

A “21st Century Classroom” opened recently at the Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists in Collegedale, Tennessee. It was uniquely designed to support the professional vision of the college’s Department of Education and Psychology as they seek to prepare teachers for the classroom environment of the future.

In the 21st century, teachers will need to understand and use an array of technology for enhancing learning. Instead of being a purveyor of knowledge, the teacher will be the manager of an extensive information system tailored to the educational needs of the student.

Video Tutoring and Other Classroom Components

The high-tech classroom in Summerour Hall includes an eight-foot-by-seven-foot video-wall—the first in the world installed in a classroom. It plays a pivotal role in training education students in the techniques of video conferencing in an educational environment, otherwise known as video tutoring.

Other components include 24 “view port” stations with multimedia computers, an electronic chalkboard that transmits information directly to student computers, and a network-transparent computer management system permitting the teacher to view and control each computer as needed, and to send video or audio to an individual screen or the entire class. All of the 21st Century Classroom components, including the lighting, are controlled electronically from a six-inch-by-six-inch touch

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Work station in the 21st Century Classroom.

SOUTHERN COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION ENTERS 21ST CENTURY

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screen located on the teacher’s desk.

21st Century Classroom In-service Training Program

The State of Tennessee Department of Education has recently declared our facility a certified 21st Century Classroom Training Site. Our program is unique for three reasons. First, a school’s entire staff can benefit from training with us, regardless of their computer literacy or expertise, due to our exciting Optional Training Modules. Second, we focus on making the classroom use of technology user friendly for teachers. Third, we expect to provide technical support to each member of the staff who has completed the training. ✉

The 21st Century Classroom Training Center at Southern College, Collegedale, Tennessee.

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