

001 CONCEPT Schaefer Hyper-Hybrid Learning Environments

Technology Fee Full Proposal Template

Title: Taking UF Classrooms to the Next Level: Hyper-Hybrid Learning Centers

Proposer: Dr. Edward Schaefer, Associate Dean, College of Fine Arts
Dr. Don Chaney, Assistant Dean, College of Health and Human Performance
Dr. Margaret Fields, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Sponsoring Organization: Colleges of Fine Arts, Health & Human Performance, Liberal Arts & Sciences

Purpose and Specific Objectives:

We believe that the lowest level of technology in all classrooms across the UF campus should be raised to a higher standard. This proposal is for a pilot program within the Colleges of Fine Arts, Health and Human Performance and Liberal Arts and Sciences to demonstrate the viability and scalability of two proposed models for the Hyper-Hybrid Learning Center (HHLC) classrooms.

We propose that two classrooms in each of the three colleges be upfitted with specific HHLE capacity, allowing majors and minors within each college, as well as cross-campus students enrolled in General Education and elective classes offered by these colleges with these specific goals:

- Students will have access to a wider range of courses available in flexible delivery formats, allowing them to maximize their preferred choices among online, hybrid, and traditional learning environments.
- ADA compliance for delivery of media-based content will be assured for all students enrolled in courses delivered in these learning environments.
- Course enrollments for these classes would not be limited by the physical capacity of the classroom, allowing students to access the class via real-time and/or on-demand delivery, wherever they happen to be.
- The demand for large classroom space exceeds space available. Creating courses that bring students together electronically allows instructors to schedule courses at peak times that match student demand without creating additional brick-and-mortar classrooms.
- Faculty will have increased options for course design and delivery, allowing them multiple technology-enhanced environments that allow them to experiment and innovate in offer distance-platform classes. As the Hyper-Hybrid classrooms become available, faculty will have more incentive to create more distance platform classes quickly.
- Enhancing connections among the University of Florida and sister institutions allows course-sharing among highly specialized research faculty. Quality of the graduate programs rises because students are able to access courses and faculty via distance-learning platforms regardless of physical location.

We propose to evaluate these classrooms and their viability through targeted feedback from students and faculty using the Hyper-Hybrid classrooms, analyzing their teaching and learning experiences. Likewise, Information Technologies will perform specific cost-benefit analysis of these prototypes, expecting that viability and timeline of upfitting basic technology capacity within UF classrooms over the coming five years will be demonstrated through these pilot classrooms. Potentially all classrooms and students on the UF campus will benefit from this pilot project, should the pilot prove its scalability and cost-effectiveness.

Two models are proposed:

HHLC Type 1: Origination of Captured and Live Classes

In UF classrooms at present, video capture is limited to fixed-perspective cameras, requiring the faculty member to speak directly in front of the camera to record lecture-type presentations.

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With enhanced video capture, faculty will have the mobility and flexibility to move among students and to create active learning situations for students in the face-to-face environment that can be fully captured through video for the benefit of remote access to the course environment from another time and/or place.

HHLC Type 2: Origination of Web Seminars

At present, there are no smaller, seminar style general purpose classrooms at UF that are outfitted with web conferencing capacity.

With web conferencing capabilities added to smaller, seminar style environments, the classrooms will facilitate student access to the course virtually, allowing for additional students to fully participate in the class activities via mobile technologies.

Impact/Benefit:

The proposed classrooms to be enhanced in each college, along with their current seat capacity and estimate of students served in the face to face environment on a weekly basis. Please note that the estimated students served are based on seat capacity alone – these estimates would increase as student demand for remote/digital/mobile access to courses offered in these HHLC classrooms increases.

College of Fine Arts

- Fine Arts C 201 – HHLC Type 1 enhanced video capture (seat capacity 50 – estimated students served 1000/week)
- Fine Arts C 116 – HHLC Type 2 web conferencing (seat capacity 15 – estimated students served 270/week)

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

- 211 Bartram Hall – HHLC Type 1 enhanced video capture (seat capacity 70 -- estimated students served 1400/week)
- 129 Psychology Building – HHLC Type 2 web conferencing (seat capacity 25 – estimated students served 500/week)

College of Health and Human Performance

- 245 Florida Gym – HHLC Type 1 enhanced video capture (seat capacity 60 seats – estimated students served 1200/week)
- 265 Florida Gym—HHLC Type 2 web conferencing (seat capacity 50 seats – estimated students served 1000/week)

Sustainability:

All classrooms in the proposed pilot are designated as Provost's classrooms, for which the three pilot Colleges have first priority in assigning courses, and then are made available to courses offered by the remainder of the campus.

As general purpose classrooms, responsibility for long-term upkeep and maintenance of the equipment would fall to the UF IT Division, according to its strategic and operational priorities.

Timeline:

Once funding is released, equipment will be ordered within two weeks. The HHLC equipment will be installed beginning as soon as the ordered equipment arrives, with full implementation available for use no later than the start of the Spring 2013 semester.. Evaluations will be conducted at the end of each term, with student and faculty input collected for a final report to UF IT by December 2013.

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BUDGET

The budget for this project is for the upgrade of 6 classrooms, three Type 1 classrooms for originating captured and live classes using streaming media technology, and three Type 2 classrooms for conducting high quality seminars with remote participants using web conferencing technology.

Type 1 classrooms include two HD video cameras for capturing front-facing and rear-facing views of the class, as selected by the instructor. Mediasite encoders allow for the capture of high-quality rich media presentations, with the HD video of the instructor or class being presented to remote students alongside a high quality capture of the computer presentation desktop. The classrooms also allow for the instructor to annotate over the computer output using the installed SMART Podium monitor. A 55" Preview Monitor will be installed in the back of the classroom, allowing the instructor to view what is being captured or presented to remote students in real time. The classroom will also be equipped with wireless lapel and handheld microphones to allow remote participants to hear the instructor, and ceiling microphones will allow class discussion to be captured at the discretion of the instructor (a "mute" function will be available, and will be the normal state of the system).

The equipment and systems have been designed by UF Academic Technology Classroom Support to work with current and future classroom audio/visual technology, and will leverage existing and future investments in classroom technology made by the University. The design will also scale to additional classrooms, and is modular in nature, allowing for transition between Type 1 and Type 2 as needs and the success of the models dictate.

Type 2 classrooms include the same cameras, microphones, and preview monitors, but utilize HD capture cards in the installed classroom computer to enable HD quality web conferencing software to connect the classroom in real time with remote students, facilitating two-way conversations between students in both locations.

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HHLC Type 1: Origination of Captured and Live Classes

FAC 201, BAR 211, FLG 245

Item	Qty Per Room	\$ Per Item	Qty Rooms	\$ Total
HD Camera	2	\$ 3,300.00	3	\$ 19,800.00
Mediasite RL Encoder w/ 1 year Support	1	\$ 13,550.00	3	\$ 40,650.00
Ceiling Microphones	4	\$ 250.00	3	\$ 3,000.00
Wireless Lapel/Handheld Microphones for Instructor	1	\$ 600.00	3	\$ 1,800.00
HD Video Switcher	1	\$ 500.00	3	\$ 1,500.00
55" Preview Monitor	1	\$ 2,000.00	3	\$ 6,000.00
Cables	1	\$ 500.00	3	\$ 1,500.00
Control Interface	1	\$ 1,000.00	3	\$ 3,000.00

HHLC Types 2: Origination of Web Seminars

FAC116B, PSY129, FLG265

Item	Qty Per Room	\$ Per Item	Qty Rooms	\$ Total
HD Camera	2	\$ 3,300.00	3	\$ 19,800.00
Ceiling Microphones	4	\$ 250.00	3	\$ 3,000.00
Wireless Lapel/Handheld Microphones for Instructor	1	\$ 600.00	3	\$ 1,800.00
Video Capture Cards	1	\$ 2,000.00	3	\$ 6,000.00
HD Video Switcher	1	\$ 500.00	3	\$ 1,500.00
55" Preview Monitor	1	\$ 2,000.00	3	\$ 6,000.00
Cables	1	\$ 500.00	3	\$ 1,500.00
Control Interface	1	\$ 1,000.00	3	\$ 3,000.00
Web Conferencing Software License Allowance	6	\$ 150.00	3	\$ 2,700.00

Equipment Cost \$ 123,750.00

Installation Labor (10%) \$ 12,375.00

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$ 136,125.00

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Technology Fee Full Proposal Template Sponsor Signature Form

Title: Taking UF Classrooms to the Next Level: Hyper-Hybrid Learning Centers	
Proposer's Name:	Dr. Edward Schaefer, Associate Dean, College of Fine Arts Dr. Don Chaney, Assistant Dean, College of Health and Human Performance Dr. Margaret Fields, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Note: By signing this form the sponsor is making a commitment to support the project. This may include providing startup, recurring or equipment replacement resources as presented in the attached budget.	
Signature of sponsor: College Dean, or Unit Director, or VP for Student Affairs.	
_____	_____
Name and Title	Date

Note: By signing this form the UF IT unit is making a commitment to manage the project if selected for submission of a full proposal. This may include providing startup, recurring or equipment replacement resources as presented in the attached budget.	
Signature of a UFIT unit manager (direct report to CIO):	
_____	_____
Name and Title	Date