

Digital Research

This brief guide serves to highlight the ways in which academics and librarians are using social media to find and create communities surrounding research and also to guide students' use of digital tools for research and life beyond university.

Digital Practice for Researchers

What

Increased awareness of how social and digital media can have an impact on your role as a researcher

Why

"When handled correctly, you can use it to enhance your personal brand, establish your expertise, or demonstrate digital fluency."

Harvard Business Review Management Tip, 9 March 2012 <http://hbr.org/tip/2012/13/09/know-the-basics-of-putting-your-professional-self-online> [accessed 6 May 2014]

- Increase the number of paper downloads and citations.
- Increase your community and share your research with a wider audience.
- Develop a personal brand.

How

1. Andy Miah – University of the West of Scotland
 - "Everyone Everywhere" & "Everything Everywhere" (www.prezi.com)
 - www.andymiah.net
2. Melissa Terras – Director & Professor of Digital Humanities at UCL
 - www.melissaterras.blogspot.com
 - Paper – The Impact of Social Media on the Dissemination of Research: Results of an Experiment
3. eGuides
 - Handbook of social media for researchers and supervisors – Shailey Minocha & Maria Petre
 - Using Twitter in university research, teaching and impact activities – LSE Public Policy Group
4. Publish in Gala – Greenwich Academic Literature Archive

Digital Practice for Educators

What

Helping students to become better researchers with an increased level of information and digital literacy

Why

"The speed of young people's web searching means that little time is spent in evaluating information, either for relevance, accuracy or authority."

"We think that the younger people know how to navigate in the Web and find information and are so technologically savvy. We are finding in our research that that is no true... The ERIAL study also came up with this, and said the students do not even know how to search Google well."

"A study in the United Kingdom learned that the doctoral students pick up the same patterns as their professors. So, they learn from their professors."

Lynne Silipigni Connaway & Kevin M. Randall (2013) Why the Internet is More Attractive than the Library, *The Serials Librarian: From the Printed Page to the Digital Age*, 64:1-4, 41-56

How

1. Work with librarians – "...many faculty and students think that librarians are more like customer service representatives... They do not understand that [they] can actually help them within specific subject areas and to find information."
 - UoG Library – iProgress
 - Information Services Blog
2. Create assignments with information literacy in mind
 - <http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/effective-research-based-assignments-information-instructors>
 - <http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/ideas-strategies-incorporating-information-literacy-classroom>