Pinterest

A Pinteresting Possibility:
Using Social Bookmarking To Promote Student Learning

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Introduction



- Increasing number of digital natives entering college classrooms
 - Challenged to find new ways to meet students' unique learning styles
 - "...integrating virtual pedagogies (Internet and interactive simulations) to support the venerable faceto-face classroom" (Prosperio & Gioia, 2007, p. 75)

Introduction



- Effective and engaging content for today's students will take multiple sources of Webbased media, including social media (Baird, 2005)
- Utilizing Pinterest in the classroom provides a new avenue for students to learn, improves classroom learning, and fosters collaboration between students (Holt, 2012)

What Is Pinterest?



- Social sharing network, as well as a bookmarking site
- Fastest growing social media tool to date
- Centered around visuals images rather than text
- Their mission is to "Connect everyone in the world through the 'things' they find interesting"

What We Did



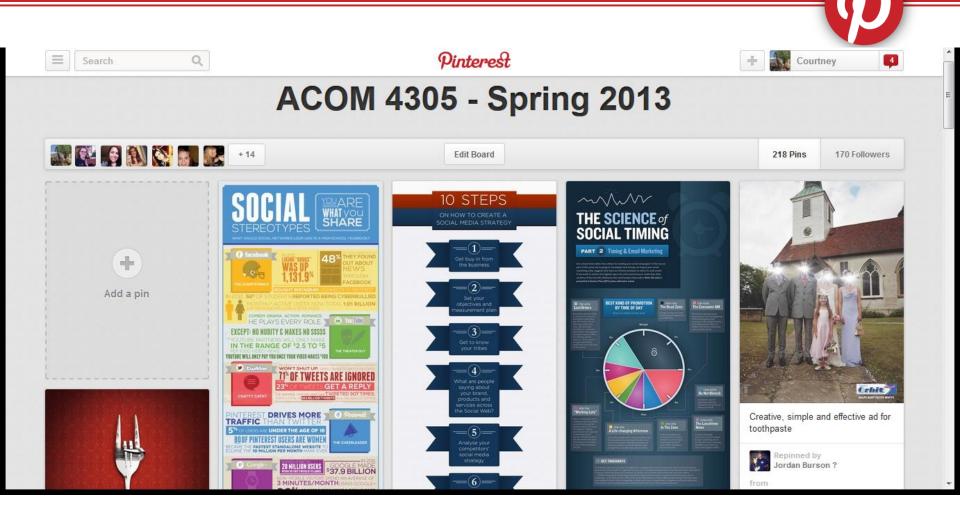
- 3 Agricultural Communications courses utilized Pinterest to enhance course content
 - 1 as extra credit
 - 2 as part of course requirements
- Students instructed to join class pin board and were instructed to pin based on class requirements
 - One pin per week throughout the semester
 - When pinning assignments were given

What We Did



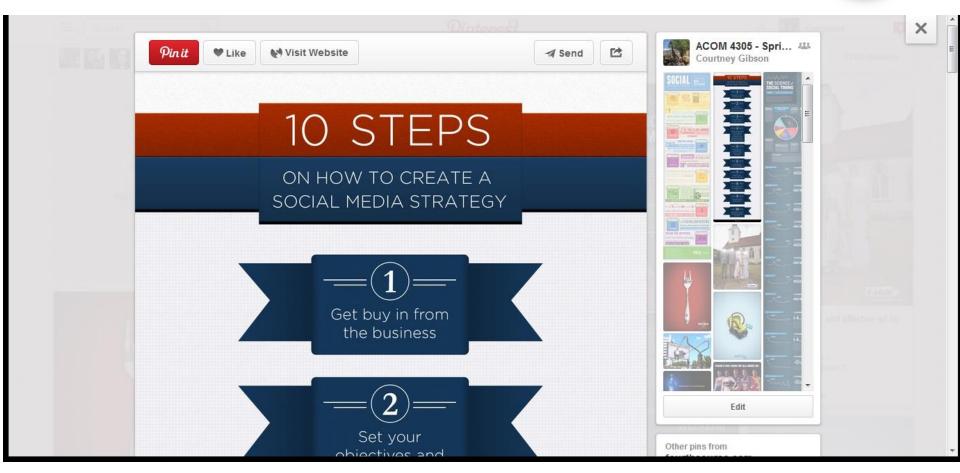
- For an agricultural communications campaigns course, students pinned:
 - Design, advertisements, and page layout ideas
 - Event planning
 - Other effective campaign tactics
- For an agricultural graphic design class, students pinned:
 - Graphic design inspirations
 - Photoshop and Illustrator tutorials and shortcuts
 - Design project ideas

One of Our Class Pin Boards



A Pin From Our Class Pin Board





What Our Students Thought



- Most students in each class pinned regularly
 - Some, especially females, went well beyond the minimum requirement

What Our Students Thought



- Students completed a hard copy, simple questionnaire
- Comments were mostly positive
 - Gave them ideas that helped them be more creative and think outside the box
 - Many were using it outside of the class and liked getting to use it in class as well
 - Felt they were learning and utilizing a social media tool they may use in their future careers

Our Thoughts



The positive responses from students indicate that Pinterest had some value and should be considered as an instructional tool in agricultural communications classrooms.

Some Suggestions For Using Pinterest in the Classroom

Give students specific topics to pin

Have a system for assigning credit for pins

Participate with your students!

Look at and discuss the board in class

Pinterest

Questions?

