

Reading Habits & Study Behaviors of Female Undergraduates

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ABSTRACT

Reading habits and study behavior are important determinants of academic performances of university undergraduates. Students should use appropriate reading habits and study behavior during their studies aiming at the best outcome from their studies. However, provision of required reading and library facilities for students is an important problem for university administrators. Students who are staying outside the university have fewer opportunities to use these resources when compared with students living inside the university. Understanding the patterns of reading and study habits of different student groups are therefore important in planning services to enhance student welfare. The objective of this study is to identify the reading habits and study behavior of a group of undergraduate students. 263 female undergraduates staying in university-managed residence facility located off-campus were studied. Data for the study were gathered through interviews using a structured survey schedule.

Findings revealed that students like to read during free times available irrespective of day or night. Average students spend one to two hours per day on their reading. 69% of students do not have predetermined time schedules for reading. 63% prefer to read in the reading room while the 28% only use libraries. However during the night times they equally used (49% each) hostel reading room or their own room. 42% regularly visiting the library as daily habit; 57% prefer to study alone while the rest prefer to study as a group. Only 2% are capable to tolerate disturbance. 47% of the students start to read only during the study leave and 31% of students use to stay at their own home or at a boarding place during the examination. This study concludes that the students having different study behaviors and emphasizes the need to accommodate these needs in university facilities planning aiming at better academic performance.