

Marketing with Social Media

Lesson Plan

Learn how to use free online social media sites to market anything- a service, a product, an idea, an event or a person.

Lesson Objectives

Students will understand:

* the scope of social media tools available to them, and their differences
* how to grow their online audience
* how to increase engagement among their online audience
* how to start defining their online “brand identity”

Lesson Prep Work

**(30 min, at a minimum, prior to student arrival)**

* Log into accounts
	+ Twitter username: CtcDPL email: ctcdpl@gmail.com password:
	+ Carmella Friend Facebook: ctc@denverlibrary.org password:

Lesson Outline

The lesson is completed in one 90 minute class session.

* **Introductions**
	+ Teacher introduces self, brief marketing history
	+ Students introduce themselves, explain what it is they’re trying to market.
* **Activities**
	+ **1. Your Social Media Tools**
		- **Define** Social Media (any online site where human beings create accounts and interact with each other)
		- **Watch** Social Media Video 2013 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUCfFcchw1w>
			* **Discuss**: what sticks out at you about this video, in relation to your marketing goals?
				+ 90% consumers trust peer review, 14% trust advertisements
				+ In the future, consumers will not go find products. Products will find them via SM.
		- Do brief tour of popular SM sites, pointing out uniqueness and cross-SM similarities where appropriate:
			* **Facebook** – the biggest, most important SM site for marketing
				+ Newsfeed=how news gets to users; all posts by people & businesses in their network will appear in their newsfeed.
				+ Visual saturation – images, thumbnails on links and videos – media rich experience
				+ 1 billion users = 1/7th of the planet
			* **Twitter –** more superficial, lends itself to pithiness (can be a good thing)
				+ No visual candy, limit to 140 characters per post, links to pics and sites
				+ Eg: sweet action ice cream (lots of followers, consistent format of posts)
			* **YouTube –** SM platform, but more importantly, a host for storing videos online so you can post the links elsewhere.
				+ Eg: fashion denver channel – Do what you love, love what you do.
			* **Website/Blog** – not SM per say, but can be an important part of establishing yourself online.
				+ Plug Wordpress classes
				+ Eg: Fancy Tiger crafts blog – tons of pictures, op-ed about their topic, links to videos hosted on YouTube
			* **Yelp** – super important for anyone with tangible things to market (service or product)
				+ Local reviews by actual human beings, trusted by actual human beings
				+ **Activity**: have students do a search for businesses in their category.
	+ **2**. **How your SM tools work together**
		- **Draw** image on board (1 color for SM, 2nd color for print/old fashioned marketing tools)
			* Creating traffic from all online sites to SM/online sites
			* Funneling real-world traffic into SM
			* Goal: create a wind tunnel of engagement where your customers/audience are engaging with you in more and more places.
			* 
	+ **3. Increase Your Audience via Engagement (aka Fans/Followers/Likes)**
		- **Draw** image on board (different colors for each circle). Star = You. Model reflects much smaller numbers than reality b/c math is easier when multiplying by 100.
			* 1st circle= your Fans- they will see what you post in their newsfeed
			* 2nd circle= Friends of Fans. They will only see what you post when your Fan engages with your post.
				+ **Write** on board: Engagement=Like, Comment, Share, Click
				+ Arrow from one circle to the other = Engagement. The only way to reach people you aren’t already reaching is to get Engagement from your audience.
				+ Growing your audience is the purpose of marketing, and you’ll only do that by engaging with your SM audience.
			* This is the Facebook model, but all SM function more or less like this.
				+ 
		- **How to make posts with high chances of Engagement**
			* **Draw** image on board
				+ Eye = eye candy. Humans like looking at stuff. Posts with image get 2x as much play.

**Ask**: can anyone give me an example of an image that would be good for what they’re marketing?

* + - * + Heart = emotions. Find the emotional appeal in what you’re marketing.

**Ask**: can anyone give me an example of how they could appeal to people’s emotions?

**Tip:** Give a **behind-the-scenes** view of your business. Personal stories of your workers/yourself/your equipment/etc.

Everyone wants to be the guy who says “I’ll have the usual” at a restaurant. Giving behind-the-scenes view makes your audience feel that they “know” you. Increase rapport=increase business.

* + - * + Brain = Intellect. Humans like to be smart. Teach ‘em something about what it is you’re marketing.
				+ 
			* **Always stay upbeat-** negativity, even if it’s an important message, bombs on SM.
			* **Time your posts for your audience**
				+ Peak SM time is M-F 9-5. Posting late-morning to early-afternoon on weekdays is a good place to start.

Specific audiences vary, so monitor what times of day seem to be the best for you. Eg: teachers can’t SM during work hours, but office workers can and do.

* + **4. Making a Social Media Plan**
		- Ack! All of this can seem overwhelming. How will you have time to do your actual work plus do social media?
		- **Social Media Plan Worksheet** – go through it item by item
			* Note: the point of this is to create a sustainable plan of action- don’t just jump in and then sink, but find a way to make it work for you.
			* **1. Content & Responses**
				+ When/how long/how frequently is it realistic for you to be SMing?
			* **2. Admins & Helpers**
				+ Do you have anyone who could help you manage all this- any employee, a friend, a spouse, a family member?
				+ If anyone besides you is admining the site, make sure to only give them the privileges that they need.

Pull up FB admin chart: <http://www.facebook.com/help/289207354498410?q=what%20is%20a%20content%20creator%3F&sid=07LFEWi4SdDZTXxZD>

Note: this is for FB, but all SM sites have some sort of compartmentalized admin privileges you can set.

Suggestion: only yourself, someone you really really trust (and who is tech savvy) should maintain highest rights.

* + **5. Your Brand Voice** (final page of worksheet)
		- **Thought Activity:** if you had to create a character who was Mr./Ms. Your Brand, who would that character be?
			* See if any student is willing to do this out loud with you.
			* Age? Financial Status? What do they do outside of your brand? What do they care about?
			* What do they dress like- what’s their aesthetic? What do they talk like? What turns them off?
			* Try and pinpoint as many adjectives as you can to describe your audience.
		- Once you’ve pinpointed who your audience is, you need craft your marketing towards them.
			* Write in language they use/like. Use the aesthetic that appeals to them. Teach them things they’ll find interesting. Appeal to their unique emotions.
			* This is your Brand Voice.
		- Make your Brand Voice unified across all your SM platforms.
			* Have the tone of your videos match the tone of your posts. Have your blog match that tone.