

Running Head: Like and Dislikes of Social Media in the Classroom

Likes and Dislikes of Social Media in the Classroom

A Brigham Young University-Idaho student survey

Abee Kent, Ryan Carr, Ashley Hatch and Jacie Mustard

Brigham Young University-Idaho

## **Background**

Due to the technological advancement and advancements in social media more people are using it for new and innovative purposes. Some of the more recent uses of social media can be found within the classroom.

Studies have found schools have been using technology more often for homework assignments and communication with students and parents. Books are now found online rather than needing to be paperback and purchased/rented at a bookstore.

Teachers have been using youtube and other websites to help teach classes and to bring examples to the students in and outside of the classroom. Now social media is becoming an integrated part of the classroom.

Social media groups for the class, networking, and many other school related things have been begun to become more popular within each school area. Social media was already a very popular thing among the youth, but how are they feeling towards using social media for school uses?

## Method

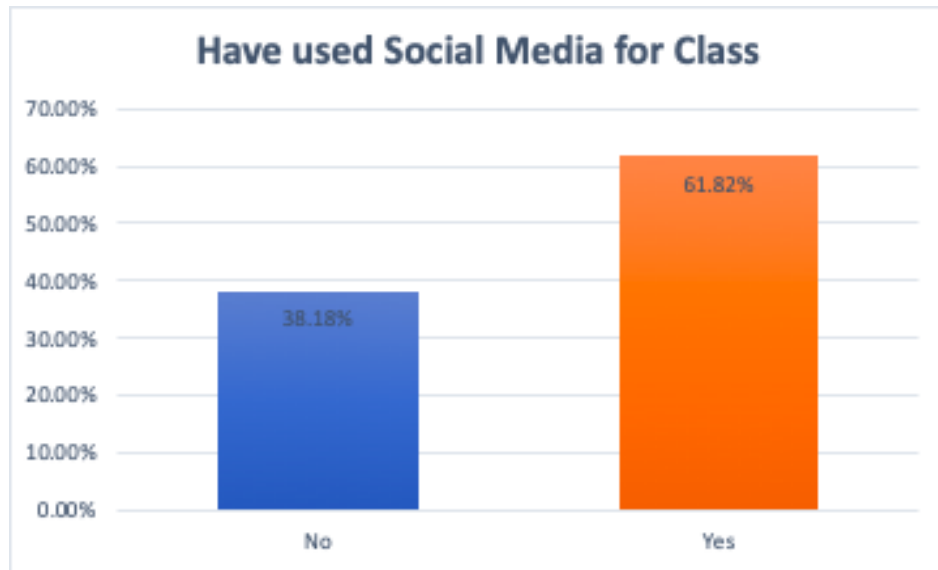
In this study, we had one main question that we wanted to find out among students here at Brigham Young University of Idaho. “How do students feel about using social media in the classroom?”

A Qualtrics survey was sent to 300 students that was composed of eight questions regarding social media in a classroom setting. Of these 300 students, 56 responded to the questions. Out of the eight findings, three had generic questions to get a little background from the respondents. Once the survey was out for a few days to a week, we started to look at the responses and collect data. We found that students generally do not like to use social media in the classroom and would prefer for it to only be used for their personal life.

- Have you been required to use social media for class assignments or communication?  
(By Social Media, this study means YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Wordpress or Portfolium.)
- How frequently do you use the following social media platforms for classroom assignments or communication?
  - Youtube
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - LinkedIn
  - Wordpress
  - Portfolium
- How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:
  - My social media account should only be used for my personal life
  - I enjoy using social media for classroom assignments

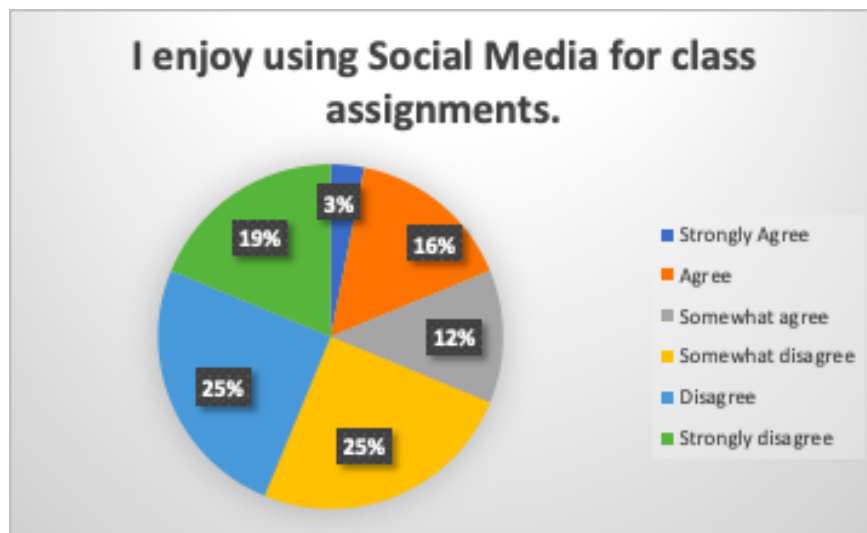
- Using social media for classroom assignments has been beneficial
  - Using social media for classroom communication has been beneficial
- What do you like most about using social media in class?
- What do you like least about using social media in class?
- Sex?
- What college are you in?
- What year are you in school?

**Chart 1:** 61.82 percent of students have used social media for classroom assignments and communication



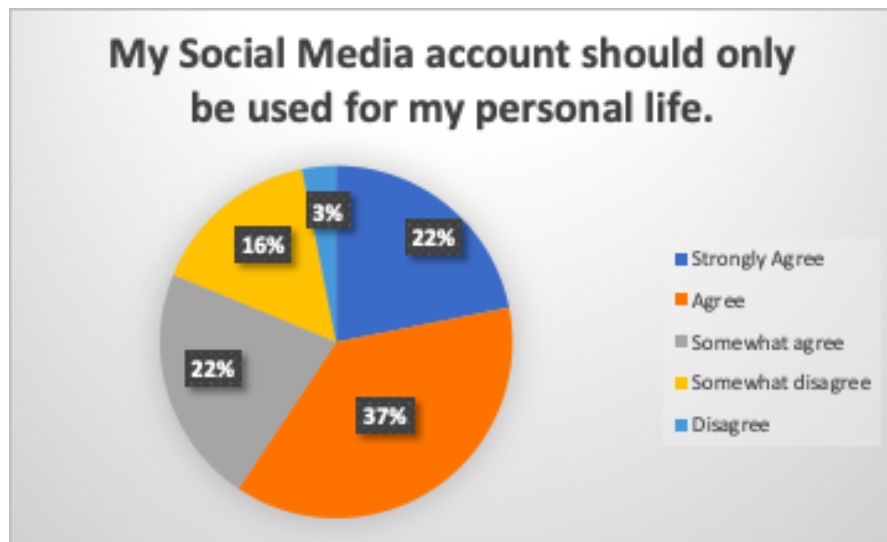
In our survey, we asked the question, “Have you been required to use Social Media for class assignments or communication?” Out of 56 responses, 34 (61.82 percent) responded yes and 22 (38.18 percent) responded no. This shows that not all classes require students to use social media for their homework assignments or communication with their peers.

**Chart 2:** Students do not enjoy using social media for their class assignments.



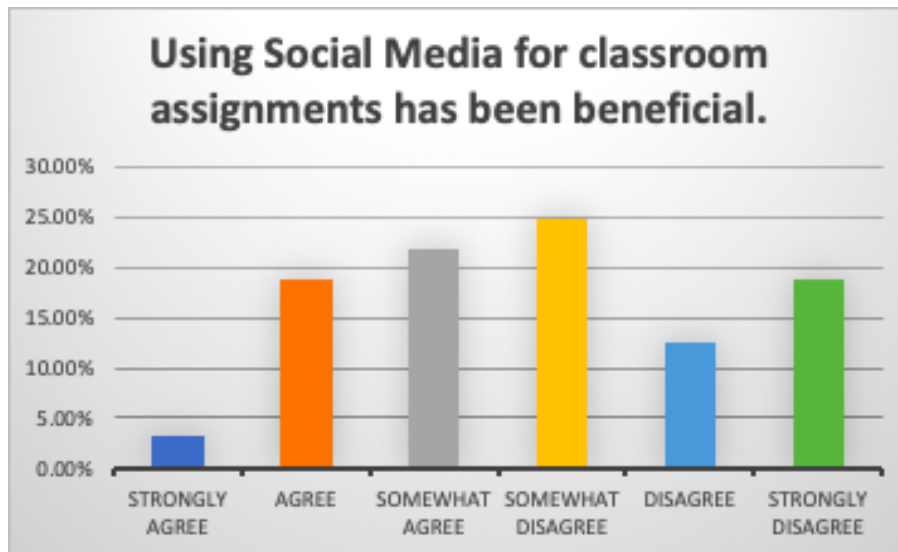
In a survey given to BYU-I students, students were asked to answer the following likert scale question I enjoy using social media for the classroom assignments 3 percent strongly agreed, 16 percent agreed, and 12 percent somewhat agreed. Meaning that 31 percent of people have a positive feeling about using social media for classroom assignments. On the other side, 19 percent strongly disagree, 25 percent disagree and 25 percent somewhat disagree with the statement. This shows that 69 percent of students do not enjoy using social media for classroom assignments.

**Chart 3:** Students feel that Social Media should be used only for your personal life



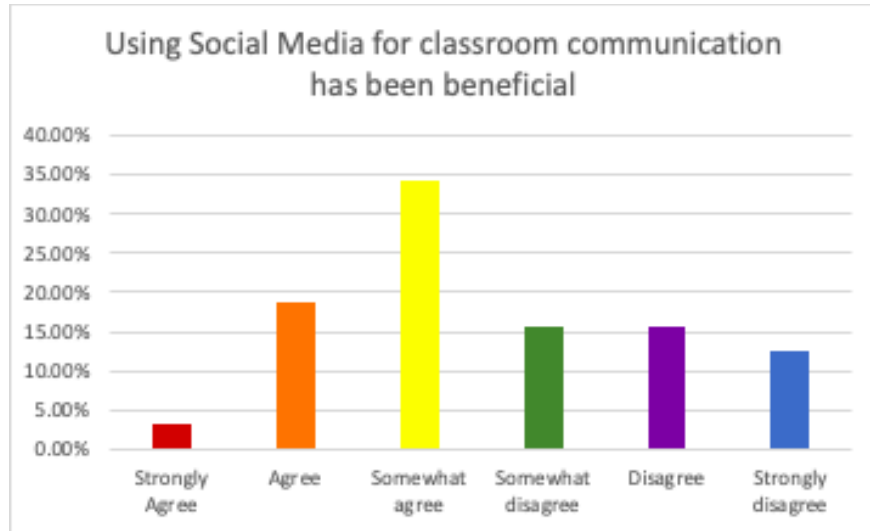
The likert scale question asked to students 'my social media account should only be used for my personal life' was answered in the following way. 22 percent strongly agreed 37 percent agreed and 22 percent somewhat agreed with the statement. That is an overall total of 81 percent of students that feel that social media should just be used for their personal life. The other 38 percent answered that they disagree with the statement. 16 percent somewhat disagreed and 3 percent disagree with the statement.

**Chart 4:** Students think that social media for Classroom Communication is Beneficial



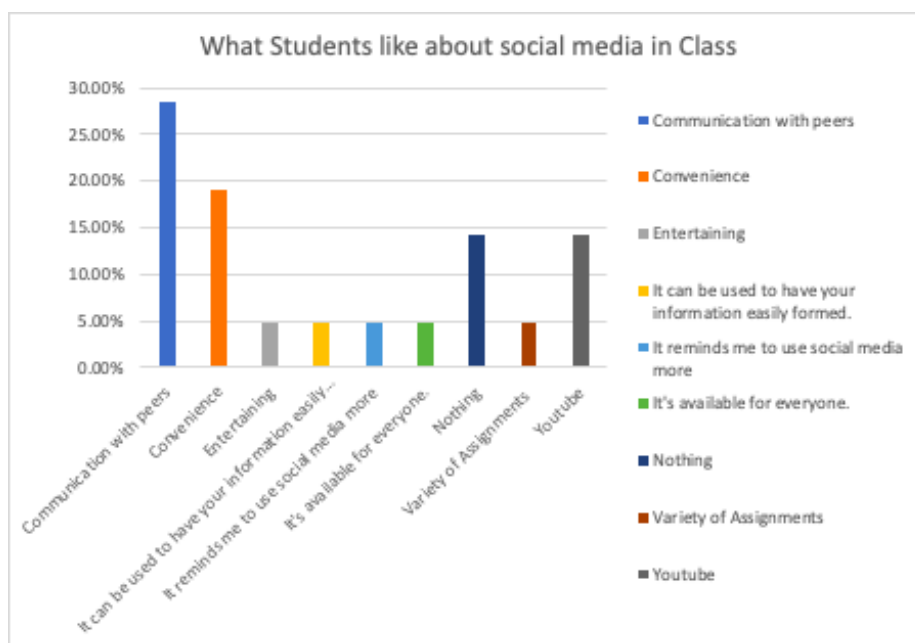
When asked the following question 'Do you think using social media for classroom communication is beneficial 3 percent of students strongly agreed with the statement, 19 percent of students agreed with the statement and 36 percent of students somewhat agreed with the statement. This shows that 58 percent of students think using social media for classroom assignments is beneficial. On the other side, 12 percent of students strongly disagreed with with statement, 15 percent disagreed with the statement, and 15 percent somewhat disagreed. This shows 42 percent of students think that using social media for classroom communication is not beneficial.

**Chart 5:** Students feel that using Social Media for classroom assignments is not beneficial



When asked the following likert scale question, “Students feel that using social media for classroom assignments is not beneficial” 3 percent strongly agreed. 18 percent agreed and 34 percent somewhat agreed. 16 percent somewhat disagreed, 16 percent disagree and 13 percent strongly disagreed.

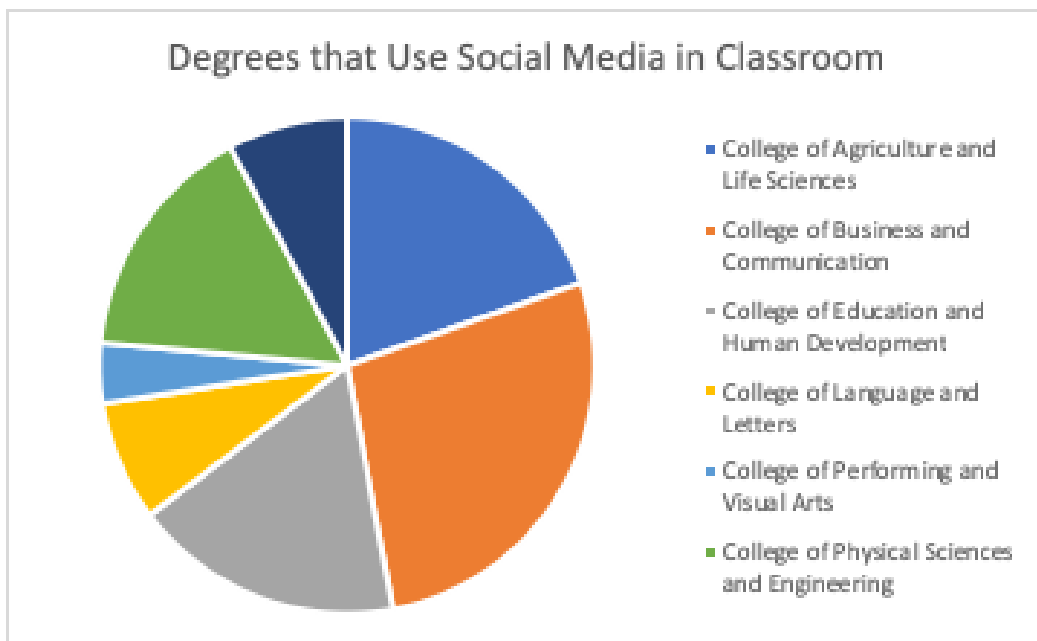
**Chart 6:** Students like using social media to communicate with their peers.





Students were asked the open ended question “What do you like most about using social media in the classroom?”. 28 percent answered for communicating with their peers, 19 percent said convenience, 4 percent said entertainment 4 percent said to access information easily, 4 percent said it is a helpful reminder, 4 percent said that it is free and available to everyone, 14 percent nothing, 4 percent said it adds variety to the assignments and 14 percent said they like using youtube

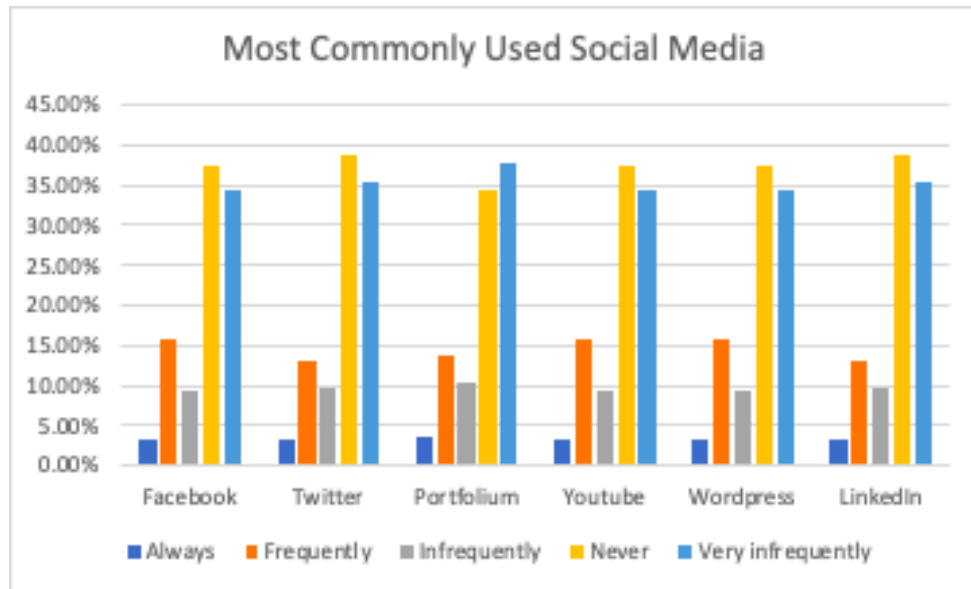
**Chart 7:** The College of Business and Communication uses social media in their classes more than other degrees.



After responding yes to the question “Do you use social media in the classroom?” Those that responded yes were then asked a follow up question “What college are you in?” 10 responses (19.23 percent) are in Agriculture and Life Sciences, 9 (17.31 percent) are Education and Human Development, 8 (15.38 percent) are in Physical Sciences and Engineering, 14 (26.92 percent) are in Business and Communication, 4 (7.69 percent) are in Language and Letters, 2 (3.85 percent) are in Performing and Visual Arts and 5 (9.62 percent)

are undeclared. This shows that the majority of students who use social media in the classroom are from the College of Business and Communication

**Chart 8:** Facebook, Wordpress, and Youtube are three of the top social media platforms used in the classroom.



Students were asked the question, “How frequently do you use the following social media platforms for classroom assignments or communication?” We then listed six common social media platforms: Youtube, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Wordpress and Portfolium. 3 percent of the responses answered always on mostly all of the platforms. The responses varied from 16 percent to 13 percent on the answer frequently. 9 to 11 percent answered infrequently, 34 to 38 percent answered never, while 34 to 37 percent answered very infrequently.

After seeing the results from the paper we had the question 'Do students nationally feel the same about social media as the students at Brigham Young University-Idaho do?'

To answer the question an article was found call *Double-edged sword:social media use in the classroom*. This study was done by a group of professors from North Dakota University. The study was done by having 8 different focus groups and 76 participants. The purpose of this research is to identify the students' perceptions of social media use in a classroom setting. Over the course of two weeks the professors were able to gather data. Their research and the research done for this project are extremely similar.

In the article it stated that it's important for education to meet specific changes when needed. Technology is important to incorporate when appropriate. Teachers nationally wanted to use it somehow to show students the changes that it was making, so they decided to use social media.

In chart 1 in this paper it shows that 61.82 percent of students have used social media in the classroom. That is a little higher than the average that was found in the study. In the study they found that "41 percent of college-level instructors use social media as a teaching tool." (2015 september 23)

In chart 3, 81 percent of students stated that they felt that their social media should only be used for their personal life. In the article, one of their findings supported this data. The findings showed that students felt using your personal account could "blur the lines of personal life versus professional/educational life." (2015 September 23)

Students in the study feared that teachers having access to the personal accounts of students might change the teachers opinion on them and affect their grade negatively. A solution that they found for this problem would be to create a seperate account for school assignments, that way both parties (students and teachers) would be satisfied.

Chart 2 demonstrates 69 percent of students did not enjoy using social media for classroom assignments. The study done in the article found several reasons why students feel that way. The first is that “students saw social media that is required as part of a class intrusive.” (2015 September 23). The second thing that the study found, is that requiring social media use lessons the value of using social media. “Requirements do more to push students away from social media than to bring them to it.” (2015 September 23)

In the study, teachers used social media like blogs and Facebook for certain types of discussions, and to exchange ideas and to organize group meetings. Social media can be used for good things such as, “greater engagement, greater interest, [and] students taking more control and responsibility for their education” (2015 September 23).

The purpose of this study was to find how students felt about using social media in the classroom. Through surveys we were able to find that students did not enjoy using social media in the classroom, that students feel that social media should just be used for personal life, and social media is not beneficial for classroom assignments but it is useful for classroom communication. This study shows students perceptions of social media use for classroom assignments and communication.

To Whom it may concern:

Just a quick reminder.

As part of a research class we are hoping to understand how students feel about using Social Media for classroom assignments and communication. As a current BYU-Idaho student, we value your participation and feedback. This survey should take no longer than five minutes. The feedback that we receive will be shown at the Research and Creative workshop here on campus. All answers received will be anonymous.

If you have any question regarding the survey please feel free to contact us at ken15006@byui.edu

Click the link below to begin the survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your insights and thoughts with us.

[https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbyui.az1.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2Fsv\\_25LoOJNV5wrx2hD&token=Vr9oNqO%2FWmc6uG7K7fG2lJypl8ZPA P1rHDM7q8hdRDs%3D](https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbyui.az1.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2Fsv_25LoOJNV5wrx2hD&token=Vr9oNqO%2FWmc6uG7K7fG2lJypl8ZPA P1rHDM7q8hdRDs%3D)

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## **Sources**

Article:

*Double-edged sword: social media use in the classroom.*

<http://web.a.ebscohost.com.byui.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=3&sid=6f3e2159-53b2-4f40-8bd9-c60c30529121%40sessionmgr4009&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWwhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=116343743&db=aph>