



IRTC

INTERNATIONAL REFORMED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Building for Growth: The IRTC Adopts Canvas

Over the past months, the IRTC has taken major steps toward upgrading its academic infrastructure by adopting **Canvas**, one of the world's leading learning management systems (LMS). This transition represents one of the most significant technological improvements in our history and aligns with our mission to offer high-quality, globally accessible theological education in Portuguese.

Why Canvas?

As the IRTC continues to grow, we need a platform capable of supporting students and instructors spread across multiple countries, time zones, and levels of technical experience. Canvas provides the reliability, clarity, and flexibility that our institution requires.

For a college that functions entirely online and serves Portuguese-speaking students globally, Canvas gives us a strong, future-ready foundation.

A Careful, Multi-Year Process

This was not an overnight decision. Over the last few years, the IRTC evaluated several learning management systems, weighing cost, technical requirements, long-term sustainability, and the overall learning experience. Canvas consistently emerged as the best option for our context. Yet its significant costs kept it out of reach until a special provision was made by our Canadian supporting organization, the IRTC Society, to fund Canvas' purchase and implementation.

Implementation and Early Results

Thanks to this generous provision, Canvas was fully implemented in time for our third academic term of 2025 (July–October). The transition was smoother than we anticipated, thanks to the dedication of our staff, the flexibility of our professors, and the willingness of our students to adapt to the new environment.

With the fourth term now underway, we are already seeing several encouraging results:

- *Increased student engagement* – Students are interacting more consistently with course materials, due dates, and assignments.
- *Stronger communication* – Instructors now have streamlined tools for messaging, announcements, grading, and feedback.
- *Greater consistency across courses* – With Canvas' modular design, we have been able to standardize key elements of course delivery—improving the experience for both new and returning students.
- *Improved reliability and stability* – Canvas has provided the kind of dependability that a global online institution requires. Students have experienced minimal downtime and faster access to course content.

Why This Matters

Adopting Canvas is an investment in the long-term health of our mission. Better systems lead to better teaching, better learning, and ultimately better preparation for those whom the Lord is calling to serve His Church. Every improvement to our infrastructure produces ripple effects that extend far beyond the virtual classroom, reaching into churches, mission fields, and communities across the world.

A Word of Thanks

We are profoundly grateful to the IRTC Society in Canada for making this transition possible. Their generosity has positioned the College for healthy growth in the years ahead. As we continue to prepare hearts for ministry, Canvas has become a vital tool—one that strengthens the quality, reach, and sustainability of our work.



Canvas

By Instructure

Praying for the Portuguese-Speaking World

Angola

Economic hardship and political pressure have led to protests throughout Angola, creating a challenging context for ministry. Pray for meaningful reforms, economic relief, and for churches to model love, courage, and integrity.

Brazil

Brazil remains deeply polarized, with ongoing concerns about censorship and judicial overreach. Pray for the protection of freedom of speech and conscience, and for believers to display wisdom and humility in a divided society.

Cape Verde & São Tomé and Príncipe

These island nations enjoy political stability but struggle with poverty, limited opportunities, and weak institutions. Pray for wise, transparent leadership, sustainable development, and for churches to care well for those facing hardship.

Guinea-Bissau

Chronic political instability and corruption continue to hinder development and daily life in Guinea-Bissau. Pray for peaceful governance, honest leadership, and for believers to be agents of reconciliation and hope in a fragile environment.

Mozambique

Mozambique faces the dual pressures of post-election unrest and continued violence from the recent insurgency. Pray for peace, justice, and protection for vulnerable communities, and for endurance for churches serving the suffering.

Portugal

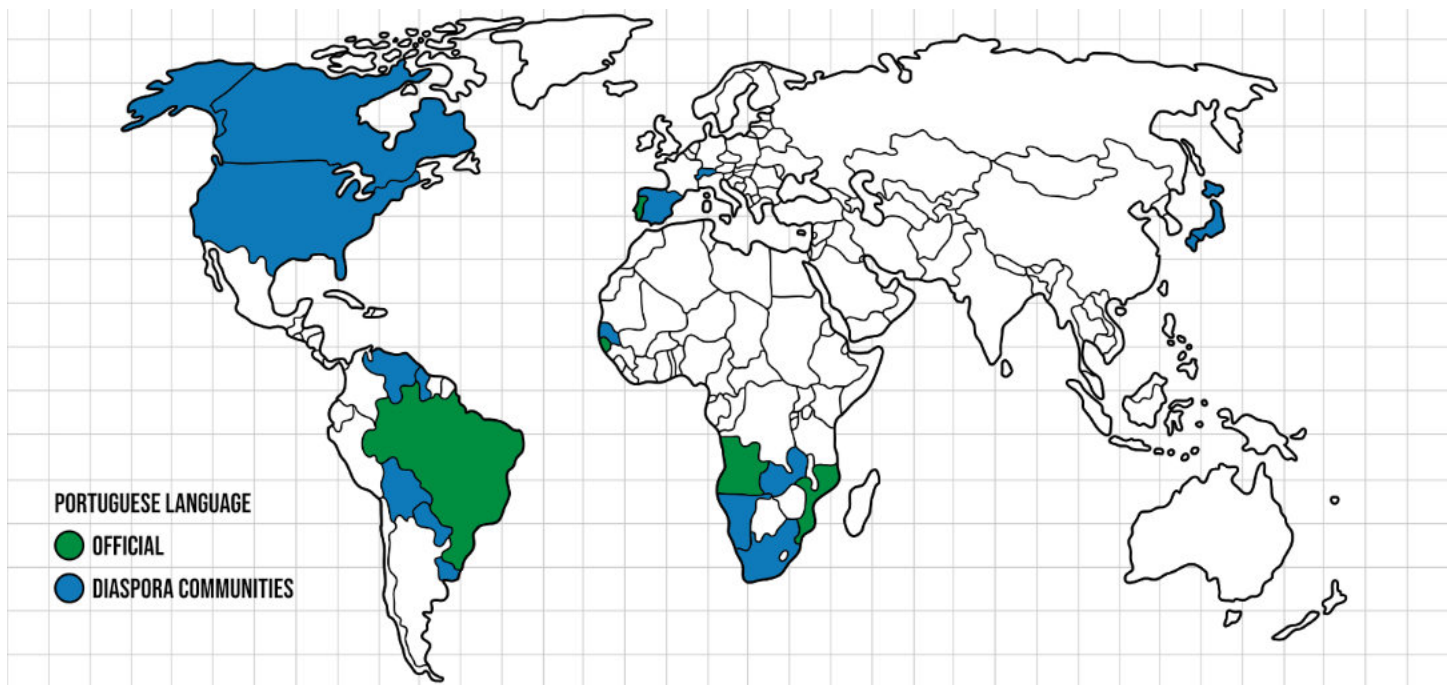
Portugal is stable but increasingly secular, and public debates around religious expression continue to sharpen. Pray that leaders will uphold religious liberty fairly, and that God would renew spiritual interest and strengthen faithful gospel witness.

East Timor

East Timor is a young democracy with a strong Catholic identity, facing poverty, corruption, and administrative challenges as it grows. Pray for leaders to govern with justice and for biblical teaching and discipleship to deepen.

Other Lusophone Communities

Portuguese-speaking communities and missionaries serving worldwide often face the pressures of cultural displacement and life far from home. Pray for churches to shepherd these diaspora communities well so that they may be fruitful.



\$227,245
2025 Budget

81%

\$183,378
Raised (Sep 30)



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