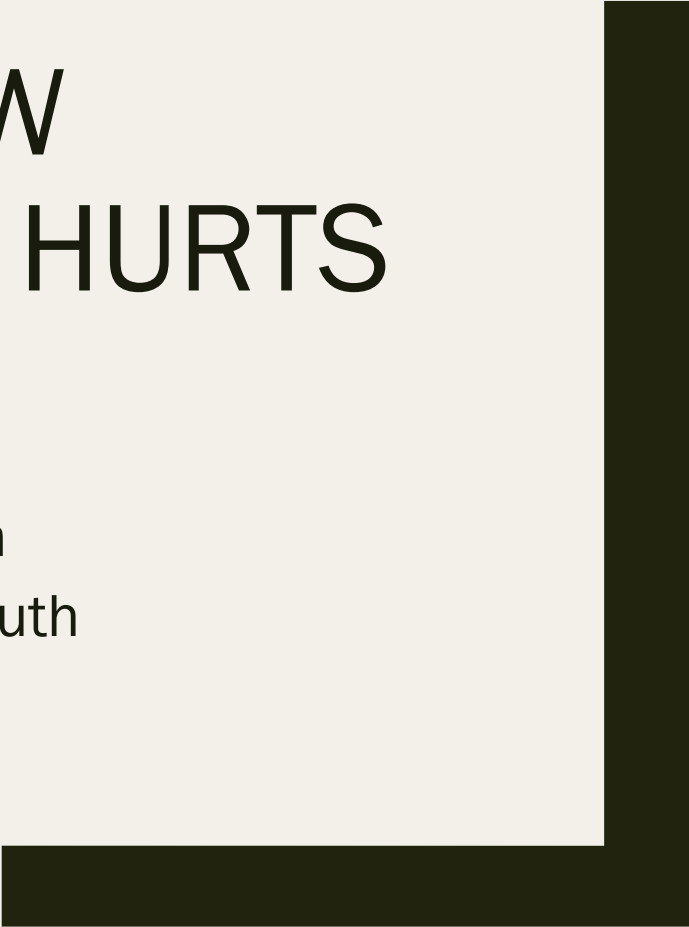


WOW! WHO KNEW MULTITASKING REALLY HURTS YOUR GRADES

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Ah multitasking...



- Multiple devices
- Lack of understanding of impact of distraction.
- Overconfidence in their own abilities
- Parents, teachers, all “adults” blah blah blah

Seeing is believing...

- Experimental design
- Write a story or find a compelling story that is about 10 to 15 minutes long.
- Four groups
 - *Control*
 - *Take phone, tablet, computer away.*
 - *Tell students to use social media during the reading of the story*
 - *Tell students they can use whatever functions they want.*
- Have the students fill out a questionnaire after the story.

Results

- The students are shocked, shocked I tell you to learn that the students who had their devices taken away from them did the best.
- This group did even better than the control group, the majority of whom did not interact with their phones but had access to them.
- The results range from 10 to 35 points below the no technology group.

Now the fun...

- “The kids using social media didn’t even know the name of the dog.”
- “Why did it make such a difference?”
- “Damn, I wonder what my GPA would be if I knew this before.”
- “It was weird to see these results.”
- “I wonder how I would do on this?”
- “Even MIT kids sucked at multitasking.”

The lesson...

- You can lead a student to common sense but you have to hit them upside the head with your virtual frying pan to get them to understand.

