

SEMINAR ROOMS: NODE CHAIRS

The seminar rooms are highly flexible and adaptable with moveable node chairs which incorporate storage space and a desk. This enables students to work individually, in pairs, or any size of group. It also enables classes to use the optimal layout for the subject or topic (e.g. a large circle for group discussion, small groups for collaborative activities), with minimal change in furniture. Students and staff can easily share visual ideas, answers and resources by casting from their own mobile, tablet or laptop to the main presentation screen.



TECHNOLOGY

Projection screen

The technology in this space includes: one or more project screen(s) for sharing lecturer or student resources.

- Can show content from the teaching desk or from any person in the room casting to it from their device.
- Show up to four sources on screen at any time e.g. presentation, student answers to a quiz, feed from document camera, four different visual examples etc.
- Where there are multiple screens they will all show the same content.

24" Touch display

- Provides touch control over what is seen and heard, and enables switching between input sources for the projection screen.
- Can be used as a whiteboard.
- Staff and students can annotate on the screen.
- Can be controlled using a finger or a stylus.

Document camera

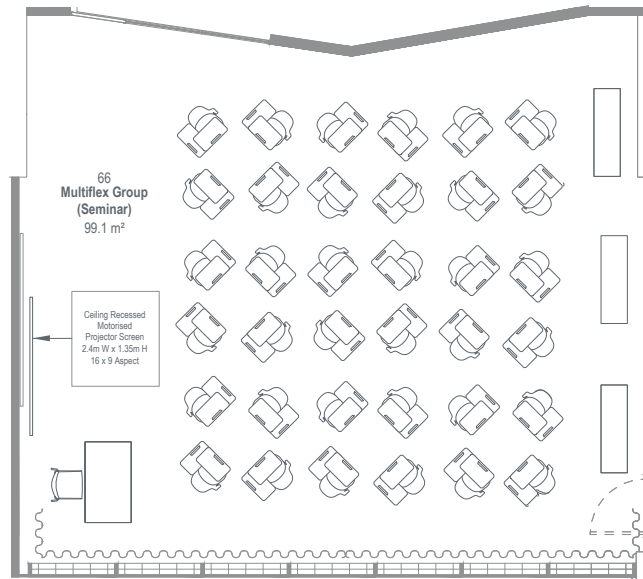
- Can be used to show objects or text to the whole room via projection.

Wireless connectivity

- Students and staff can connect wirelessly from laptops, phones, and tablets, to the room's screen(s).

LAYOUT

Node chairs are set out theatre style. Node chairs are highly mobile.



ACTIVITIES

The node chairs lend themselves to peer-to-peer work and individual study. They are flexible and adaptable, facilitating easy networking and collaboration between individuals or groups, and mobility of class members.

Example activities:

- **Group work.**
- **Collaboration.**
- **Case studies.**

For further activities see **Healey and Healey (2020) Embedding active learning in your teaching practice.**

TOP TIPS

- Be creative and adapt the layout to suit your teaching.
- Plan how to use the space to maximise the learning opportunities e.g. what's the optimum grouping of people for the topic you are teaching and how can the layout facilitate this.
- Use the main presentation screen to present core information. Remember to switch it off when not in use so students can focus on their activities rather than the screen.
- You (and students) can present from anywhere in the room, so make the most of the space.

MAKING THE MOST OF THE SPACE

- Encourage students to collaborate with each other, swivelling to talk to those closest to them or moving in their node chair to create groups.
- The node chairs also make it easy for students to move between or change groups, or to work alone. Consider when this might be appropriate in your session.
- Students can put their belongings in the space under the node chair which frees them up to move around the space.
- Move around the room to engage with students individually or in groups.