Signe Skott Cooper Hall Enables Educational Innovation

School of Nursing
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

How active learning classrooms and simulated environments of care enable teaching strategies that increase student engagement, and help develop collaboration and teamwork skills.

Active Learning Classrooms

Two large active learning classrooms (ALCs) can accommodate 153 students each, at 17 round tables of 9 (up to 3 teams per table). Alternately, the two ALCs can be used as one room for 306 students, making it the largest ALC anywhere.

Two medium ALCs can accommodate 32 students each, at 4 rectangular tables of 8 students.

In all ALCs, every team has their own video and audio input (VGA and HDMI) to share content with the rest of the table, a group of tables, or the whole room, and a microphone for effective class discussion.

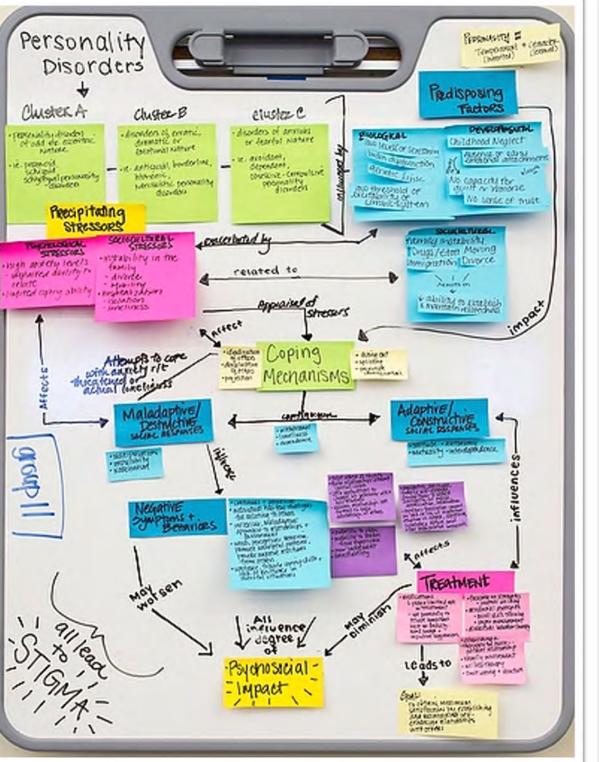Power outlets for all student laptops or other devices are provided.

Instructor station in each ALC lets instructors share content from the lectern computers, or video and audio (VGA or HDMI) from instructor's own device (laptop, tablet, or smart phone) with a group of students, or with everyone in the room.

Plus, two 60-seat tiered seminar classrooms can become ALCs in a matter of seconds, whenever needed.
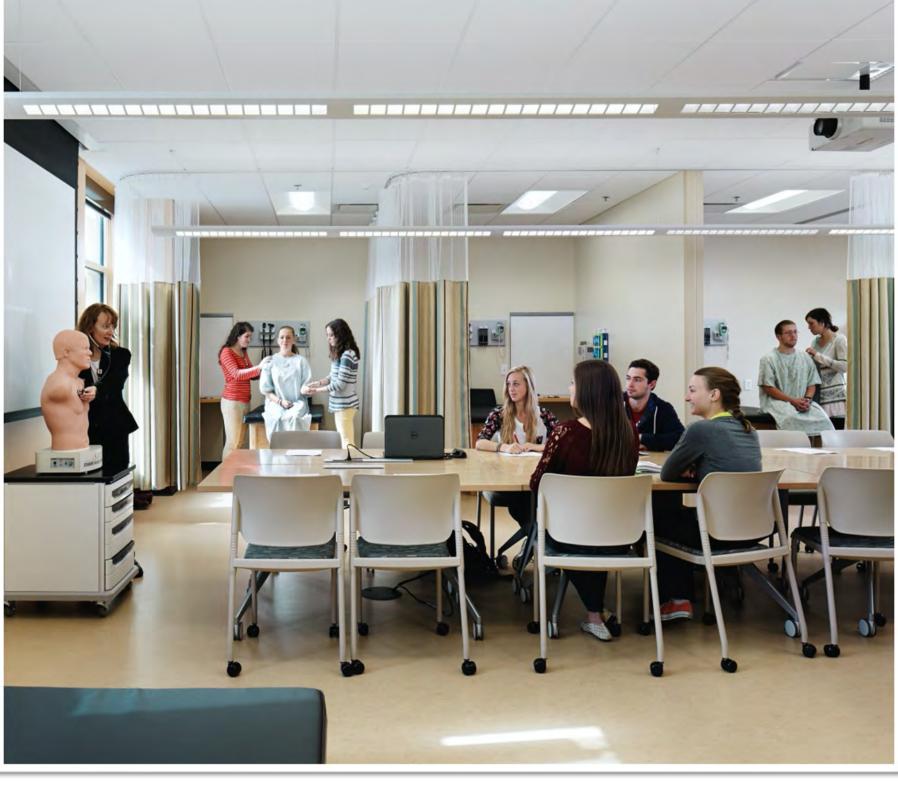
Simulated Environments of Care

The Center for Technology-Enhanced Nursing (CTEN) includes several specialized areas that reflect various environments in the continuum of care, and offer students hands-on, experiential learning.

The Weikel Clinical Skills area helps students develop nursing skills in six clinical labs, and includes a fully functional clinic with six examination rooms.

The nearby eHealth Lab was designed to let students become familiar with the quickly advancing disciplines of e-health and telemedicine.

The Shapiro Hospital Suite includes four fully functional hospital rooms equipped with five high-fidelity human patient simulators that let students experience realistic scenarios without risk to patients or students.

The Simulated Home Environment recreates a one-bedroom apartment where students practice providing care in a home setting.

Overall, 52 HD cameras allow simulation sessions to be video-recorded for detailed review and debriefing.

ALC teaching strategies include:
- Case studies
- Small-group discussion
- Social reading activities
- Team-based learning
- Peer instruction
- Graphic organizers
- Design thinking

CTEN teaching strategies include:
- Demonstrations with hands-on practice
- High and medium-fidelity simulation
- Role-play simulation
- Interactions with standardized patients
- Post-simulation video debriefing
- Video-based peer assessment

For more information, visit us online
or signup for a monthly public tour of Cooper Hall!
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