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Learning Spaces in Academic Libraries
Research and Assessment Methods

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This session...

- Changes in design ethos
- Social learning?
- All about the looks?
- Perceptions and understanding: staff vs students
- Methods of discovering use
Learning space ‘rules’

You are now in a Silent Zone
Learning space ‘rules’
Library as an extension of teaching
Design or useful?
A question...

What is happening here?
Another question...

What about now?
“Native expertise”

Students, for example, may be unaware of their own research strategies (which may emerge in-task) or may not share the same vocabulary for their information needs as librarians.

Hunter and Ward (2011)
Understanding of staff
Understanding of students
How do we find out?
Why quantitative methods?
Why qualitative?
Mixing it up
US vs. UK research
In summary...

University libraries images featuring in this presentation:
• Aberdeen
• Clemson (California)
• Glasgow Saltire Centre
• Edinburgh
• Fresno State (California)
• Huddersfield
• London School of Economics
• Loughborough
• Northumbria
• Sheffield Information Commons
• York St John

And one public library: Bibliotheeken Eemland (Netherlands)
Thank you!

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