Learning with Social Media: Case Studies Using Social Media Tools

Lingaraj Mishra

December 10, 2010



Case Study 1: Recruitment

- University needs to
 - reach/attract students
 - viral Marketing
 - direct and targeted messages
 - get insights into student thinking

FaceBook

Over 500 Universities

YouTube

- Posting interesting lectures for attracting students
- Effective in reaching students who are pre-disposed



2: Improving Research Skills/Teamwork of Students

- Professors
 - assigns a group project
 - creates "Walled Garden" for students in **Diigo** or **Delicious**
 - share directed resources
- Students
 - bookmark, highlight, make notes, and
 - share links
 - create library of links
 - connect to each other's links
- Student centric method improves learning



3: Understanding Common Domain Vocabulary

- Professor
 - provides terms that are relevant in a course
 - assigns various terms to students to research for definition, proper usage, etc.
- Students
 - complete research outside of class
 - make brief presentation in class on important terms
 - improve the write-up based on class feedback
 - post terms in a Wiki called Glossary of Terms
 - have access to complete Glossary
- Complete and thorough
- Participation makes Glossary, a dead handout, come alive
- Students become proficient in the vocabulary of a domain



4: Group Discussion

- Professor creates class group in FaceBook
- Students
 - finish assigned reading
 - write a review paragraph online
 - post focused comments on the specific course goals outlined
- Professor
 - summarizes, covers missed points
 - provides higher learning
- Class becomes effective and useful
 - insights of peers who may not participate in class discussion
 - focus vast amount of reading to specific learning objectives
 - understand how disparate readings add up



5: Learning a Language/ Presentation Skills

YouTube group in language class

- Professor
 - assigns focused learning objects
- Students
 - practice and video speaking exercises
 - upload videos when satisfied
- Peer pressure to practice and perform better
- Opportunity for reflective peer review





6: Parent Communications

- Principal tweets using **Twitter** to enhance communications
- All stakeholders receive timely information on their mobile devices on
 - school events
 - news
 - student accomplishments, and
 - innovations in the classroom on
- Continuous Parent Teacher meeting
- Twitter account exclusively for school communications to avoid being overwhelmed





7: School Communications

- Facebook by Student government members to reach Principal and to disseminate information
- Led to a **Blog** to share good things in school
- More effective than an infrequent report or year book



8: Fun Teaching

Students (K-12)

- Secure discussions with classmates
- Fun playing educational games in StudyBuddies <u>Playground</u>
- See classmate's play
- Read electronic books in <u>e-Library</u>
- Parent's observe and facilitate child's learning

Teachers

- Free
- Create assignments using <u>web</u>
 <u>tools</u>
- Grade homework with <u>campus</u>
- Share assignments and other content with fellow teachers
- Make learning fun
- Provide access to affordable electronic books



Case 9: Virtual Class Room- Global Faculty

- Use of Yugma to provide a virtual classroom for MS in Learning Facilitation
 - provides *asynchronous* & facilitated sessions for review and remediation
 - Adjunct faculty use for tutoring and in managing e-office hours
 - one facilitator connects to multiple students from multiple sites
- Bring best instructors from all over the Globe
- Still provide live instructor/peer interaction
- Polling testing and quiz facilities in a facilitated session to improve effectiveness



Case 9: Virtual Class Room – Program Delivery

- Creative writing program using Yugma and/or Skype for Teachers
- Yugma facilitated sessions for live demonstration techniques from remote locations
- Hosting of study groups or tutoring sessions
- Hosting of virtual common-interest groups or clubs
- Conduct training sessions, recorded webcasts
- Virtual class room setting Voice, Video, Screen and Document Sharing, tests – polling and quiz
- Spontaneous collaboration by artists, writers, and designers



Case 10: Foundation Repair Courses

WSP – Work Skills Program for improving employability
 Pre-requisite for the MS in Learning Facilitation and Management
 Social Media modules in the WSP to provide

FaceBook -

- forum for new ideas for improvement

- interaction between students in a group learning setting

Wiki

- additional assignments, glossary of terms, review

Yugma

- facilitated sessions
 - repair and remedial work
 - with recruiters subject matter experts
- Webcasts and recorded webcasts
- One-on-One coaching for students



Social Media Suggestions

- KISS Keep it Simple
 - start modestly
 - use widely used tool(s) in the community
 - increase adoption/proficiency before expanding to more tools
- Focus on type of communication, desired use of each tool(s)
 - do not try to do everything on every tool.
- Know your stakeholders (target audience) what is common
- Use lowest common denominator tools for stakeholders
 - OS Apple / Android / Windows etc.
 - associated applications, and
 - utilities

