

Jose Zepeda

Interview about ISR Food Transcript

Me: Have you heard of the rumors of ISR having some of the worst food of all the dining halls?

Daniel: No I haven't.

Me: Alright, so in that case, what do you think of the food personally?

Daniel: Well I didn't think it was terrible. I don't have a problem with it. I think it's pretty good. I usually go there to eat breakfast and dinner, and lunch when I can.

Me: You said that you don't think it's terrible, so do you think it could improve?

Daniel: Yeah. They should have chocolate pancakes every morning, not just select mornings.

Me: Do you think the food is diverse enough for everyone?

Daniel: Oh it's definitely diverse. It's not always the same thing, so it does have its variety. When I came here I thought it was pretty cool because in high school, it was always the same old thing, you know, pizza, salad, and hamburgers.

Me: Do you eat the "diverse" food?

Daniel: If it looks appetizing I'll give it a try.

Me: Do you think that the food is diverse enough for others?

Daniel: Yeah, as long as people aren't picky about it. I think it does a fairly good job.

Me: Have you visited the other dining halls?

Daniel: Yeah

Me: Which ones?

Daniel: I've only visited one and it's been PAR for Late Night.

Me: How is that one compared to ISR?

Daniel: I guess it is kind of diverse but every night it's always the same thing at the same spot. I usually always just go for the pizza when I'm hungry.

Me: So it's not buffet style? It's ala carte?

Daniel: You could say that.

Me: Does the food at ISR meet your dietary needs?

Daniel: I think it's plenty in terms of vegetables that I need, but yeah I would say so.

Me: Do you have any dietary restrictions?

Daniel: No I do not. I can eat whatever.

Me: For those who have dietary restrictions, do you think there is enough food for them?

Daniel: Yeah definitely because they have gluten free toast just for stuff like that. You know, it takes it into account that certain people can't have certain things. Things like the certain types of bread and bagels they have. They have a wide variety and they take into account that. You know, people come from everywhere and some people have certain needs when it comes to eating certain stuff.

Me: So do you like the special Mexican and Asian food days?

Daniel: I have not had a chance to try the special Asian food, but the Mexican food I can say that I was very fond of and enjoyed it.

Me: Do you think they should have other special food days like Italian, or soul food?

Daniel: Now that you mention it, yes, very much indeed. Especially Italian - I love that.

Me: Do you think the food at the other dining halls is better or on par with ISR?

Daniel: I guess it depends on what day, because everyday is different. Like pretty much everyone might favor certain food over other ones certain days when ISR has something good. Yeah I would definitely favor it over having to walk all the way somewhere else for something that is on par but being that I don't have much experience in other cafeterias, I don't want to say too much because I don't know too much. But comparing it to PAR Late Night, which I have been to, I can say that when ISR has the stuff that I like to eat, it's pretty much on par with PAR Late Night, which is pretty good.

Me: Which is your favorite meal so far? Breakfast, lunch, or dinner?

Daniel: Definitely breakfast.

Me: Why?

Daniel: Because I like waking up to chocolate chip pancakes every morning and a glass of chocolate milk and they got a bunch of cereal that you can choose from so I mean you can't go wrong with that. Toasted bagels are pretty cool in the morning too. I mean, I can't wake up to chocolate pancakes every morning, so it's also a good alternative, so I definitely look forward to breakfast every morning at ISR.

Me: I noticed you listed "American" items. So you prefer American foods in general?

Daniel: Well I mean, my family is Mexican and I come from there. They don't have what I would usually eat when I wake up in the morning when I was still back at home, but this is definitely a good alternative I do not mind at all, having to come to that every morning but because I don't have that food from home, I definitely favor more traditional American dishes.

Me: So in that case do you think the breakfast is not that diverse?

Daniel: Not necessarily that it's not diverse, it's just that go to breakfast - that's the first thing you think of. You think of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage. Well me, that's what I would think of, compared to if I asked someone else, their first answer might not be chilaquiles or something like that.

Me: Do you think they need to diversify their breakfast as well, in order to appeal to others?

Daniel: Part of me wants to say yes, because you know, I would love that very much, but part of me wants to say no because nobody made chilaquiles better than my mom, and I don't know if I want Mexican food that doesn't come from my mom or my family.