STUDENT-CENTERED INSTRUCTION: MANAGING CLASSROOM SPACE

Method	Description	Benefits	Drawbacks
Random Assignment	Before the first day of school, tape a number on every desk (make sure all four sides are completely covered by tape). The numbers correspond to the number of seats in your class. Create a seating chart that labels the desks in the same fashion. Randomly hand students a number, written on a 3x5 card, as they enter class on the first day of school. Instruct students to sit in the seat that matches their card.	• Highly organized beginning to the school year. • Accommodates all students easily (whether on a master roster or not). • Encourages student mixing, but avoids student frustration at "engineering" on the part of the teacher.	• It may be necessary to monitor student trading of numbers. • Does not allow you to avoid what you think might be potentially problematic combinations of students. • Will not help you learn their names more quickly.

Possible Classroom Configuration with Corresponding "Traffic Flow"