

Learning Better, Together: Capital University's Convergent Media Center

ADAPTED WITH PERMISSION FROM CAPITAL UNIVERSITY

Taking a deliberate step into the future of higher education, Capital University's Convergent Media Center (CMC) is a collaborative environment for faculty and students from current areas of study—ranging from communication and music to electronic media, film, creative writing, and more—to organically mingle and positively impact one another.

Features such as active learning classrooms extend the site's benefits to additional areas of study, including those that have traditionally relied on a lecture-based approach.

Capital University's liberal arts traditions and professional studies are captured in this innovative, technology-rich space. Designed to complement existing architecture on the Bexley campus, the CMC is an open-concept,

collegiate Gothic-style structure designed to spark collaboration and interaction. Facing outward along College Avenue with three distinctive levels, this space will enhance opportunities for interdisciplinary work, with engaging classrooms, state-of-the-art media labs, and numerous common gathering spots where students and faculty will interact.

The lower level features a professional

recording studio and digital art and design laboratories—spaces where creativity and technical proficiencies combine. From audio and media production to live sound, video production and multimedia and web development, there's no limit to what students can accomplish in the space.

Skills-building space, where active learning is the focus, is a principal element of the CMC. Students will have easy access to industry-standard equipment, in laboratories created specifically for audio recording and mixing, video and film editing, visual and print media production, and digital design.

The first floor is designated for those interested in careers in video production, media, and the creative industries — radio, television, film, the visual, technical and performing

arts. A professional television studio and radio station anchor the first-floor space. A large classroom that doubles as performance space and student collaboration space rounds out the main level.

In addition to active-learning classrooms and common spaces, the first floor will house studios for WXCU, Capital's student-run radio station; a work room, control room and TV studio for CapTV; event space for student publications such as The Chimes, ReCap, and Epistimi; and a unified studentmedia work group space.

Faculty offices, small conference rooms, and seminar classrooms comprise the second floor. These spaces all encourage student-faculty interaction and foster the close mentoring relationships that define the Capital student experience.

The CMC pushes students beyond their comfort zones in collaborative, cross-disciplinary learning, and also convenes professors in a new creative, technology-rich space to work alongside colleagues with whom they would not normally interact on a daily basis. Adjacency leads to innovative ideas and intersections where powerful learning and discovery happen through studentfaculty consultation, mentorship, and professional expertise. The people who learn and work in the CMC will discover, create, and solve problems together.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Capital University is a private four-year undergraduate institution and graduate school located in the capital city of Columbus, Ohio. At Capital, we transform lives through higher education with an immersive, high-impact and convergent approach to teaching and learning, www.capital.edu

"Educating future leaders in our rapid-fire, multimedia, constantlyconnected world is reliant on convergence. The Convergent Media Center is representative of Capital's commitment to learning at the intersections of emergent social challenges and opportunities, in collaboration with professional experts in Columbus, and grounded in a commitment to bettering the fabric of our humanity." - PRESIDENT BETH PAUL



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