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Bemvindo ao curso de Portugues

I have just welcomed you to your Certificate in Portuguese

My name is Karen Ferreira-Meyers.

I am the coordinator linguistics and modern languages

My Office is office 017 at the Institute of Distance Education

My WhatsApp number is 268 76406346

and my email address is my name in full, small letters

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You probably know, why you want to study Portuguese

otherwise you wouldn't have applied to the Certificate in Portuguese

but just a few reminders, Portuguese is the 4th most spoken language in the world and

more than 240 million people according to some of the data

we have speak Portuguese as their mother tongue

It's a native language in emerging economies like Brazil, South America

but also Mozambique or Angola, on the African continent.

So learning Portuguese is an excellent career option

The lusophone countries, those are countries

where Portuguese is spoken are wonderful tourism destinations

I am sure some of you have already visited Mozambique and i'm convinced

so i would visit them and speak with the local people

Through language, you have direct contact

with lusophone cultures and peoples

and you will see in your modules that is there is a lot to learn

for the different lusophone countries

you will increase your language skills and you ability to speak

other languages by learning Portuguese.

some of you may know that learning french or

Spanish or even Romanian and Italian after you have learnt Portuguese

will come at much more ease

Finally, you will improve your curriculum vitae by adding

language and at a difficult situation like ours where its not easy

to find a job, having an added language is always a bonus

So how is the program structured?

The Certificate is a two-year programme and at UNESWA in general and at IDE in particular

first year students will study through a blended learning approach

Blended learning means mixed approach

On one side, they are printed modules, but you will also

benefit from learning material on Moodle

our learning management system.

lessons delivered via Zoom which is an online platform

and informal interactions with your fellow students, tutors and lecturers via WhatsApp

That's all in addition to limited face-to-face contact classes

so in addition to the general education modules

that is Computer Skills Foundations, HIV Prevention, Infection and Management of AIDS,

and Academic Communication Skills there are modules

that are specific to your Certificate in Portuguese

In year 1, you will have Language and Linguistics I and II

Conversational Skills I and II ,Comprehension and Literature I and II and

Composition I and II while in second year , you will have parts III

and IV of those four language domains.

so Language and linguistics, Conversational skills ,Comprehension and Literature

and finally Composition

now the limited contact sessions which we sometimes call face-to-face sessions

will take place in the Language Laboratory which is behind the Library ,in the Humanities' section of the University.

There will be other venues for your other General Education courses

Once you send me an email so that i have your contact details and share them

with your lecturers, you will also receive a timetable

In general classes in the Certificate in Portuguese will take place on Saturdays but also on a few selected Sundays. You will get to know your lecturers very shortly

They rae Prof. Theresa Manjate and Dr. Elsa Pereira who are both in Mozambique, close to Maputo

and your Tutor Mrs. Maria Morais who is locally based

You already have in front of you ,their email addresses

and they will soon share their WhatsApp numbers with you too

Now, as student of Portuguese you have, just like any other

student, a number of duties. You main duty as an learner is to work through

your modules independently but of course with the guidance of your lecturers and tutor.

You should attend all scheduled sessions and use the face-to-face and virtual

contact sessions to ask questions to ask questions or request clarifications

so asking questions is a very important competency that you need have

DO all the activities asked of you

Learning a language means you need to practice often, as often as possible

So doing a little work everyday is much more beneficial than doing all the work

Lastly, go online and look once a week

for additional language resources share these with your lecturers tutors and fellow learners

then altotegher you can form what we call a community of inquiry or

practice, so that you can depend on each other and learn from each other

You can always reach me, as your programme coordinator , for a variety of academic issues (timetabling

information about the modules,advice and guidance ,things that go wrong but

also things that go right. You can do so via WhatsApp and again on the screen you have my number

or via email and this is my email address as i have indicated in the beginning

Now, the only thing that remains to be said, is to

Thank you for your attention and to wish good luck or in Portuguese

Obrigada pela vossa atencao e boa sorte!