

2005 LibQUAL+ Comments

Library as Place

User Group: Library Staff

Discipline: Other

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

New books area should be moved to another part of the lobby to allow more comfortable browsing. Currently many students meet in that area and this space does not accommodate both functions.

User Group: Faculty

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

For me the downsides are the lack of carrel space, too few quiet nooks, and too many deteriorating or vandalized materials (what is happening to the 19th C. journals, like Punch and the London Daily Illustrated is a crime of the highest order when it comes to library resources).

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Nursing

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

I usually only use the PCL to pass time. When I am there, I use mainly the computers. I enjoy the services that the PCL provides!

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Business

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Most of my academic research is done through the internet or at the EDS trading center located in the business school. I use the library primarily for its studying environment.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Law

Library Branch: Tarlton Law Library

My only complaint is the status of the furniture in tarlton. Some of the furniture is not only impossible to be comfortably sat on but also really dirty.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Law

Library Branch: Tarlton Law Library

Also, the decor/seating/mood of the library makes me want to avoid it for studying.

User Group: Faculty

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

The PCL seems often dirty, noisy, not a pleasant space. Bigger budget needed for periodicals and books.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Communication

Library Branch: Undergraduate Library

I feel the PCL has terrible lighting and the ambiance is really dreary, and so it's hard for me to stay there too long.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Communication

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Carpet and upholstery in need of update/modernization. More dependable, stronger wireless reception throughout all areas of all PCL floors also needed.

User Group: Faculty

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Library Branch: Life Science Library

The life sciences library desperately needs new quarters. Otherwise, I like the libraries at UT - the PCL in particular is a joy compared to the libraries at many other major universities.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Law

Library Branch: Tarlton Law Library

The cubicles behind the 5th floor elevators are not plugged in and haven't been for the past 2 years.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Library Branch: Physics Mathematics Astronomy Library

Library set up:

-space

-study areas

I am always in PMA. If not, I'm in the PCL. PMA definitely needs to be enlarged; I hope that's what they're doing on the second floor of it. The PCL gets noisy a lot of the time. I expect that from study group areas, but not all over the library. What helps with the noise level are the desks that are situated in the midst of the bookshelves. The single person desks with the barrier/shelf attached to the front of them also help to curb the noise level. People don't talk as much when they can't see directly who they're talking to.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Education

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Love the libraries, love the staff, its the non maintenance, and grossness of facilities that needs to be taken care of. Also, quietness is never enforced and it is hard to study when sometimes the PCL is the only place to go.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Undergraduate Library

I would love to see more space to study/work in that is like the bottom floor of the Undergraduate Library. This area is very crowded but is a great break from studying in silence.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Business

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

PCL needs more power outlets for laptop users. My biggest difficulty is finding a nice place to work where I can plug in.

Also, some sort of reservation system for study rooms. It is awful to have a whole group of people trooping from floor to floor looking for a room.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Education

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Secondly, sometimes I find the library dirty, especially at the corner of 5th and 6th floor where students bring foods and hide there and eat. It is not library's fault, but maybe you need to set up a sign to remind students or clean more often.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Library Branch: Life Science Library

There needs to be more QUIET spaces to study. The life science library is really the only semi-quiet one on campus. The problem is the other students. I know that we are now in college, but the library noise level still needs to be managed. I am extremely disappointed in this area of library service. It is now to the point that I usually have to go to an empty classroom to study.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Engineering & Computer Science
Library Branch: Undergraduate Library
Overall good job guys, just a little loud sometimes and I don't feel that I am informed about all the services that exist.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
In my experience, plentiful and available resources that have been applicable and useful. Helpful and friendly staff. Great study environment, especially the quiet study floors (floor 6 in PCL).

User Group: Graduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
My evaluation of the physical library spaces is reflective of the UGL and PCL (neither of which I find particularly inviting as spaces for study). The architecture library, on the other hand, is quiet, aesthetically appealing, well lit . . . generally inviting for individual study.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities
Library Branch: Undergraduate Library
I like most things about the library, but I believe that it should have less fluorescent lights everywhere (annoying to study long hours with) and have areas that are 24/7 (maybe staffed by just 1 person).

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I think there should be designated areas where people can study alone without noise

User Group: Graduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
need areas for conversation, glad there will be a coffee bar in the future

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
Sometimes it is not as quiet as I'd like it to be in the PCL, there are people talking on cell phones, and people who do not appear to be students sleeping in the library. If the staff could monitor who is in the library more closely, as well as approach individuals on their cell phones that would be great.

User Group: Library Staff
Discipline: Other
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
when I use the library for my own needs I feel that it is too loud and I'm herded like cattle into long lines.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Natural Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I love coming to study here in the library but sometimes it is too cold and I cannot concentrate. I need to keep getting up and get coffee or hot chocolate to warm me up to feel comfortable again. And I think there should be more group study rooms. They are really great because they are private rooms that allow for quiet studying but also allow you to speak whenever you want without feeling like you might be bothering the group next to you.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I think the library can improve on is expanding the wireless network coverage, as well as increasing the available power plugs.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
Overall I am satisfied with the staff and the accessibility of materials. However, it gets really cold at UGL and PCL sometimes.

User Group: Graduate
Discipline: Information
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
The physical space at PCL is dated and uninviting. I generally seek out other places on campus to study, such as the union or tarelton.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Natural Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
more group study and internet port would be great

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Natural Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
The library is becoming increasingly loud, and the situation is only worsening. It makes it very difficult to study.

User Group: Undergraduate
Discipline: Undecided
Library Branch: Undergraduate Library
Libraries seem to offer an excellent range of services - online services are very good - would prefer tighter library security to keep out unauthorized persons in the library

User Group: Graduate
Discipline: Communication
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I wish that there would be a more comfortable reading area. Also, the library hours on the weekend--closes too early on Friday and Saturday and opens too late on Sunday. The coffee shop will be a great addition to the atmosphere. I wish that the journals would be able to be checked out for a day rather than 2 hours.

User Group: Faculty
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I work in a very technology-forward field; staying current and having access to admittedly expensive journals is critical. I would like to use libraries more in person, but would need late night/early morning access which would include parking that feels safely accessible. Ever walk from PCL to SAG garage after midnight with a bunch of books, alone? Glad to hear you're adding a coffee shop in terms of making the library feel more comfortable. Note online journals have had problems lately for off campus uses (particularly Springer-Verlag). My complaints are about facilities/accessibility, but I do want to add that the staff are great, especially at Life Science Library and PCL (except the phone staff who try to answers questions about online matters, who are nice but under trained).

User Group: Graduate
Discipline: Information
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
I think the coffee shop, while a little commercialized, is a step in the right direction. I believe that making the library a community space benefits everyone.

User Group: Faculty
Discipline: Liberal Arts: Social Sciences
Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library
The main problems I have encountered at the library are:

1) Noise! The PCL library is very noisy; students just talk out loud and work in groups in parts of the library where they shouldn't. Also, it would be a great idea if there were a section of the library where laptops were not allowed. They can be loud too. I think the Law Library has a room like that already.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

It may sound silly, but the biggest factor preventing me from using the PCL as a study space is that it's over-air conditioned. If I need a book, I try to remember to bring a sweatshirt with me to wear. Then I get the book I need and go. I'm usually too cold to stick around and explore.

The computer kiosks on the 1st floor of the UGL and PCL are often all in use. Would it be possible to put in more?

The coffee shop is a great idea!

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Education

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

The physical state of the library leaves a bit to be desired, and if it were a bit more comfortable with nicer lighting and better chairs, I would spend more time studying there instead of at home.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Architecture

Library Branch: Architecture and Planning Library

Library services here are adequate. I find that I receive the best service at smaller libraries like the Architecture Library and the Life Science Library. PCL offers the worst service and is the ugliest building on campus. I think people there would be nicer if their environment was improved (interior gardens, coffee shop, more amenities, new interior design). The architecture library is lovely but needs more books on contemporary landscape architecture.

User Group: Faculty

Discipline: Fine Arts

Library Branch: Fine Arts Library

The libraries (FAL and PCL in particular) are too accommodating and tolerant in terms of noise level, group study, and non-academic computer use. The libraries should be a quiet place for individual study and scholarly research, not a meeting space for groups nor a place to play online poker. The staff do much too little to enforce a sense of decorum and seriousness.

User Group: Library Staff

Discipline: Business

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Library staff are extremely helpful. Services should be offered when students need them 8PM- 2PM. At present, many services (reference, circulation, copier services) conclude when students are just beginning to study. There is an enormous need for group study and collaborative space. The arrangement of resources and space in PCL is not optimal for group study. Students mention that PCL appears dingy and unattractive.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Business

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

The library services are good. My concern is with the cleanliness of the Perry Castaneda, I've seen things on the floor that should not be there. For example, toe nail clippings.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Library Branch: Chemistry Library

Chemistry library has a stuffy & congested environment. I wish it was larger. I would like to have reading rooms with couches so that I can sit & read comfortably like PCL library

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Fine Arts

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

The amount of info at the library--and the amount of libraries here at UT--is great. My main gripe is that the libraries here are very uncomfortable. I never feel like the library is a place where I can go to sit down with a good book and my laptop and get some serious work done. The PCL, the main library where I work, is often noisy and full of kids chatting on their cell phones. I love the recourses, but hate the atmosphere. I'm a lover of books and a huge advocate of literacy and libraries. It's not that the PCL is just noisy, it also that it's very ugly, outdated, and cold. The undergraduate library is even worse. I'm writing these comments not to be snooty, but to give some honest feedback from the point of view of a graduate student who is constantly spending time at the library.

Thanks.

User Group: Faculty

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Classics Library

I do not see the reason for televisions in the libraries. The idea for a group study floor, with all other floors emphatically quiet zones, is a good one. Physical facilities, especially rest rooms, need improvements.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Engineering & Computer Science

Library Branch: Chemistry Library

I use the chemistry library and PCL very often. The one thing that could be improved for PCL is to have a functional break area for students and an area to have snacks/lunch.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Law

Library Branch: Tarlton Law Library

In general I really like Tarlton Law Library. It provides a lot of space for studying. So much so that I can almost always find an empty table to have to myself. However, the color scheme of the library is garish and sometimes really affects my study abilities. I think something a little less noticeable than the burnt orange would help. I love that they wanted to respect UT's colors, but I think that they can draw the line outside the library door and devote the look to what is actually going to be most conducive to studying.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Education

Library Branch: Undergraduate Library

Very well kept area that I enjoy coming to. I love the laid back atmosphere when you first enter and the quietness once you are into the library.

User Group: Graduate

Discipline: Information

Library Branch: Engineering Library

The engineering library is not an inviting place to study, but it is nice and quiet with plenty of room. The access through the library's web page to articles and journals is GREAT, I use it a lot as well as the new google scholar. I just wish there were more journals. I actually find that I use the electronic access more than the print material in the library.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Pharmacy

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Please update the restrooms in PCL. More study rooms would be absolutely great.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Liberal Arts: Humanities

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Everything is great in the library with the exception that the quiet floors are often not so quiet. I'm thinking electric shocks delivered by library personnel with tasers would solve the problem. Oh yeah, and the stall art in the 6th floor men's bathroom is despicable.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Undecided

Library Branch: Perry-Castañeda Library

Sometimes the library desks are really dirty. I think they should be cleaned more often.

User Group: Undergraduate

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Library Branch: Life Science Library

I am truly disappointed in the library system when it comes to their responsibility in providing a QUIET place to study. The UGL is an absolute joke. The PCL is only quiet on weekends. The only library that I find somewhat adequate is the life science library, and here only in the book-stacks. And of course, this library closes at 10pm. I know that we are college students now, but I still believe that it is the librarian's duty to make sure that the study space remains quiet. This is not being done, and it is having an adverse effect on my studying. I am an 'A' student, and am usually forced to study in an empty classroom in Welch. As you can imagine, this is not what I had in mind when I first came to college, where I thought that I would have an inspirational atmosphere to study in. As I have said, I am truly disappointed.