

International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Effect of Social Media on Academic Achievement: A Review-Based Study

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the impact of online learning on the academic performance of high school students and explores teacher satisfaction with online versus offline teaching methods in Delhi, India. The rapid shift to online education, particularly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has raised questions about the effectiveness of digital learning compared to traditional classroom-based teaching. This research addresses the need for a deeper understanding of how online learning affects students' academic outcomes and how it influences teacher satisfaction with their teaching methods.

The study aims to assess whether there is any significant difference in the academic performance of students participating in online learning versus those engaged in traditional classroom settings, as well as to examine the difference in teacher satisfaction between the two teaching environments. To gather data, the study surveyed 400 students and 100 teachers from high schools across Delhi. Academic performance was measured using standardized test scores, while teacher satisfaction was evaluated through a Likert scale questionnaire.

Quantitative data analysis, including T-tests, was employed to test the hypotheses. The results indicated that there was no significant difference in the academic performance of students between the online and offline learning environments. However, teacher satisfaction was notably higher for offline teaching methods compared to online teaching. These findings suggest that while online learning does not substantially impact academic performance, teachers experience greater satisfaction with traditional classroom-based teaching. The study concludes that, to improve the effectiveness of online learning, there is a need for additional support and training for teachers, which could enhance both teacher satisfaction and student outcomes.

Keywords: Online learning, academic performance, teacher satisfaction, offline teaching, digital education, learning environments, educational effectiveness.

1. Introduction

The global education sector has undergone significant changes in recent years, primarily driven by technological advancements and societal shifts. One of the most notable changes has been the widespread adoption of online learning, a trend accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This transition from traditional classroom-based teaching to digital platforms has sparked debates about the effectiveness of online education compared to conventional methods. While online learning offers clear benefits, such as flexibility, accessibility, and broader reach, its long-term effects on student learning outcomes and teacher satisfaction remain uncertain.

Online education provides students the convenience of learning from home, with the ability to access materials at their own pace and engage with peers and instructors digitally. However, concerns have been raised about whether it can deliver the same educational quality as face-to-face instruction, especially in terms of student engagement, retention, and academic performance. Additionally, the readiness of teachers to effectively use digital platforms is a growing concern, particularly in countries like India, where the digital divide persists. Many educators face difficulties adapting to online teaching methods, leading to concerns about their job satisfaction and overall well-being.

The shift to online education has also highlighted challenges related to teacher satisfaction. Traditional classrooms allow for direct interaction, non-verbal communication, and immediate feedback, while online teaching often involves one-way communication, making it harder for teachers to gauge student understanding. Furthermore, the added pressure of mastering digital tools can lead to frustration, particularly for those lacking prior training. This gap in experiences between online and offline teaching methods calls for a closer examination of how each environment impacts teacher satisfaction.

This study addresses two key areas: the academic performance of students in online versus offline settings and teacher satisfaction in these environments. Understanding how these factors influence educational outcomes is crucial for improving educational practices and policies, particularly in high schools in Delhi, India. Additionally, the research sheds light on the digital divide and equity issues in education, as disparities in access to technology may affect both students and teachers. The findings aim to inform future educational policies and support systems, helping educators and students adapt to the evolving landscape of digital learning.

2. Objectives & Hypotheses of the Study

2.1 Objectives

The study aims to achieve the following objectives, which are designed to be clear, measurable, and aligned with the proposed hypotheses:

- (i) To evaluate the impact of online learning on the academic performance of high school students in Gajraula. This objective seeks to explore whether online learning has any significant effect on the students' academic outcomes compared to traditional classroom instruction.
- (ii) To examine the difference in teacher satisfaction levels between online and offline teaching methods. This objective aims to understand how the mode of teaching influences teachers' job satisfaction and professional well-being.

2.2 Hypotheses

The study posits the following null hypotheses, which are testable through basic statistical methods:

- (i) Null Hypothesis 1 (H₀): There is no significant difference in the academic performance of students who engage in online learning versus those who participate in traditional classroom-based learning.
- (ii) Null Hypothesis 2 (H₀): There is no significant difference in teacher satisfaction levels between online and offline teaching methods.

These hypotheses will be tested using appropriate statistical tools, such as T-tests, to determine the validity of the proposed null assumptions.

3. Literature Review

The integration of technology in education has dramatically reshaped teaching and learning practices, particularly with the rapid expansion of online learning platforms. While the promise of online education includes flexibility, accessibility, and potential for wider reach, its impact on academic performance and teacher satisfaction has been debated. A growing body of literature has explored various aspects of online learning, ranging from student performance to teacher experiences, each offering valuable insights into the strengths and challenges of digital education.

3.1 Review of Relevant Studies

Numerous studies have examined the effectiveness of online learning in relation to student academic performance. For example, a study by **Kizilcec et al. (2017)** examined the impact of online learning on students' academic outcomes in higher education and found that students in online courses generally performed at similar levels to those in traditional face-to-face settings. This finding is supported by **Chao et al. (2017)**, who concluded that online learning does not significantly hinder students' academic achievement but highlighted the importance of course design, student motivation, and support mechanisms in determining success. In the context of secondary education, **Choi and Johnson (2020)** found that online learning environments may facilitate better engagement for some students but pose challenges for others, particularly in terms of maintaining focus and motivation. **Arkorful and Abaidoo (2014)** further emphasized the role of instructional design in ensuring that online learning platforms are effective in delivering content and engaging students in active learning processes.

While academic performance has been the subject of considerable research, teacher satisfaction in online education has also become a critical area of study. **Jaggars and Xu (2016)** studied instructor satisfaction with online teaching and found that teachers often experienced a shift in their pedagogical approaches, with many reporting higher stress levels due to the increased technical demands and the lack of face-to-face interaction with students. In contrast, **Johnson et al. (2020)** highlighted that teachers who received adequate training and support in the use of digital tools and technology reported higher satisfaction levels. **Ferrer et al. (2019)** identified that teacher satisfaction in online environments is influenced by various factors, including the quality of digital tools, administrative support, and the ability to effectively manage virtual classrooms. Similarly, **Kauffman et al. (2013)** noted that teachers in online settings experienced feelings of isolation, which contributed to lower levels of job satisfaction compared to those in traditional classroom settings.

The studies reviewed highlight that while online learning may not necessarily result in poorer academic performance, its effectiveness is contingent upon factors such as course design, technology access, and the level of support provided to both students and teachers. Likewise, teacher satisfaction is influenced by various elements such as training, administrative support, and the flexibility of online teaching environments.

3.2 Theoretical Framework

To provide a foundation for the analysis of the impact of online learning on academic performance and teacher satisfaction, this study is anchored in two primary theoretical frameworks: the **Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)** and **Constructivist Learning Theory**.

(i) Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)

The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), developed by **Davis (1989)**, provides a framework for understanding how users come to accept and use technology. According to TAM, perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness are key factors influencing an individual's acceptance of new technology. In the context of online learning, TAM can be applied to examine how both students and teachers perceive the digital tools and platforms used in education. **Venkatesh et al. (2003)** expanded TAM to include social influence and facilitating conditions as additional factors that affect technology acceptance.

(ii) Constructivist Learning Theory

Constructivist Learning Theory, rooted in the work of **Piaget (1973)** and **Vygotsky (1978)**, posits that learners actively construct their knowledge through experiences and interactions with their environment. This theory emphasizes the importance of active engagement, problem-solving, and collaborative learning. In the context of online learning, constructivism suggests that students can achieve meaningful learning when they engage with digital tools that promote interaction, critical thinking, and collaborative activities. According to **Jonassen (1999)**, technology should be used to create learning environments where students are encouraged to construct their own understanding through exploration and problem-solving.

In summary, the literature suggests that while online learning holds promise for enhancing educational access and flexibility, its effectiveness is influenced by various factors, including course design, teacher preparation, and student engagement. The **Technology Acceptance Model** provides a valuable lens for understanding the acceptance and use of online platforms by both students and teachers, while **Constructivist Learning Theory** offers a framework for designing online learning environments that promote active, student-centered learning. Together, these theories help guide the study of online learning's impact on academic performance and teacher satisfaction in secondary education contexts.

4. Research Methodology

This study aims to investigate the impact of online learning on academic performance and teacher satisfaction in high school education in Delhi. The research methodology is designed to provide a comprehensive and systematic approach to answering the research questions and testing the hypotheses.

4.1 Research Design

The study adopts a **descriptive** research design, which is appropriate for examining existing relationships between online and offline learning environments and their effects on academic performance and teacher satisfaction. Descriptive research allows for the collection of data on students and teachers without manipulating variables, focusing instead on identifying differences and patterns between the two groups. A **comparative approach** is used to analyze students and teachers in online versus offline learning environments.

4.2 Sample Selection

The sample consists of **400 high school students** and **100 teachers** from schools in Delhi. The students are selected from both online and offline learning environments, while the teachers are categorized accordingly. **Random sampling** is employed to ensure that every individual has an equal chance of selection, minimizing bias. The sample includes students and teachers from both government and private schools to ensure diversity and representativeness.

4.3 Data Collection Tools

Data are collected using **self-administered questionnaires** for both students and teachers. The student survey includes questions on learning experiences, engagement, and academic performance, while the teacher survey assesses job satisfaction and perceptions of online teaching effectiveness. **Academic performance** data, such as test scores, are also collected from school records. These surveys use Likert-scale items for quantifiable responses.

4.4 Variables

The study examines two **independent variables**: learning method (online vs. offline) and teaching method (online vs. offline). The dependent variables are **academic performance** (measured through test scores) and **teacher satisfaction** (measured through survey responses).

4.5 Statistical Analysis: Results

The results of the statistical analysis are presented according to the research objectives and corresponding null hypotheses. The analysis uses **T-tests** to assess academic performance between online and offline learning environments and **ANOVA** to evaluate teacher satisfaction between the two teaching methods.

Objective 1: Assessing the Impact of Online Learning on Academic Performance

Null Hypothesis 1 (H₀): There is no significant difference in the academic performance of students who use online learning versus those who use traditional classroom-based learning.

To evaluate the first objective, a **T-test** was conducted comparing the academic performance of students in online and offline learning environments. The online group had a mean score of 75 (with a standard deviation of 10), while the offline group had a mean score of 78 (with a standard deviation of 10).

• T-test Results: The T-statistic was -1.81, and the p-value was 0.072.

Group	Mean Score	Standard Deviation	T-statistic	P-value	Number of Samples	
Online	75	10	-1.81	0.072	200	
Offline	78	10			200	

Table 1: T-test Results for Academic Performance Comparison Between Online and Offline Learning Environments





Interpretation: As the p-value (0.072) is greater than the significance level of 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis. This suggests that there is no statistically significant difference in the academic performance of students between online and offline learning environments.

Objective 2: Examining Teacher Satisfaction Between Online and Offline Teaching Methods

Null Hypothesis 2 (Ho): There is no significant difference in teacher satisfaction levels between online and offline teaching methods.

For the second objective, an **ANOVA** test was used to compare teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods. The online teachers reported a mean satisfaction score of 3.8 (standard deviation = 0.5), while offline teachers reported a higher mean satisfaction score of 4.2 (standard deviation = 0.5).

• ANOVA Results: The F-statistic was 26.99, and the p-value was 1.12 x 10⁻⁶.

	Group	Mean Satisfaction Score	Standard Deviation	F-statistic	P-value	Number of Samples
	Online	3.8	0.5	26.99	1.12E-06	50
	Offline	4.2	0.5			50



Box Plot 1: Comparing Teacher Satisfaction Between Online and Offline Teaching Methods

• Interpretation: Since the p-value is much smaller than the significance level of 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis. This indicates that there is a significant difference in teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods, with offline teaching associated with higher satisfaction levels.

Conclusion

- Objective 1 (Academic Performance): The T-test analysis found no significant difference in the academic performance of students in online and offline learning environments, so Null Hypothesis 1 (H₀) is not rejected.
- Objective 2 (Teacher Satisfaction): The ANOVA results revealed a significant difference in teacher satisfaction, with offline teaching methods associated with higher satisfaction levels. Thus, Null Hypothesis 2 (H₀) is rejected.

In conclusion, while online learning does not significantly affect academic performance, it is associated with lower teacher satisfaction compared to traditional offline teaching methods.

5. Results and Discussion

Results

The statistical analysis conducted for this study aimed to evaluate two primary objectives: the impact of online learning on academic performance and the comparison of teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods. The analysis used **T-tests** for comparing academic performance and **ANOVA** for assessing teacher satisfaction.

Objective 1: Academic Performance

A **T-test** was conducted to compare the academic performance of students in online and offline learning environments. The mean academic score for the online group was 75, with a standard deviation of 10, while the offline group had a mean score of 78, also with a standard deviation of 10. The **T-statistic** calculated was **-1.81**, and the **p-value** was **0.072**. This p-value exceeds the typical significance threshold of 0.05, leading to the failure to reject the null hypothesis (H_0). Thus, the results suggest that there is **no statistically significant difference** in the academic performance of students between online and offline learning environments.

Objective 2: Teacher Satisfaction

For the second objective, an **ANOVA** test was conducted to assess teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods. Teachers in the online group reported a mean satisfaction score of 3.8 (with a standard deviation of 0.5), while those teaching offline reported a mean satisfaction score of 4.2 (with a standard deviation of 0.5). The **F-statistic** was found to be **26.99**, and the **p-value** was **1.12** x **10**⁻⁶, which is well below the significance level of 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis (H₀) was **rejected**, indicating a **significant difference** in teacher satisfaction, with offline teaching methods associated with higher satisfaction levels.

Discussion

The results of this study provide valuable insights into the impact of online learning and teaching methods on both student academic performance and teacher satisfaction. For the first objective, the failure to reject the null hypothesis suggests that, based on the data collected, online learning does not lead to significantly different academic outcomes compared to traditional offline learning. This finding aligns with prior research (e.g., Kizilcec et al., 2017) which suggests that the effectiveness of online learning is largely influenced by factors such as course design and student engagement rather than the mode of delivery alone.

On the other hand, the significant difference in teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods is a crucial finding. The rejection of the null hypothesis indicates that teachers feel more satisfied with traditional classroom teaching compared to online teaching. This may be due to the challenges of online teaching, such as technical difficulties, lack of direct student interaction, and the need for additional training in digital tools (Ferrer et al., 2019). Teacher satisfaction is critical for ensuring effective teaching and long-term engagement, and these results suggest that improving teacher support and training in online environments could help enhance satisfaction and effectiveness.

Overall, these findings have implications for educational policy and practice. While online learning may not significantly impact student academic performance, it does appear to be associated with challenges for teachers. Addressing these challenges through improved training and support systems for teachers could help maximize the potential of online learning environments.

6. Conclusions

This study aimed to assess the impact of online learning on academic performance and compare teacher satisfaction between online and offline teaching methods. The results indicated no significant difference in academic performance between the two groups. The T-test, with a p-value of 0.072, showed that online learning did not lead to better or worse academic outcomes compared to traditional classroom learning. This suggests that, in this study, the mode of learning did not significantly influence academic performance.

However, a significant difference in teacher satisfaction was found. Teachers in offline environments reported higher satisfaction levels than those teaching online. The ANOVA test, with a p-value of 1.12×10^{-6} , led to the rejection of the null hypothesis, indicating that offline teaching methods were more satisfying for teachers. This could be due to better student interaction, fewer technical issues, and more immediate feedback in traditional classrooms.

The objectives of the study were successfully achieved. The first objective, assessing the impact of online learning on academic performance, showed no significant difference. The second objective, comparing teacher satisfaction, found that offline teaching environments result in higher satisfaction levels.

Future research should examine factors influencing online academic performance, such as course content quality and student engagement. Educational institutions should focus on enhancing teacher training and providing more support for online teaching to improve both teacher satisfaction and learning outcomes.

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