

A search for a language teaching solution that would provide better and more interaction between teachers and students, led administrators at Brazil's Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos to SANAKO Lab 300.

Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos

- Located in the city of São Leopoldo, state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Student population of over 31,000
- Languages taught: German, Spanish, English, Portuguese
- Teaching certification awarded as part of Licentiate Program

Effective instruction with SANAKO Lab 300

- Sanako Lab 300 + Lab 300 Upgrade
- Use a variety of audio and video sources to develop lessons
- Focus on groups or individuals as needed
- Always monitor and maintain control of class
- Use playback, record and subtitling to develop effective oral exercises

A Community Mission

Established 34 years ago, Unisinos has always encouraged lifelong learning and also remained committed to the development of the surrounding community. In its role as community developer, Unisinos has also promoted a movement known as Unicidade or Unicity, which combines the words University and City. The movement encourages the university to permanently invest in improving and widening its reach beyond the campus boundaries by creating partnerships with different social forces.

The Unisinos campus is located in São Leopoldo, a city in a Southern Brazil region called Vale do Rio dos Sinos. The university student population comprises 31,357 students in 45 different programs. The language studies programs offer a Licentiate Degree, which combines an education program with the chosen field, and issues a teaching diploma upon graduation.

A Modern Language Teaching Solution

The decision to purchase the SANAKO Lab 300 was first made 7-8 years ago by a group of language teachers from the university's language teaching program. At the time, the teachers were certain that one of the most important criteria influencing their decision had to include high-level interaction between teacher and students during the lessons. As a result, of the 5 systems that were reviewed by the faculty, Sanako Lab 300 was chosen.



Students learn to speak the foreign language with confidence using SANAKO Lab 300.



SANAKO Lab 300 offers teachers unmatched student monitoring capabilities.



Supporting teachers' work

- Students build confidence speaking the foreign language
- Teacher can monitor the activities of all groups
- Teachers and students can interact more effectively in classes
- Teachers have better opportunities to correct and assist students

Now that the teaching staff have had a chance to become familiar with the system, a decision was also taken to purchase the Sanako Lab 300 Upgrade. With additional training in the new features offered by the Upgrade, teachers are even more satisfied with their original decision to purchase a Sanako solution.

Easy to Install, Easy to Use

Maria Luisa Bredemeier, Language Lab Coordinator for the Arts Program at Unisinos, says teachers and students who use the facilities enjoy using Sanako Lab 300. "When they don't know it, they think it's a regular AV lab. As soon as they begin to learn about it, they realize that it offers a lot more," she explained. Maria added that for the teachers, one important factor is the degree of supervision that the computer-based solution offers. "They can really accomplish something meaningful. A group of say 24 students can be organized into smaller groups, and the teacher can see what each group is working on. They can also listen in to each student or group."

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SANAKO Lab 300 was chosen after 5 different systems were reviewed.

Building Confidence

With classes being conducted in the Unisinos Language Lab facility all morning every day, there is a lot of pressure on the teachers to offer their students real opportunities to practice their foreign language skills. According to the Lab Coordinator, the teachers are very happy because the Lab 300 system allows the students to build up their confidence speaking in a foreign language. "Usually beginners are afraid to speak in front of others. But with Sanako Lab 300, they can practice alone, and later on, they have the confidence to speak in front of others," she added.

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