

Where Should I Study?

Sometimes the proximity of Blitzmail, computer games, TV, a phone, roommates, and friends can make your dorm a very distracting place to study. Here are some suggestions for a better working environment when you really need to get that homework done.

Comfortable Places

Sanborn Library is located on the first floor of Sanborn House, which is next to Baker and features alcoves, armchairs, and an elegant atmosphere. Sanborn is one of the most quiet study, comfortable study spots on campus.

Top of the Hop features plenty of light, cushy chairs, and a beautiful view of the Green. The Top of the Hop has big glass windows that look out onto Dartmouth's campus. Unless groups are meeting to study together, the Top of the Hop is usually quiet and fairly empty. All in all, a great place to get your reading done.

One Wheelock, formerly known as Lone Pine Tavern, is conveniently located in the basement of Collis, on the other side of Collis Market. While it is sometimes crowded with people studying, it is usually fairly quiet. An added bonus – it serves free coffee, tea, and hot chocolate!

Places with Fewer Distractions

The Baker Stacks are famous for their austerity. Once you've braved the hike to the top floor, you won't be tempted to run any errands, so you can get right to work.

The Berry Stacks are a new version of an old favorite. The Berry stacks offer the same seclusion as the Baker stacks but with laptop friendly carrels and better lighting. There are many tables, too, if you don't like the seclusion of your own cubicle. Be warned though – the first floor is sometimes slightly noisier because of the people passing through and talking (and possibly getting "facetime"), so you might need to trek to the third or fourth floor for some quality studying.

The Current Periodicals Room is tucked away through the back of the News Room on the first floor of Baker-Berry. Tables in private alcoves give a sense of privacy, while the big comfy chairs on the first floor are a great place to do some reading. Large windows provide lots of sunlight. This room is similar to the Baker Tower room and Sanborn library.

Fairchild Tower is a place that is not often occupied except by a few science majors. Full wall windows, a quiet environment, and many tables lend a good studying atmosphere.

Feldberg Tower at the end of Tuck Drive, near residents of the River Cluster, provides a motivational environment due to the presence of business-like Tuck and Thayer graduate students. There are silent study areas on the second floor; carrels and large tables are also available.

Rauner Special Collections Library holds the college archives. Rauner is not well-known, so it is often quiet. Special care is taken to keep the library at a cool temperature to preserve fragile books, which makes this a great place to study

during the summer. Rauner's hours, however, are somewhat limited, so be sure to check the website before you go.

The Reserve Corridor (Orozco Mural Room) is where textbooks and readings on reserve are kept. Students may read their course reserves within a two-hour limit. There are many large open tables upon which to spread out your books and laptop. Although popular in the summer as it is air-conditioned, the Reserves may be drafty in the winter. The acoustical effect of the long hall creates a sort of low hum when there are many students there. The walls of the room feature a beautiful, elaborate mural that surrounds you while you study.

The Tower Room is always silent and there are usually empty chairs. It is also one of the most beautiful rooms on campus and looks straight over the Green. However, avoid the Tower Room if you are feeling sleepy because the warmth and still air may lull you to sleep.

Social Places

Novack Café is located on the ground level of Berry and is a great place for those late nights. Open 24/7, Novack gives students access to public computers and plenty of open tables to study by yourself or with friends. The café itself is open until 2 AM Monday through Thursday, and sells plenty of caffeinated beverages and snacks.

GreenPrint is located close by on the floor below.

Collis is often where you study for half an hour between class and lunch, or when you don't want to go anywhere distant. There is a constant stream of people passing through, including large tour groups, so don't expect quiet. Collis Café, however, provides plenty of yummy baked goods and healthy meals. You can also grab some sushi or other snacks for some late night studying at Late Night Collis.

Late Night Study Places

The 1902 Room is the best place to go if you don't work well in the social atmosphere of Novack but are not ready to abandon the library at midnight. Open 24 hours (with an ID), the long tables and bright lighting make this a good spot for a potential all-nighter.

Places to Study with a Group

Classrooms are the best place to study with a group of people. You can take advantage of the blackboard and there are plenty of seats for everyone. Some places to go for open classrooms include Dartmouth Hall and Rocky.

Berry has several group study rooms on the third and fourth floors. These rooms are great for a private place for group work where you can talk without disturbing anyone and still be in the center of the library. A word of warning – you'll have to reserve one in advance.

These are just a few suggestions of places to study. Experiment with the places that work best for you. Happy exploring!