

Hot Articles

“August | 2019”

Social Science



Title: [Veni, vidi, vici: The impact of social media on virtual acculturation in tourism context](#)

Author: Chunqing Li | Shuojia Guo | Cheng Lu Wang | Jieli Zhang

Journal: Technological Forecasting and Social Change Volume 145, August 2019,

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2019.01.013>

Abstract

This study aims to explore how social media usage can be leveraged to help tourists cope with acculturation when traveling abroad. Specifically, based on the findings of content analysis of the case company's chronicle posting on social media and in-depth interviews with its reviewers, we propose a theoretical process model to elucidate the major roles of social media in influencing the tourists' "virtual" acculturation process: an information source for destination selection, a learning center for cultural related skills for sociological adaptation, and a buffer of social support for psychological adjustment. This study contributes to the acculturation literature by extending the concept of "acculturation" to include indirect and intermittent "virtual" intercultural contacts and investigating the roles of social media in the various stages of virtual acculturation process. Additionally, it also enriches social media research in tourism literature as extant studies have mainly focused on social media application in destination branding. The implications of our findings will help tourism managers optimize their social media marketing efforts towards better trip experience with more positive acculturation outcome.

Database

ScienceDirect

Title: [Predicting exchange rates in Asia: New insights on the accuracy of survey forecasts](#)

Author: Frederik Kunze

Journal: Journal of Forecasting. 2019

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/for.2628>

Abstract

By linking measures of forecast accuracy as well as testing procedures with regard to forecast rationality this paper investigates aggregated survey forecasts with forecast horizons of 3, 12, and 24 months for the exchange rates of the Chinese yuan, the Hong Kong dollar, the Japanese yen, and the Singapore dollar vis-à-vis the US dollar and, hence, for four different currency regimes. The rationality of the exchange rate predictions is initially assessed utilizing tests for unbiasedness and efficiency which indicate that the investigated forecasts are irrational in the sense that the predictions are biased. As one major contribution of this paper, it is subsequently shown that these results are not consistent with an alternative, less restrictive, measure of rationality. Investigating the order of integration of the time series as well as cointegrating relationships, this empirical evidence supports the conclusion that the majority of forecasts are in fact rational. Regarding forerunning properties of the predictions, the results are rather mediocre, with shorter term forecasts for the tightly managed USD/CNY FX regime being one exception. As one additional important and novel evaluation result, it can be concluded, that the currency regime matters for the quality of exchange rate forecasts.

Database

Wiley Online Library

Title: [Learning Communities and Unlinked Sections: A Contrast of Student Backgrounds, Student Outcomes, and In-class Experiences](#)

Author: Emily A. Holt | Amanda Nielson

Journal: Research in Higher Education August 2019, Volume 60, Issue 5

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11162-018-9531-1>

Abstract

Learning communities, the co-registration of student cohorts sharing curricular goals, are often associated with greater academic achievement, retention, inclusivity, and engagement. While not all previous studies unequivocally demonstrate a positive learning community effect on performance, many suggest that students participating in learning communities identify a greater sense of community and interaction with their peers and instructors. Few studies, however, have compiled both academic metrics of success as well as multiple quantitative measures of academic engagement. Moreover, few studies have contrasted these metrics to roughly equivalent classes where the only difference was linkage by a learning community, while holding course content, semester, and instructor constant. Our research goal was to compare academic performance, retention, student background, and engagement of students participating in learning communities to those in similar but unlinked sections. We found no significant differences in academic performance, student background, or engagement between linked learning community classes and unlinked, freestanding sections of the same class. We also found student retention was lower in learning community sections compared to unlinked sections. Some of our findings may reflect our student population of a non-residential, commuter campus where building relationships may be more difficult. We suggest that other metrics of success, including those that quantify interdisciplinary knowledge or skills and collaboration, may better reflect gains of success in learning community environments.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Evaluating the Accessibility of Special Education Cooperative Websites for Individuals with Disabilities](#)

Author: Steven M. Baule

Journal: TechTrends

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s1152>

Abstract

Over the last twenty years, governments and a range of disability rights organizations have advocated for increased accessibility to educational materials and school documents for people with disabilities. Recently, several studies have shown that accessibility is still lacking among educational organizations and other government agencies. This study reviews the current accessibility requirements for schools under WCAG 2.0 and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1998. It then provides an overview of the tools available to evaluate the compliance of materials both proactively and retrospectively. The study analyzes 24 special education cooperative websites to determine the accessibility of each for individuals with disabilities. The study found that only 25% of special education cooperatives currently meet the minimum levels of accessibility criteria. Recommendations for improving accessibility are included.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Teachers' Self-efficacy Matters: Exploring the Integration of Mobile Computing Device in Middle Schools](#)

Author: Kyungbin Kwon | Anne T. Ottenbreit-Leftwich | Annisa R. Sari | Zuheir Khlaif | Meina Zhu | Hamid Nadir | Fatih Gok

Journal: TechTrends

Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s1152>

Abstract

How can teachers be inspired to integrate technology properly into their teaching? As technology has been playing a more crucial role in classrooms, it is highly necessary to investigate how teachers perceive the benefit of technology and feel confident to use it. The present study focused on teachers' self-efficacy and belief regarding mobile computing devices. To investigate the relationship among self-efficacy, belief and technology integration, we administrated a survey to teachers (N = 57) in middle schools adopting one-to-one technology initiatives. Results showed that teachers' self-efficacy toward mobile technology predicted the integration of the technology. Teachers' belief had a positive relationship with, but did not predict, technology integration. Factors related to teachers' self-efficacy and belief were discussed.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Learning engagement via promoting situational interest in a blended learning environment](#)

Author: Yan Keung Hui | Chen Li | Sheng Qian | Lam For Kwok

Journal: Journal of Computing in Higher Education August 2019, Volume 31, Issue 2

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s1252>

Abstract

In educational psychology, the theories of interest and self-determination have been well studied to find the relationships between learning attitudes and learning outcomes. However, the instructional design and the learning behaviors are the two missing elements which have not been fully investigated in the learning process. Therefore, we conducted two studies longitudinally with 2 years data from a 13-week engineering course at the City University of Hong Kong in a blended learning environment to verify the criticalness of these elements in these studies. With engagement records being collected from the learning management system in the second year, we further correlated the relationship from situational interest to engaged learning and finally the academic performance. Our findings make theoretical contributions by combining these two theories and link the model with behavior and achievement of students. It also demonstrates the importance of these theories on the instructional design.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [THE WRONG WAYS TO STRENGTHEN CULTURE.](#)

Author: LEETARU, LARS

Journal: Harvard Business Review. Jul/Aug2019, Vol. 97 Issue 4

Abstract

The article discusses ways to change corporate culture by business leaders and chief executive officers (CEOs), including business leaders' setting aspirational goals for their employees. It references research conducted by the advisory firm Gartner. An overview of employee's psychology towards their company's leadership is provided.

INSET: "It's Not a Win-Lose Situation".

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [Building the AI-Powered Organization.](#)

Author: Fountaine, Tim | McCarthy, Brian | Saleh, Tamim

Journal: Harvard Business Review. Jul/Aug2019, Vol. 97 Issue 4

Abstract

Artificial intelligence seems to be on the brink of a boom. It's now guiding decisions on everything from crop harvests to bank loans, and uses like totally automated customer service are on the horizon. Indeed, McKinsey estimates that AI will add \$13 trillion to the global economy in the next decade. Yet companies are struggling to scale up their AI efforts. Most have run only ad hoc projects or applied AI in just a single business process. In surveys of thousands of executives and work with hundreds of clients, McKinsey has identified how firms can capture the full AI opportunity. The key is to understand the organizational and cultural barriers AI initiatives face and work to lower them. That means shifting workers away from traditional mindsets, like relying on top-down decision making, which often run counter to those needed for AI. Leaders can also set up AI projects for success by conveying their urgency and benefits; investing heavily in AI education and adoption; and accounting for the company's AI maturity, business complexity, and innovation pace when deciding how work should be organized.

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [TIGERS ON THE PROWL: SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN, AND THE FUTILITY OF SYMBOLIC DISPUTES.](#)

Author: PANDEY, INDU

Journal: Harvard International Review. Spring2019, Vol. 40 Issue 2

Abstract

The article discusses relations between South Korea and Japan in relation to compensation for South Korean victims of Japanese human rights violations such as sexual slavery and forced labor. Topics include anti-Japanese opinions by South Korean President Moon Jae-in, Korean opposition to the government of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and cultural and economic relations between the two nations.

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [Digital technology and outdoor experiential learning](#)

Author: David Hills | Glyn Thomas

Journal: Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning

Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14729679.2019.1604244>

Abstract

Any use or non-use of digital technology in outdoor experiential learning requires critical examination. Digital technology can undermine the aim of being outdoors, but it can also create opportunities to enhance outdoor learning experiences. This paper presents a conceptual framework, based on a systematic review of the literature, that facilitators can use to think critically about their use (or non-use), of digital technology in outdoor experiential learning. The three key parts of the framework are pedagogical considerations, affordances of digital technology and consequences of decisions. The framework is designed to help facilitators of outdoor experiential learning make informed decisions or retrospectively review the decisions they made about the use (or non-use) of digital technology. The strength of the framework is that it encourages facilitators to engage in the critical evaluation of the intended and unintended consequences of digital technology use (or non-use) in outdoor experiential learning.

Database

Taylor & Francis Online