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Exploring Library Spaces

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Overview: Your final project will be to design and build an art installation for the library that represents the library’s electronic resources (we’ll be talking more about electronic resources and the project in general on 2/15). The relationship between physical space and electronic resources is at the heart of the project so this assignment is designed to get you exploring and thinking about the library’s physical spaces.

Instructions: Visit the library building and respond to the questions in writing below. Expect to spend about one hour moving through all floors on the library’s two buildings (there are four floors on the Honnold side, three floors on the Mudd side, and connecting bridges… it’s complicated!).

10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What’s the mood on the various floors?

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

10. Make an image (photo/sketch/etc) that represents your experience of being in the library. **Special instructions:** Upload your image to your class’ tumblr account in time for class on 2/15. The class site is available at [http://materialitycraftandlabor.tumblr.com](http://materialitycraftandlabor.tumblr.com)
ART 176 Library Art Installation Project: Exploring the Library  
Due: Wednesday, February 15, 2017

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   
   Tuesday at 4pm

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   
   Basement: Models, Art + History
   Stacks: Whole range, lots of literature / language
   2nd floor: Other things / study spaces
   3rd floor: History, cultural studies, politics, music
   4th floor: History, politics, economics

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?

   There are many people in the café area on second floor of Honnold. 2nd floor had a lot of people, lots of people in study rooms.

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?

   2nd floor Honnold, there are monitors that some people are using, whiteboards, computers, books,

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?

   There are screens in the café area with newspaper headlines on them. 2nd floor Honnold there are a lot of screens/monitors for people to hook up to...also other screens/computers on every floor + printers
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?
- Café: relaxed, social work area
- 2nd floor: Hannahel: techy, focused, bright, productive
- 3rd floor: quiet, dark, books, study rooms
- 4th floor: quiet, serious, stressed
- Basement: focused, enclosed, pressurized, quiet
- Stacks: isolated, creepy, focused, lonely

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?
- Focused, quiet, stressed, clean, bright.
- I only come to the library when I am stressed and need to get a lot of work done. I try not to go.
- Some floors feel empty & spacious.
- Some feel crowded and like a labyrinth.

8. What is your favorite library space and why?
- My favorite library space is the 4th floor overlooking the walkway (in the breezeway). I can work but also people watch.
- I also really like the 3rd floor study tables that stretch parallel to Hannahel in Mabel with the calm, warm lamps. I feel nestled and tucked away in these spots.

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.
- Angular, crammed, empty, labyrinth,

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   Monday 12:15

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   computers/tv's displaying newspapers/
   books/special collections/bulletin boards

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   The café, people eating/chatting/procrastinating/
   the upper floors people are more concentrated.

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   laptops, stacks of books, racking stacks.
   I feel upper levels have more people with stacks of ppo books.

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what's on them?
   screens on the café with news.
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?

like I really need to do work / everyone is working so hard.
4th: quietest.
3rd: quieter.
2nd floor: people doing group work
cafe: people chatting / procrastinating

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/ hear/ smell/ feel on each of the floors?

It smells a bit musty/ stuffy, like new air has not come through in 10 years.
There has never been an opened window.

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

4th floor stood shelves next to desks, I like to stand & write

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

clean, a bit old, gray.

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   Wednesday Morning

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   Books, of course, everywhere
   Lots of Magazines on the first floor, newspapers
   Microfiche in Basement
   Special Collections

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   People in founders room talking
   people studying in every level - quiet as floors get higher
   someone sleeping outside on patio
   person selling coffee and food
   people standing doing work on second floor
   security guard

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   Computers, books, packets - not really different by floor
   Coffee
   Whiteboards
   Stacks - food, mail, the cafe, coffee, banana, notebook - everything is
   live off of

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
   • Computer screens on all floors
   • Television screens advertising library
   • Desktop screens on 1st floor
   • Study room signups - digital tool...
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6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What’s the mood on the various floors?
   First floor— a quiet cafe, lots of movement
   Stairs— crowded
   2nd floor— like im in a spaceship, out of place in Founders Room
   3rd floor— quiet, like I should be doing homework

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?
   - The silence is loud— every noise is very noticeable, and when they are, it is still loud
   - Old books— one of my favorite smells, it smells like my childhood, reading books in bed. Smells a lot like what I imagine I felt like I was rough, bumpy as I ran my hands along them.
   - First floor smells like coffee and floor

8. What is your favorite library space and why?
   I love the stacks, they are pleasantly disorienting, and there just so many books in this suspended cube in the middle of a room, with beautiful floor to ceiling windows framing the less beautiful kravis center.

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.
   - Stimulating
   - Disorienting
   - Sustained Organization

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   2pm on Tuesday

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   - Books and giant monitors and computers.
   - Books are mostly in the stacks, on the first, third and forth floors.
   - The giant monitors are on the second floor.
   - The computers are on the second floor too.

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   - At tables, working. Almost everyone has a computer.

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   - Computers. Doesn't really differ but people on 3 and 4 have more books.

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
   - Monitors and computer screens.
   - Not that many people use the monitors, but I do all the time!
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?

   The first floor is very casual. People eating and group projects.
   The second floor is more quiet, there's a librarian talking to a student
   so it's not like entered silence.
   The third floor is more spread apart and quiet,
   you could hear a pin drop on the forth floor.

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?

   The first floor has more food and talking along with the cafe.
   The second floor you can hear some people talking, less food.
   The third and fourth.

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

   Second floor spaceship! I love using the monitors for big research projects
   and it's so clean and funny and new.

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

   Xylo futuristic (second floor)
   cozy (3rd floor)
   Studios

   Variety (places to study: individual
   desks, tables, group tables
   couches, cushions, wide open rooms,
   closed door rooms)

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   
   Tuesday 3:50pm - 4:40pm

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   
   Giant books on the first floor
   Asian library on the third floor
   Women studies bottom floor of Mudd

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   
   People sitting in the lobby of the Honnold side - many w/ headphones on and laptops out. A lot of them are on their phones
   People sitting at the desks - nobody looking through books

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   
   1st floor Honnold: people mainly using laptops and phones
   People using laptops mainly. One person taking notes from a book

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
   
   Screens in the lobby by the cafe
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?

1st floor: Hornet, people minding their own business. Loud, very public space-like.
Stairwell feels very segregated.
Nice blue chair on third floor surrounded by really old books, very silent.

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?

A lot of colors on the first floor — red, wood, carpet, colored chairs.
I hear talking, the rattling of the fans, espresso machine at the cafe.
Soundless in the stairs, footsteps come loudly.

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

4th floor bridge — open very open
big windows
all desks facing out

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

incomplete scholarly tip-toe necessary

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   
   Wednesday 11am

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?

   The help desk - 2 computers
   the multiliter stacks
   Books on the first floor of Honnold
   The digital tool shed - looks closed

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?

   Mostly in the new work space
   reading/doing work
   people at the help desk
   Mudd is pretty empty
   people looking for books, especially in course reading area

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?

   Mostly their own computers - especially in work space area - some reading books - taking notes, many are looking at their phones

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what's on them?

   There are the screens near the cafe that show major news outlets - also the computers by the help desk - phones
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?

The mood of the new space is kind of like a knock off google office, I feel like I'm in an office space that wants me to relax. The bottom of Mudd feels like a secluded, catacombs like study space. The rest of Mudd feels oppressively large and empty.

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?

On the bottom floor of Mudd I feel like I can really smell the woods which is nice. It's usually pretty quiet in every space. The work spaces between hope and Mudd can get loud. I feel like it is easy to avoid the sight or any of the resources, they are secluded from the working area.

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

I really enjoy the bottom floor of Mudd because I feel surrounded by books, resources, rather than empty desks or people working. The art books are down there too which is nice; this is usually where I go to do work when I'm at the library.

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

Diverse, officelike (in new work space), dramatically large, and open (Mudd multitiers)

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   Monday 10PM

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   Magazines, newspapers, in the case area
   Books all over
   Computers scattered around

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   People talking / studying in the cafe (all levels)
   Loansing books / reading
   Mudd writing on paper

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   Computers, note books
   Floor 4/3/2/1
   Not really

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
   In the cafe, they have info graphics about the library
   Screens or monitors do enhance the space
   Can’t see what is on it
   Has library info
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6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?
   - Cafe is calm and medium quiet
   - Floor 4 is almost silent
   - Floor 3 has lots of suddenness, focus

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?
   - Floor 4
     - See lots of shelves, old book smell, so quiet, it may be
     - Near tea or coffee (the tea books are up here)
   - Floor 3
     - Whisper, more air noises

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces:
   - Quiet, white, green, dark, spacious

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10 Questions to Answer:

1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   Monday 2/13

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   I see lots of books, magazines, and newspapers. I also see computers everywhere.

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   I see people sitting and working on your projects. They are mostly sitting at tables.

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   Mostly people are working on laptops. But some people are doing research on paper.

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what’s on them?
   Yes, lots of laptop screens, but there are also TV screens with lots of information. People use laptops, computers, and TV screens for school work.
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6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What's the mood on the various floors?
   1st floor was very chill
   2nd seems colder to me
   3rd was more whisper
   and 4th was the most solemn

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?
   I feel very out of place and somewhere right now.
   1st floor smells like coffee and chatter like a coffee shop.
   2nd floor smells like construction and there are soft

8. What is your favorite library space and why?
   I like the 3rd floor bridge because it is well lit, quiet but not too quiet

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.
   Beauty, old, grand, complicated
  书香

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1. What day of the week and time of day did you visit?
   
   Friday 11:15 - 1:00 pm

2. What types of research materials do you see? Where do you see different types of research materials?
   
   - Books, everywhere
   - Folios, bottom floors mostly
   - Library computers, interspersed
   - Maps, bottom of Mudd

3. Where do you see people and what are they doing?
   
   Mostly people were studying in the rooms between Honnold and Mudd.
   Conversations with people in elevators.
   A few people in libraries, studying.
   People gravitate towards windows.

4. What kinds of objects are people working with? Does this differ by floor?
   
   Even though the library is mostly filled with books most people are on main computers.
   Doesn't seem to differ too much by floors, everyone there is a mix of people on computers + reading.

5. Do you see screens? Where are they? Can you see what's on them?
   
   The screens outside the conference rooms are strange & futuristic.
   Semi-visible screen on 1st floor across from Elevator.
   Poles with posters.
   Dormy historical screen swells.
6. How do you feel in each of the library spaces? What’s the mood on the various floors?

-stone feel very urban, city or books, books lit, tone
-constant noise
-Strange feeling of small-ness/whining
-Moving from spaceship to living room
-Doors closing
-Mood of self and community involvement behavior

7. What is the sensory experience of being in the library? What do you see/hear/smell/feel on each of the floors?
-Particular sound of feet sweeping on the carpet
-Brick is easily heard
-Everywhere is a slightly off temperature - change
-The air moves from normal to Model
-Heat transfers
-The echo chamber at side entrance
-Print awareness

8. What is your favorite library space and why?

Exposed concrete to the leers of the building
Looking at people’s feet in the stacks - intrusive

9. List 3-5 words that describe the aesthetic qualities of the library spaces.

Labyrinth, spaceship, monochrome, ambient

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