

TEAL LAB USE REQUIREMENTS

Overview

Technology-enabled active learning (TEAL) is a teaching format that merges facilitated discussions, simulations, and hands-on desktop experiments to create a rich collaborative learning experience. The UC-Merced TEAL labs offer a fundamentally different learning environment than other instructional spaces on campus through the design, layout, technology and potential pedagogical choices available to the instructor.

The TEAL lab design is intended to help instructors focus class time on collaborative and practical application exercises. The room is designed as if there is no front or back of the room; large rectangular worktables are placed along the outside walls of the room. The instructor's lectern is located in the middle of the room with white boards and displays (and projectors and screens) populating the outside walls next to the participant worktables. Each station has connectivity for laptops or tablets and cameras for capture are dispersed throughout the room. This layout allows smaller groups of students to work together on course curriculum and help each other through problem solving and comprehension. The technology and connectivity offer immediate feedback opportunities, sharing information between the instructor and the participant groups.

UC Merced has 4 TEAL Labs available for instructional use, they are in COB2 175 and GRAN 110 (90 seats each), and GRAN 120 and 125 (35 seats each).

Criteria Required for TEAL Lab Usage:

Class requests for use of the TEAL Lab must contain the following items:

- Instructor's clear plans to implement collaborative, active learning approaches as central components of the class, including utilization of the room's technology to support instructional strategies.
- Agreement to participate in assessment/research related to the effectiveness of the lab in enhancing active learning and student success.
- Agreement to participate in a TEAL technical orientation with an AET consultant.
- Agreement to enforce no food or drinks in the room at any time.

Criteria that will inform TEAL Assignment

Instructional requests for use of a TEAL lab will be prioritized based on a combination of the following criteria:

- The class section meets at least 80% of room capacity (90 seats or 35 seats)
- The class section follows standard meeting times
- Agreement to participate in TEAL-specific course design workshops provided through the Teaching Commons



Assessment / Research Participation

Instructors using TEAL labs are required to participate in assessment/research related to the effectiveness of the lab in enhancing active learning and student success.

Instructor Application Process

Instructors wishing to teach in a TEAL lab should submit an application for use. Links to all TEAL information can be found at <https://it.ucmerced.edu/teal> All applicants should also notify their School Curriculum Managers.

Application Approval Process

When the Teaching Commons receives applications, the TEAL Advisory Committee (TAC) will evaluate the request and inform applicants of the results.

Please note: *in order to accommodate the greatest number of requests, School Curriculum Managers may contact individuals about adjusting class schedules if possible.* Instructors of approved courses will be contacted by a member of the Teaching Commons to solidify assessment requirements.