



A Study On The Usage Of Library Resources Of College Students After College Hours

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Abstract: This research examines the patterns of how college students utilize library resources beyond regular academic hours. Due to the rising expectations of students to perform well academically, students often advance their study times beyond what is scheduled and need a space on campus to study, carry out research, complete an assignment, or engage in self-study, and libraries are often these spaces. The study examines elements that affect student after-hour library use such as accessibility to library resources, types of available resources, use of digitally-based tools, and student preferences. Student data were collected through online surveys and observations which helped to notify the research on understanding and making improvements to the library's services for student engagement. The findings are intended to assist educational institutions in optimizing library resources to provide improved support to student learning.

Index terms: Library Usage, College Students, After-Hours Study, Academic Resources, Digital Libraries, Student Engagement, Library Services.

I.INTRODUCTION

The library is a research and study center supporting academic and intellectual growth among college students. For assignments and research work, it grants access to numerous library resources, such as reference books, research articles, journals, and textbooks. Due to the digital resources available in many libraries, including databases, online journals, and e-books, students can study various subjects from their own devices. Libraries provide both individual study and group discussion spaces conducive to a focused learning environment and collaborative work. Wherever one may locate mature college libraries, they are an important facilitating resource for overall development and academic success.

II.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To Determine how often students use the library after regular hours.
- To know the purpose of accessing library resources after regular hours.

III.LITERATURE REVIEW

Panduranga Swamy, et al., (2023), Awareness and Utilization of Library Resources and Services by the Students of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Anantapur Campus- Resource usage of undergraduate and graduate students for the library of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Anantapur campus is study in this survey. Of 150 students surveyed, 59.33 % used OPAC for resource search while 62.67 % go to the library for the purpose of borrowing books and preparing for

competitive examinations. It found that use of library resources does not significantly impact academic performance, though 94.67 percent regularly attend courses on subject texts. Proposed by authors, the training, improved digital access, and updated materials must be facilitated to enhance library usage.

Matonkar, etal., (2021), The Evaluation of Usage of Library Resources and Services: An Exclusive Study on Users of Academic College Libraries. -This research that has been uploaded on Research Gate focused on the knowledge and use of library resources by Goan college students. Structured questionnaire administered to 360 students from six universities found that as much as 68.33% on patronage utilize circulation services and 91.33% of patrons visit primarily to borrow books. Inadequacy of library resources, which affects patron satisfaction, is a major issue that has come out. However, 68.67% of the respondents said they were satisfied with the library services. The study recommends improved advertising and promotional activities to create awareness and encourage increased use of library resources.

IV.HYPOTHESIS

A hypothesis is a statement or assumption made by the researcher to predict the possible outcome of the study based on certain facts or observations. It serves as the foundation for conducting research by identifying the relationship between two or more variables. In this study, the hypothesis aims to understand the usage of library resources by college students after college hours. It helps to determine whether factors like year of study, frequency of visits, significantly influence students' library usage. The hypothesis will be tested using statistical tools to analyze whether these factors have a positive or negative impact on library usage after college hours.

Ho: There is no significant association between the year of study and the frequency of library visits.

H₁: There is a significant association between the year of study and the frequency of library visits.

V.METHODS AND MATERIALS

The study is conducted in Coimbatore city with a sample size of 120 respondents, selected using the stratified random sampling technique. Data is collected through structured questionnaires focusing on students' library usage. Primary data comes from surveys, while secondary data is gathered from library logs and institutional reports. Statistical tools used include percentage analysis for behavior patterns, simple rank analysis for factor ranking, correlation for relationships between variables, and the Chi-square test for associations between categorical data. These methods ensure a systematic and comprehensive analysis of library usage trends.

VI.DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

6.1PERCENTAGE ANALYSIS

	Factors	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
AGE	18-21	91	75.8
	22-24	28	23.3
	24 Above	1	0.8
	TOTAL	120	100
GENDER	Male	48	40
	Female	72	60
	TOTAL	120	100
WHICH DIVISION	Arts	84	70
	Science	36	30
	TOTAL	120	100
LIBRARY	Daily	35	29.1

VISIT	2-3 times a week	57	47.5
	Once a week	28	23.3
TOTAL		120	100

INTERPRETATION

This was evidently supported by the fact that the majority (over 75.8%) of the respondents were aged 18-21, while 23.3% were in the 22-24 age bracket, and only 0.8% were aged 24 or above. Gender distribution shows a higher female participation (60%) compared to males (40%). Most (70%) of the respondents came from the Arts division, while the remaining 30% were from Science. On the library visit frequency, 29.1% of students visited the library on a daily basis; 47.5% did so between 2-3 times a week; and 23.3% visited once a week. This indicates that the majority of them, numbering about 76.6%, used the library regularly.

6.2 RANK ANALYSIS

REASONS FOR VISITING THE LIBRARY AFTER HOURS

S. NO	FACTORS	RANK
1	To balance a busy schedule during the day	2
2	To work on group projects or collaborate with peers	3
3	To explore personal interests or hobbies	5
4	To take advantage of a quiet environment for self-paced learning	4
5	To have uninterrupted access to library services	1

(Source:
Primary
Data)

INTERPRETATION

The above table shows that the rank analysis of reasons to visit the library after hours by the respondents. As per the above table the reasons are To have uninterrupted access to library services ranked 1, To balance a busy schedule during the day ranked 2, To work on group projects or collaborate with peers ranked 3, To take advantage of a quiet environment for self-paced learning ranked 4, To explore personal interests or hobbies ranked 5.

6.3 CHI SQUARE TEST

YEAR OF STUDY AND HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT THE LIBRARY

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	Df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	23.777 ^a	10	.008
Likelihood Ratio	24.878	10	.006
Linear-by-Linear Association	.089	1	.765
N of Valid Cases	120		

INTERPRETATION

The above table shows chi square test the relationship between the year of study and how often do you visit. Since the p-value is 0.008 which is less than 0.05. this means there is a statistically significant association between the variables

6.4 CORRELATIONS**STUDY OF RESPONDENT MAJOR AND TIME OF VISIT AFTER REGULAR HOURS**

CORRELATION			
		Which division	What time of day
Study of respondents major	Pearson Correlation	1	.197*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.031
	N	120	120
What time of day	Pearson Correlation	.197*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.031	
	N	120	120

(Source: Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

The above table shows the Pearson correlation between study of respondents major and What time of day. The value of the correlation coefficient is 0.197, and the significance level (p-value) is 0.031. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, the correlation is statistically significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

VII.FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- A significant portion of students (42.5%) expressed interest in extended library hours. So considering this the management can extend the library hours for the students' needs
- Since 75.8% of students use the digital library occasionally, more training sessions on accessing online resources can help students to utilize digital resources effective
- Introducing automated borrowing and returning of books can improve convenience for students visiting the library after hours.

VIII.CONCLUSION

The study reveals that college libraries play a major role in students' academic as well as personal life. In fact, most college students make use of library resources after college hours and many of them visit the library 2-3 times a week, but usually in the afternoon. The study also mentions that there is an extensive access to digital resources such as e-books and online journals, with laptops being the commonly used devices for access. This research shows that students who have access to library facilities after hours are benefiting positively as almost all students agreed that they scored good grades due to their effective study efficiency and also because it boosted their confidence in learning. The library is also a conducive

environment for students to use when their lives get busy and hectic with group projects or study times leading up to exams.

REFERENCE

- Matta, P. S., & Rao, B. P. (2023). "Awareness and Utilization of Library Resources and Services by the Students of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Anantapur Campus."
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