

What do you learn from the article: 'Using Facebook 'can lower exam results by up to 20%'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1309612/Using-Facebook-lower-exam-results-20.html#ixzz2GYgpZOm7>

- Psychologists say that “students who use Facebook while they study get significantly lower grades”
- Students who use Facebook, even if it is in the background, achieve lower results than those who don't.
- This research helps to disprove the theory that younger people are better at multitasking
- Professor Paul Kirschner from the Open University in the Netherlands authored the study
- The study shows that multitasking “extends the amount of time needed to carry out tasks” and results in additional mistakes.
- The study focused on 219 students in American universities.
- Facebook users grade point average scores were 3.06, whereas non-users' scores were 3.82
- Non-facebook users spent 88% more time studying
- He also said he was not 'demonising' Facebook and pointed to the distracting nature of all social networking.
- ¾ of Facebook users don't believe that it affects their grades
- All social networking sites have the same effect, not just Facebook.
- “We should adapt our education systems accordingly to keep up with the times”
- The study will be published in the journal Computers in Human Behaviour
- Nicholas Carr's book The Shallows argues that the internet is creating “distracted thinking and superficial learning”

suggests that focus is beneficial when revising

I can see that it isn't just a local issue – nor does it only affect GCSE students

Suggests that the problem isn't going to go away – students aren't changing their behaviours despite compelling evidence

Suggests that exam results are only the tip of the iceberg – all users may be suffering