

UNC Charlotte's Thoughts on Thoughtful Cup Coffee Shop

By: Leah Ervin

Since its grand opening in the Spring of 2022, the Thoughtful Cup coffee shop has quickly become the go to destination for coffee lovers and students seeking a cozy spot to work or unwind. As a welcoming substitute to libraries or chain coffee shops, this café combines a vibrant atmosphere with the luxury of coffee, pastries and a quick snack.

The Thoughtful Cup menu has a plethora of coffee options; from lattes to pour overs, mochas to americanos, or any coffee a student could want, Thoughtful Cup has it. Thoughtful Cup also offers a tea menu, flavored lemonade and energy spritzers (an energy drink combined with a range of flavors).

Thoughtful Cup has a number of pastries, including croissants, cookies, muffins and seasonal slices. The shop is also attached to a market stocked with protein bars, on the go sandwiches and bottled drinks. This market is an efficient spot to grab a quick snack while on a time crunch.

Sidney Layman, a barista at Thoughtful Cup, said her favorite thing to make on the menu right now is a peppermint mocha. It makes her excited for the upcoming holiday season. Layman loves her student job at Thoughtful Cup, through being employed by the school, she is able to work around her class schedule and meet new peers around campus.

“It’s really nice to work here. I have a job that prioritizes my education, I get to see my friends and I can try new drinks every shift!”

It is evident the staff enjoys working at Thoughtful Cup, this could be accredited to the artwork and environment of the establishment. The coffee shop was created in hopes to well represent the Liberal Arts and Sciences school, so during construction, it was prioritized that this space would create an inviting area to all students through diverse and artistic murals.

Junior at UNC Charlotte, Taylor Weirich, is a frequent visitor of Thoughtful Cup. Despite not particularly enjoying coffee, Taylor goes to the coffee shop for the peaceful place to study and other options the menu has to offer.

“My go order is the chocolate muffins or the cookies... I don’t even like coffee but Thoughtful Cup has the best tea ever and I love to meet my friends there to do work for class.”

As a student majoring in Communication Studies, Weirich can often be found in Fretwell, making Thoughtful Cup the perfect place to stop by both before and after class. She went in

depth about how she prefers studying in the café and overall environment in comparison to the library.

Much like other students, both Taylor and Sidney have an appreciation for Thoughtful Cup. They both express appreciation for how the space is perfect for any student craving a drink, snack or even a peaceful area to study. As Thoughtful Cup continues to grow in popularity, the coffee shop is proving to be more than just a café, but a campus safe haven for those seeking inspiration while drinking their favorite brew.