COMPUTING LABS AND THE INFORMATION COMMONS



Instructional Technology supports instructional and research computer labs across campus, as well as open access workstations in the Shain Library Information Commons. In the library, in addition to over 30 open access stations, there are three academic labs and one administrative lab, and each is equipped with an instructor's station and projection system. The 40-seat PC Classroom on the library's lower level is equipped with 20 dual-boot Macintosh computers; the Davis Classroom on the first floor, with 10 Windows computers; and the Neff Lab on the second floor, with 16 Macintosh computers. Each of these labs is scheduled for use by classes or other campus groups.

A new Technology Commons cluster of four Macintosh and four Windows high-end computers with dual displays was installed on the library's lower level in fall 2013. The Staff Training Room, on the library's third floor, is used for staff technology training classes and Enterprise Systems testing. The labs are supported by the Instructional Technology computer lab coordinator.

There are 31 discipline-specific labs across campus providing academic departments with specialized hardware and software. Disciplines with one or more computer labs include art, astronomy, biology, botany, chemistry, the Center for Arts & Technology, computer science, dance, economics, film, music, physics and psychology. Each lab is typically restricted to students currently enrolled in a course requiring use of the lab. The computer lab coordinator supports the discipline-specific instructional and research computer labs across campus.

THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT INSTRUCTION AND RESEARCH COMPUTER LABS, AND THE INFORMATION COMMONS:

- When academic computing labs in the library are not being used for class sessions, they are open for student use. Students at Connecticut College are active users of the library computer labs and the Information Commons computers, even though most students bring their own laptop to the College.
- A wide array of software is available for students to use to complete assignments. Some specialized software is only available in specific library or departmental labs.
- Students can receive instruction on using academic software through their faculty member, IS staff, or through Lynda.com, an online library of high-quality software training videos to which the College subscribes.

For more information, contact Newell Seal, Computer Lab Coordinator, at x2923 or nseal@conncoll.edu.