

Articles for Newsletter

Audience: General Body of Current Students who Use the Public Space of the Library to Study

Long Article (1): 750 words, must effectively argue for the solution that you are supporting.

Social Awkwardness... It's Awkward

For some students, it all starts with the first step into the building.

The Valley Library is a large space consisting of multiple floors- six floors to be exact. It can be overwhelming to an individual wondering where to even go, especially when one maybe just wanting to simply find a single space to study alone. In the sense of awkwardness, not knowing where to go by oneself, gives off a bit of a feeling of panic to some people, whereas for others it may mean an opportunity of an adventure. But focusing on the illustration on the ones who would tend to panic, there is also an existence of uneasiness of just finding an ideal place to sit down. With the presence of a wide variety of people who one may not know to be around, the different types of ideas on what others may think of you on an individual basis, just with simply trying to search for a comfortable area to open one's laptop, can be emotionally and mentally difficult.

First off, one may discover that there is not much of a consistent setup of lounging and seating areas throughout the number of floors. This inconsistencies cause a sense of fear and uncertainty creating a slight panic and anger with such difficulties. Desires of finding a place to focus, turns into a situation that is unpleasant to deal with. A student may be then forced into a dilemma where they will end up just choosing a table made for a multitude of students to work together. The unwillingness to proceed with such a decision is caused by one, a lack of effort to originally finding a space to study alone in a smaller area, and two, the lack of a consistent layout of places to work among the entire library itself.

Later on, following this same scenario being presented, comes along a group of students needing a place to collaborate together. After searching the floors of the building, or possibly even just a single floor due to a lack of greater effort and knowledge among the group, a newly arrived student may take the liberty to ask the lone student about the space they are currently using. There are a couple of possibilities that the questioning student may ask the previously settled student. One of those possibilities being if the space is willing to be shared with everyone involved if the space itself also admits. Another possibility being to ask the single student to move to a separate area where it would be more appropriate for them to study, by then giving the group of students the entire table space for themselves to work together. Also among these varying situations, reactions from both the lone student, questioning group member, and the rest of the team as whole, would differ, all depending of the types of people involved. This overall scenario presents a great deal of social awkwardness when comfortability levels are not at great amounts of mutual agreement.

Before words are even spoken, the settled student could have already noticed a member from the recently arrived group of people is approaching them in a purposeful manner. Being slightly socially awkward, there are generated feelings of nervousness and further ideas of uncertainties

and questionable, thoughtful mysteries. The goal-oriented student walking towards the occupied space of the matter, proceeds with asking if the lone student can share the area or move to different location of the library. The matter of talking to a stranger along with maybe not fully understanding how one such deal and proceed with the conversation in such a situation, begins to worry the yet unspoken student, creating a social awkward conversation at hand.

Now this real-life story can end in many different ways. But the root cause of such a situation is what the matter is, which is combined with the aspects of inconsistencies of a physical space being dealt with and amount of discomfort and presence of social awkwardness that is a part to some extent of any living being. From it being if one should get up in the middle of class to use the bathroom while sitting in the middle of a classroom, or with the situation if one should wave to someone they know of while walking opposite directions down a sidewalk, not knowing how others will react or think about certain things as one as an individual may do and deal with, is personally problematic. Even though the situations at hand are in reality, truly obsolete to living overall.

Short Article (1): 250-300 words, must inform your topic, chance to be more creative.
Interviews, collect data and make, graphs, some short fiction. Makes sure there is a variety here.

Need a Laptop? Rent One from the Library!

Interview with Natalie Pilar (Valley Library Staff Member)

How does a student check out laptops at the library? (Step-by-Step Process)

“A student needs to wait in line until a worker is available. If there are 2 day laptops available, the student will provide their student ID number. The student will sign a form that discusses fees and others. If the student needs to take the laptop off-campus then they must sign in on-campus before taking it off-campus.”

What kind of laptops does the library have to offer students to check out?

“Laptops that can be checked out are dual-booted so they have a mac and windows side.”

How many laptops does the library have in total for students to check out?

“The SMS desk has 200 laptops”

How long can a student check out a laptop for?

“Undergraduate students can check out laptops for 48 hours and graduate students can check out laptops for 48 hours to 7 days. After the student returns a laptop there is a 48 hour wait period before they can check out again.”

What is the penalty if a student does not return a laptop on time? How about never returns it ever?

“The late fee \$25 per day which is automatically charged to the student's account.”

What is the penalty if the laptop breaks or is abused when it is in a student's possession?

“I'm not sure what the penalty is if the laptop breaks or abused for the SMS desk, but I have an idea of what the Circulation Desk does. If a student breaks a laptop, charges would be made to the student's account for the replacement or the damaged cause. If a student abuses laptop privileges we do not allow them to check out a laptop again.”

Is there usually a high demand with checking out laptops from the library among students? Does the library usually run out of laptops to give?

“There is usually a high demand for checking out laptops. Usually the library runs out of laptops quickly. Laptops are based on a first come first served basis. Once a laptop is returned it takes some time to clean the contents to put the laptop back into circulation for another student to check out.”

Is the library currently hiring?

“Not sure if the library is hiring right now because I think a few people were just hired.”

Filler Piece (2): 100-200 words, used to fill in some of the space in your newsletter and experiment with different types of writing, should be related to your topic, but the connection does not need to be as explicit as the short and long articles.

The Story of the Lone Chair

There once a brown wooden chair, left all alone in a corner of the top floor of school's library. This used up forgotten chair seen many years go by as it listened to the whispers and conversations of students with the common goals in mind- learning solely based on choice. But the chair not only dealt with the stress calls and moans among its library's guests, there were also secrets and life-changing decisions discussed between individuals and single humans to themselves.

Renovations were being made throughout the library; a task being the rearrangement of furniture across the floors. Along with the coats of new paint on the walls, there were also new additions of seating and tabling throughout the environment all around. The years of observation for the lone chair was coming to an end, and simply just being a chair, it was okay with that.

LIBRARY Thoughts

Live the days as if they were weeks. In a day, you may focus on a single task throughout a whole day, wearing yourself out at the end. But in a week, a variety of events and decisions happen, giving you a multitude of experiences worth living for.

Ignite the dedication of created hopes and dreams beyond the scope of reality, in order for them to actually become real.

Before giving up on a thought containing true value, hold on to it, and wait to see what it will flourish into, because most of the time, what we truly need may not appear relevant to our current needs until only time will show us that an unknown happiness does wholesomely exist.

React to the love and appreciation express to you by others. Being exposed to another's positive point of view of your life around you, will provide beneficial feelings that you may not have known you needed that will completely put a heart-warming smile on your face too.

Allow the fears and mysteries be present in your daily life, because not knowing what there is to come, keeps the surprises alive.

Revise the days of the past. There can be hidden improvements of yourself just beyond the point of a second glance.

Yell it out.