Tips for Teaching in a Next Generation Class

The Next Generation Classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art technology that allows both instructors and students to experience teaching and learning in new ways. This document is created to provide some quick tips when using some of the technology in the room.

1. Arrive early to your class – Arriving about 10 minutes early to your scheduled class will give you enough time to set up the room the way you would like. For example, if you plan to use the SMART Board then you should have all your materials loaded and cables connected before class begins.
2. Run a practice session – Practice makes perfect and it doesn’t hurt to run a few test sessions when working with a Next Generation Classroom. Develop a workflow that works best for your uses.
3. Use the document camera – Take advantage of the document camera that is connected to the room so that students can see on the projection screen what you are working with. For example, if you use an app on your phone then share your screen by placing your phone under the document camera.
4. Built-in Computer- Tired of carrying your laptop around? Use the built-in computer in the Next Generation Classroom but be sure to have your files saved on a flash drive or your email account.
5. Make your PowerPoints more engaging – Use the SMART Whiteboard to make your PowerPoint presentations interactive by using SMART Notebook. SMART Notebook will allow you to touch the screen and work with interactive objects for your presentation.
6. Connect with guest speakers – Use vControl app to either dial out or setup a telepresence session with a guest speaker. With this arrangement, a guest speaker can connect from anywhere in the world and present to your class.
7. Use the SMART Interactive Whiteboard to control the computer - Instructor’s may find that they are spending too much time at the desktop and not focused on the students—using the electronic whiteboard will allow you to stand in front of the class while using the computer.
8. Student presentations - Instead of having to disconnect your computer during student presentations, save time by having your students connect their laptops to the wallplates.
9. Let your students know when you are about to record the session so that they are aware that any personal conversations they may have could be recorded on the room microphones.