

Heidari, Hadis; Heidari, Gholamreza; Moradi, Mahmoud (2024). Investigating the Status of Studying in Virtual Social Networks Among Undergraduate Students of Razi University of Kermanshah. *Journal of Knowledge-Research Studies*, 2 (4): 43-60.

Doi: 10.22034/JKRS.2024.59434.1053

URL: [https://jkrs.tabrizu.ac.ir/article\\_17744.html](https://jkrs.tabrizu.ac.ir/article_17744.html)

©The Author(s)

Publisher: University of Tabriz

The paper is an open access and licensed under the Creative Commons CC BY NC license.



## Investigating the Status of Studying in Virtual Social Networks Among Undergraduate Students of Razi University of Kermanshah

Hadis Heidari<sup>1</sup>, Gholamreza Heidari<sup>2\*</sup>, Mahmoud Moradi<sup>3</sup>

Received: December, 10, 2023; Revised: March, 10, 2024

Accepted: March, 16, 2024; Published: March, 18, 2024

### Abstract

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study was to examine the usage status of studying on virtual social networks among undergraduate students at Razi University.

**Methodology:** The research utilized a descriptive and correlational method. The statistical population included all undergraduate students at Razi University in Kermanshah for the academic year 2020-2021, totaling 7774 individuals. A sample size of 366 people was determined using Cochran's formula.

**Findings:** Data analysis revealed that the utilization rate of virtual social networks by undergraduate students at Razi University is above average and at a high level. The research indicated that the use of virtual social networks positively and significantly impacts the academic and non-academic study habits of Razi University students.

**Conclusion:** The results suggest that social networks influence students' study habits, with challenges such as slow internet speed, high costs, printing issues, lack of familiarity with sites, and filtering obstacles. Virtual social networks offer benefits such as increased access to reading materials like newspapers, books, magazines, and various websites.

**Value:** This study aims to enhance students' study levels and improve their study habits, providing valuable insights for university officials.

**Key Words:** Virtual Social Networks, Study Rate, Students of Razi University.

1. Master in Knowledge and Information Science, Social Sciences and Education College, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran.

2. Associate Professor of Knowledge and Information Science, Social Sciences and Education College, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran (\*Corresponding author) [ghrheidari@razi.ac.ir](mailto:ghrheidari@razi.ac.ir)

3. Assistant Professor, Department of Knowledge and Information Science, Social Sciences and Education College, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran.

## Extended Abstract

**Introduction:** Literature plays a crucial role in acquiring knowledge, skills, and societal values. However, the lack of interest in reading and studying among students can have long-term detrimental effects on their academic, social, and cultural development. Therefore, it is important to address students' attitudes and behaviors towards studying and related factors. The current study aims to explore the impact of virtual social networks on the study habits of undergraduate students at Razi University.

**Purpose:** This study seeks to examine the use of virtual social networks for studying among undergraduate students at Razi University.

**Methodology:** The research employed a survey-based descriptive-correlational method with a cross-sectional approach. The study population consisted of all undergraduate students at Razi University during the 2020-2021 academic year, totaling 7774 individuals. A sample size of 366 was determined using Cochran's formula. Convenience sampling was utilized by distributing an online questionnaire to various student groups at Razi University. The data collection tool, a researcher-made questionnaire, underwent formal and content validity checks. Data analysis was conducted using SPSS software, involving descriptive statistics, one-sample t-tests, and simple linear regression.

**Findings:** Data analysis results indicate that the study rate of undergraduate students at Razi University is low. Additionally, the use rate of virtual social networks among Razi University undergraduate students is higher than average and at a high level. One of the main reasons for students' membership in virtual social networks was to stay updated on current news and events, engage in discussions and leave notes for others, and gather information on academic topics. The utility of virtual social networks for Razi University's undergraduate students was rated highly, with the main obstacle being slow internet speed and limited access in libraries. Virtual social media, early development of reading culture, and barriers to other information sources played pivotal roles in fostering a reading culture among Razi University's undergraduates. Ultimately, based on the findings of this research, the use of virtual social networks has a positive and significant impact on the academic and non-academic activities of Razi University students.

**Conclusion:** Based on the findings, it is evident that social networks have significantly influenced students' study habits. The usage rate of virtual social networks among Razi University's undergraduate students surpasses the average mark and is deemed high. Challenges faced by students when using these networks include slow internet speed, expensive printed resources, and lack of familiarity with sites and filters. A major advantage of virtual social networks is the easy access they provide to various reading materials such as newspapers, books, magazines, and websites. Consequently, accessing these resources through virtual social networks is relatively easier and cost-effective. Students primarily join virtual social networks to stay informed about current events, communicate with others, and gather academic information. Given the vital role of social networks in information exchange, efforts should be made to enhance their capabilities and boost their productivity. In general, advancements in Internet technologies have transformed virtual social networks from mere entertainment platforms into interactive tools. Individuals can utilize these networks not only for



Journal of  
Knowledge-Research Studies  
(JKRS)

Vol 2

Issue 4

Serial Number 6

leisure but also to receive important news, solve academic and non-academic issues, and acquire education in a convenient manner.

**Value:** This research aims to elevate students' study levels and improve their academic standing, making the results relevant to university authorities.

## References

- Ajayi, S. O., & Akole, O. B. (2018). Impact of social networking on reading habits of NCE students of college of education, Ikere-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews*, 5(2), 7-13.
- Anbari, A.M., & Hariri, N.(2015). The Role of Persian Professional Web-based Social Networks in Knowledge Sharing. *National studies of librarianship and information organization*, 26(3),115-132. [In Persian].
- Emamirizi, k. (2016). The effect of use social networks on the girls students academic achievement. *Education Strategies in Medical Sciences*, 9(3), 206-213. [In Persian].
- Gok, T. (2016). The Effects of Social Networking Sites on Students' Studying and Habits. *International journal of Research in Education and Science*, 2(1), 85-93. DOI:10.21890/ijres.10682
- Hassanzadeh, S., Hariri, N., & Gilvari, A.(2018). Effects of social networks on reading habits of the adolescent; the Case of Tehran SAMA high schools. *Research on Information Science and Public Libraries*, 24 (1), 35-49. Dor:20.1001.1.26455730.1397.24.1.1.6[In Persian].
- Javaheri, F., & Mohammadi, A. (2018). A Reflection on the Situation of Students' Study, with Special Emphasis on the Role of Family and University: A Case Study of Three State Universities.RahbordFarhang, 11(41), 75-104. doi: 10.22034/jsfc.2018.67058[In Persian].
- Kharazi azar, z., Dadgaran, S.M., & Debleshki,f.(2017). The Role of Social Networks on the Promotion of Reading Culture (the Case Study of Followers of Ketabdoni Page in Instagram Social Network). *Socio-Cultural Strategy*, 6(1), 207-234. [In Persian].
- Mehboob, S .(2010). A look at per capita studies in developed countries. *Monthly Book of Generalities, Information, Communication and Science*, 13 (171), 112-114. [In Persian].
- Mehdizadeh, S .(2015). Investigating the effect of using mobile social networks on the reading rate of faculty members, employees and students of Al-Zahra University. Master's thesis. Al-Zahra University. [In Persian].
- Moin, Mohammad (1998). *A persian dictionary*. Sepehr publication. [In Persian].
- Mohammadi, M. A., Dadkhah, B., Mozaffari, N., & Nemati, A. (2008). To understand the effective studying between Ardabil city university students in 2006 year. *Koomesh*,9(2),93-98. [In Persian].
- Samad, S., Nilashi, M., & Ibrahim, O. (2019). The impact of social networking sites on students' social wellbeing and academic performance. *Education and Information Technologies*, 24, 2081-2094. DOI:10.1007/s10639-019-09867-6
- Samiei, M., Ghobadi Terra, H., & Hariri, N. (2020). The role of social networks in the amount of electronic and print studies Case Study: Students of Faculty of Literature, Humanities and Social Sciences, Islamic Azad University. *Sciences and Techniques of Information Management*, 6(2), 73-88. doi: 10.22091/stim.2020.4311.1305[In Persian].
- Seifi, L., & Ayati, M. (2020). The Effect of Mobile Social Networking on the Reading Habit of the Student Teachers of Frahangian University in South Khorasan Province. *Research on Information Science and Public Libraries*; 26 (4), 697-721.
- shaverdi, T., Heidari, H., & Chitsaz Ghomi, M. J. (2020). The effects of online social networks on the quantitative academic performance of secondary high school girls' students in Tehran. *Technology of Education Journal (TEJ)*, 14(4), 801-812. doi: 10.22061/jte.2019.3513.1887. [In Persian].



Journal of  
Knowledge-Research Studies  
(JKRS)

Vol 2

Issue 4

Serial Number 6

- 
- Shehu, N., & Shehu, A. (2014). Challenges of social networking on students' reading habit in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. *Research on Humanities and Social Sciences*, 4(19), 34-39.
- Soltanifar, M (2009). Social networks: opportunities and challenges. Strategic Research Center Media Research. [In Persian].
- Tafesse, W. (2020). The effect of social networking site use on college students' academic performance: The mediating role of student engagement. *Education and Information Technologies*, 25, 4747-4763. DOI:10.1007/s10639-020-10162-y
- Zerehsaz, M.(2011). Scientific communication as an information system: The open access movement and paradigm shifts. *Electronic publication of Astan Quds Razavi Organization of Libraries, Museums and Document Center*,3 (12), 1-17. [In Persian].



Journal of  
Knowledge-Research Studies  
(JKRS)

**Vol 2**

**Issue 4**

**Serial Number 6**