Edmodo Research Page

Edmodo (Click link to return to main WIKI page)

*This page provides a general outline to assist in the organization of research topics related to your assigned Web 2.0 Application.

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I. History

As we explore the history of Edmodo we will discover what this tool is, how it was developed, who is responsible for this tool, and how it has been used thus far. Edmodo is a modern way in which teachers and students can connect.

Edmodo, a private micro blogging platform, was developed for use in the classroom by teachers and students. Edmodo provides teachers and students the ability to share notes, links, and files to foster communication inside and outside of the classroom. Teachers also have the ability to post alerts, assignments, and events to share with their students.


Edmodo was developed by two men who devote their careers to educational technology. Jeff describes his motivation in the following quote “Edmodo is more than just a backchannel chat :) It's also a great place to post resources, assignments, polls, and anything else you want to share and engage online with your students.” They felt that technologically, teachers were not connecting with their students in an appropriate way. Another web developer stated that “obviously heard my cry for help when they launched Edmodo on September 2nd.” Edmodo was tested in 2008 and was made available for use thereafter.

The way Edmodo is ran is very similar to Facebook, however, by definition, a specialist network of educators and students, so the risks of being contacted by strangers for non academic purposes are greatly reduced. This creates a safer environment in which students and teachers can safely interact and collaborate. Edmodo is best known for its purpose of social networking in the classroom. A great feature to the program is the fact that it is extremely secure and private with no advertisements. To join, the student has to have a private access code provided by the teacher that enables them to access the main page for the classroom. If the instructor would like the students to join additional pages providing more information, they must insert new access codes each time to prevent those not in the classroom from joining. There is also no personal information required for students to join, so the site is completely secure.

As the fastest growing K12 social learning network in the world, Edmodo was developed with that intent of creating an online learning environment. This every evolving Web 2.0 tool may only be two years old; however, it is well developed and tested. Edmodo will be a great means of creating an on-line learning environment for many years to come.

+https://wiki.itap.purdue.edu/pages/editpage.action?pageId=16912971+
+http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P39m3Fp–_Afor+
http://www.brighthub.com/office/project-management/reviews/8706.aspx#ixzz14tQZ22aR
http://blog.edmodo.com/
+https://wiki.itap.purdue.edu/pages/editpage.action?pageId=16912971+

Edited by: Jenna Lewis

II. How Edmodo Relates to other Applications

Edmodo has been compared to several types of online applications like Twitter, Facebook, and other micro-blogging websites. This Education 2.0 tool aims to have Twitter-like teacher-student interaction along with more functionality like Facebook. Teachers can control their “virtual classroom” by assigning homework through the application as well as grade and post reminders to their students.

Some good points about this application are its ease of use and its overall ability to keep in contact with students and teachers. For example, if a student has to take a sick day he or she can simply tell the teacher through Edmodo and the teacher can send him or her the homework for the day. Teachers can also upload notes and website links to Edmodo in order for students to get extra help if they need it. It has also been observed that through Edmodo’s website there is a discussion page for teachers to ask questions about the application and to make suggestions on how to update the website to make it more versatile and work in the classroom. This is especially encouraging because that means the creators of the website care about how to make the learning experience through their website better.
Despite its positives, there are still some ideas that have not been implemented in the Web 2.0 application. For example, students cannot yet have student to student interaction meaning they can only communicate with the teacher. Students could create some very engaging discussions if they were given the chance, but given that this website is only a couple of years old the makers are still updating the site and adding new features.

One aspect of using the Internet in teaching is the fear that there will be no privacy when ideas are shared. Edmodo, unlike blog sites, has security features that keep the discussions in a closed environment where students can feel safe about sharing their ideas. This is like Facebook in a way because in Facebook you can control who can see your “profile” or not, but Edmodo differs because only the teacher and students who you want to see your post can see it. The website is not public, so there is really peace of mind for parents who may be afraid to have their children posting information on the Internet.

Micro-blogging is a great tool for people to communicate ideas about a certain subject, and Edmodo is taking it a step further with an easy to use interface and the security of discussing ideas in a closed environment. Like Twitter, students can have discussions with the teacher but it has more features than just communicating. Teachers can upload notes and homework and students can turn in homework for a grade. This is a promising application that may not have all of the functions teachers would like yet, but the creators are actively listening to teachers’ ideas and implementing them in updates to the website. Edmodo is a great application for teachers because it give peace of mind to teachers and parents and allows students to have more freedom in learning outside the classroom.
Recently, Edmodo has teamed up with one of Revolution Learning’s portfolio companies named Fusion Project. Revolution Learning is a private
investor that concentrates on the improvement of learning globally in the formal and informal sense. Lately, the merger between Edmodo and the
Fusion Project’s goal is to improve the nature of web services in the education industry. “Our companies share a similar vision of what a social
education platform should look like. Edmodo's teacher centric model with Fusion Project's student centric model is a winning combination.
Together we will accomplish much more in a shorter period of time,” says Chuck Rosendahl, COO/CEO, Fusion Project.


Edited by: Katie German

IV. Demonstration of Educational Value

Edmodo is a virtual learning environment. Because it is on the internet it can be accessed at home or school. It has features that are useful for
independent learning or practice at home. It also has features that can enhance a classroom lesson.

http://techcrunch.com/2008/03/01/twitter-in-the-classroom/

Teachers find Edmodo very valuable because of the level of accessibility to themselves as well as their students. It is convenient and high tech
in the a society which functions that way. It is a good way of communication as it gets the students attention and is convenient for the teacher.
Edmodo is very accessible making is have a high educational value.

http://twitter.com/edmodo

Today, it is known that there is just as much contact between teachers and their students as students have with their computers. Use of
technology in the classroom is rising. Using Edmodo, teachers can post assignments on their page for either the classroom website or the
classroom blog. These assignments can be completed and submitted through Edmodo, in addition to teachers being able to post notes as well
as other assignments. This tool is especially helpful for students who miss class and need to catch up. Not only can Edmodo provide a place for
microblogging, it also provides a place for students to post short messages to each other as well as private messages to the teacher. The
instructor may also add videos and powerpoint clips to the page for students who missed class or need extra help on certain topics. Class
calendars are normally kept here as well, in addition to announcements and links to other helpful sites. Edmodo is a great way for parents to stay
involved and up-to-date on what is happening in their child's classroom. They are able to follow certain lessons, help their child stay on track if
they fall behind, and view the schedule for upcoming events, due dates, and field trips.

+http://teacher2point0.blogspot.com/2009/03/edmodo-review-phase-one.html+

Edited by: Jessica Cassidy

V. How Edmodo is used Internationally?

Edmodo is a private micro-blogging platform built for use by teachers and students for use in the classroom, and it is becoming more and more
popular amongst worldwide. Many teachers can use Edmodo internationally by adding any language of their own, with Spanish already being
recently added in March of 2010 by system administrators. With the new addition of languages for this application, educational settings worldwide
can now use Edmodo to enhance the learning environment for students.

http://blog.edmodo.com/?s=international
http://www.crunchbase.com/company/edmodo

Because Edmodo is used through the Internet, teachers and students from all over the globe are able to access the specific pages for their
classrooms. In the near future, there have been plans made to launch an international presence in the education world. There will be increased
conference speaking arrangements in addition to important, strategic partnerships in the education industry.


Not only do we see a lot of use of Edmodo in the United States, including its biggest supporters in Illinois and California, but we also have been
seeing a huge increase in membership of the students and teachers of Brazil. In Brazil, the site is being used more towards a place where the
teachers test out a new lesson plan or idea before actually implementing it into their classroom. This use of Edmodo in other countries will
increase even more as the site becomes more popular and people begin to understand the many benefits.

+http://mashable.com/2008/09/18/edmodo/+  

One way to utilize Edmodo on an international level is that a student or teacher can travel to any place in the world and instantaneously share
their experiences with their class. Often times current classroom educators miss out on exceptional educational experiences because they
cannot afford to spend that amount of time without being in contact with their class. Edmodo changes this and gives even individual classroom
an international face.
This table shows the increase of international use over the recent months. Over 75,000 teachers and students use Edmodo internationally, and this program continues to grow.

Edited by: Brian McNamara and Jenna Lewis

VI. References

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