

# The Risks and Benefits of Social Media, and Its Place in Higher Education: a literature review

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**Abstract**—This literature review investigates the risks and benefits attached to social media and the potential advantages that it could bring forward as a tool in higher education and pedagogy. Social media has made a massive impact on society in many ways, and using it one way or another has become commonplace in most of our lives, but do we fully understand the risks and advantages that it presents? This thematic analysis of recent (2010-2022) research papers aims to explore findings on the possible side effects of social media in an effort to weigh the pros against the cons in regard to the integration of social media with higher education (HE) and pedagogy. We hypothesize, that with proper application, social media could become a valuable tool within HE institutions and could help increase engagement with learning materials and courses.

**Index Terms**—Article submission, IEEE, IEEEtran, journal, LATEX, paper, template, typesetting.

## I. INTRODUCTION

This literature review investigates the risks and benefits attached to social media and the potential advantages that it could bring forward as a tool in higher education and pedagogy. Social media has made a massive impact on society in many ways, and using it one way or another has become commonplace in most of our lives, but do we fully understand the risks and advantages that it presents? This thematic analysis of recent (2010-2022) research papers aims to explore findings on the possible side effects of social media in an effort to weigh the pros against the cons in regard to the integration of social media with higher education (HE) and pedagogy. We hypothesize, that with proper application, social media could become a valuable tool within HE institutions and could help increase engagement with learning materials and courses.

## II. SOCIAL MEDIA IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Liu (2010) and Baruah (2012) both talk about the integration of social media into higher education and both conclude sharing their thought on that it would be an advantage to implement social media elements as tools within higher education. Kelm (2011) also implemented social media into their course and noticed an increase in engagement from their students and reported a greater sense of team ethic between classmates. Evans (2014) encouraged students to interact with him and their peers through Twitter and found that the amount of Twitter usage was associated with increased student engagement. Course related tweeting showed no evidence of being

related to interpersonal relations between students and their tutor, and finally that Twitter usage did not relate to class attendance.

## III. SECTION TWO

hello this is hopefully going to be section 2

## IV. CONCLUSION

The conclusion goes here.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This should be a simple paragraph before the References to thank those individuals and institutions who have supported your work on this article.

## APPENDIX

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