Teaching in Non-Standard Classrooms

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Overview of Teaching in a Non-Standard Classroom

Please click here to watch a primer video on teaching in non-standard classrooms.

Non-Standard Classroom Examples

Please have a look at the following videos for real-time demonstrations of strategies you can use to teach in spaces without wall-mounted cameras and microphones.
Example One: Axinn Library 126 (Cultural Center Theater)

Please click here to watch a walk-through of the Cultural Center Theater.

Example Two: Student Center 030B Greenhouse

Please click here to watch a walk-through of the Greenhouse space in the Student Center.

Device Options for Non-Standard Classrooms

There are several devices you can use in classrooms currently not configured with all the standard technologies.

**Laptops**

A laptop with a built-in webcam can be used with Zoom to record your class. If necessary, you can also invite students to view the class remotely. Position the laptop in a place that will best capture what it is you want your students to see. While the microphone built into your laptop will do a good job of picking up your own audio, you may want to test how far away you can speak before the sound becomes too low.

**Mobile Devices**

iPads or Surface tablets can both run zoom and allow you to use Zoom’s built-in whiteboard to write and/or annotate. In Zoom, you can connect multiple devices at the same time, so even if you have a whiteboard in the room, you can still log in to zoom from your iPad or Surface and use the built-in whiteboard from the Screen Sharing feature in Zoom. Note that this might lead to audio feedback or delay, so it is best not to rely on a secondary device for any crucial class content. At the least, the mic on any secondary device should always be muted to avoid feedback. If you are using your mobile device to record audio, make sure to adjust the speaker settings in the room to avoid echo or feedback. As configuring multiple audio sources can be quite complex, we strongly recommend that you consider simply repeating/rephrasing comments from in-class students rather than attempting to use secondary devices with microphones.
Personal Microphone or Headset

If you bring your own USB mic and/or headset, you can connect it to the USB port that’s available on the podium computer. This is especially a good option if you plan to remain in one spot while you’re teaching and want to ensure that your audio is recorded clearly.

How to Connect to Remote Students

We recommend that you use Zoom to connect live to any remote students attending your class. You can share your screen with the “participants” in the Zoom meeting (in this case, your remote students) so that they can see whatever you display from the podium computer in the classroom. Remote students can speak directly to you; their audio will come through the classroom speaker system. With their cameras on, remote students can be visible on screen to you and your in-class students.

If you’re teaching in a room without a wall-mounted camera and you intend for your remote students to see you through Zoom, you can use either a USB webcam connected to the podium computer or a laptop with a built-in webcam.

Please see here for information on using Zoom while in the classroom.

How to Record Your Class (Lecture Capture)

If you run a Zoom meeting from the podium in your classroom, you can use Zoom’s built-in recording option to save your lecture as a video for later viewing. Recordings from your Zoom meetings can be set to save automatically to your Zoom account. You'll then be able to make them available to students through your Blackboard courses.

- If you're teaching in a room with a wall-mounted camera and you intend to record video from the class, you must use the podium computer to run your Zoom meeting (as the wall-mounted camera is configured to work only with the podium).

- If you're teaching in a room without a wall-mounted camera and you intend to record video from the class, we recommend that you can use a laptop (connected to the room projector) with a built-in webcam. Another option is to use a portable USB webcam connected either to a laptop to the podium computer.

Please see here for information on recording through Zoom while in the classroom.

Monroe, Mack Hall, Multipurpose Room, and Student Center Training Videos

Click on the room you are teaching in below to learn more about the technology.

- Monroe 142
- Mack Hall 103 and 105
- Multipurpose Room, Student Center 101, 101E, and 101W
- Student Center Greenhouse 030B, HUSA 100, Netherlands 103E (This video features the SC Greenhouse - equipment is the same in HUSA & Netherlands)
- SC Theater - SC 151 & Cultural Center Theater – LIB 126 (This video features the SC Theater - equipment is the same in LIB 126)

360 Photos

Click on the room you are teaching in below to see a 360-degree view of the room.

- HUSA 100
- Netherlands 103E
- Greenhouse
- LIB CCT (Note this is set for Admissions family clusters – classes will have socially distanced individual seats)
- SC Theater
- MPR – SC 101 Full Room
- MPR SC 101E
- MPR SC 101W