Open till late: best places to study in Melbourne

by Marcella Purnama | Friday, 29 October 2010 | | (13) Comments

Tags: Drink, Education, Exams, Food

OKAY last minute crammers, we’ve done the legwork for you and worked out the best spots in town to hole up and study till late.

Libraries

Misery loves company, and it sometimes helps to know there are others in the same boat as you. A number of libraries have extended their opening hours to give students long stretches of uninterrupted study.

The Baillieu Library at Melbourne University’s Parkville campus is probably one of the oldest and most popular haunts for students during the exam period. From now till November 19, the library will be open from 8.30am till 3am Mondays to Thursdays, 10pm on Fridays, and from 11am to 9pm on Fridays.

A lesser-known library would be the Brownless Biomedical Library, which is on the west side of the Parkville campus close to Grattan St and Royal Parade. The study hall is open daily from 7am to 2am during the exam period. The downside is you’ve got to be a Melbourne University student to access the facility.

From November 1 to 30, students will also have the option of heading down to Melbourne University’s Law Library on Pelham St. Doors to the modern and roomy library will open from 8.30am to midnight from Mondays to Thursdays, till 9pm on Fridays, and 10am to 6pm on the weekends. You don’t need to be a student from Melbourne University to use this library.
For a nook closer to the heart of the city, try the RMIT University Library located on level five at Building 8, 360 Swanston St. The opening hours aren’t as long – but it’s not bad. Hours are from 8am till midnight from Mondays to Thursdays, and doors close at 10pm on Fridays and 8pm on the weekends.

The State Library of Victoria on Swanston St has plenty of study areas and excellent internet facilities, but is open only from 10am to 9pm from Mondays to Thursdays, and till 6pm on Fridays and the weekends.

**Cafes and eateries**

Follow the escalators up to level three at Melbourne Central and arrive at the Pancake Parlour, which is open from 7am to 1am from Sundays to Thursdays and till 3am on Friday and the weekends. There’s free wireless internet access, and a hard-to-resist menu from snacks and mains to dessert and drinks. The only caveat: indiscriminate binge eating may hurt your wallet and your waistline.

An affordable alternative would be McDonald’s at Victoria Market, 501-503 Elizabeth St. It’s worth considering if you were thinking of pulling an all-nighter. It’s open 24 hours seven days a week, and there’s free WiFi. Just remember that fast food is a sometimes food.

For those after a caffeine hit, try Starbucks. There are two branches in the city – City Square on 207 Collins St and 295 Swanston St. You won’t find internet access at either branch, which could be a good thing if you find yourself constantly drawn to check up on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, instead of the textbook.

The Collins St branch opens early from 6.30am to 9.30pm Mondays and Tuesdays, 6.30am to 11.30pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6.30am to midnight on Fridays, 7.30am to midnight on Saturdays and 7.30am to 10pm on Sundays.

The Starbucks on Swanston St is open from 7am to 11pm from Mondays to Thursdays, 7am to 11.30pm on Saturdays and 8am to 10pm on Sundays.

If chocolate is more your thing, there’s Max Brenner on Menzies Alley at Melbourne Central and at QV Square.

The one at Melbourne Central is open from 8am to 10pm from Mondays to Thursdays, 8am to midnight on Fridays, 10am to midnight on Saturdays, and 10am to 10pm on Sundays.

Max Brenner at QV is open 8am to 9pm on Mondays and Tuesdays, 8am to 10pm Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8am to 11pm on Fridays, 9am to 11pm on Saturdays, and 9am to 9pm on Sundays.
And finally, if you wished the Gloria Jeans in Borders at Melbourne Central were open for longer, you should head to the one at Lygon Court, 380 Lygon St. It’s open from 10am to 10pm Sundays to Thursdays and till 11pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

Where do you go to study? Tell us in the comments sections below.

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13 Comments

Friday, 29 October 2010 at 1:33 pm

Julian Tay said:
Gloria Jeans in Borders at Lygon Court is my most productive study spot.

But Lygon Court itself makes a good study spot too! It’s really quiet during the mornings and there’s coffee. If fresco coffee opens much earlier then Gloria Jeans. Plus the tables at Lygon Court are more spacious. I think it opens till quite late at night too. The downside, it gets pretty noisy in the afternoon & there’s no internet access (which is sometimes a good thing).

Friday, 29 October 2010 at 1:53 pm

Jacqueline said:
I usually stay at home to study. If not, then I would be at the Baillieu Library. I sometimes study at the basement in arrow; it is convenient and quiet most of the time.

I used to study at the State Library, but I find it hard to find good seats during the exam period.

Friday, 29 October 2010 at 3:08 pm

alwaesboo said:
hey, no, that’s MY spot!

yeah, I realised i’ve probably tried almost all these places, libraries like Frank Tate 24h and Baillieu and GJ at both melb central and lygon work. but sometimes studying at home beats everything else. that’s if the cupboard hasn’t run out of snacks. hehehe

but i just have to.. plug the internet cable or something. oh, and the tv too. wait, the radio, the.. okay i’ll just head out.

Saturday, 30 October 2010 at 7:53 am

Vivien said:
There’s also Hungry Jack’s on Swanston! The La Trobe one is good – it’s perfect to study upstairs at night. But I’m not sure if it’s open 24 hours.

McD’s on Bourke Street (between Queen and Elizabeth Streets) is open 24 hours and is pretty good for doing work too.

Monday, 1 November 2010 at 6:32 pm

juliantofirman said:
Sue-Lee Seng said:
The Melbourne Law Library 4th Level is so far my hot spot. The full-height windows give you scenery to look out to the lawns allowing your eyes to ‘breathe’ a little away from the harshness of blank walls, books and screens!

Julian Tay said:
credits to alwaesboo for introducing the goodness of Gloria Jeans to me 😊

Btw, RMIT University library gets crazy during exam period. It’s almost impossible to find any seats during peak hours (afternoon). That’s why it’s easier for me to go and study at cafes.

Ellie Khoo said:
QV foodcourt used to be popular for students after business hours too!

Jeng said:
I usually don’t spend time in library because is too quiet for me. When I see people study, I feel so stressed out. So I prefer studying in my room or with a small group of people. So I think arrow is still the best place to study. 😊 Cheers.

Also hungry jacks near Melbourne Central open till late night. 😊

Katherine said:
The pancake parlour is really bad. They did me a really crappy pancake. People also say that Max brenner is really bad too. The quality of their food is not nice.

Roule Galatte near manchester Lane in Flinders lane, does really nice pancakes at around $4-$14 and they are open til late. check out: urbanspoon.com for more information

Sally Li said:
http://newintstudents.blogspot.com/2011/08/chillipadi-and-disappointing-lunch.html don’t go here. their lunch is disappointing and their food is expensive

Sally Li said:
btw all of the borders shops have now closed for good. Melbourne central one too

Sally Li said:
there is a dining hall at melbourne central where students can study when it is open. and there is also a new gloria jeans, which i’m willing to give it a shot
**EVENTS CALENDAR**

- **City of Melbourne Comic Club**  
  August 17, 2011, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

- **ASEAN Student Games Melbourne 2011**  
  October 1, 2011, 12:00 am to 5:00 pm

- **Easy Breezy Acoustic Night**  
  October 5, 2011, 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm

- **Melbourne Muslim Festival 2011**  
  October 16, 2011, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

- **Public lecture by Professor Chomsky**  
  November 4, 2011, 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm

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