

Doctor of Education Scholarly Writing Sample

Submit a scholarly writing sample from within the past three years. If you do not have a recent scholarly writing sample available, please respond to a provided prompt on social presence in online learning.

Social Presence in Online Learning Writing Prompt

As part of your application to the College of Saint Mary's doctoral program, you will *synthesize* scholarly literature (located below) on the topic of *Social Presence in Online Learning*.

Through this synthesis, you will examine the scholarly research provided and use this information to address ONE of the prompts listed below. You will need to use the 7th edition of the American Psychology Association (APA) textbook. If you don't have this textbook, you can also use the [Purdue Owl](#) website. It is very handy with APA citations and references.

Social presence, in very simple terms, is the sense of knowing and connecting with people in the online classroom, which includes faculty and peers. It is our goal at College of Saint Mary to help each of you feel like you create meaningful relationships with your instructors and colleagues through a variety of teaching and learning opportunities. The emphasis of social presence in the online classroom continues to increase as virtual learning becomes more common in education, especially at the graduate level.

For this scholarly writing sample, please address ONE of the following prompts:

1. Based on the scholarly material provided, identify three reasons why social presence is important in the graduate online learning environment.
2. Based on the scholarly material provided, explore the challenges to creating social presence in the graduate online learning environment.
3. Based on the scholarly material provided, elaborate on the ways in which social presence can be implemented to positively impact the graduate online learning experience.
4. Based on the scholarly material (provided below), argue FOR or AGAINST the following prompt:
There is no such thing as too much social presence in the online learning environment.

Format

The scholarly writing sample will consist of 3-5 pages (title page and references are not included in the page count) and require the following components:

- Title Page- completed according to the APA guidelines.
- An introductory paragraph that includes a thesis statement and previews the main sections of the paper.
- THREE-FOUR body paragraphs that cover the main points of your argument.
- As you address the main points of your argument, please make sure you use the scholarly materials provided to support your opinion.
- A conclusion paragraph that summarizes the information you have presented in the paper.
- You should use no more than TWO (2) direct quotes in the paper. Please rely on your own thoughts/words (paraphrasing) with proper APA citation.
- Reference Page- completed according to APA guidelines.

C O L L E G E O F
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Please use the following scholarly materials to support your opinions within your response:

- A Systemic Review of Social Presence: Definition, Antecedents, and Implications
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frobt.2018.00114/full>
- Instructor Social Presence and Connectedness in a Quick Shift from Face-to-Face to Online Instruction
<https://olj.onlinelearningconsortium.org/index.php/olj/article/view/2482>
- Efficient Strategies for Maximizing Student Satisfaction
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1199226.pdf>
 - *The reference information is hard to access for this article. It was published in the Journal of Educators Online in December 2018. It is volume 15, edition 3.*
- Student Questions A Path to Engagement and Social Presence in the Online Classroom
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1204385.pdf>
 - *The reference information is hard to access for this article. It was published in the Journal of Educators Online in January 2019. It is volume 16, edition 1.*

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Kristi A. Preisman (program director) at kpreisman@csm.edu.