

# Using Facebook in Journalism education

Closed, secret, but useful?

## Potential benefits of Facebook

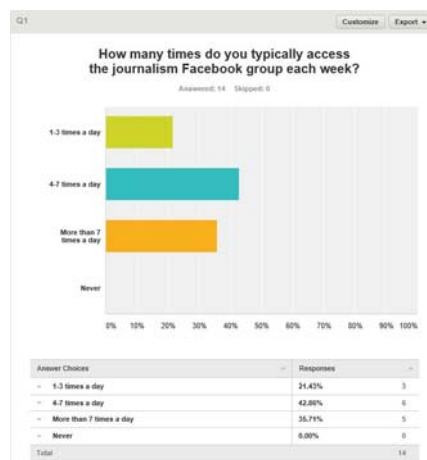
- Improved communication between class members (students and tutors)
- Greater engagement with class materials
- Exposure to additional learning materials through staff and student input

Source: Zoe Staines and Mark Lauchs: [The Use of Facebook in tertiary education](#) in *Interactive Technology and Smart Education* Vol.10 No.4, 2013 pp285-296

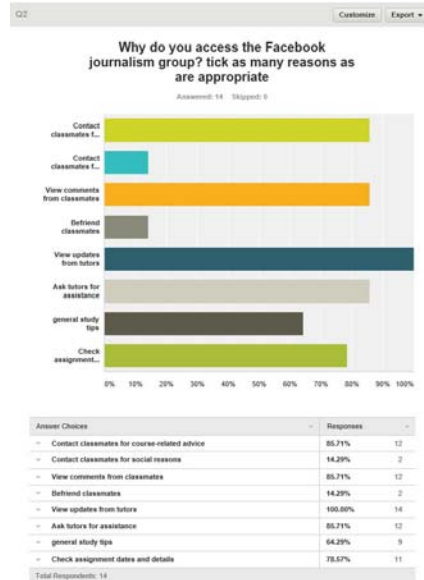
## Survey Monkey

- [https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/y7td2xrxBTuhRCLghO748\\_2Fvj4k1U\\_2FjSEdBi67SvkVyE\\_3D](https://www.surveymonkey.com/analyze/y7td2xrxBTuhRCLghO748_2Fvj4k1U_2FjSEdBi67SvkVyE_3D)

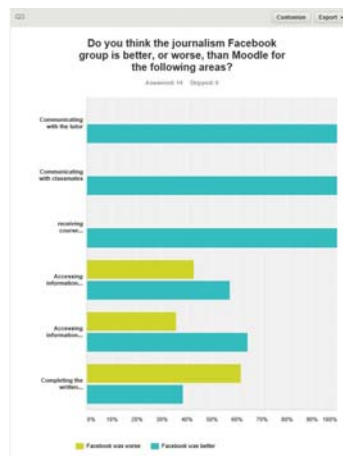
## Weekly access to Journalism Facebook



## Reasons for accessing J-Facebook



## Facebook vs Moodle

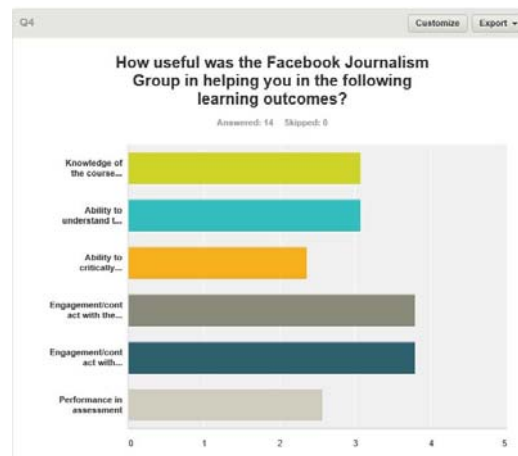


## Facebook vs Moodle breakdown

	Facebook was worse	Facebook was better	Total
Communicating with the tutor	0.00% 0	100.00% 14	14
Communicating with classmates	0.00% 0	100.00% 14	14
receiving course announcements and updates	0.00% 0	100.00% 14	14
Accessing information about assessments	42.86% 6	57.14% 8	14
Accessing information about topics covered in the course	35.71% 5	64.29% 9	14
Completing the written assessment items for the course	61.54% 8	38.46% 5	13

[Comments \(4\)](#)

## Facebook and Learning Outcomes



## Learning Outcomes: Breakdown

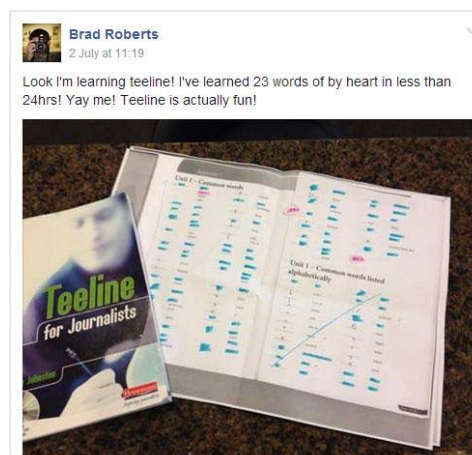
	not useful	somewhat useful	useful	extremely useful	Total	Average Rating
Knowledge of the course content	7.14% 1	7.14% 1	57.14% 8	28.57% 4	14	3.07
Ability to understand the course content	0.00% 0	14.29% 2	64.29% 9	21.43% 3	14	3.07
Ability to critically analyse the course content	35.71% 5	14.29% 2	28.57% 4	21.43% 3	14	2.36
Engagement/contact with the course tutors	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	21.43% 3	78.57% 11	14	3.79
Engagement/contact with classmates	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	21.43% 3	78.57% 11	14	3.79
Performance in assessment	28.57% 4	14.29% 2	28.57% 4	28.57% 4	14	2.57

Categorize as...	Filter by Category	Search responses
Showing 4 responses		
The last two were pretty equal, so that would be a good option to have. 10/2/2014 2:50 PM <a href="#">View respondent's answers</a>		
A great communication tool but not very helpful in actually accessing or completing work. 10/2/2014 8:50 AM <a href="#">View respondent's answers</a>		
Moodle is awful. Anything is better. But Facebook is good. 10/1/2014 7:11 PM <a href="#">View respondent's answers</a>		
Some of those things weren't available on facebook. Documents should stay on "the moodle", but facebook is great for notifications of updates or changes or discussions. 10/1/2014 4:02 PM <a href="#">View respondent's answers</a>		

## Examples of student use of the Newsroom

- Communicating with Tutors
- Professional “Skiting”
- News Leads
- Sharing/asking for Resources
- Classroom announcements
- Job alerts
- Workplace feedback

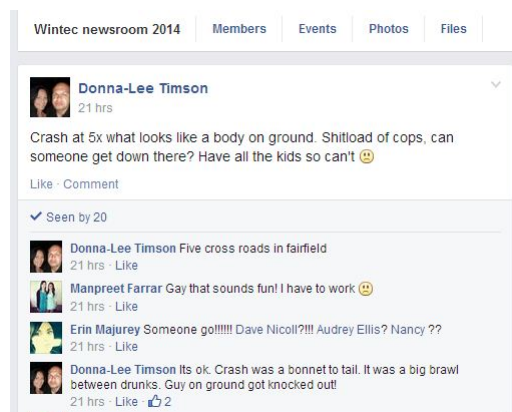
## Checking in about study progress



## Tutors acknowledging student work




## Students offering news leads



## Students offering topics for debate

**Nancy Elizabeth Smith**  
1 day · Public

Is anyone else noticing the struggle between catering for your readers, advertisers, sources and trying to report (what you believe) is quality journalism? [https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1015253160363236&type=story](https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1015253160363236&type=story)



**The real enemies of press freedom are in the newsroom**  
George Monbiot: The principal threat to expression comes not from state regulation but from censorship by editors and proprietors

Like · Comment · Share

**Donna-Lee Timson** likes this. Seen by 24

**Donna-Lee Timson** Definitely. Or picking stories to your editorial reporter, that is consider important and get journalism, only to be shut down ☹️  
2 days · Public · Like · 1

**Nancy Elizabeth Smith** (replied), felt more of an editor than a reporter yesterday for the way my story was reworked. Dramatisation everywhere  
2 days · Public · Like

**Dave Nicol** Not so much the advertisers (they can go fuck themselves) but trying to keep a balance between the readers and sources while also reporting accurately is frustrating. I just hate when they add in the dramatic leads for a story which isn't that dramatic but has it's merits.  
2 days · Public · Like · 1

**Charles Noble** Experienced journalists will me everything is in such a state of flux at the moment that even well-worn reporters are no longer sure of how to report stories. There is genuine confusion in newsrooms at the moment, but good stories still get through it. See more

## Students offering workplace feedback

**Donna-Lee Timson**  
27 June · Edited

Well that was a bit deflating. Wrote a 900 word piece about anti psychotics being prescribed for withdrawals from synthetic cannabis and it was cut down to 300. Apparently we don't want to mention the actual drug incase those that use it have a hissy fit.

Like · Comment

**5 people** like this. Seen by 24

**Dave Nicol** Really? So what made it through in the end?  
27 June at 17:43 · Like

**Rachael Clarke** How stupid??? I hope you gave them the face I'm pulling right now.  
27 June at 17:43 · Like · 1

**Donna-Lee Timson** The anti-psychotic being prescribed for withdrawals. A few quotes from doctors and the fact that prescriptions have doubled in the past five years. Way too vague if you ask me! But I'm not the editor so all good. He was lovely about it though, but yep. 3 days straight research, harassing com's people and hard work for 300 words. Good experience! Lol  
27 June at 17:44 · Like · 2

**Ana Avasthi** That's so much work down the drain! But good on you for taking it in your stride. On another note could we not mention the drug as a good thing so more people won't go to their doctor demanding to be put on it. And let's be honest a lot of doctors prescribe drugs like they are lollies!  
27 June at 17:50 · Like · 1

**Donna-Lee Timson** (replied), Was a bit gutted but in hindsight he was probably protecting me (and the paper) from getting shit by patients whom are prescribed the drug for right reasons. Pretty closed up on quetiapine now though lol  
27 June at 17:52 · Like · 1

**Erin Magee** Been there, sucks aye. But like you said, good experience!  
27 June at 17:56 · Like · 1

**Nancy Elizabeth Smith** The info could always be used in the future though! Bank all the info for a future cat!  
27 June at 18:01 · Like · 1

Write a comment.



## Students indicated

- Newsroom Facebook was accessed more often by students than they did Moodle
- Newsroom Facebook was helpful in achieving learning outcomes
- Newsroom Facebook was not used for social reasons
- Newsroom Facebook was better than Moodle in contacting tutors, colleagues, and getting course-related advice
- Moodle was better for completing assignments
- Newsroom Facebook is a strong complement to learning management systems such as Moodle and Blackboard