

# The Influence of Internet Usage on Student's Academic Performance

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## **ABSTRACT**

The internet is a basic technology in the development of information technology. Now, the Internet have become an important tool and required by the knowledge-based society present the contemporary for information management, information search, communication, and research and learning. A borderless world is realized with the Internet. The use of internet technology will make it easier for people to obtain several of information and the latest information quickly and effectively. The use of the Internet is useful to the world, especially to students. Therefore, as a student, advancement of internet technology should be used as good as possible. Take the advantage of the internet benefits without abused. This research will discuss the use of the Internet among final year students of the Faculty of Information Management, UiTM Puncak Perdana and the impact of its use on their academic achievement. The results obtained have shown that student interest in university among final year students of the faculty of information management is the most effective factor in improving student academic achievement. Besides, the researcher also found that Online Media usage for Education also helps students in improving their academic achievement.

**Keywords:** Internet Usage, Internet Technology, Information Technology, Academic Performance.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

A variety of advanced technology created and used during the era of globalization. Similarly, the use of Internet technology in the world is growing. The Internet, also known as a global system of computer networks and information superhighways which have become a very important tool and required by the knowledge-based society present the contemporary for information management, information search, communication, and research and learning. It is based on (Jagboro, 2003) which had said the internet is a rich, multi-layered, complex and ever-changing environment of the text. The Internet initially emerged in the 1990s greatly admired in terms of capability and sophistication. The beginning of the Internet as a tool for communication, has now become a tool for social interaction, education, business and many functions and other activities. The Internet previously only used by workers in the field of computer technology and Internet-based technology that's it. If look at the fact (Ceyhan, 2011), the author was promoted to that the internet provides a wide selection, convenient

opportunity, to enrich and develop one's life. It is because the internet allows unlimited sharing of information and also provides a way for an individual to cooperate and interact with computers worldwide irrespective of time and place.

The history of the use of technology, especially the use of the mass media in education began long ago (Cuban, 1986). Use books, pictures, radio and television are the main tools of technology have managed to improve the quality of education to students around the world. The use of the Internet, especially the World Wide Web (WWW) is only a recent development in the history of the use of technology in environmental education. However, the impact of the use of this medium is very large due to the rapid development of information and communications technology (ICT) in all sectors since lately.

Exposure to new technologies provides many benefits for everyone. It also includes the benefits that can be gained by students through the development of the internet as a medium of learning. Through the use of the Internet, students can familiarize themselves with the internet, it can be beneficial for those who want to take the chance. Most of the students adopted digital media as a place for those seeking information materials, as the main source of current issues as well as a platform for sharing information with partners such as through social networking sites. Therefore, the use of the internet makes it easier for students to obtain the desired information easily and quickly. This facility will make students more motivated to search for information more often. Therefore, the use of the internet will be a factor that will affect the academic performance of students. However, if the use of the Internet is not controlled properly, it will have a negative impact on students' academic performance. But, if the student can better manage Internet usage, it will have a positive effect on the academic performance of students. The role of the internet that allows access to the e-book, search information easily and assist students in completing the task will be significant in increasing student academic achievement. This is based on (Ward et al., 1996) academic performance or achievements are the results of the study to see how far a student, teacher or institution has achieved their educational goals. This indicates the impact of the Internet on the academic refers to how Internet resources and services helped students improve learning, search information to complete their task and other.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

The internet is a platform where millions of people engaged in the creation and exchange of information. Indeed, this fact affects a large and deep to academic achievement and social life. By this, a review of the literature was carried out to explore and investigate the effect of the internet on academic achievement. It is very important for the researcher to see how the authors see the use of the internet and its impact on students. In addition, it aimed at how digital online can help students in their academic. The researcher also wants to see how well the student learning process becomes effectively by using the Internet as a source of reference information. Furthermore, this literature review is to look at the positive and negative effects of Internet usage in the learning process. Therefore, this literature review will attempt to provide a better understanding of the effect of the internet on their academic achievement and look for any obstructions to academic achievement.

- **Use of the Internet as academic materials**

(Sampath Kumar & Manjunath, 2013) in quantitative studies has found that teachers and research scholars have been using the internet to support their research and teaching. By the use of the internet, it's had a positive impact on their academic performance, namely by writing research papers further help in doing better research and also provide a better learning experience. Besides, according to (Sushma et al., 2014) the more time spent with the Internet, the higher a student addicted to the internet. The study showed that the time spent on the internet is becoming a measure of academic achievement. The use of the Internet beyond the time will not be a hint of academic success.

- **Facebook affects student learning**

The use of social media technologies widely used by students can have a positive impact on students and a key factor for the students in achieving summative grade and left the course early (Garcia et al., 2015). Besides, according to (Ahsan Ul Haq & Sohail Chand, 2012) the use of Facebook by students adversely affecting their academic performance. These negative effects are more to male students. This is based on the behavior of male students are more active and spend a lot of time on Facebook makes them unable to focus on their academics. Moreover, (Rouis, Limayem, & Sangari, 2011) argued in their research that many students use Facebook with an extroverted personality can lead to poor academic achievement. It indicates that the personality of a person while using Facebook play a role whether the academic performance can be achieved or not.

- **Online media use gives a positive and a negative impact on student's academic**

Online media used in teaching are efforts to make improvements or to enhance the quality of teaching and learning process. In addition, the online media has the advantage of being able to combine a variety of different media such as text, images, animations, video and sound. Among media online for education used is like watching news online and view videos related to subjects, while for media online for non-education which is entertainment that is like a video game online. If seen, online media is interactivity where the user does not obtain or communicate in one way only, but users can communicate bilaterally in obtaining information, and also carry out activities. To find out more about online media that are used for educational and non-educational, there are a several review of previous studies.

Based on the study (Anand, 2007) stated that the online media have a negative effect on students. This is based on studies that have been done by the researcher about the online video game which it is a type of online media non-education, this online media negatively affect academic achievement. Besides, it is also based on the research by (Kubey et al., 2001) that the decline of college student's academic achievement is due to the application of synchronous communication such as chat rooms, which can lead students to stay up late at night and cause their academic achievement decline. Therefore, it can be said online media use affects academic performance. The social media has a negative effect on student's academic performance (Asemah,, Okpanachi & Edegoh, 2013). While, (Shakir Ullah et al., 2013) shows

that the facts about the electronic media the authorized agent of socialization and realize it can educate the public and it can help students in their lessons better than any other.

- **Interest in studying at the University is one of the contributors to academic achievement**

The interest of a student to the university when the student is willing to involve themselves in the learning process to meet the learning needs of daily living such as doing assignments and attending classes (Rouis, 2012). Initiation and participation in this study had to do with the internal pleasure derived from membership in a group and also invited the students to learn to meet the needs of the class. Therefore, the higher the desire of students to the university, will improve their academic achievement. In regard, this study shows that students who do not express a desire to learn will get a low grade in their academic performance.

### 3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework was developed by analyzing previous research internet usage and its impacts on academic performance. All of the variables was identified either of the theories, models, and framework, and was selected as a theoretical framework as well as on *Figure 1*. Five articles comprising the model, framework, and theoretical theories have been selected and used in this theoretical framework. Researches that have theories, models and framework very clearly and fulfil the requirements of research topic were the only choice for this research. From previous research, there are five factors found based on the researchers' understanding of influence of internet usage. The five factors are as follows:

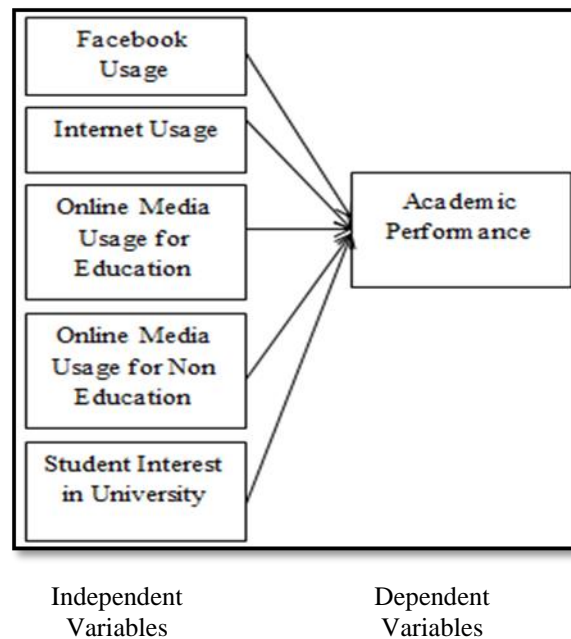


Figure 1. Theoretical Framework

- *Facebook Usage:* Based on the research by (Rouis, Limayem & Sangari, 2011) the study was aimed to investigate the effect of the use of Facebook by students for their academic achievement, through personality, self-control and confidence. The findings of this research have shown that widespread use of Facebook by a student will make their academic achievement weak. Researchers argue that the purpose, the discovery and the model developed by the authors are related to the current study and can be used in this study in a different context.
- *Internet Usage:* For the second factor of the influence of the internet usage, it is related to the use of the Internet impact on academic performance. The study was identifying the effects of the use of the internet and video games in student's academic achievement. The results showed that the route between IT use and academic performance is complex. A features socio-demographic characteristic such as age, gender, race and household income associated with both the use of IT and academic performance and affects the relationship between IT use and academic performance (Jackson et al., 2011).
- *Online Media Usage for Education:* There are two theories has been used by (Asemah,, Okpanachi & Edegoh, 2013) which is, social information processing theory and the theory of equations media in order to find out if social media exposure to students has an impact on their academic performance. The social information processing theory developed by Joseph Waither in (1992) which highlighted the information on-line. This theory suggests that the development of online interpersonal relationships take the time to develop compared with face-to-face relationships, but if it is developed it will be the same as face-to-face communication.

While for the second theory, namely, the theory of equations media that have been submitted by Byron Reeves and Clifford Nass. This theory suggests that the media is similar to real life and the electronic media in particular are given human nature. This is based on the equation Reeves and Nass stated that we respond to the communications media as though they alive.

The study indicates that exposure to social media has an impact on students and the effect is negative. Social networking media that are frequently used and preferred by students is Facebook, and it gives an adverse effect on students' performance. This is because students spend more time with social media and do not focus on their academics.
- *Online Media Usage for Non Education:* There are two theories related with the online media usage for non-education. The first theory is social learning theory and the second is cultivation theory (Shakir Ullah et al., 2013). According to Bandura (1977) social cognitive principles have been widely used to describe the effects of television on various social issues. Meanwhile, a statement from DeFleur and Sandra (1989) on social learning theory is relevant to examine the effects of communication media for information and description of social life is a thing that often in media content.

Whilst, for cultivation theory by George Gerbner, the theory is guide to explore the effects and consequences. Exposure to mass media such as television will create and foster a more consistent attitude with the media embodies a version of reality with what is actual reality. Cultivation theory asserts that the attitude of the audience is what they see on television. Gerbner sees the world of television is not a window or reflective of the world, but the world itself. The electronic media is as powerful agents of socialization that can educate and bring awareness to the public and can also be a better source compared with other sources in support of student learning (Shakir Ullah et al., 2013).

- *Student Interest in University:* The assessment of the effects of using Facebook on student achievement and thought that high levels of consumption may reduce the relevant undergraduate student achievement, Rouis, (2012). The researcher has used the flow theory (FT) and hedonic system for analyzing how the use of Facebook can impact on student achievement. The results of the study showed students who have an interest in the university and also have the multi-tasking skills may have a positive impact on their academic performance based on the regulation of activities they do and make it as a worthwhile leisure activity. But however, students who do not have these features tend not to have any significant effect.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY**

The researcher will use quantitative methods for data collection, which would allow the measurement of variables and build numbers to reflect the findings. A survey techniques and questionnaire was used as the instruments to collect the data. By using quantitative methods, the researcher can measure the relationship with numbers and statistical facts and figures to assess the relationship, to describe the relationship of cause and effect and identify the extent to which the variables tested affect their academic performance.

This research population is made up of 423 final year undergraduate students of the Faculty of Management, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Puncak Perdana. The random sampling technique was used in this study. The sample size for this survey was 210 respondents of the research population. These data will be analyzed using the SPSS functioning as descriptive statistics, reliability analysis and parametric testing.

The area of the target population in this research is Universiti Teknologi Mara, Puncak Perdana. The target population was 210 final year students of Faculty of Information Management, but due to unavoidable circumstances, only 206 respondents answered the questionnaires. The SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Science) was used to analyze the data obtained from the questionnaire. The data was analysed by using frequencies, percentages and rank orders. Besides, Pearson's Correlation was also used to test hypothesis.

## 5. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In order to investigate the relationship between the influence of Internet use and academic performance, correlation analysis was conducted for this study. Thus, bivariate correlation analysis was conducted separately between each variable and the academic performance of students, which is correlation, is a technique to examine the relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable.

A result of correlation analysis between the influence of Internet use and academic performance is shown in Table 1. The value of "r" of Pearson range from  $r = -0.157$  to  $r = 0.536$ , indicating that a positive relationship and also the relationship. The lowest correlation is between internet usage and academic performance, while the highest correlation is between student interest and academic performance.

Table 1: Correlation Matrix between Influence of Internet Usage between Academic Performance.

Influence of Internet Usage	Academic Performance
Facebook Usage	0.122
Internet Usage	-0.157*
Online Media Usage Education	0.110
Online Media Usage Non Education	-0.079
Student Interest	0.536**

\*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

### Correlation between Facebook Usage and Academic Performance

The study is about the relationship between Facebook usage and academic performance revealed the following hypothesis:

- *H1 The perceived on Facebook use has an impact on academic performance.*

Table 2 shown the hypothesis 1 (H1) suggest perceived on Facebook use has an impact on academic performance. Based on the above table, it was stated that Facebook usage value  $r = 0.122$ . Thus, it shows that both variables are positive, but the relationship is weak. Whilst, for the  $p > 0.05$  was recorded and shows the relationship was not significant. The results show that the hypothesis 1 (H1) in which the use of Facebook was related to the student's academic achievement.

Table 2: The relationship between Facebook Usage and Academic Performance



		Facebook Usage	Academic Performance
<b>Facebook Usage</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	.122
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.080
	N	206	206
<b>Academic Performance</b>	Pearson Correlation	.122	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.080	
	N	206	206

### **Correlation between Internet Usage and Academic Performance**

The study is about the relationship between Internet usage and academic performance revealed the following hypothesis:

- *H2 Perceived use of internet has a positive impact on student achievement in the learning process.*
- *H3 Internet use has also been associated with negative effects on academic achievement.*

As shown in Table 3, the use of the internet was found to negatively correlate and the relationship is weak with the academic performance ( $r = -0.157$ ). Based on the result, it signifies the linear correlation is negative. The hypothesis of the use of the internet and achievement show a significant relationship with a strong showing significant value of 0.025 ( $p < 0$ ) and thus supporting the hypothesis the use of internet has a more significant impact on student achievement in the learning process and also has negative effects on academic achievement.



Table 3: The relationship between Internet Usage and Academic Performance.

		<b>Internet Usage</b>	<b>Academic Performance</b>
<b>Internet Usage</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	-.157*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.025
	N	206	206
<b>Academic Performance</b>	Pearson Correlation	-.157*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.025	
	N	206	206

#### **Correlation between Online Media Usage for Education and Academic Performance**

The study is about the relationship between Online Media usage for Education and academic performance revealed the following hypothesis:

*H4 Perceived use of online media for education has a positive impact on student's academic performance.*

Based on Table 4, it has been demonstrated hypothesis 4 (H4), the perceived use of online media for education has a weak correlation impact on the student's academic performance. Table 4.17 stated that the value of Pearson's correlation  $r = 0.110$ , which the hypothesis is proposed online media usage for education has a positive impact on academic performance. However, significant value has been recorded  $p > 0.05$ . Therefore, the results show the hypothesis 4 (H4) where the perceived use of online media for education has a positive impact on student's academic performance is not significant.

Table 4: The relationship between Online Media Usage for Education and Academic Performance

		<b>Online Media Usage for Education</b>	<b>Academic Performance</b>
<b>Online Media Usage for Education</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	.110
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.116
	N	206	206
<b>Academic Performance</b>	Pearson Correlation	.110	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.116	
	N	206	206

#### **Correlation between Online Media Usage for Non-Education and Academic Performance**

The study is about the relationship between Online Media usage for Non-Education and academic performance revealed the following hypothesis:

*H5 Perceived use of online media for non-education has a negative impact on student's academic performance.*

Table 5 indicates the value of Pearson's Correlation  $r = -0.079$ . This value presents a negative correlation, and the relationship is weak between academic performances. The significant level of Pearson Correlation is higher than alpha (0.05). It was found that the linear of the significant relationship is not significant between online media usage for non-education and academic performance. These findings revealed that the hypothesis of this study is not supported.

Table 5: The relationship between Online Media Usage for Non-Education and Academic Performance.

		Online Media Usage For Non-Education	Academic Performance
<b>Online Media Usage For Non-Education</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	-.079
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.258
	N	206	206
<b>Academic Performance</b>	Pearson Correlation	-.079	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.258	
	N	206	206

**Correlation between Student Interest in University and Academic Performance**

The study is about the relationship between student interest in University and academic performance revealed the following hypothesis:

*H6 The high student interest in the University will have a positive impact on academic performance.*

Hypothesis 6 (H6) proposed that student interest in the University will have a positive impact on academic performance. Based on the table 6, it stated that student interest recorded value of  $r = 0.536$ , which indicates it is a moderate positive correlation. The value of significant is  $p < 0.05$ . Therefore, it can be said that the hypothesis 6 (H6), is reliable and have strong evidence that the influence of Internet and academic performance is linearly closely related among students.

Table 6: The relationship between Student Interest in University and Academic Performance

		<b>Student Interest in University</b>	<b>Academic Performance</b>
<b>Student Interest in University</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	.536**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	206	206
<b>Academic Performance</b>	Pearson Correlation	.536**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	206	206

## 6. LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE STUDIES

At the time of the study was conducted to meet the objectives of the study, there are some limitations that need to be faced and addressed by the researcher. The study used the theoretical framework by Ellore, Niranjana and Brown, 2014. The researcher has adopted and adapted the theoretical framework to help in the research. To obtain data for this research, researchers has used a small sample of respondents consisted of final year students of the Faculty of Information Management. Therefore, in the future, further research can expand a sample of respondents, by using student’s part four and part five and also use a different context. Apart from that, the only choice among respondents of information management. Future research will be more interesting if involving respondents from different backgrounds.

In addition, for future research, the researchers suggested that it be done qualitatively, with the collection of data for research purposes will be better and more interesting. In future studies, it would be more interesting if the study was conducted in depth on the use of information technology to assist in increasing student achievement. On the basis of research literature, theoretical framework and empirical evidence obtained as a result of this study, other researchers can use it as a starting point to begin further research on the use of the Internet.

## 7. CONCLUSION

The aim of this study was to examine the extent to which the use of the Internet affects academic achievement. Based on the results obtained from the questionnaire, there are five factors, namely the use of Facebook, the Internet, media usage for online education, online media usage for non-education and student interest in the university, which affect students' academic achievement. Based on the *Figure 2: The results of the study*, it shown that the use of

Facebook had a positive correlation in influence on students to improve their academic achievement although the relationship is not strong. The use of the internet, it was found also important in influencing a student's academic achievement despite the correlation is weak negative but the hypothesis is supported.

Furthermore, online media usage for education and non-education also play an important role in influencing student academic achievement. This is because, if the students are using online media as well without wasting time with things that are not beneficial, they will definitely increase academic achievement. This is based on the correlation of both positive and negative. In addition, the online media usage for non-education has the lowest mean value. For student interest in the university, it has a highest significant value and the strong correlation compared with other factors, it is proved that the student interest in university is a factor that most affects academic achievement. In addition, student interest in university also has the highest mean value compared to other factors. Thus, based on the results obtained, a conclusion can be made that a student's academic achievement can be increased if they allocate how to use the Internet in the right way. Furthermore, this study provides a significant contribution to the university who want their student's academic performance improved because students are an important asset to university.

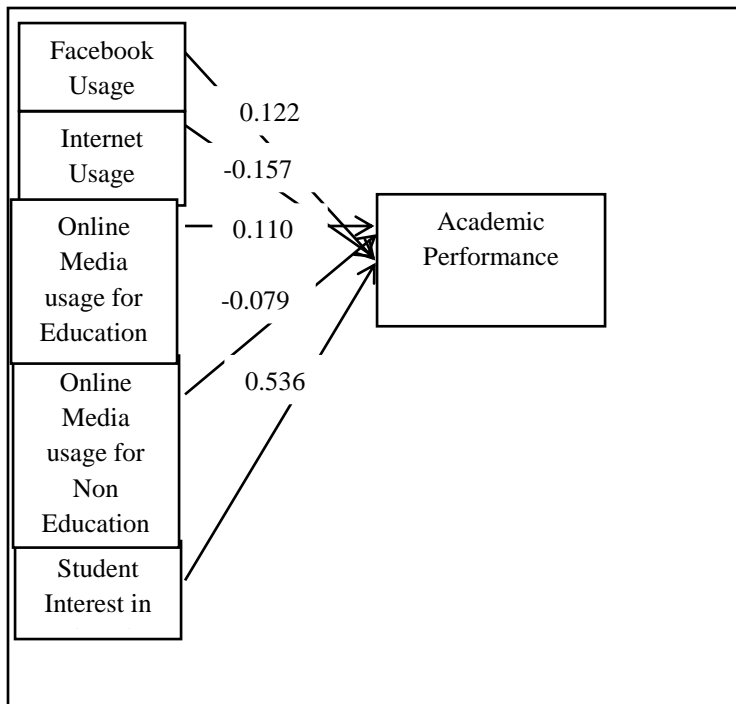


Figure 2. Result of the Study

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