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Descriptive Essay

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Abstract

For COMP 100, we wrote a visual analysis essay by picking a building or attraction on campus, describing it in as much detail as possible, and then view it through the lenses of the rhetorical situation. In this essay, we had to be very descriptive and conclude whether the building or attraction served its purpose for the space. In this essay, I wrote about the South Dining hall. First, I focused on all the features of its architecture. These features focused on things such as bear logos, colors, the windows as wall for natural light, and many more. Then I explain the people you might encounter there and the atmosphere that is created through its popularity. Finally, I examined the numerous services it offers highlighting the importance of its 24/7 hours and its location by all the dorms. I also added that due to its location it was the most popular dining hall on campus. After working through the various aspects of the rhetorical situation and its application to the building, I concluded that the South dining hall does, in fact, fulfil its purpose by providing students and staff with a safe place to eat food and build relationships with others.

10 key words

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Visual | Architecture |
| Analysis | Kutztown |
| Descriptive | South |
| Purpose | Students |
| Audience | Space |

South Dining Hall

Kutztown University has many fascinating buildings. One of the buildings that really stand out to me is “South,” short for South Dining Hall. South is located right near Dixon Hall and the soccer field. It is the biggest dining hall on campus; located on the south side of campus. This dining hall has two floors; the bottom floor is open 24 hours a day all week and the top closes at 8 p.m. every day. South Dining Hall has many features that make it one of the most popular spots on campus, thus fulfilling its purpose on campus for the students.

Everybody refers to South Dining Hall universally. Despite being called South Dining Hall, everybody just calls it “South.” South is located on the south side of campus thus given the name South Dining Hall. South serves its purpose because it gives people a way of forgetting about schoolwork even if it is just for thirty minutes. It does this by providing a space where people can just get together and talk or just share a meal together. This building helps build relationships and helps people form new friendships. Who knows, waiting in that line for a cheeseburger with some random kid will form a new lifelong friendship. You just never know what will happen. Unbelievably, I have gotten closer to people I have not been close to due to South being at our convivence. I can do this by sitting down and eating food with them and a group of other people. South Dining Hall has a good purpose and fulfills that purpose and much more.

The dining hall is an extremely popular place to hang out on campus so along with that brings noise. For example, people tend to come to the south for three things, getting together

with friends, eating, or games. These things all bring along noise, especially when there are many people doing things at once. This is limited because the south has rush times where many students come together. I have gathered information where times such as 7-9 am, 11-2 pm, and 5-8 tend to be the busiest. If you are there at those times, it is super loud. When people are talking to each other across from one another and they cannot hear each other they get louder, but so does everybody else. If you are looking to do any kind of work in there, my best advice would be to go on an “off” time. Due to South being located closest to all the dorms, it brings in a diversity of people. People aged 18-22 are usually found here and their races vary greatly. Students are the main group in this space, but professors and other staff members occasionally come to South to enjoy what it has to offer. This is due to being open 24/7 and people having the option to grab a seat and go about their day as they please.

The dining hall has a few logos and features located in and around the building. To illustrate these features, as you are walking down the concrete sidewalks and down the steps the first thing you see when you approach the doors is a big KU logo printed on the ground. This is just one of the many logos that show off that school spirit. This KU logo is outlined with maroon bricks and has a gold ring around the letters to make it stand out a little more. After you notice that there is the school logo outside of South under your feet, you finally open the doors. As soon as you walk in you are amazed. Straight ahead there is yet another KU logo. This one is very welcoming. This KU logo is printed onto the wall with bricks all around it.

To top that, right below it is an electric fireplace, so you feel just like you are at home, I know I do. With this great-looking wall, there are also seats that are around it so you can socialize with friends around the great atmosphere. To continue with the notable features this

dining hall has, it also has bear claws on both sides on the big KU logo in the middle. These claws add to the features and add details to the dining hall, so it is not only plain and ordinary. Colleges use features like the ones mentioned above to show off their campus and make people want to go there. When making college decisions, a key factor that plays a vital role is how does the campus look; is it a beautiful campus or not? Overall, Kutztown University tries to present its school spirit and college culture by providing simple features like the school logos throughout the dining hall.

As a whole South is pleasing to the eye through the wonderful use of space. With South having a two-floor open concept that has plenty of room for the many ways people want to take advantage of the area. As you are walking towards South, the first thing you will notice is that it is a big glass building. The glass is a genuinely nice feature because it brings in natural light and allows you to feel like you are not trapped in a space. It presents a welcoming feeling that makes you want to come in even if it is just for a bit. When you walk up the stairs in South, you will notice that is where most of the people are. Unlike the bottom floor, this floor only had windows along the wall behind all the booths. However, one cool feature the top floor has is that you can open the windows so if you get hot or see a friend outside that you want to get their attention you can open the window up.

To sum this up, South is a wonderful use of space and serves its purpose. South is responsible for building many of my friendships and I can bet other people can agree on that too. Through its appeal to Kutztown students, South Dining Hall gives off a warm welcoming to KU students and visitors. South serves its purpose- to create a great space on campus for students to get together over food, games, tv, and socializing.

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