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Interpret This!

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Meanings of Study Rooms

Study rooms exist in generous numbers on the IU campus. Nearly every student has occupied one or many of these valuable resources in this world of academia. They exist to procure a quiet, clean setting which allows for the pensive focus on papers, projects and readings for the determined students of Indiana University. These rooms are blank slates, often surrounded by glass with clear walls to promote the flow of ideas while preventing alienation from the goings on of the outside world. Mitigating sound pollution, these rooms allow students to become entranced in the words on the screen or the math on the board. Complete with comfortable chairs and open desk space, they promote the efforts of thinking. For some, these rooms are associated with one dreaded project, countless months ago where too many hours were spent before a looming deadline, sucking every drop of pure focus that these rooms can provide. In other cases, study rooms are a sanctuary, offering some respite from their crowded dorm floor or agitating roommates where they find a mental flow and complete some of their best work. For even more, the IU study room may recall the group study session where productivity is low, but conversation is enveloping. Hours of study time lost in exchange for a growing closer among friends experiencing the stress of finals. Whether one associates a dreadfully stressful project experience, the bliss of engrossing engagement with knowledge, or memories of connection to these rooms, their influence in the realm of the academic community is not small nor forgettable. Within such rooms, breakdowns, breakthroughs, and focused bliss have and will continue to occur.

Tweet: IU Study rooms: a place of stress, productivity (or lack thereof), and creative thought for all students. #academia

