Abstract: The invention of technology and computers has drastically improved our daily lives. One of the positive aspects of technology is the way we communicate with one another. Through the years, texting, or written message sending through cellular phones has increased in popularity. While this invention has improved the speed in which information can be transmitted from person to person, it has aided in debilitating our way to formally communicate in an academic matter. Students are becoming accustomed to the short hand type that is texting, and incorporating their texting language into academic discourse and language. Research is showing that texting among young adults is increasing, while reading books is decreasing. Their exposure to formally written literature is declining while their exposure and practice to short handed text is increasing. Because of this phenomenon, undergraduate students are beginning to misspell words at a higher rate, and their ability to effectively communicate their arguments in a scholarly manner is diminishing. The grammatical constructs are often disregarded when one texts, and students begin to exhibit these changes when they write scholarly papers. This research analyzes the way in which texting came about and why the constant practice of it is beginning to diminish formal English education.

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Major: English Education
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Co-presenter(s): Not applicable

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Synopsis: My research analyzes the history of computer based message sending (texting), and how it is affecting student performance and English education.