



## THE STUDY OF PORTUGUESE AT THE MASTERS LEVEL

### WHAT IS THE PROGRAM OF STUDY ?

The Portuguese program at UNM offers an M.A. degree in Brazilian literature and culture. The courses offered by the faculty focus not only on Brazilian literature and theater, but also on Brazilian popular music and film. Most courses are designed to integrate literary study within an historical and cultural context. Coursework in linguistics, second language acquisition, and Hispanic literature is available and counts toward the M.A. degree. Students will be trained in research methods, critical theory, and teaching methodology. Students also may begin or advance their study of the Spanish language.

The Masters degree from UNM will be validated in Brazil by MEC upon completion and defense of the M.A. thesis and approval by the Brazilian Consulate in Houston.

### WHY STUDY PORTUGUESE AT UNM ?

- Students will be able to gain teaching experience in Portuguese language classes to students who speak English and Spanish. Given the interest in Portuguese for Spanish speakers in Brazil, UNM offers an opportunity to practice and improve teaching approaches that can be applied to teaching jobs in Brazil.
- Students will have access to research materials in literature, culture, popular music, art and other areas that are not easy to find in Brazil. Many of these materials are in the Iberian and Latin American collection which contains an estimated 415,000 volumes (including some 27,000 rare books and other scarce imprints housed in Special Collections) and 1,100 current serial subscriptions. UNM has a large collection of *literatura de cordel* as well as 13,500 posters of political and social movements from the 1970s-90s. There are over 600 CDs of popular music and approximately 300 films on VHS and DVD in the Language Learning Center.
- Students have the opportunity to publish the results of their research in professional journals and present their research at professional conferences. There are several sources of financial aid available to help students attend conferences. There are graduate student organizations that help students develop their skills as presenters and researchers.
- Studying Brazil from a distance provides insights into Brazilian life that cannot be seen up close. Thus, students gain new perceptions about their country by engaging in the discussion of its culture and literature. Studying with students at UNM who have different backgrounds and come from the US and other countries provides new understandings and discoveries.
- New Mexico is a state that offers opportunities to learn more about Native American cultures and the Hispanic cultures of the southwestern United States. The cultural richness of these heritages can be studied in class and experienced in the community, where Spanish is often spoken, as are several Native American languages.

### HOW CAN I APPLY ?

Students should visit the International Graduate Admissions site for requirements and application information:

[www.unm.edu/preview/na\\_intlgrad.htm](http://www.unm.edu/preview/na_intlgrad.htm) Details about the departmental requirements are available at:

[www.unm.edu/~spanport/graduate.htm](http://www.unm.edu/~spanport/graduate.htm). A list of recent course offerings can be seen at

[www.unm.edu/~spanport/courses.htm](http://www.unm.edu/~spanport/courses.htm).

Students are encouraged to apply for a teaching assistantship that will provide a monthly salary, tuition and fees for classes, and health insurance. Previous experience teaching Portuguese or English is preferred, but not required. Each semester, teaching assistants teach 1 to 2 classes in the Basic Portuguese Language Program and take 3 graduate-level courses. The deadline for applications for a teaching assistantship is February; all teaching assistantships begin in the fall semester, which starts in August.

### WHO CAN PROVIDE ME WITH MORE INFORMATION ?

Contact the graduate secretary Martha Hurd at [marthah@unm.edu](mailto:marthah@unm.edu) or Prof. Margo Milleret at [milleret@unm.edu](mailto:milleret@unm.edu).