



THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORKS ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGE



NEAR EAST
UNIVERSITY

Assist. Prof. Dr. Hüseyin BİCEN – huseyin.bicen@neu.edu.tr

Saide Sadıkoğlu, Günay Sadıkoğlu

INTRODUCTION

- ✖ The increase in popularity of social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter and increase in a number of social users allow the access to more resources in terms of learning and sharing.



INTRODUCTION

- ✖ Through social networking tools, individuals can establish their social networks, share latest news, videos, educational subjects, interesting stories as well as having the opportunity to be followed by other users



INTRODUCTION

- ✖ A number of studies indicate that through the use of social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter, individuals are able to follow pages according to their needs and interests.



INTRODUCTION



- ✗ Also, they are able to develop and use effective communication tools which in result shows that social networking sites support education in a range of ways. Research studies show that social networks can be used for educational purposes and have a positive impact on students

INTRODUCTION



- ✘ By taking into consideration the applications on social networks that are used via smart phones, the study was based to examine how today undergraduate students use social networks as a language tool.

THE AIM OF THE RESEARCH

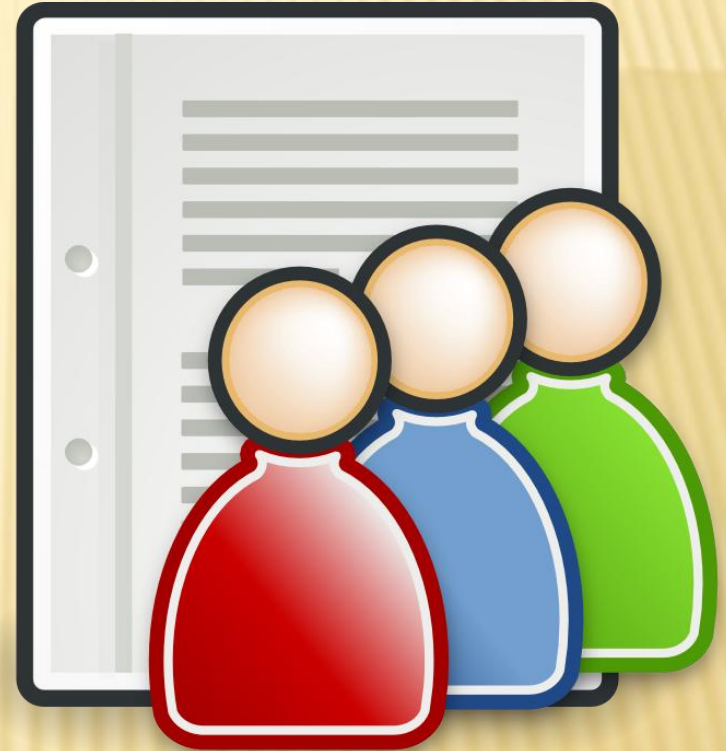
- ✖ The aim of this study is to determine how much undergraduate students benefit from social networking sites while learning a foreign language.
- ✖ The population for the study consists of university students studying at the Near East University.

PARTICIPANTS

- ✘ In total 85 undergraduate students agreed to take part in this study.
- ✘ Research was implemented during the fall semester 2013-2014 at Near East University.

PARTICIPANTS

- ✗ On the study 85 volunteered participants,
- ✗ 31.8 % (n=27) were **female** and
- ✗ 68.2 % (n=58) were **male**.



PARTICIPANTS

Students From;	
Tourism and Hospitality Management	12.9% (n=11)
Computer Education and Instructional Technologies	34.1% (n=29)
Department of Gifted Education	11.8% (n=10)
Department of Music Education	29.4% (n=25)
Department of Mathematic Teaching	11.8% (n=10)

DATA COLLECTION TOOLS

- ✘ In order to gather information a 5-point Likert scale questionnaire was used in this study. The reliability of the questionnaire was measured through Cronbach Alpha, yielding the score of 0.89.
- ✘ Data was collected through the questionnaire by using SPSS software. The findings from the study were presented by using percentage, frequency and descriptive statistics.

RESULTS

ITEMS

Social networks play the useful impact in improving foreign language”

I follow online pages on social networking sites to learn foreign language

I use chat tools via social networking sites to improve foreign language

I accept applications through social networks related to language learning

I use translation features via social networks

I get help from translations tools before making any posts through social networks

I follow foreign language teachers on social networks to improve the target language

STRONGLY AGREE

RESULTS

ITEMS

I try to enhance the language ability by communicating with foreign people via social networks

I pay attention to the sentence patterns and accent while watching videos on social networking sites

Images posted on social networks related to language learning are very memorable

AGREE

RESULTS

ITEMS

I try to answer tests in the foreign language to evaluate my level in the target language

I force myself to learn the language by writing sentences on social networking groups

Audiovisuals are used via social networks to practice foreign language

I feel confident about making posts in foreign language on social networks

DISAGREE

CONCLUSION

- ✖ Considering the findings of this study students have stated that there is a positive effect of social networking sites on learning foreign languages.
- ✖ Students mentioned that they follow professional foreign language teachers and various facilities used for speaking in order to improve their speaking skills.

CONCLUSIONS

- ✖ We are in a digital era where everything is at your fingertips and thus information should be available at any place and at any time without any restrictions by students and instructors.
- ✖ It has now become a necessity to move forward from the traditional learning environment to a new and more efficient technological learning tradition.

CONCLUSIONS

- ✖ The integration of technological learning environments such as social networking sites, Web 2.0 tools with the traditional educational instructions will definitely help prepare millennial students in a much better manner for their future careers.

CONCLUSION

- ✖ It was also stated that students prefer to use automatic translations in order to decrease the problem of understanding the news that they read on social networking sites.



CONCLUSION

- ✖ Videos and flash cards also play a great role on understanding and learning foreign language and as a result students are more likely to recollect the information easily.
- ✖ However, despite all these positive statements students feel anxious about communicating in the target language.

CONCLUSION

- ✖ It is recommended for teachers to use various Web 2.00 tools on social networking sites in order to develop new teaching tools, which will help students to improve and practice their language skills.



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



NEAR EAST
UNIVERSITY

Assist. Prof. Dr. Hüseyin BİCEN – huseyin.bicen@neu.edu.tr