

# **Attack of the Robot Teachers!**

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***In the era of social media, how can  
instructors effectively  
communicate and engage students without  
becoming  
another “app” that students can turn on  
and off at will?***

# What is Social Media?

Virtual communities in which people communicate and interact online.

- Eharmony
- Facebook
- Flickr
- Formspring
- Googe+
- Instagram
- Kik
- LinkedIn

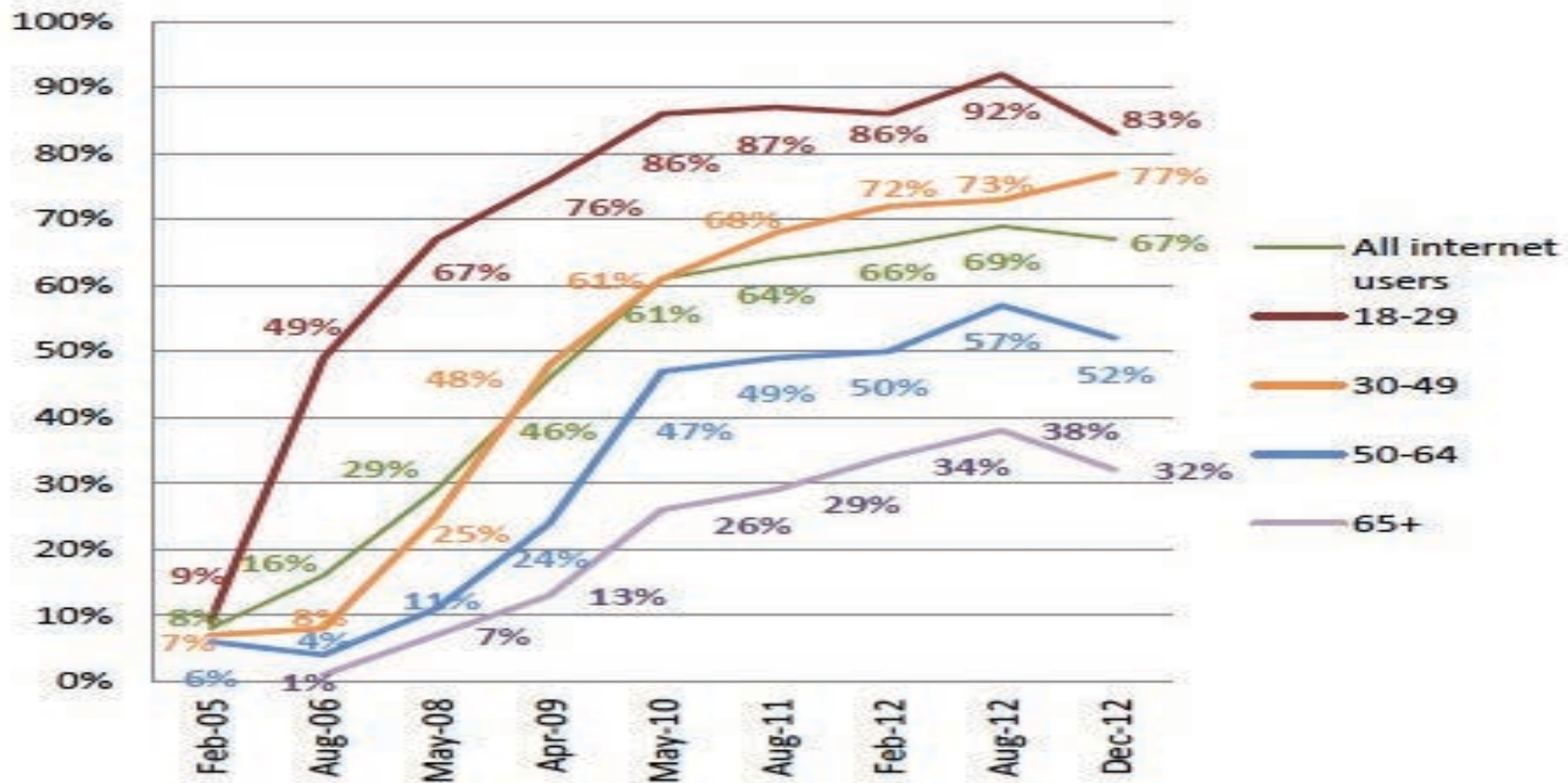


- Match.com
- Pinterest
- Reddit
- Twitter
- Tumblr
- Yelp
- Youtube
- Wordpress

# Social Networks Usage by Age

## Social Networking Site Use by Age Group, 2005-2012

% of internet users in each age group who use social networking sites



Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project surveys, 2005-2012

# How Teachers Use Social Networks



- + Facebook (social network website): class groups, discussion posts, reminders, and creative projects.
- + Twitter (social networking and microblogging): class discussions, reminders, connections to the community.
- + Google Docs (web-based word processor): allows for real time collaboration, store and share documents.
- + Tumblr (blogging site): allows for group discussion on a topic or essay.

# How Students Use Social Networks

- + To maintain social ties
- + Start new relationships
- + Share life events and stories
- + Humor
- + Escapism
- + The average user of a social networking site has more close ties and is half as likely to be socially isolated as the average American (Pew)
- + Facebook users are more trusting than others (Pew)
- + Myspace users more open to opposing view points (Pew)



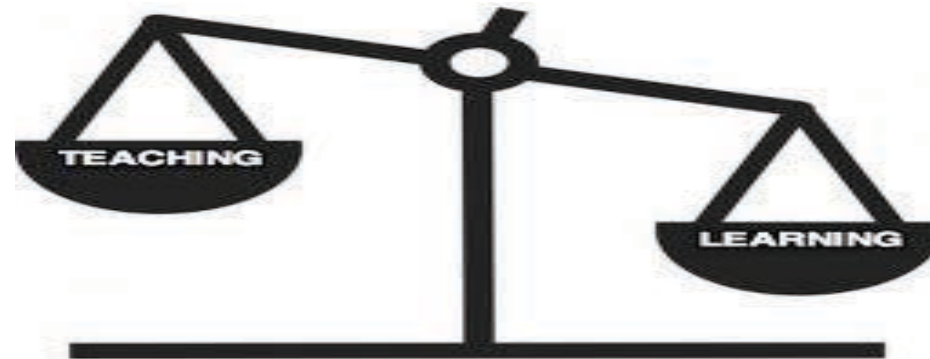
# Students: Benefits & Drawbacks

## *BENEFITS:*

- + Quick communication
- + Access to materials
- + Community building
- + Learning Style

## *DRAWBACKS:*

- + Blurring of social life and school
- + Perceived snooping
- + Trust



# Teachers: Benefits & Drawbacks



## *BENEFITS*

- + Communication
- + Relevance of material
- + Engaging students
- + Community building
- + Less paperwork

## *DRAWBACKS*

- + Becoming an app
- + Boundary issues
- + Privacy
- + Accessibility
- + Cyber-bullying
- + Trendiness



# Discussion Questions



- + How can we balance work and play in a learning environment?
- + What are some advantages and disadvantages of incorporating technology in the classroom, specifically social media?
- + What can teachers do to improve their social media literacy and online communication?
- + What are some possible ways to bridge the gap between the social communities of the online world and those of the classroom?
- + How can teachers prevent cyber-bullying in the learning environment?