Building 9 – Cross-discipline classrooms
Teaching approaches for new generation learning spaces

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Kerin Brearley is a lecturer and course coordinator in the School of Media and Communications. Kerin outlines her experience of the cross-discipline classrooms within the Bachelor of Communication (Advertising)

Overall, what is your impression of teaching in this space?
I love the new space because the table configuration allows for team work. The provision of laptop computers is another huge benefit – if I didn't have these, then I would have a lot less students attending.

What activities do students undertake in your classes?
Students work in teams to develop an advertising campaign. The provided laptops are used to research the market place and target audience and to develop story boards and other creative concepts.

What changes have you made to your curriculum due to the new spaces?
I have included even more industry briefs along with industry practitioners who mentor students along the way. This is all possible because of the layout of the tables.

What has worked well?
The table set-up and the LCD display screens are excellent for student presentations. The whiteboard walls are great for student brainstorming. And of course, the laptops.

What changes would you like to make?
I would love it if I could open up the wall between two classrooms and integrate these into one bigger space. As this is not possible, I might have two classrooms going at the same time with consultation times allocated to each group.

For further information about RMIT's new generation learning spaces, visit http://www.rmit.edu.au/teaching/spaces