

A Study of Taiwanese College English Majors' Use of Social Network Sites: Implications for English Learning

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ABSTRACT

The goal of this research is to study the use of social network sites by Taiwanese university students of English major and the implication for using social network sites in English learning. Over the last decades, the technological advancements in computer and the Internet led to success of numerous tools of CMC, and with their increasing popularity it has become a trend to construct and maintain one's social networks using social network sites. Social network sites can also be a source of gaining news and information of various topics and fields. The methodology used for this research was interviewing in the general interview guide approach. Students of English major were chosen as the participants of the research. The result showed that the participants used social network sites mainly for their social networks. Besides, it was found that it is motivational to read news and information in English of their interested topics on social network sites. The participants mentioned that they learned spoken language and vocabularies on the use of social network sites. As for the use of social network sites by teachers, the majority of participants like to see teachers interact with them as individuals.

Keywords : new media、 computer-mediated communication、 social network sites、 Web 2.0、 qualitative interviewing

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