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Research paper

The role of social media in enhancing the learning process of Iraq students

Alaa Ibrahim Mahmood Al-Nuaimi [1]*, Wathq Asmael Hamed [1], Ahmed Hadi Ali [2]

[1] *Directorate of Education in Nineveh, Mosul, Iraq*
[2] *Ministry of higher education, University of Fallujah, Fallujah, Iraq*
**Corresponding author E-mail: alaaibmah@yahoo.com*

Abstract

Social media platforms are used to facilitate social interaction, likewise, the social media enhances and complements the traditional schoolroom teaching. This study examines the role of social media in enhancing the learning process by exploring the impact of student perceptions of social media, Engagement and Interaction with peers in enhancing the learning process among female students. The use of social media platform was noticed to be great among female students. Female students would opt to use improved learning methods by changing their learning styles to connect with an environment that has more dynamic social potentials, rather than studying in isolated environments that offers traditional learning styles. The positive impact of social media on the enhancement of learning processes comprises the learning style, relationship between students and experience of social media use, by nurturing social interaction and the sharing of knowledge particularly among female students in order to expedite social interaction, because female students are more comfortable with sharing ideas among their peers. This study employs the quantitative survey method among female students, and the results indicated that, the use of social media improves the learning process among Iraqi secondary schoolgirls through student perceptions, Engagement and Interaction with peers.

Keywords: *Engagement; Interaction with Peers; Learning Process; Social Media; Student Perception.*

1. Introduction

Information and communication technology (ICT) is generally appreciated as the engine to nurture the 21stcentury skills virtually in all education-related fields, particularly the schools [1], ICT is presently incorporated into the process of teaching and learning in several educational institutions globally. Over a half decade, social media has come to be one of the most noticeable social software genres, promoted by Facebook and Myspace. Each tool is been used by millions of people. They provided the avenue for virtual discussions and content sharing. They typically function by preserving and sharing profiles, in which discrete users can demonstrate themselves to stakeholders through the minutiae of their personal information, pictures, interests, and social media tools. Social media users could decide to make friends or not by going through the user profiles. Users can personalize their page settings once they are acquainted with the concept. Students find their interaction with teachers gloomy to learn when the old-fashioned classroom teaching was used because of the mono-directional nature of this traditional method of teaching. Numerous factors contributes to the educational challenges in Iraq, some of which includes the use of old and inconsistent curricula, shortage of senior faculty, poor staff training, absence of contemporary lab apparatus and poorly equipped libraries. Educational enrolment among female students in Iraq is as meager as 25.4 per cent compared to male student's 75.3 percent of the age group 16 – 30. One of the reasons for the poor enrolment of female to pursue education is believed to be traced back to social and cultural factors in Iraq. However, conversational, concerted and communal potentials of the social media services are sensed to reflect much of what we recognize to be good learning models, by been collaborative to bolster active participatory role for users. The notable educational advantage of social media is the provision for interaction between learners fronting the typical dilemma of negotiating their studies. The increase popularity of social media in Iraq, such as Facebook and Twitter, have positively impacted the annual student enrolment for educational institutions. A major reason to this, is the provision of forum features by social media sites to extend the traditional teaching space and allow users to connect to the groups that match their distinct educational interests. This advance and enriches the teaching and learning approaches that support student's appropriate preference. On the other hand, the feature for self-presentation in the social media, which includes the right to view personal information of others and the handiness of numerous means of communication and discussion has enticed high school students, college students, and university students. This ought to have provoked great enthusiasm by educationists, because the social media shares numerous good educational technologies that permits peer feedback and toning the social settings of learning. The adoption of social media in learning was inspired by the fortitude of secondary computer educators who were disposed to take the risks of adopting social media website, into their teaching curricular. Students were accorded with both communication and networking benefits that can enhance their learning and social interactions through the use of social media. Joshi, Subrahmanyam and Anvekar revealed that, learning process is obtaining new, or transforming and fortifying, existing knowledge, conducts, values, skills, or preferences and may comprise synthesizing various types of information. Based on the deliberations in the previous paragraphs, this study supports the notion that, social media could improve learning processes beyond just content delivery. There-

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fore, this study will examine the use of social media by students' in classrooms in relation to their perceptions, Engagement and interaction with peers. This study, attempts to examine the extent to which students that use social media platform in education are benefitting from active learning opportunities, where the information presented in an educational platform is comprehensible and can be incorporated into their everyday activities [2].

2. Literature review

2.1. Social media

The first noticeable social media was the SixDegrees.com, which was launched in 1997. In 1998, this platform allowed users to create their profiles, to list their associates, and to browse the lists of their friends. Nevertheless, such advantages previously exists in one way or another before the advent six degrees. Social media seemed to be the best popular sites by students, which was initially set up for college students, but it quickly spread to the secondary and intermediate schools and as well the primary schools, even with the presence of age conditions. According to, social media is a web-based package that permit users to have access and view their list of connections as well as those accepted by others in the system, create a public or semi-public profile within a limited system, and sketch a list of various users with whom they are connected. Another Social Media definition is stated as technologies that put emphasis on the social aspects of the internet as a network for communication, creative expression and collaboration which is often substitutable with the terms social software and Web 2.0. The platforms of Social Media consist of the Twitter, Facebook, Google+, Google Documents, Yammer, LinkedIn, You tube, aspects of Microsoft SharePoint, blogs such as WordPress and Wikis like Wikipedia. The Social media permits users to share specific features like unique pages such as the description of personal cases. Users of social media are required to fill a form upon registration, in which a number of biographical information would be documented; this information includes the user name, gender, age, location and interests. The profile is created with the responses to such questions. Profile pictures can also be uploaded by users in most of the social media platforms. Profile enrichment features are also provided by some platforms, which includes modifying the feel and look of profiles as well as adding multimedia content. Other social media, such as Facebook, allow users to further add modules that will enrich their profiles. Social media varies a lot in relations to their user base and features. This goes yonder than profiles, friends, comments, photo or video sharing abilities, and private messaging, which exists in some platforms, whereas others depend on instant messaging and blogging [3].

2.2. Categories of social media tools

Social Media is a cluster of Internet-based platforms, that were developed on the ideological and technical grounds of Web2.0 applications, turn the contact in the interactive dialogue by which user-generated contents are produced and shared. There are numerous tools for social networking in the market, with several popular tools for a moment. Thus, researchers divided these tools into five important social media groups, as adopted from. The five categories of social media are demonstrated in Figure 1, which includes blogs, collaborative projects, content communities, social networking and virtual worlds.



Fig. 1: Social Network Tools: Categorical Focus.

Web logs or Blogs, are the earliest social network platforms. These networks allowed users to disseminate messages to those that have internet access. Platforms like blogs and online diary are popular platforms to publish their feelings and experiences in the internet with least technical understanding. Media-based manuscripts are usually initiated by a single person, which offers the opportunity to interact with other people by adding comments. Presently, Twitter and Blogger are the most common types of blogs for the time being. This permits collaborative shared content and concurrent projects to make better communication. The main idea behind the collaboration projects is the concerted effort which leads to the achievement of best outcome for each distinct user. Collaborative projects are aimed at facilitating the formation of shared knowledge, distribution of information and mutual interaction, collaborative projects of the wiki and social bookmarking is a good example. Collaborative projects such as Wikipedia and Google Docs are commonly used for education and social bookmarking purposes which also serves as public cooperative instruments. The focal objective of the social media groups is the exchange of content information among users. There are groups of content for different media categories, including text, images, videos and multimedia presentations, which offers an inventive way for collaboration and communication to develop social networks. Users can download and upload content from a centralized site, without being registered members of a specific website, podcasts and YouTube are examples for that. Social networking platforms are applications by which users are linked through the creation and definition of data files, where colleagues and friends can be invited to get that information and disseminate instant messages and electronic mails to one another. Most platforms support the maintenance of existing social networks ,and can be linked with complete strangers that share common interests in politics or any other view point .In a nutshell, personal profiles may contain any kind of information, such as images, audio or videos files ,as a courtesy of the creation of online community since 1960.The institution of social networks to the online diary, supported the increasing availability of high-speed internet, and increased accessibility to the internet through the largest and popular social network platforms such as Facebook and Myspace. Finally, the Virtual worlds are networks that embodies three dimensional environments that were presented in character forms for the users to connect with one another, as if they were physically connected. They also offer the highest degree of social participation like the multi-user virtual environments (MUVE), massively multiplayer online role-playing games (MMORPG) such as World of Warcraft and the massively multiplayer online real-life games (MMORLG) which replicates the real life activities such as Second Life [5].

2.3. Social media in learning

Social media such as Twitter, Facebook and Myspace have turn to be the topic of many deliberations in the educational setting. Social media is a social configuration that was made for individuals and organizations, to sustain various relationships such as friend-

ship, kinship, relationships of knowledge and beliefs, or financial exchanges, the social media is also a chart of the several contacts in multiple facets. Students can serve as an excellent cluster for assessing the value of what is received from social media. Through the social media, students can achieve important results that are beneficial to their studentship, for instance, a student can seek for guidance on a particular topic or assignment by posting such topic at his school Facebook page, by doing that, the student could get the best required solution through the social media platform. Social media can also be an influential tool for enhancing student's educational experience and extending learning yonder than classrooms, by supporting teacher-student communications. It also permits students to connect with each other, while the teachers observe student responses at the same time. This could certainly fast-track the learning process. Additionally, the social media benefits in education starts during the peer-to-peer learning of diverse cultural expression, knowledge and skills, teamwork, or when certain skills are required to be developed in the workstation, and when a more enabled notion of citizenship is supported. At these points, the social media can be crucial towards expediting skills and learning beyond the formal learning settings. Nevertheless, most students are using the social media platforms for social purposes rather than the learning process purpose, this motivates to a study the incorporation of social media in the non-formal learning setting. Scholars recommended the need for additional studies to acquire the most benefit for this phenomenon [6].

3. Media ecology theory (MET)

One of the important theories to demonstrate the influence of technology and social media is the Media Ecology Theory. This theory was coined by Marshall McLuhan in 1964; McLuhan was a foremost theorist in the field of media and a professor of English at the University of Toronto, whom proposed that the media should be ecologically focused at. This theory also deliberates on several themes that comprises perception, attitude, experiences and behaviours. McLuhan also deliberated on how technology can change our environment and consequently alter our communication. Thus, this study will utilize the Media Ecology Theory due to its relevance in encouraging students to learn and the incorporation of social media in education. The theory also suggested that the changes that are trending in technology are the changes in social and figurative environment, through perceptions, experiences, behavior and attitudes that are formed through the connotations of the sensory world. Postman examined the association between social media and the changes in the perception, experiences and behaviours of students, where he discussed the impact of television on the average childhood. Though many would contend that the television has turned the institution of childhood "obsolete", some groups, like that of the electronic salesmen, observed nothing wrong with it. Equally, the same could be mentioned for social media and other new technologies, such as Facebook. Facebook is among the most visited platforms worldwide and was ranked the fifth among social media. As one of the best interactive platforms, Facebook can be an easier platform for teachers and students to communicate through messages and comments that assist teachers and students to exchange ideas and information .The number of participants can be increased in Facebook, which may alter the manners of communication between people. This study will consider the ways in which Facebook alerts our symbolic environs. Olabanji also used McLuhan's MET to investigate the common social media platform and its impact on the teaching space, and particularly how learners themselves believe the Facebook can be utilized to augment their learning. A number of university students were surveyed on how Facebook transformed their perception, experience and behavior in the schoolroom. The results of indicated that, students themselves ascribed that Facebook has much benefit when it is incorporated into the learning process. Most of the respondents settled that, Facebook can support them to understand their work better by enhancing the schoolroom experience, nonetheless the site has a negative aspect of creating a class distraction. The information above provides a pathway to introduce social media into the schoolroom curriculum. Curriculum is the course of study for learners in a particular teaching space that integrates participation, meaning, daily routines and actions. Research has shown that the integration of social media platform in curriculum can be useful to several students. On the other hand, the Perception of students are sets of internal sensational and cognitive progressions of the brain at the subliminal cognitive function layer that spots, relates, construes, and pursue the inner cognitive information in the mind. The behaviour of students denotes to the array of actions and gestures made by persons, systems, organisms, or artificial bodies in conjunction with themselves or their environs, which comprises the other organisms or systems nearby, as well as the (inanimate) physical environment. The Experience students here, refers to the mastery or knowledge of an occasion or issue gained through the involvement in or contact to it. It is very popular that terms in philosophy, such as "empirical knowledge" or "a posteriori knowledge" are used to refer to knowledge based on experience. This study will investigate how the new technology has changed or transformed the perceptions, experiences and behaviour of learners. When the media is observed from an ecological or humanistic perspective, it is imperative to remember that each person has a different opinion on what they regard as "good" or "bad" for them [7].

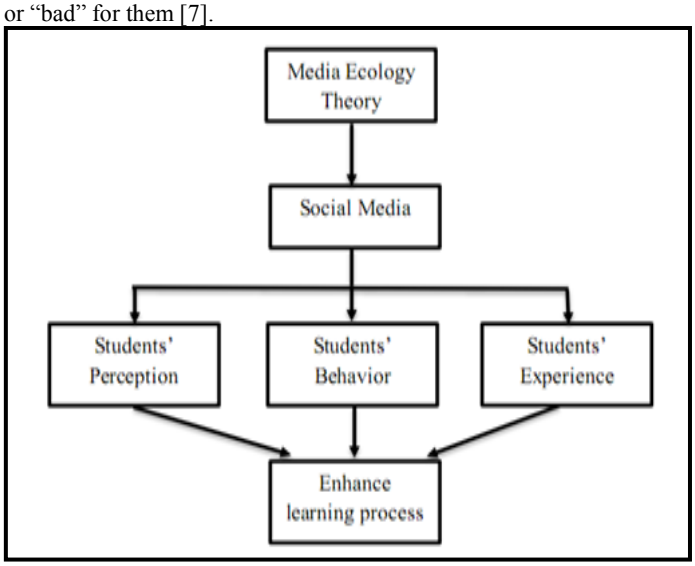


Fig. 2: Media Ecology Theory.

4. Social constructivism theory

Two psychologists by the names of Lev Vygotsky (1978) and Jean Piaget (1961) are ascribed with the institution of constructivism into the field of educational ,all forms of constructivism are steered by the belief that, new knowledge comes from the existing knowledge that an individual holds previously. Traditional learning methods can interrupt the smooth class interactions In addition, inflexible seating plans, limited class time and student's hesitations about speaking in classrooms are categorically acknowledged as main obstacles concerning class interaction. Advanced technology has however, transformed the manner to which students interact within and outside their classes, this comprises new choices to improve interaction. Sustaining interaction is very important because it leads to improved and even more effective learning which might be a crucial way to achieve educational success. Once interaction is achieved within the learning process, students are motivated to comprehend, and to also be more conscious, participative and disposed to change ideas together with corresponding students. Accordingly, the student learning benefits are influenced interaction. The idea of interaction with peers and faculty for the students, held more appeal and purpose and often

facilitates in-depth connection. In recent years, social media has been widely accepted and integrated into the pedagogy. Moreover, the efficacy of social media in enhancing the learning process has also been predicted to have grown considerably. Existing studies revealed that, the social media is an important device for improving learning process. Compatibly, the use of social media (e.g., Facebook, twitter ,E-mail, etc.) in the learning process expedites learning and the sharing of knowledge among students and teachers similar to the real life state and experiences .Their newness effects may therefore, misrepresent the thinking that, the social media supports learning process results effectively. Nelson and Kuh revealed that, social media has a positively significant potential in engaging learners, which also has the capacity to influence their learning process. However, specified that the learning process is contingent to groups, which implies that learners vary from one group to another. In circumstances where a serious and active group member exists, the vigor of such member will translate to positive results and vice versa [7].

4.1. Interaction with peers

The traditional learning methods are believed to be ineffective in providing the smooth interactions needed within the classes. On the other hand, advanced and innovative technologies were acknowledged to have transformed the interaction style within and outside classes, this is evidenced by the increased interaction that comes with it. Interaction is very essential as it is the fundamental source of learning and a pillar for attaining educational success. As a final point, interaction may have impact on the learning benefits of educators that were proven from the medium of interaction [40]. Alternatively, interaction is the rudimentary tool for students to comprehend concepts, to more actively participate, and become more inclined to exchange ideas with peers.

4.2. Engagement

According to [8] the sum of physical and mental energy that a student is able to offer is known as engagement. It is described as the exertion of student in educational undertakings and empirically associated with aspiration for ultimate results. Educational experience with college, association with faculty members, rate of participation and class activity are the key factors that can be incorporated in engagement. Kuh further added that, engagement can be categorized in to two different facets known as the academic/co-curricular or in-class engagement and the out-of-class engagement. Both facets of engagement are regarded as important to student success. To guarantee the social and academic interactions, the relationship between students and the environment is indispensable for engagement. Furthermore, the study suggests that social media is a means used by students to influence other peers. Hence, institutional decisions could be very supportive in shaping this influence for the learning process.

5. Conceptual framework

Based on the Media Ecology Theory and Social constructivism Theory that were deliberated in the review of literature, there are three key aspects that can foster the learning process, these includes the student perceptions, engagement and interaction with peers for students in the social media .To enhance the learning process in Iraq, the conceptual framework in Figure 3 depicts the nature of relationship between the student perceptions, engagement, interaction with peers and enhance learning process.

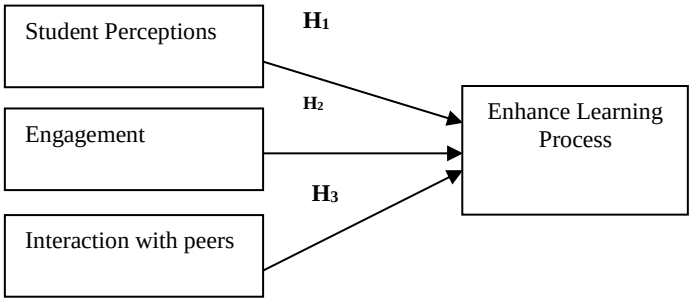


Fig. 3: Conceptual Framework.

Based on the conceptual frameworks, the hypotheses for this study are presented below.

H1: Student perceptions of social media have positive impact in enhancing learning process among female students.

H2: Engagement of social media has positive impact in enhancing learning process among female students.

H3: Interaction with peers of social media has positive impact in enhancing learning process among female students.

6. Hypotheses formulation

The following sub-sections will explain the extracted factors from Media Ecology Theory and social constructivism theory that were depicted in the conceptual framework.

6.1. Student perceptions

Perceptions and application of social media in academic environment has been an essential subject of discussion. As a matter of fact, one of the first researches ever published about Facebook focused on the student and faculty associations on the platform. Subsequently, a number of researchers examined whether social media can enhance learning and satisfaction of students. Several scholars consider the social media as valuable, for providing support to school related activities and the improvement of student literacy. Numerous studies examined the perceptions of students that completed courses with which the social media was used as a tool of instruction, these studies revealed that, the students consider social media as a valuable means that supports the strengthening of interpersonal interactions, engage students in education, and develop learning communities. Some countries also studied whether social media platform has any role to play in university support services and academic units to improve the students social and academic integration from the perspective of students. Engagement relied on the interactions between people and the environment, which is prepared to bolster social and academic interactions within classes for the aim of student engagement and conscious modification. According to [9], engagement moderates the influence of training and curricular modifications on student achievements and performances. Moreover, student interactions produce a social atmosphere that impact the engagement coded in training experiences.

6.2. Interaction with peers

Traditional learning methods can intrude the smooth classroom interactions. But, new technologies have transformed the style of interaction in and outside schoolrooms, and this entails of new choices to boost interaction. Sustaining interaction is imperative because it leads to an improved and even more effective learning which could be a crucial way to attain educational success, consequently, interaction impacts the learning benefits of students

7. Methodology

7.1. Population and sample

The population of this study comprises all the female students of secondary schools at the Mosul city of Iraq. The population consists 1,610 female students in the city of Mosul As presented in Table 1; the sample size for this study was 179 of female students in the secondary schools. However, the stratified sampling method was applied, because the sample was drawn from five secondary schools in Mosul city. Stratified sampling is essential when the major objective of a particular study is making the findings generalizable. Stratified sampling is a sampling technique that working based on the probability by which the researcher splits the entire population in to several different strata or subgroups, and then picks the ultimate object randomly and proportionately from the various strata. The sample for this study is 179 female students, in which the researcher divided the population to rural and urban secondary schools, which consist of three secondary schools and two secondary schools for the rural and urban areas respectively. These samples were randomly picked from the total of five secondary schools .The questionnaire was used as the data collection technique for this study. Thus, questionnaires were distributed to female students in the city of Mosul, from both urban and rural locations, in order to capture their responses in relation to objectives of this study. The face to face procedure was used to distribute the questionnaire so as to explain the purpose of the study and make clarifications on the research purpose. A total of 179 questionnaires were retrieved from the female students, making a 100% response rate. Finally, the SPSS version 20 was applied to analyse the data.

8. Findings

8.1. Regression analysis

Multiple regression analysis is used to ascertain the impact compound independent variables on one or more dependent variable. The researcher can predict a single dependent variable in one equation by adding a number of independent variables, the application of multiple regression is believed to in-crease the predictive accuracy of the dependent variable over the independent variable. An exclusive advantage of multiple regression analysis is that, the researcher can discover the relationship between variables. The standard or simultaneous multiple regression was used by this study for the entire independent variables, in which the entire variables are entered at the same time in the equation, thus all the independent varia-bles are assumed to be of equal importance.

Table 1: Regression Analysis for Structure Readiness

Model	1
R	.890a
R square	.793
Adjusted R square	.790
Std. error of the estimator	.34210
R square change	.793
F change	24.32
Df1	3
Df2	175
Sig. F change	0

The result of multiple regression analysis for this study dis-plays that R- squared (R2) for this model is adequate (R2 = 0.793), thus,79.3% of the variance in learning process is explained by the independent variables (student perceptions, Engagement and interaction with peers), while 20.7% of the variance is explained by other factors that were not captured in this study. Refer Table 2 for the result of multiple regression analysis.

Table 2: Anova

Model regression	37.224
Model residual	24.636
Df regression	3
Df residual	175
Mean of square regression	14.865
Mean of square residual	.144
F regression	24.32
Sig.	0.oo0b

Results of the analysis as displayed in Table 3 above, further revealed a statistically significant relationship between student perceptions, engagement, interaction with peers and enhance learning process. The equation of the multiple regression analysis (F (3, 175) = 24.320, P < 0.05), shows that the model is statistically significant as suggested by [10].

Table 3: Coefficient of the Regression

Model	U. coefficients B	u. coefficients STD. Error	St. coefficients Beta	T	Sig.
Constant	.796	.375	--	16.240	.432
Perception	.948	.057	.773	16.245	.000
Engagement	1.010	.052	.821	19.199	.003
Interactive with press	1.131	.049	.861	22.633	.001

The coefficient values in Table 4, however depicted that ,student perceptions has a significant influence in enhancing the learning process among female students ,with a significant coefficient value of p = 0.000. The Beta value (b = 0.773) however, indicates that the direction of this relationship is positive .This result therefore, means that for every increase in the student perceptions, there is an expected increase of 0.773 in the learning process (t =16.245). Thus, hypothesis one is supported. Moreover, the coefficient value in Table 3, indicates that engagement has a positive significant influence in enhancing the learning process among female students, the Beta values and significant P values were (b = 0.821, p = 0.003). This means that for every increase in engagement, there is an expected increase of 0.821 in the learning process (t = 19.199). Accordingly, hypothesis two was also supported. Finally, the coefficient value in Table 3, revealed that, interaction with peers has a significant positive impact in enhancing the learning process among female students, with a positive Beta value and significance P value(b = 0. 861, p = 0.001).This also means that for every increase in the interaction with peers, there is an expected increase of 0.861 in enhancement of the learning process(t = 22.633). Hence, the third hypothesis is supported.

9. Dissection and conclusion

Based on the presented results, student perceptions of social media have a positive and significant impact in enhancing learning process among female students. Female students in secondary have been identified to be in favor of the contemporary approach to learning through the use of social media platforms. These platforms offer an educational environment that is both interactive and collaborative in nature. Through the social media platform, students and teachers can exchange ideas and share knowledge to make more interactive learning atmosphere and enrich their knowledge. The interactivity feature of the social media platform differentiates it from other platforms. Thus, students hold the conviction that social media platforms offer a reliable means of communication. Likewise, social media platforms augment the personal learning setting and recognize the role of people in organizing and managing their own learning. In addition, students also settled that they can post and appraise content freely in social media platforms. The female students in this study proved that their perception in using social media can enhance the learning

process in secondary schools. The results of this study is attuned with the several studies conducted by scholars at the United Kingdom universities, on how the social media plays a vital role in enhancing the services offered by the universities and different departments in the advancement of social and educational integration, from the student perspectives. Moreover, revealed that, social media can have a substantial impact on student's perception. Social media can assist students to settle into university and school setting, leading them to a greater degree of social acceptance, adaptation to university and school culture, which can increase their learning outcomes. The results of this study also revealed that, Engagement of social media have a positive significant influence in enhancing the learning process among female students. It also affords the capacity to transform the social structure of a behavior. The flow of information and thoughts are some of the benefits of engagement established by social media. The Social media platforms favors the student personal interactions with peers. Correspondingly, the use of social media by student improves their knowledge and interaction with persons from different backgrounds. In education, the social media is an instructive and effective platform for knowledge and information sharing. The ability of social media can be understood by the fact that a big number of students are taking advantage of online groups for the aim of educational discussions. This is also an important tool to keep on social interaction between students and teachers. The results of this study are congruent to which ratifies that academic performance can be perfected by complementing the traditional class teaching with the social media. The result also shows that student performance is dependent to engagement; however, academic performance at the university level appears to increase due to positive spillovers of social media. The social media platform provides connection between students and afford the benefits of knowledge sharing in class, library and the university level. The results also showed that, most students have agreed that social media (You Tube, Twitter and Facebook) can serve as an interaction source among peers, which may also improve the learning process. Additionally, the platforms can serve as the tools to increase creativity and skills for the sharing of knowledge ,with many advantages like a good interactive mechanism and a cradle of positive interaction, this tool has a fewer limitations compared to other tools for social communication ,because it is strictly different from personal profile tools and can also become a solution for limitation of other tools. Besides that, the students also settled that, the platforms can facilitate their interaction with peers and increase their motivation to learn .These finding also shows the role of social media as a facilitator and counselor that should be overlooked .The platform is also proved as a source for enhancing the learning process among students by pursuing new technology .The result of this study also supported and the several studies conducted to investigate the impact of social media on academic performance among students. also studied the interaction with peers for students that completed courses of which the social media was used as a tool of instruction and found that the participants considered the social media as a valuable tool for strengthening the interpersonal relationship among students.

10. Limitations and future study

This study faced some limitations, which includes limiting the focus of the study only to the female gender, therefore limiting the ability to generalize the findings on both genders. Another limitation that was compelled by cost constraint is the consideration of only one city (Mosul city) out of the several cities in Iraq. In addition, The limitation faced included the distance between the schools of the respondents of this study. Hence, future researchers should consider alternative solutions to overcome these limitations. Based on the limitations conferred above, this study suggested that future researches should bridge this limitation. Since this study concentrated only on the secondary schools, future studies may consider the primary school sample. Further studies can also consider the qualitative method against the quantitative method used in this study, in order to grasp the student perceptions, engagement and interaction with peers towards enhancing the learning process for students that use social media. Likewise, future researchers may explore the role and influence of social media on the performance of students. It is also recommended that studies in the future should consider combining both gender (male and female) from several diverse learners. It would also be useful to investigate the impact of classroom social media usage on all students from elementary-school to graduate degrees. Finally, it is important to understand how the social media can be used to extend schoolroom consultations and student-teacher communication.

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