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Indoor environmental comfort: evaluation of the reading area of the College of Arts and Letters Library, University of the Philippines Diliman\*

Libraries aim to support the programs offered by the university; these aim to help students further understand the concepts taught by them. By maximizing the efficiency of its clients by reducing fatigue and discomfort inducers, the goal can be further achieved. With this in mind, the study used the principles of indoor environmental comfort standards to help improve the College of Arts and Letters Library's service to its clients. Factors such as ventilation, space, conduciveness to learning, thermal comfort, lighting and acoustics were assessed if these are conducive to learning. That is, if these are able to reach the 80 overall acceptability to its clients, the satisfaction rating where an indoor environment can be deemed comfortable. This study focused on assessing and integrating environmental comfort standards for libraries based on the views given by its users and standards set by local and international bodies, and the consequent analysis of data. To gather information from the said library's users, the survey method and ocular observation was used. The study found out that the library was reaching its goal but it was not consistent. This is because the indoor environment is greatly affected by the outdoor factors and some indoor equipment that are causing some distractions. The study recommends completely making the library almost independent of the outdoor climate and creating a separate room for noise producers.

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