Spaces for Intellectual Productivity, i.e., Library Mindset

We are...

- working
- concentrating
- using e-resources
- thinking
- analyzing info
- studying
- writing
- generating ideas
- with other people doing the same thing
It is different from a lounge.
Carpeted floors (absorb sound)

Open

Low buzz
Adjustable lighting

Minimal distractions

Grad-only

Secluded
Quiet study in the company of friends
Mobile white boards are great for group work!

Nooks where groups can gather
Low-tech informal group work
Reservable group work

Soundproof
High-tech group work
By the Numbers: Seating and Use

Current Bobst Library seats and use:
Total user seats: 3,000
Total user seats added through renovation FY04-FY13: 619
Average daily entries (during semester) via card swipe: 9,700
Total Entries FY11/12: 2.7 million

Growth in use:

ENTRIES
Between FY07 and FY12, entries via card swipe increased 47%
Between FY11 and FY12, entries via card swipe increased 14%

OCCUPANCY
From FY06 to FY11 Occupancy rate increased 66%
Occupancy rate Spring 2006: 53%
Occupancy rate Spring 2010: 78%
Occupancy rate Spring 2011: 81% (even after the addition of 438 seats)

What students are saying:
(comments from FY11 LibQual+ user study)

“Bobst is a great place for quiet and efficient study, but not when you spent upwards of 15 minutes trying to find a spot to sit.” —Undergrad

“There is not enough seating for everyone as I often sit on the floor to do my work.” —Undergrad

“There are not enough spaces, ever. On the whole, I think the library would be very nice if it were accommodating a student population that is half of the size of NYU.” —Grad Student

How many library seats are needed on Washington Square?
Accepted standard is 25% of full-time enrolled students
Washington Square students (excluding Law): 38,000 * .25 = 9,500 seats
A more reasonable target for NYU: 6,000 high quality seats in a library or “library-like” setting