

Employing Social Networks in Social E-learning

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Abstract: This research aims to know the employment of social networks in social e-learning by highlighting the role of social networks in education, the optimal use of these networks in the process of teaching and learning, the pros and cons behind not using them properly, the characteristics of using social networks and their justification in education, and finally presenting Some recommendations for the use of social networks in the educational process.

Keywords: Social E-learning, Social Networks.

1. INTRODUCTION

The importance of the Internet has increased at the present time in the teaching and learning processes, as this technology imposed a new reality in the educational field at its various levels and brought about drastic changes in teaching methods and educational communication between teachers and students. And the professor in carrying out his duties efficiently and effectively, as it enabled the learner to interact with the professor remotely in a virtual reality such as e-learning and learning through social networking sites and networks.

Social networks are considered the fastest growing sectors of e-learning in recent years, and for this reason educational policies in general in the world and education plans in Arab countries in particular have sought to shift from the level of focus on educational content that should cast all students, to focus on finding ideal methods. Which enables students to learn, where students are able to build new relationships with others and share their intellectual and cognitive output and disseminate all of this through multiple media, including text, sound, image and video of technologies that have become one of the most important features of the next generation of communication in the Internet. It is what contributed to the reformulation of a new relationship between students and professors, which contributed to the promotion of virtual education through social media sites, as most international universities tend to use this type of education in recognition of the great economic benefits that are achieved through them. It runs at universities, or at the level Academic education by providing educational opportunities for people who may be difficult to join the education system in its traditional form, in addition to its contribution to solving many of the problems that university education faces. (Dalsgaard, 2006:9)

The role of social networks in the educational field:

The use of the social network in education has led to an improvement in the educational process, as well as a positive impact on the method of performance. Among those roles that social networks play in the educational field, as mentioned (Anshari, 2017; 43) include:

- A tool for saving information.
- Contributed to an interest in individual or self-education.
- To develop the information capabilities of the student
- Develop the skills of scientific thinking.
- Helps develop creative thinking.
- Achieving some learning objectives.

- Help in finding strategies and plans to solve some educational problems.
- Facilitated individuals contacting educational institutions between countries of the world far apart.

Features of social networks:

(Stanciu ,2012: 11) stated that social networks are characterized by:

1. Global: where geographical and spatial barriers abolish, and international borders are broken.
2. Interactivity: As the individual is in it as he is a receiver and a reader, he is a sender, writer, and participant, it eliminates the detestable negativity in the old media.
3. Diversity and multiplicity of uses, so the student uses it to learn, the scientist to spread his knowledge and teach people, and the writer to communicate with the poor.
4. Ease of use: social networks are characterized by simplicity in use and do not require focused training.
5. Saving and economical: in terms of being economical in effort, time, and money.

Justifications for the use of social networks in education:

Among the justifications referred to by (Dwivedi,2012: 676), which require academic courses to respond to various economic, social, technological, and cultural variables, and among the most important of these justifications are:

1. Modern society needs a type of human being who can easily adapt to the changes of the times to be able to fluctuate in occupations and businesses of all kinds.
2. There are many educational studies that urge the need for curricula to respond to the developments of the times, and to respond to the information revolution, especially through school curricula.
3. Several educational seminars and conferences were held in which the curricula had a large share in their recommendations, so that they were developed in accordance with the modern age developments of technology, technology, economy, and culture.
4. The global, Arab, and local community faces many different changes that have resulted from the existence of real educational problems, which requires serious study and finding successful solutions to them through the curricula.

Characteristics of education through social networks:

1. Bidirectional: Education through social networks is characterized as two-way. Where the teaching and learning activities are implemented in two directions by the users; This ensures enrichment and continuity for this type of education, which is why education through these sites revolves around people and the relationships that arise between them.
2. Effective contribution to building knowledge: Education through social media depends on building knowledge and contributing to its preparation and formation by the learners themselves in a virtual collaborative social learning community via the Internet to create a digital social world whose members can communicate without restriction or condition.
3. Participation and interaction: Education through social networks seeks to implement a system that supports participation and interaction between the elements of the educational process to achieve its goals, so all learning processes through social networks are based on participation in building knowledge, organizing and developing it, and interaction between learners with each other in order to achieve the desired learning.
4. The communicative theory is the essence: education through social media is based on the communicative theory as an educational theory that describes the principles and applications of education in social networks as a reflection of the new social environment for learners, the environment associated with modern technology and based on its various means.
5. Education through social media depends on several other theories, such as: associative theory, cognitive theory, and social constructivism.

(Abraham, 2009)

The most important social networks used in education:

The Face Book Network

The Face book site is a social site launched on the fourth of February 2004 and the site belongs to the same private Facebook company, Face book. This site allows users to join several subnets from the same site that fall into a specific category such as a certain geographical area.

Using Facebook in education:

The most important characteristic of the use of Facebook in education:

1- It collects a lot of applications dispersed by a number of sites in one location and it contains:

- a. Add participation and the ability to comment on photos, which eliminates other image sites.
- b. Adding, sharing and commenting on clips or videos may replace other sites.
- c. Adding notes to dispense with blogging, blogs and forums.
- d. Adding or joining pages or groups that contain dialogues and other applications.

2- It is one of the most popular social networks and web2 sites, but also internet sites in general, and one of the most used ones.

3- It is free of charge.

4- Ease of use so that students can use it in most educational stages.

Towner, (2011)

Twitter Network:

It is one of the social networks that provides a microblogging service that allows its users to send tweets about their status with a maximum of (140) characters per message, directly through Twitter, or by sending a short text message (SMS), or instant messaging programs.

Twitter uses in education:

- Asking learners to write a certain number of messages in the program.
- Discussing the academic material in the program to take opinions from outside the semester.
- As a tool to build a social network for the learner. (Tur, G., 2017: 25)

Employing social networking sites in e-learning:

(1) Facebook

Today's generation is known as the "Facebook generation." We will notice that most university students communicate through Facebook. This writes a comment and the other attaches a picture. Create a page for the revolution.

Facebook contributes to e-learning through its multiple applications that contribute to enriching the educational process, as the teacher can add training and display content in what is called the Flash Card application. Students can also through the Tag Book application exchange and loan books among themselves and the Courses application, which is important to the professor. Because it provides a set of important services for managing the course material, such as the ability to add courses, announcements, and assignments, and create discussion sessions and groups for study, in addition to many applications that can be used in the educational process.

(2) YouTube

It is considered one of the most popular e-learning tools and is ranked second in the world by the British Learning Technologies and Tools Center for the year 2011 and it is one of the largest free educational websites and the largest on the Internet, as it provides hundreds of thousands of educational sectors in the educational community. Educational.

Many universities and colleges around the world have tended to document their lectures on YouTube to allow learners to access information at any time and time.

The video resources available through the YouTube site are not limited only to the level of higher education, but also rich in lectures on basic education, technical education, and various types of education. Cooking education, administrative and economic sciences in all its branches, computer and its applications, software of all kinds, agriculture in addition to many educational sectors in various aspects of life

Browsing, searching, and viewing the video is available free of charge to all Internet users without any prior subscription. It also allows the video files to be embedded within websites and within the educational platforms of universities and schools (i.e. you can view the video website from YouTube and go to websites).

(Agazio, 2009: 23)

(3) Twitter

It is an art derived from blogging. We can say that microblogging is a written update describing the events that you are experiencing in your day over the course of the hour. Twitter is of great importance in the field of education. Advice and solutions, and it gives them an opportunity to exchange experiences and support each other. Twitter also provides all the benefits of social networks and brings them to the classroom, and this is an important factor to keep learners interested and focused in their work.

(Mork, 2009: 41)

(4) Wiki

Sites and wiki everyone can participate in the writing of content on the site every page of the Wiki contains link under the title (edit (and by pressing it can anyone modifies the contents of the site, and use sites wiki simple commands to format the text to simplify the process of adding content to users who do not They are good at dealing with the technical details of the HTML language and encourage Wiki sites to create links between the pages of the site, and any user can easily create a link to any page on the site or even to a page that is not yet available to your site or to the site's external sites, and encourages you to Who is the user to register his data to be a member of the site, and as I mentioned previously, modifications or sabotage can be dealt with easily. Adeel Some pages and some others ask you to register yourself as a member and others are completely open to all. It depends on the quality of the site and its contents.

Uses of Wiki with Education:

As for the professor, he gave the student a room in the dialogue honestly and frankly that builds in himself the factors of confidence and even helps him to make his way with more awareness and many gains for the student. An educational case or a successful deliberation method, and about that is an interesting dialogue that combines the ease of writing it, editing it, or enriching it through a wiki.

Being able to manage educational organisms' repositories and form a central site for documenting and storing procedural information and a strong application of the concept of collective education, as it enables experts in a field to exchange knowledge and edit their articles, research papers and papers in various fields. (Parker, 2007: 57)

(5) Skype

The ability to hold audio conferences for free for more than a hundred people over the Internet, as it is one of the software that allows users to communicate in all parts of the world.

These phone calls can be made from one computer to another if they have this program. Not only can users talk with people from a computer to a computer, but also from a computer device to a mobile phone, or to a phone that is not connected to the Internet.

Using Skype in Education:

Conducting audio or visual scientific conferences through a program that facilitates the teacher and student's instant communication and correspondence between them and relieves them from the trouble of downloading and installing

several messaging programs according to the difference of the program and the website used by each of them. (Hashemi, 2011: 50)

(6) Educational blogs :

In most cases, blogs are personal websites, but traditional sites have many other uses, so it is possible to create blogs specializing in some aspect. Such blogs offer many benefits to those interested in this specialization. Scarcely

The educational institutions it can benefit from blogging to communicate with students through blogs. Vetra projects and duties through the blog and can put the lessons in different ways through the blog, and can the school is the other to communicate with parents of pupils and telling them the activities of the school and news and blogs can be for students to write in blogs. In order to learn many skills such as writing, dialogue and website management. (Blau, 2009: 233)

Advantages and disadvantages of e-learning via social networks:

Studies have revealed the most important advantages of e-learning, which are as follows:

1. Speed of communication, participation, elimination of space and time, creation of interactivity, provision of information in large quantities, and provision of self-learning opportunities
2. Permanent contact between the students and the professor and reduce the cost.
3. It works on creating creativity, innovation and accuracy in information.
4. It also allows the availability of information for the learner and the teacher in various fields of knowledge, which facilitates the research process and gives the ability to think, make comparisons, logical thinking and analysis that the educational process requires more than this pushes the student and the professor towards creativity and innovation.

The studies also revealed the most important defects of e-learning via social networks, which are:

- 1- Lack of direct face-to-face interaction, difficulty in assessment and guarding regarding the exam electronically, and lack of quality in education.
- 2- Lack of observation accuracy, especially with regard to specializations that depend on the technical aspect and the accuracy of the observation.
- 3- Non-rational use of technology in general in non-producing countries and the spread of what is called project theft. Some respondents referred to the bad exploitation of the Internet even at the level of professors themselves. The scrutiny of scientific information is absent.
- 4- Difficulty conceiving e-learning as an integrated system on the one hand, as it may indicate the traditional view of exams for professors, which is based on measuring memorization and remembering
- 5- It may result from the use of these technologies where we find a lack of observation accuracy, especially with regard to the disciplines that depend on the technical side, in addition to the lack of rational use of technology in general in non-producing countries. (Radović-Marković, 2010: 289)

2. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The tremendous technological development that the information and communication technology sector has witnessed in the last two decades has provided tools, technologies and services that have made people around the world as if they were living in one neighborhood, not a small village as was thought, and the effects of this communication exceeded what was believed in the political, social, economic and cultural aspects, and perhaps the most important. These technologies are known as social networks, through which millions of people participate according to their interests.

In recent times, social networks have become a great influence for communication and interaction between individuals and society in a way that no one expected, and they are also used around the globe, and it increases the skills of social communication via the Internet. Thus, it is possible to benefit from the advantages of these networks by using them in education.

In the past few years, the role of these networks in education has emerged, as thousands of educational institutions from schools, institutes, colleges and universities around the world have participated in social media networks, not to mention the participation of students for the purpose of education, as they benefited from their services within the framework of what is known as blended education, or online education. In full.

There is no doubt that social media networks have been established to serve the users of these networks and provide them with comfort in various aspects of life, including education, as technology has become an inseparable part of our daily life. Lack of cultural and moral awareness of its users.

I also recommend the following: -

- 1- Encouraging female students, faculty members and everyone who has an effective role in the educational process to conduct more studies and research on social media networks in education, due to the lack of studies in this field and its importance.
- 2- The importance of concerted efforts of educational, civil, and governmental institutions and the establishment of mechanisms to determine the needs of children in order to reach the optimal use by them of social networks.
- 3- Encouraging female students and faculty members to employ technology in education through social media networks, as it has a prominent impact on the effectiveness of the educational process and so that they keep pace with the development in technology and there is no separation between technology, education and development.

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