

Appendix A

Space Force Room Classification Subgroup Proposed Classification Schema

When developing a classification of instructional spaces it is important to be mindful of the standards currently in place for collecting data and submitting the requisite reports to MinnState while accommodating sophisticated information needs and devising a relatively easy means by which to add, delete, or revise room descriptions. To that end this proposal integrates a post-coordinated classification scheme based on the building space designations delineated in the Facilities Inventory and Classification Manual (FICM) and the attributes or features of an instructional space. A good means of conceptualizing this type of classification scheme is to construct a grid where the identified types of instructional space are listed up and down (each classification type is mutually exclusive and subsequently only one space code will be selected to classify an instructional space) and the attributes or features of an instructional space are listed across the top (with one or more selected to describe an instructional space).

The first step in identifying various types of instructional space is to assign a **single** FICM designation including the corresponding space code to each instructional space. Once the appropriate space code and classification designation are determined, the next step is to identify the various attributes or features that define possible uses for the instructional space. Oftentimes more than one attribute or feature will be used to adequately describe the instructional space. This list is to be compiled by the Classroom Features Subgroup. Some attributes or features the Room Classification Subgroup would like to submit for consideration by the Classroom Features Subgroup include open vs. restricted scheduling and the days and hours when an instructional space is designated as being open or restricted for scheduling, seating capacity, furniture, and the identification of various amenities available in the instructional space.

The FICM classifications identified below are extracted from the manual and encompass all the different types of instructional space available across campus.

Facilities Inventory and Classification Manual (FICM) from the National Center for Education Statistics (excerpts)

Link to All Space Use Codes

<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2006/ficm/content.asp?ContentType=Section&chapter=4§ion=3&subsection=1>

110 Classroom

- *Definition:* A room or space used primarily for instruction classes and that is not tied to a specific subject or discipline by equipment in the room or the configuration of the space.
- *Description:* Includes rooms or spaces generally used for scheduled instruction that require no special, restrictive equipment or configuration. These spaces may be called lecture rooms, lecture-demonstration rooms, seminar rooms, and general purpose classrooms. A classroom may be equipped with tablet armchairs (fixed to the floor, joined in groups, or flexible in arrangement), tables and chairs (as in a seminar room), or similar types of seating. These spaces may contain multimedia or telecommunications equipment. A classroom may be furnished with special equipment (e.g., globes, pianos, maps, computers, network connections) appropriate to a specific area of study, **if** this

equipment does not render the space unsuitable for use by classes in other areas of study.

- *Limitations:* This category does not include Conference Rooms (350), Meeting Rooms (680), Auditoria (610), or Class Laboratories (210). Conference spaces and meeting spaces are distinguished from seminar spaces according to primary use; spaces with chairs and tables that are used primarily for meetings (as opposed to classes) are conference spaces or meeting rooms (see Codes 350 and 680 for distinction). Auditoria are distinguished from lecture rooms based on primary use. A large room with seating oriented toward some focal point, and which is used for dramatic or musical productions, is an Assembly (610) facility (e.g., an auditorium normally used for purposes other than scheduled classes). A class laboratory is distinguished from a classroom based on equipment in the space **and** by its restrictive use. If a space is restricted to a single or closely related group of disciplines by special equipment or its configuration, it may be logically considered as a laboratory (see Code 200 series). The evolution of computers and instrumentation altered the restrictive nature of some equipment to a specific discipline or application.

115 Classroom Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves one or more classrooms as an extension of the activities in that space.
- *Description:* Includes projection rooms, telecommunications control booths, preparation rooms, coat rooms, closets, storage areas, etc., **if** they serve classrooms.
- *Limitations:* Does not include projection rooms, coat rooms, preparation rooms, closets, or storage areas if such spaces serve laboratories, conference rooms, meeting rooms, assembly facilities, etc. A projection booth in an auditorium (not used primarily for scheduled classes) is classified as Assembly Service (615).

210 Class Laboratory

- *Definition:* A space used primarily for formally or regularly scheduled instruction (including associated mandatory, but non-credit-earning laboratories) that require special purpose equipment or a specific space configuration for student participation, experimentation, observation, or practice in an academic discipline. A space is considered to be scheduled if the activities generate weekly student contact hours (WSCHs), the activities fulfill course requirements, and/or there is a formal convener present.
- *Description:* A class laboratory is designed for or furnished with equipment to serve the needs of a particular discipline for group instruction in formally or regularly scheduled classes. This special equipment normally limits or precludes the space's use by other disciplines. Included in this category are spaces generally called teaching laboratories, instructional shops, computer laboratories, drafting rooms, band rooms, choral rooms, (group) music practice rooms, language laboratories, (group) studios, theater stage areas used primarily for instruction, instructional health laboratories, and similar specially designed or equipped rooms, if they are used primarily for group instruction in formally or regularly scheduled classes. Computer rooms used primarily to instruct students in the use of computers are classified as class laboratories if that instruction is conducted primarily in formally or regularly scheduled classes.
- *Limitations:* Does not include Classrooms (110). Does not include informally scheduled or unscheduled laboratories (see Open Laboratory-220). This category does not include

spaces generally defined as Research/Nonclass Laboratories (250). It does not include gymnasias, pools, drill halls, laboratory schools, demonstration houses, and similar facilities that are included under Special Use Facilities (Code 500 series). Computer rooms in libraries or used primarily for study should be classified as Study Rooms (410).

215 Class Laboratory Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves one or more class laboratories as an extension of the activities in those spaces.
- *Description:* Includes any space that directly serves a class laboratory. Included are projection rooms, telecommunications control booths, coat rooms, preparation rooms, closets, material storage (including **temporary** hazardous materials storage), balance rooms, cold rooms, stock rooms, dark rooms, equipment issue rooms, etc., if they serve class laboratories.
- *Limitations:* Does not include service spaces that support a Classroom (see 115), Open Laboratory (see 225), or a Research/Nonclass Laboratory (see 255). Animal Facilities (570), Greenhouse (580), and Central Service (750) facilities are categorized separately.

220 Open Laboratory

- *Definition:* A laboratory used primarily for individual or group instruction that is informally scheduled, unscheduled, or open.
- *Description:* An open laboratory is designed for or furnished with equipment that serves the needs of a particular discipline or discipline group for individual or group instruction where 1) use of the space is not formally or regularly scheduled, or 2) access is limited to specific groups of students. Included in this category are spaces generally called music practice rooms, language laboratories used for individualized instruction, studios for individualized instruction, special laboratories or learning laboratories (e.g., speech, hearing, law, psychology, and health-related professions) if discipline restricted, individual laboratories, and computer laboratories involving specialized restrictive software or where access is limited to specific categories of students. For example, a computer laboratory with only engineering or CAD software or a computer-based writing laboratory available only to English Composition students would be classified as an open laboratory because of the restricted usage of the space for a particular discipline or discipline group. Spaces containing computer equipment that is not restricted to a specific discipline or discipline group are classified as Study Rooms (410) unless the primary intent is to function as a site for structured learning or group activities rather than individual knowledge acquisition.
- *Limitations:* Laboratories with formally or regularly scheduled classes are classified as a Class Laboratory (210). This category also does not include spaces defined as Research/Nonclass Laboratory (250). A space that contains equipment (e.g., microcomputers), which does not restrict use to a specific discipline or discipline group and which is typically used at a student's convenience, should be classified as a Study Room (410).

225 Open Laboratory Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves one or more open laboratories as an extension of the activities in those spaces.

- *Description:* Includes only those spaces that directly serve an open laboratory. Included are projection rooms, telecommunications control booths, coat rooms, preparation rooms, closets, material storage (including **temporary** hazardous materials storage), balance rooms, cold rooms, stock rooms, dark rooms, equipment issue rooms, and similar facilities, if they serve open laboratories.
- *Limitations:* Does not include service spaces that support a Classroom (see 115), Class Laboratory (see 215), or Research/Nonclass Laboratory (see 255). Animal Facilities (570), Greenhouse (580), and Central Service (750) facilities are categorized separately.

250 Research/Nonclass Laboratory

- *Definition:* A space used for laboratory experimentation, research, or training in research methods; professional research and observation; or structured creative activity within a specific program or for sponsored research (whether sponsored with federal, state, private, or institutional funds).
- *Description:* A research/nonclass laboratory is designed or equipped for faculty, staff, and students for the conduct of research and controlled or structured creative activities. These activities are generally confined to faculty, staff, and assigned graduate students and are applicable to any academic discipline. Activities may include experimentation, application, observation, composition, or research training in a structured environment directed by one or more faculty or principal investigators. These activities do not include practice or independent study projects and activities that, although delivering “new knowledge” to a student, are not intended for a broader academic (or sponsoring) community (e.g., a presentation or publication). This category includes laboratories that are used for experiments, testing, or “dry runs” in support of instructional, research, or public service activities. Nonclass public service laboratories that promote new knowledge in academic fields (e.g., animal diagnostic laboratories, cooperative extension laboratories) are included in this category.
- *Limitations:* Student **practice** activity rooms should be classified under Open Laboratory (220). A combination office/music or art studio or combination office/research laboratory should be coded according to its primary use if only a single space use code can be applied. Determination also should be made whether the “studio” or “research lab” component involves developing new knowledge (or extending the application or distribution of existing knowledge) for a broader academic or sponsoring community (and not merely for the practitioner), or the activity is merely practice or learning within the applied instructional process. Primary use should be the determining criterion in either case. Does not include testing or monitoring facilities (e.g., seed sampling, water or environmental testing rooms) that are part of an institution’s Central Service (750) system. Also does not include the often unstructured, spontaneous or improvisational creative activities of learning and practice within the performing arts that take place in (scheduled) Class Laboratories (210) or, if not specifically scheduled, (practice) Open Laboratories (220). Such performing arts (and other science and nonscience) activities, which are controlled or structured to the extent that they are intended to produce a specific research or experimental outcome (e.g., a new or advanced technique), are included in the Research/Nonclass Laboratory (250) category.

255 Research/Nonclass Laboratory Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves one or more research/nonclass laboratories as an extension of the activities in those spaces.

- *Description:* Includes only those spaces that directly serve a research/nonclass laboratory. Included are projection rooms, telecommunications control booths, coat rooms, preparation rooms, closets, material storage, balance rooms, cold rooms, stock rooms, dark rooms, equipment issue rooms, temporary hazardous materials storage areas, and similar facilities, if they serve research/nonclass laboratories.
- *Limitations:* Does not include service spaces that support a Classrooms (see 115), Class Laboratory (see 215), or Open Laboratory (see 225). Animal Facilities (570), Greenhouse (580), and Central Service (750) facilities are categorized separately.

350 Conference Room

- *Definition:* A space serving an office complex and used primarily for staff meetings and departmental activities.
- *Description:* A conference space is typically equipped with tables and chairs. Normally it is used by a specific organizational unit or office area, whereas Meeting Rooms (680) are used for general purposes such as community or campus group meetings not associated with a particular department. If a space is used for both conference and meeting space functions, then the space should be classified according to its principal use. A conference space is distinguished from facilities such as seminar rooms, lecture rooms, and Classrooms (110) because it is used primarily for activities other than scheduled classes. A conference space is intended primarily for formal gatherings, whereas a lounge is intended for relaxation and casual interaction. This category includes teleconference spaces.
- *Limitations:* Does not include classrooms, seminar rooms, lecture rooms (see Classrooms-110), auditoria (see Assembly-610), departmental lounges (see Office Service-315), open lounges (see Lounge-650), and Meeting Rooms (680).

355 Conference Room Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves one or more conference spaces as an extension of the activities in those spaces.
- *Description:* Includes kitchenettes, storage spaces, telecommunications control booths, projection rooms, sound equipment rooms, etc., if they serve conference spaces.
- *Limitations:* Excluded are service spaces that support meeting spaces (see Meeting Room Service-685) or offices (see Office Service-315).

520 Athletic or Physical Education

- *Definition:* A room or area used by students, staff, or the public for athletic or physical education activities.
- *Description:* Includes gymnasias, basketball courts, handball courts, squash courts, wrestling rooms, weight or exercise rooms, racquetball courts, indoor swimming pools, indoor putting areas, indoor ice rinks, indoor tracks, indoor stadium fields, and field houses. This category includes spaces used for dancing and bowling.
- *Limitations:* This space use code does not distinguish instructional from intercollegiate, intramural, or recreational use of these areas.
- Classroom Facilities (Code 100 series), Laboratory Facilities (Code 200 series), Office Facilities (Code 300 series), and other primary space use categories are coded as such, even though these areas may be located in an athletic or physical education building. Permanent covered spectator seating areas associated with athletic facilities are coded

Athletic Facilities Spectator Seating (523). Outdoor athletic areas, such as outdoor tennis and basketball courts, archery ranges, golf courses, and other outdoor fields, do not meet the definition of buildings and, therefore, are not assignable areas. Recreational or amusement areas such as billiards rooms, game or arcade rooms, table tennis rooms, chess and card playing rooms, and hobby and music listening areas are classified Recreation (670).

535 Media Production Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves a media production or distribution space as an extension of the activities in that facility.
- *Description:* The primary criterion here is that the space should serve a media production or distribution space and not another primary activity space. Examples include film, tape, or cassette libraries or storage areas; media equipment storage rooms; recording rooms; engineering maintenance rooms; dark rooms; preparation rooms; studio control booths; and other support areas that specifically serve a media production or distribution room (see Media Production-530).
- *Limitations:* Those spaces containing media materials, equipment, or operations that serve other than a Media Production (530) primary activity space should be assigned the appropriate corresponding service code.

550 Demonstration

- *Definition:* A room or group of spaces used to practice, within an instructional program, the principles of certain disciplines such as teaching, child care or development, and family and consumer science.
- *Description:* The key criterion here is practice activity within an instructional program that closely simulates a real-world or occupational setting. Includes demonstration day care and development centers, laboratory schools, and family and consumer science houses when these facilities are used for practice as a part of postsecondary training or instruction.
- *Limitations:* Does not include day care and development centers that are not used as part of an instructional program (see Day Care-640). This category also does not include laboratories (see Code 200 series) that are used for direct delivery of instruction as opposed to practice. Demonstration schools, laboratory schools, day care centers, and family and consumer science houses in which students serve as the subjects for a research study are classified as Research/Nonclass Laboratories (250).

555 Demonstration Service

- *Definition:* A space that directly serves a demonstration facility as an extension of the activities in that facility.
- *Description:* Includes facilities generally called storerooms, pantries, etc., in a family and consumer science facility; and kitchens, lockers, shower rooms, etc., in a laboratory school. Similar support spaces that directly serve primary care and training areas in a demonstration day care center (see Demonstration-550) are included in this category.

- *Limitations:* Generally, the primary activity areas—such as kitchen, dining room, living room (in a family and consumer science house), or classrooms, laboratories, gymnasia that serve nursery, elementary, or secondary school students (in a laboratory school)—should be designated as Demonstration (550). Primary care and training areas in a (practice) day care center are also Demonstration (550) spaces. Kitchen and food preparation spaces in a demonstration day care facility are classified as service areas. Eating or break rooms for staff in demonstration day care centers are classified as service areas other than Demonstration Service (555); eating or training spaces for children are classified as primary activity areas, Demonstration (550).