

Success with Touchstone

Casa Thomas Jefferson is a Binational center, founded in 1963. Their main goal is to promote cultural exchange between Brazil and the US, teaching English to students of all ages and levels whilst also promoting cultural education. The center is truly committed to excellence in English teaching to help learners succeed as speakers of a second language.

To continue their success, Casa Thomas Jefferson needed a solution that would allow them to offer their students the flexibility of online study, without compromising on the rich learning resources needed for successful teaching.

Extending Touchstone Benefits

The institution was already seeing the benefits of the Touchstone methodology, by teaching the print series in a traditional face-to-face classroom. However, the additional possibilities available with a blended solution soon became apparent. This forward-thinking learning model enables students to complete lessons online at home and use class time for effective English language production and practice.

“Students have limited time to come to our school, but with Touchstone Online we can offer flexibility and mobility, with the high standards they expect.”

Carla Arena de Aquino, Educational Technology & Digital Communication Department



To find out more about the benefits of teaching English with Touchstone visit cambridge.org/touchstone2

Rich, comprehensive, flexible

With support from Touchstone teams in the UK and Brazil, Casa Thomas Jefferson was able to develop two teaching models for maximum flexibility - a standalone online course solely used in the Cambridge Learning Management System (CLMS), as well as a blended solution for classroom teaching.

To ensure the blended and completely online courses were effectively implemented, students were provided with tutorials and support to ensure that they were able to complete the online activities as expected. Feedback on both courses has been positive. Students think the online material is very rich and comprehensive. Some mentioned that they wish they had more time to explore the resources in greater depth.

The flexibility of the Touchstone solution allows Casa Thomas Jefferson to teach hundreds of students from basic to intermediate levels in a range of contexts - in face-to-face classes, as a blended solution, and completely online. It is hoped that the blended and completely online offerings will lead to student numbers increasing even further.

Vinicius Lemos - Online Course Supervisor

"The themes are up-to-date and the material provides lots of multimedia resources, with language that is useful for our students. On the online platform, the activities are well-sequenced and directly related to the book, with a variety of activities for students to produce language and interact with other students."

