



## University Center at The New School – New York

**Architect:** Skidmore Owings & Merrill

**Clients:** The New School University, The Durst Organization

**Completion:** 2015

**LEED:** LEED Gold

The University Center, sized at over 350,000 SF, includes an 800-seat auditorium, library, café, lecture halls, design studios, and a 600-bed dormitory. Longman Lindsey partners provided the acoustical design of the base building and fit-out (while at previous firm) and were then requested by the New School to provide expertise for renovation of C1 & C2 levels that had sustained flood damage.

The University Center is a state of the art facility designed to encourage and support collaboration. Three stairs wrap and twist between floors, offering opportunities for interaction. The classrooms are all provided with “smart” technology, while the auditorium is designed with flexible seating, convertible floor/runway, and convertible classrooms at the rear of the space. The auditorium use expanded to include musical performances, which required additional acoustic analysis, and a new multipurpose space was created at the lower level for music recitals.

Kerrey Hall, the dormitory portion of the building, occupies the top nine stories of the building, and is LEED certified. Amenity spaces such as music practice rooms, study lounges, exercise rooms, art project room, are all located in the lower levels of the building. Acoustic separation between the dormitory suites, as well as between dorm program areas and the library/studios/auditorium of the University Center were key elements of the project design.