

# Westgate Building: Self-Guided Tour

Welcome to Westgate Building, home to the College of Information Sciences and Technology!  
Use this as your guide to learn more about the IST experience as you explore the building.



## STOP 1: ROZ AND GENE CHAIKEN CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS IN THE COLLEGE OF IST (ROOM E103)

The Chaiken Center for Student Success is the heart of Westgate Building // Here, you'll find IST's student support service teams: academic advisers, career coaches, diversity advocates, student engagement specialists, and learning support staff // IST's dedicated staff help students stay on track for graduation, pursue career opportunities, get involved, and build community // The colorful space includes reservable rooms where students can interview with employers

*To Stop 2: Walk down the hall toward the blue seating area and wall with the large College of IST logo.*



## STOP 2: STUDENT LOUNGE AND COLLABORATION SPACES

This area is just one of many collaboration and study spaces in the building that are designed to promote the college's emphasis on teamwork // Adjacent conference rooms can be reserved for job interviews, team projects, and student organization gatherings // The soft-seating areas provide a place to study, connect with friends, or rest between classes // Digital signs keep students up to date on the college's latest news and upcoming events

*To Stop 3: Take the elevator, or the stairs to the left of the elevator, to the second floor. Exit the elevator and walk straight to the Berardi Family Student Engagement Center (room E215).*



## STOP 3: BERARDI FAMILY STUDENT ENGAGEMENT CENTER (ROOM E215)

The vibrant Berardi Center is where student organizations can hold meetings, receptions, office hours, and recruiting activities // IST is home to more than 20 student organizations that promote career preparation, practical experience, identity development, community building, competitions, and more // Beyond IST, students can build community with one of the 1,000+ organizations offered at Penn State

*To Stop 4: Walk away from the Berardi Center and down the long hallway to the main IST classroom area.*



## STOP 4: MAIN CLASSROOM HALLWAY

Eight of the college's 11 classrooms are in this second-floor hallway, four of which seat fewer than 30 students // Students take classes across campus, but most IST classes are held in Westgate Building and nearby buildings as students advance toward graduation // Collaboration spaces are located outside these classrooms for students to catch up on work and socialize // This hallway houses a variety of IST events, including the Capstone Showcase and IST Recruiting Partner Career Fair

*To Stop 5: As you reach the end of the hallway, turn around and walk back toward the Berardi Center. There, exit the doors to your right. Walk directly across the IST bridge and through the doors to enter Reese's Café.*



### STOP 5: REESE'S CAFÉ

The café sits at the center of Westgate Building, with Atherton Street running underneath // It features a convenient grab-and-go restaurant with coffee, snacks, and pre-made meals // The café provides lots of seating and natural light, along with a great view // It's the perfect gathering place for student welcome gatherings, research presentations, graduation socials, and other IST events // The Grand Staircase, with 54 steps, leads to the third floor

*To Stop 6: Walk through Reese's Café, passing the Grand Staircase on your left and the "We Are Penn State" wall on your right. Slightly to the right ahead, you'll see the brightly colored wall marking the Cybertorium, Room W201.*



### STOP 6: CYBERTORIUM (ROOM W201)

With 155 seats, the Cybertorium is the largest classroom in Westgate Building // It's used for many of the introductory courses required of IST students from all majors // It features a large projection screen, speakers, and the latest technology // The Cybertorium hosts many of IST's distinguished lectures, student organization showcases, and workshops // Faculty use innovative teaching methods to keep everyone in the large classroom fully engaged

*To Stop 7: (Via the Grand Staircase) Turn around and walk back toward Reese's Café. Take the Grand Staircase up to the third floor to Hansen Lounge. (Via the elevator) Find the elevators near the entrance to the Cybertorium and take them to the third floor. Exit the elevators and veer left toward Hansen Lounge at the top of the Grand Staircase.*



### STOP 7: FACULTY OFFICES AND RESEARCH LABS

Most of IST's faculty offices and research labs are located on the third floor // During office hours, students can connect with faculty to ask questions, discuss research opportunities, and seek input about career paths and internships // Hansen Lounge is one of the building's quieter study areas // It's also where casual faculty and staff gatherings (like Donuts With the Dean) are often held

*To Stop 8: (Via the Grand Staircase) Walk back down the Grand Staircase and exit through Reese's Café to the IST Bridge. (Via the elevator) Take the elevator to the second floor and exit the building to the IST Bridge.*



### STOP 8: WESTGATE BUILDING—EXTERIOR

Westgate Building opened in 2004 // East Westgate Building—the side nearer to Burrowes Street—houses IST classrooms, faculty and staff offices, and research spaces // The 768-ft-long building is one of the longest on campus, with a 955-ft long walkway that spans Atherton Street for safe and easy crossing // The design was inspired by the Ponte Vecchio bridge in Florence, Italy // IST's first graduates (Class of 2003) inscribed their names on some of the building's 400,372 bricks