

1. Curricular Unit

Summer in Lisbon – Seminars and Framework Programme on Portuguese Culture

2. Study cycle to which the curricular unit belongs

Summer in Lisbon

3. Responsible academic staff member and lecturing load in the curricular unit

Different Faculty members + 2 tutors

Seminars: 24 hours + Summer in the city: 9 hours + Day trips: 2 (optional)

4. Learning outcomes of the curricular unit

Objectives: The Summer in Lisbon Programme is an intensive language course with a strong focus on cultural issues. The programme includes five seminars on relevant topics of Portuguese culture, as well as a framework programme of onsite learning tours to different places in Lisbon and surroundings and two optional day-trips further afield.

These three programme items embed the language course in a cultural framework, providing participants with the opportunity to learn the language while acquiring and directly experiencing aspects of the local and national culture.

The aim of the thematic seminars is to expose students to concepts and experiences of Portuguese culture and to allow a critical consideration of these concepts. Moreover, the seminars also intend to provide an insight into several areas of cultural production in Portugal, so as to make cultural referents familiar and to help students navigate the cultural context and understand cultural references underlying language.

The “Summer in the City” tours aim at orienting students in their exploration of Lisbon, by guiding their observation toward classical aspects of its architecture and novel and ephemeral interventions that have attracted younger visitors in recent years.

Finally, the optional day trips aim at extending students’ experience in Portugal by allowing them to know other regions in the country, so as to situate their experience in the capital city within a broader perspective of places and people that make up the life of the country.

Competences:

The cultural framework of the Summer in Lisbon programme allows for the development of important competences:

- a critical consideration of concepts and experiences related to Portuguese culture;
- a critical view of the term “Portuguese culture” in the contemporary context of national, transnational and global cultures;
- learning to observe and make sense of one’s immediate surroundings, as they are available to the senses;
- becoming aware of the ways of thinking, interacting and doing that make up historical and present-day life in Portugal.



5. Syllabus

Seminars on Culture. The seminars focus on specific aspects of Portuguese culture:

Seminar 1 – Portuguese Culture

This seminar provides an overview of concepts frequently associated with Portuguese culture and traces the genealogy of experiences that have led to these concepts. It also critically reviews the concept of a national culture in the context of transnational and global contact.

Seminar 2 – Portuguese Film

The seminar gives an overview of Portuguese film production, from the early modernist experiments, over the regime-friendly cinema, to the directors, genres and actors that have contributed to the internationalization of Portuguese film.

Seminar 3 – Art in Portugal

With a focus on visual and performing arts, this seminar gives an overview of artists, expressive languages and art spaces in Lisbon and in other places in the country. The seminar also provides the link to the Summer in the City tours.

Seminar 4 – Portuguese Literature

The seminar is a gateway to contemporary literary production in Portugal, to the country's most acclaimed authors and to young voices making way in different genres. It also considers Portuguese literary production in the overall context of literature in Portuguese.

Seminar 5 – Portuguese Music

The seminar provides an overview of the Portuguese music scene, covering multiple genres and artists, as well as regular events and spaces devoted to specific music types. It demonstrates that there is more to Portuguese music than “fado”.

The **Summer in the City** tours are a complementary programme to the Seminars, allowing students a closer contact with the city, oriented by a theme:

Summer in the City 1 – Monumental Lisbon

This tour shows students the gems of the city's architecture that are permanent witnesses of events that make up the history of the city. It also tours new and edgy buildings which are directly related with the vibrant cultural life of Lisbon.

Summer in the City 2 – Cascais & Sintra

In this tour students have the opportunity to visit two of the most important suburban cities in the metropolitan area of Greater Lisbon, both in historical and societal terms. The tour provides an insight to the main geographical elements of this part of Portugal – the ocean, and the forests and mountains – which have been celebrated in literature of the Romantic period and continue to attract most of the visitors to the country.

Summer in the City 3 – Lisbon as Canvas

In recent years Lisbon has seen many street artists taking to the streets and transforming business districts and quiet residential areas into a scenery of color and movement that please the old and attract the new. Playing with light and color, streets artists have given a new life to many streets and squares, making street art a reason good enough on its own to explore the city.

One-day trips. These optional tours take students further afield to explore nature, local history and gastronomy of other regions in the country.

Day-trip 1 – Arrábida/Setúbal

The tour includes wine tasting at Quinta da Bacalhoa, a guided visit to Setúbal and experiencing nature, with a dolphin-watching tour and a visit to the beaches of Serra da Arrábida.

Day trip 2 – Arraiolos/Évora

At the heart of the Alentejo, Évora is a white city, with an architecture that has bent to the heat of the summer. Students will visit the city and will become acquainted with the art of tapestry in the nearby city of Arraiolos.