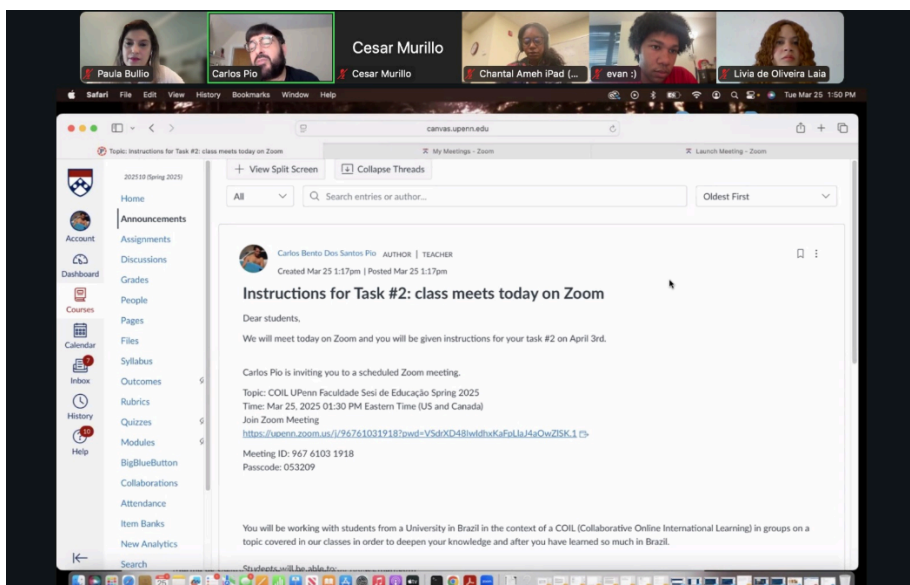


International Integration: Debates on Racism and Colonization and Diversity between Brazil and the United States

In recent weeks, Faculdade Sesi de Educação and the University of Pennsylvania have promoted a moment of integration between students with the aim of mediating debates on different social and cultural aspects of the two nations.

Organized by Prof. Dr. Paula Bullio, lecturer, and coordinator of the Language course at Faculdade Sesi de Educação, in partnership with Prof. Dr. Carlos Bento dos Santos Pio, lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN), students from the first years of the Language, Natural Sciences, Human Sciences, Mathematics and Physical Education courses, who are taking the subject “Introduction to English Language Studies”, taught by Prof. Gabrielle Gilio, debated the social reality of Brazil and the United States in online meetings, mainly considering the legacy of the colonization process.



The aim of the project was to mobilize students from Faculdade Sesi de Educação, following the visit to Ouro Preto by students from the University of Pennsylvania, to encourage debate on the historical and cultural aspects observed by the American students in Minas Gerais.

Thus, a group of approximately 25 Brazilian and North American students were divided into smaller groups and chose topics to debate in more depth and, as a result of the debates, produced an essay that systematized the discoveries experienced by the groups based on the analysis of the realities of the countries of the global north and south.

With the rich experience of the Brazilian students, emerging themes such as inclusion and representativeness in universities, racism, the impacts of colonialism and art and music as a form of resistance guided the conversations and underpinned the analyses discussed in the essays.

From a real situation of involvement, engagement and relevance, the students of the Sesi Faculty of Education were able to use the English language as a means of analyzing the contrasts and similarities between the realities of the global North and South, considering Brazil and the United States as the starting point for their reflections, which contributes to critical reflection on North American hegemony and the practice of English as a *lingua franca*.

Read the essays in full to follow the reflections made by the students and the mediation of the process of developing critical analysis and academic writing in English.