start Day: 10-13h30. Foundations of Portugal: myths and realities (Ebert). Lunch.
January 4	Class: 10-12h00. Portugal goes overseas; foundations of empire (Ebert). Lunch. Walking tour: 14-16h00. Exploring Porto's ancient merchant and modern communities in the old city and docks (Ebert and local guide).
January 5	Portugal's Remote Past and Foundational Monarchy: Day trip to Guimarães. Round trip on suburban train, walk, museum visits and lunch. 9h00-17h00 (Ebert and local guide).
Unit Two	The Golden Age through the Fall of the Monarchy
January 8	Class: 10-13h00. Brazil and Portugal's 18 th Century Golden Age (Ebert).
January 9	Portuguese Baroque: Wealth, Control and Display in the Portuguese Catholic Church/the Catholic Church in today's society. Day trip to Braga. Round trip on suburban train, walk, museum and church visits, and lunch. 9h00-17h00 (Ebert and local guide).
January 10	Class: 10-12h00. Brazilian Independence and Crisis in Portugal: 1807-1828 (Ebert). Lunch
	Class: 14-16h00: The Liberal Wars and the Bourgeois Monarchy (Ebert and possible guest lecturer).
Unit Three	Republic, Dictatorship and Recent Portugal
January 15	Class: 10-12h30 Republic and Estado Novo Dictatorship (Ebert and possible guest lecturer). Lunch 14-15h30. Urban development from the Estado Novo to the present: A walk through "New" Porto (Ebert and local guide).
January 16	Class: 10-12h30 Colonial Wars and Carnation Revolution (Ebert and possible guest lecturer). Lunch

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January 17	Class: 10-12h30. Portugal in the era of the European Union (Ebert and possible guest lecturer). Lunch
January 18	Past and Future Portugal: Visit to Coimbra University. Round trip on Suburban train, walk through university campus and historical sites, Ebert and local historian. 9-17h00.
January 19	Last Day of Class: 10-15h00 Portugal's challenges: Course time summarizing themes of class as well as a visit to a Porto NGO (to be determined) focusing on a current social/political issue, possibly environment and/or poverty.

Note: The above syllabus indicates required course activities in and outside the classroom. The Course instructor will schedule a few optional accompanied activities on evenings and weekends including dinners, concerts and sporting events.

Required Texts:

The instructors will offer a number of short primary and secondary source texts either in the classroom or through the Blackboard platform. Additionally, students are required to read the following text:

David Birmingham: *A Concise History of Portugal*, Third Edition. Cambridge University Press, 2018.