

Engaging Spaces

Across campus, SHSU has been implementing engaging space classrooms in an effort to facilitate active learning and improve student success; these classrooms provide environments and resources that promote this effort. Engaging spaces are intended to provide a nontraditional classroom structure that uses interactive technology and peer collaboration to promote instruction using novel pedagogies.

Recently, classroom 105 in the Farrington Building has been upgraded to an engaging space for the benefit of faculty and students within the Department of Physics and Astronomy. This classroom has a capacity of 102 students, with plenty of square footage to spare. It offers movable furniture on wheels and an abundance of updated technology; the room is equipped with large wall-sized whiteboards on three of the four walls, thirty-four small tabletop whiteboards, 6 projectors (all of which work independently and can be controlled by the central workstation or wirelessly connected to and controlled by student devices for display), ceiling and lapel mics, movable cameras, and a Wacom tablet that can display handwritten transcripts via the projectors.

Since this classroom is a recent addition to the building, it is currently only being used for astronomy courses but physics courses will be integrated into this space in the upcoming semesters. This classroom will allow for the practice of active learning methods that ultimately help students to better understand physics and astronomy concepts that might otherwise be difficult to envision and apply.

To learn more about engaging spaces and where they can be found across campus, please visit: <https://www.shsu.edu/qep/new/space>

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