

“Some kinda privacy when I study”
Students in the College Library

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Library Drawing Activity

Get out your pens and pencils!

1. Draw a map of your library on the handout
2. Identify 1 place in your library that works well for your users
3. Identify 1 place in your library that does not work well for your users

Undergraduate Scholarly Habits Ethnography Project

- Where are students doing their academic work?
- Why do they choose those places? How do they make them work?
- What tools do they use or need?

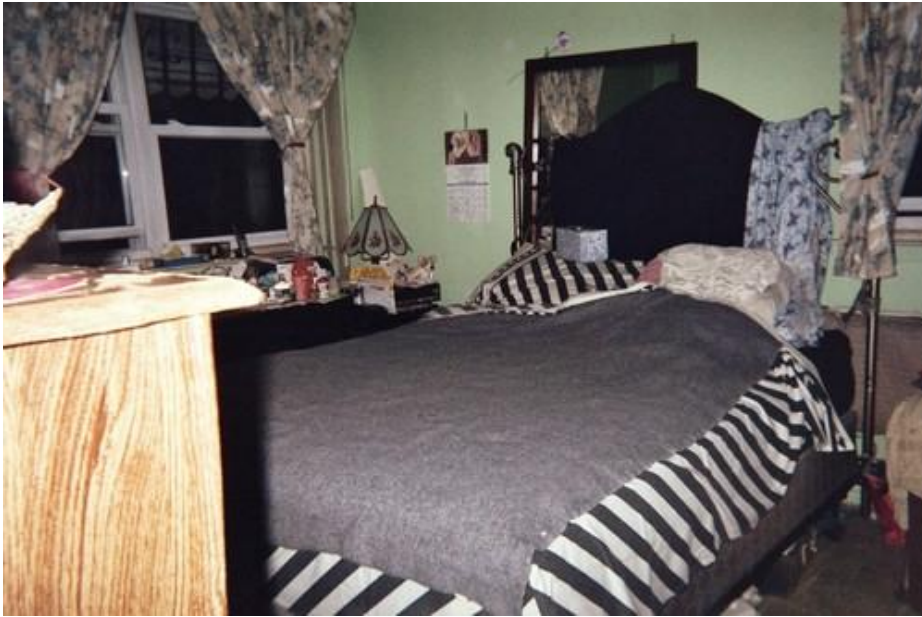
The Study

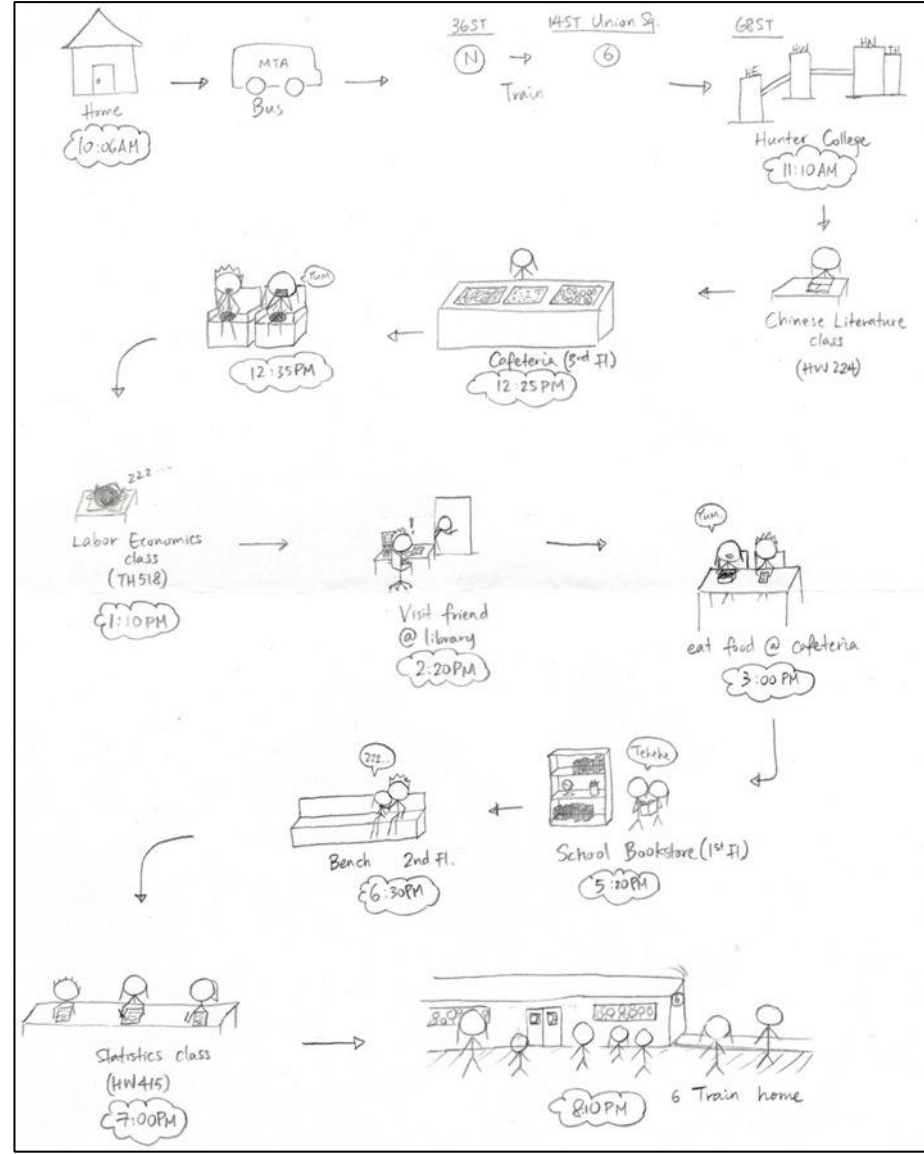
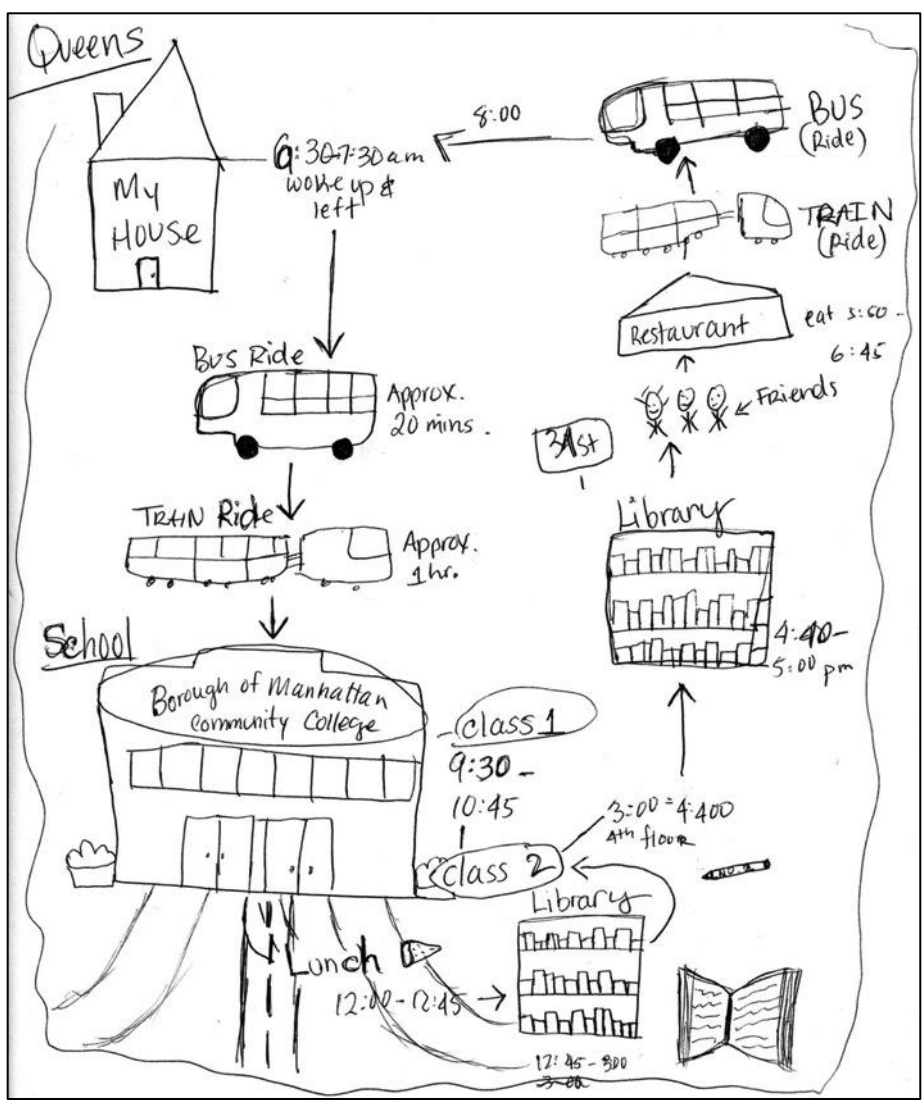


30 student interviews at each college:

- Photo Surveys
- Mapping Diaries
- Retrospective Research Process Interviews

10 semi-structured interviews with faculty at each college



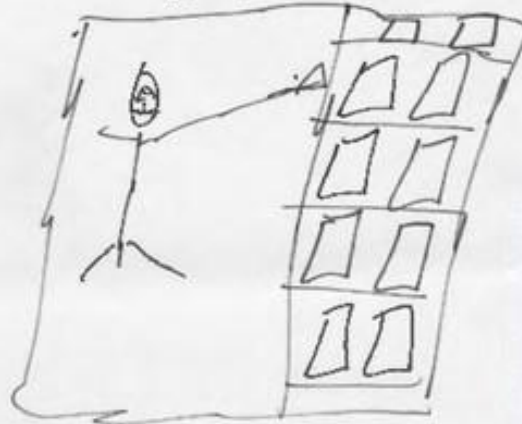




Bus Ride



Library "Book Search"



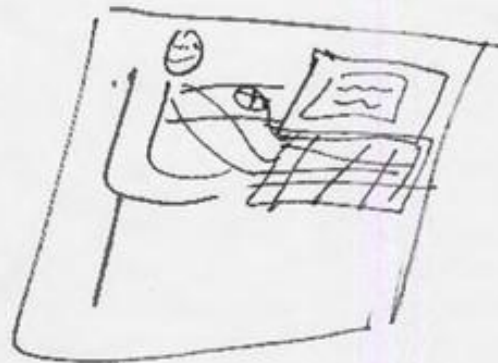
Reading



Thinking & Writing



Finally start



Student Workspaces at Home



Academic Work in the Library



“It’s like an island in the middle of the sea of bookshelves. [. . .] It’s very easy to not come across it so it’s usually quiet. That’s why I like it.”

“I have, like, some privacy which is, uh, a thing lacking at. . . So, I have some kinda privacy when I study.”







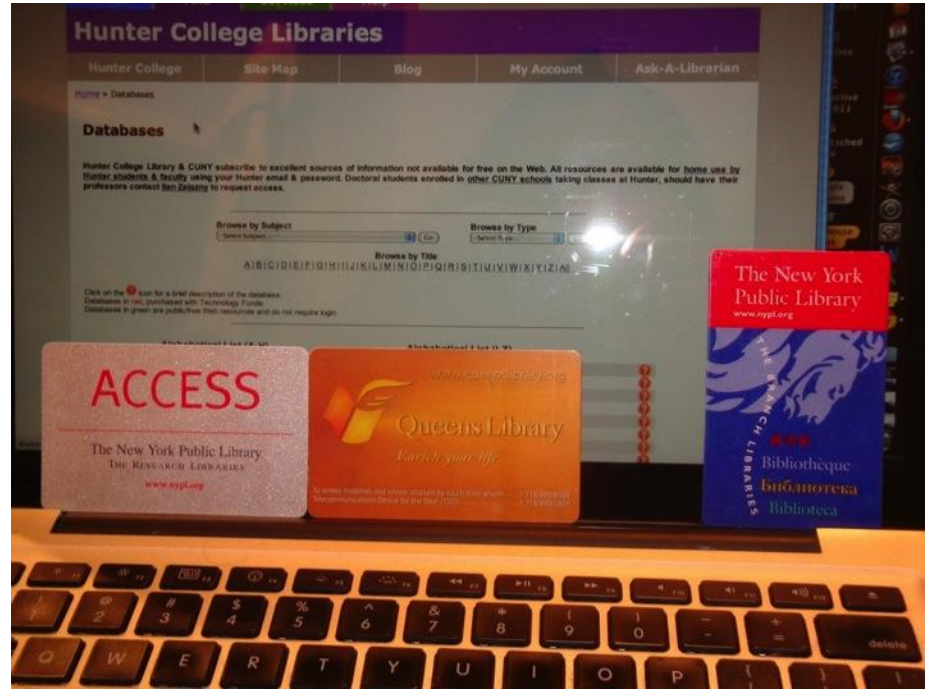
“If I find it too heavy I don’t [bring my] laptop, I borrow one from the library.”

Library Study Frustrations





[Photo: Stephen Francoeur](#)



“It says it’s a Learning Resource Center but in actuality it’s a Hang Out With Your Friends and Look at Your Cousin’s Wedding Pictures Center . . . on Facebook.”

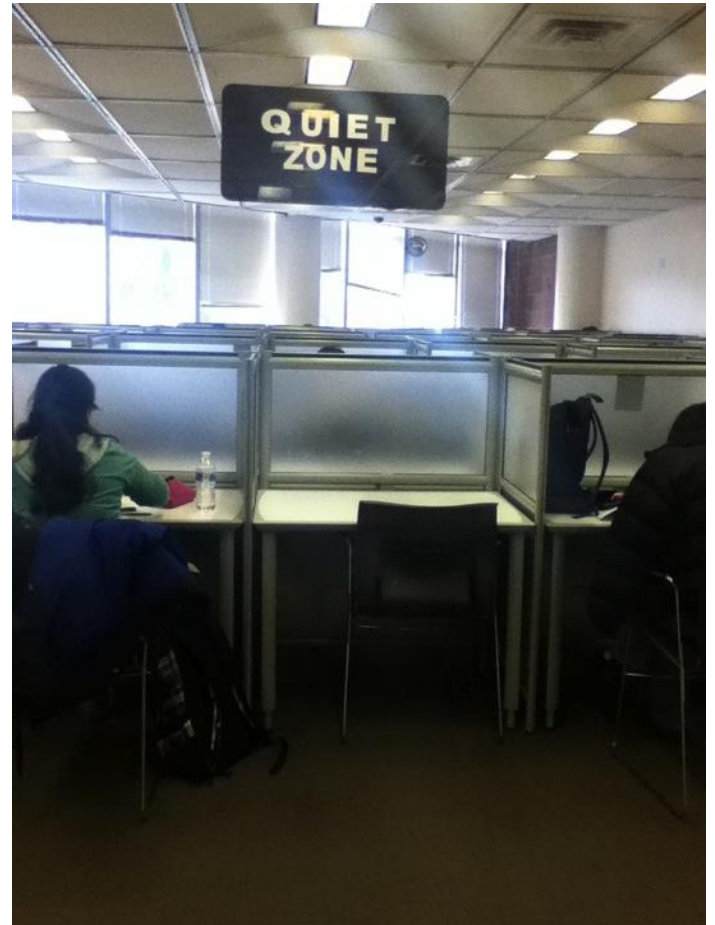
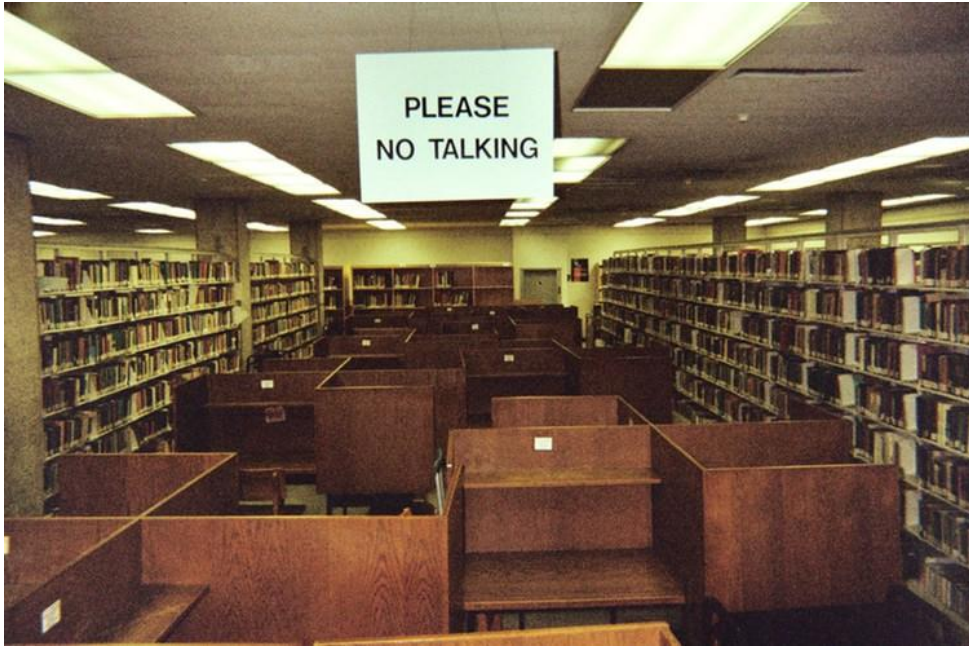


What can we do?



[Photo: CUNY](#)





“When I go home, I get distracted easily. My mom's there, cleaning the room, or watching TV, [. . .] or the computer is always there. [. . .] Here, it's very quiet, you know, you can't be loud, you can't talk, so I like being under those rules here. I can concentrate a lot better, and I'm actually doing a lot better now in school than last semester.”

Qualitative studies in libraries

Large scale



Medium scale



Small scale





Questions?

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