

Appropriate Social Media Usage for GAs and TAs

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Faculty of Graduate Studies & Centre for Teaching and Learning

GATA Network

for graduate & undergraduate teaching assistants



GATA Network

- The GATA Network is a graduate student led collaborative program supported jointly by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) at the University of Windsor.
- The Network provides mentorship opportunities and teaching and learning resources to graduate and undergraduate teaching assistants (GAs/TAs) to help improve pedagogical knowledge and skills.



Social Media

- What is social media?
 - Forms of electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (e.g., Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Yammer, Twitter.)
- Social media covers many other digital tools:
 - last.fm, tumblr, Yelp, hi5, Flickr, Wikipedia, Ning, imeem, Second Life, Cellufun, Pinterest, MySpace, Blogspot, Wordpress.



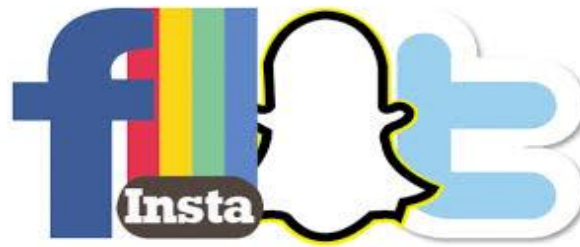
Presentation Goals

- Provide guidelines for appropriate social media use within a course.
- Provide guidelines for appropriate personal social media usage while employed by the University of Windsor.



Best Practices in Social Media

- Be aware of data protection: do not post confidential information about University students, employees, alumni or partners.
- Be mindful of copyright and intellectual property rights of others and the University of Windsor.
- Avoid all remarks that could damage the University of Windsor, colleagues, another student's and/or your own reputation.
- Always think before posting. The Internet is permanent.



Do's

- Announce upcoming events, information, or news about the University of Windsor.
- Welcome guest speakers and celebrate the achievements by students, faculty, or alumni.
- Share appropriate third-party content (e.g., blog posts) that relates to your department.
- Post tips and how-tos.



Don'ts

- **NEVER:**
- Post information and/or images that violate the confidentiality and/or privacy of a student (e.g., midterm, assignment, paper).
- Make comments or statements that could be considered to be discriminatory against, or bullying or harassment of any individual.



Final Message

- Being a GA or TA is a **privilege**, and with this privilege comes **responsibility**.
- You have a **responsibility as an employee, representative of the University of Windsor**, and **as a human being** to protect the **rights** and **confidentiality** of the students in the class where you are a GA/TA.



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