

PLO Spring 2009

Program Learning Outcome: Library Space. The library will provide a comfortable, safe, quiet and versatile space to enable student learning.

Results from Focus Group of 6 Students (2 students library employees)

Students come to the library to work because...

- The environment is conducive to studying. "I see more people concentrating [on studying], so it makes me want to do it." Students contrasted library as a quiet place to study to the learning center, a social place.
- Librarians and Library staff are helpful
- It's a peaceful, quiet, relaxing space

Students come to the Library to use...

- Databases (e.g. Gale Virtual Reference Library, Expanded Academic, Health Reference Center)
- Textbooks
- Quiet study space
- Computers
- Watch videos on computers

Students wish the Library had...

- More textbooks
- More one-on-one help during library orientations for classes
- More quiet spaces to work
- A color printer
- Consistent policies when students are working
- IT support for students working on computers (e.g. for Word and PowerPoint)
- Tutorials on typing
- Tutors to help with essays
- Brief orientations on: how to access databases from off-campus, how to find/order/renew books, Library of Congress classification, specific databases, researching different subjects.

Reflection

Students value the Library as a quiet study space. They need more resources, including books (textbooks), equipment (color printer), and instructional support (IT support, tutors, orientations to library resources, etc).

Follow up: consider designating quiet spaces in the Library (e.g. back of the Library, classroom when there are no orientations scheduled).